

Amy G. Oden  
Independent Scholar  
Early Church History and Spirituality

## **I. Education**

Ph.D. in Religious Studies, Southern Methodist University, 1990.  
Dissertation: Dominant Images for the Church in Augustine's *Enarrationes in Psalmos*:  
A Study in Augustine's Ecclesiology.

B.A. in Letters, University of Oklahoma, *summa cum laude*, 1980.

## **II. Teaching Employment**

Adjunct, Seattle Pacific University, Summer 2020.

Adjunct, Seattle University, Summer 2020.

Adjunct, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, 2018-present.

Adjunct, Garrett Evangelical Seminary, 2020-2021.

Lecturer, Religious Studies Department, University of Oklahoma, 2017- 2021.

Adjunct Professor of Early Church History and Spirituality, Saint Paul School of Theology,  
Oklahoma City, OK 2018 - present.

Professor of Early Church History and Spirituality, Saint Paul School of Theology, Oklahoma  
City, OK, 2013 – 2018.

Dean, Wesley Theological Seminary, Washington, D.C., 2009-2012.

Professor of History of Christianity, Wesley Theological Seminary, Washington, D.C., 2002-  
2013.

Claude and Ollie May Bell Professor of Church History, Oklahoma City University, 1992-2002.

Assistant Professor of Church History, Saint Paul School of Theology, Kansas City, MO,  
1989-1992.

## **III. Scholarship**

### **A. Selected Publications**

Lectionary Commentaries on 2 Samuel 1, 5, 6 and 1 Kings 19, *Workingpreacher.org*, July-  
August 2021.

*The Upper Room Disciplines 2022: A Book of Daily Devotionals*. Upper Room Publications,  
2021.

Lectionary Commentaries on Isaiah 9:1-4, Isaiah 58:1-9, *Workingpreacher.org*, Jan-Feb 2020.

“Practicing Christian Mindfulness,” *Circuit Rider*, November 2019.

“They Showed Unusual Kindness: Acts 28,” *Ecumenical Trends*, Vol 48 No 9 October 2019.

Lectionary Commentaries on Acts 2:1-21, Acts 9:1-6, Luke 9:51-62 and Luke 10:1-11, *Workingpreacher.org*, June-July 2019.

Consultant, *The Awakened Life: A 9 Week Guide to Student Well-Being*, ed. Sarah Bollinger and Angela Olsen. Higher Education and Ministry, 2019.

Narrative Lectionary Commentary on Philippians 1:1-18a and Philippians 2:1-13, *Workingpreacher.org*, May 2018.

*The Upper Room Disciplines 2018: A Book of Daily Devotionals*. Upper Room Publications, 2017.

*Right Here, Right Now: The Practice of Christian Mindfulness*. Abingdon Press, 2017.

“John Wesley’s Notion of Watchfulness: ‘A Mighty Exertion,’” *Wesleyan Theological Journal*, 52 no 1, Spring 2017, p. 151-170.

Narrative Lectionary Commentary on Isaiah 36: 1-3, 13-20; 37: 1-7, then 2:1-4, Esther 4: 1- 17, Micah 5:2-4, 6:6-8, *Workingpreacher.org*, November-December, 2014.

Editorial Consultant, *The Apostles*. National Geographic Special Edition. 2014.

Lectionary Commentary on Isaiah 49: 1-7, Isaiah 42: 1-9, Matthew 5: 1-12, Matthew 5:13-20. *Workingpreacher.org*, January-February, 2014.

“Welcoming the Political Stranger,” *Alive Now*, April, 2013.

“Hospitality as a Living Wesleyan Tradition,” chapter in *A Living Tradition: Critical Recovery and Reconstruction of Wesleyan Heritage*, ed. Mary Elizabeth Moore, Kingswood Books, 2013.

Lectionary Commentary on Mark 9:30-37, Mark 9:38-50, Proverbs 31:10-31, Esther 7:1-6, 9-10, 9:20-22. *Workingpreacher.org*, September 2012.

Editorial Consultant, *Sacred Journeys: Earth’s Holiest Places*. National Geographic Special Edition. 2010.

Lectionary commentary on Isaiah 9:1-4, Micah 6:1-8, Isaiah 58:1-9a (9b-12) and Matthew 5:21-37. *Workingpreacher.org*, January 2011.

Selected articles, *Wesley Study Bible*. Abingdon Press, 2009.

*God's Welcome: Hospitality for a Gospel-Hungry World*. Pilgrim Press, 2008.

"Methodist Beginnings: 1525-1737," video, *Methodist History Project*, Wesley Ministry Network, Oxford, August, 2007.

*Women Speak of God*, Wesley Ministry Network video series and curriculum, 2004.

"The Entire Work of God: John Wesley's Expansive View of Salvation," *Circuit Rider* May/June 2003.

"God's Household of Grace," in *Ancient and Post-Modern Christianity: Paleo-Orthodoxy in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*, ed. Christopher Hall and Kenneth Tanner, InterVarsity Press, 2002.

"Theological Themes in Lectionary Texts," *Lectionary Homiletics*, November, 2001.

*And You Welcomed Me: Hospitality in Early Christianity*, Abingdon Press, 2001.

Primary Source Editor, *Believer: The Historic Doctrines of the Christian Faith*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1999.

"Theological Themes in Lectionary Texts," *Lectionary Homiletics* IX, no. 7 (1998): 4, 12, 19, 27.

"Interpreting Sacred Texts," *Teaching Theology and Religion* 1, no. 1 (1998): 48-50.

"Encountering Jesus in the Church's History," *Circuit Rider* 20, no. 3 (1996): 12.

*In Her Words: Women's Writings in the History of Christian Thought*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1994.

## B. Book Reviews

Review of *Saved by Faith and Hospitality*, by J. W. Jipp. *Modern Believer* 60:4, November 2019.

Review of *Women in Pastoral Office: The Story of Santa Prassede, Rome*, by Mary M. Schaefer. *Church History: Studies in Christianity and Culture*, June, 2015.

Review of *Social Media for Academics: A Practical Guide*, edited by Diane Rasmussen Neal, Oxford, UK: Chandos Publishing, 2012. *Teaching Theology and Religion*, John Wiley & Sons, Volume 16: July 2013.

Review of *Chalk Talk: E-advice from Jonas Chalk, Legendary College Teacher*, edited by

Donna M. Qualters and Miriam Rosalyn Diamond. *Teaching Theology and Religion* 2007.

Review of *A Woman's Place: House Churches in Earliest Christianity*, by Carolyn Osiek, Margaret Y. McDonald with Janet H. Tulloch. *Christian Century*, October 2006.

Review of *The Importance of Physical Space in Creating Supportive Learning Environments*, edited by Nancy Van Note Chism and Deborah J. Bickford. *Teaching Theology and Religion* 7:1.

Review of *Women and Religious Life in Byzantium*, by Alice-Mary Talbot. *Church History: Studies in Christianity and Culture*, September, 2002.

Review of *They Walked in the Spirit: Personal Faith and Social Action in America*, by Douglas M. Strong. *Asbury Theological Journal* 54, no 1 (1999): 93-94.

Review of *Perpetua's Passion: The Death and Memory of a Young Roman Woman*, by Joyce E. Salisbury. *Church History: Studies in Christianity and Culture* 67, no. 3 (1998): 560-562.

### C. Selected Speaking Engagements and Papers

Monthly contributor, *GPS Insights*, Church of the Resurrection [cor.org/gps-guide](http://cor.org/gps-guide). October, 2014-present.

Co-Director, Early Career Digital Workshop, Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religion, 2021-2022.

Lakeside Chautauqua, Keynote, August 2021.

Ring Lake Ranch, Faculty, August 2021.

Convenor, Digital Salon, [Engaging Imagination as Theological School Faculty](#). Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religion, 2020-2021.

Portland Seminary, "Christian Mindfulness for Formation," November, 2019.

Kentucky Clergy School, United Methodist Annual Conference, Keynote, September 2019.

Preaching in Chapel, London School of Theology, May 22, 2018.

"Christian Mindfulness for Abundant Life," Keynote, UK National Mindfulness Day for Christians, London, May 12 and Leeds, May 19, 2018.

Christian Mindfulness Workshop, Broadmoor United Methodist Church, Baton Rouge, LA, March 16-17, 2018.

Faculty, Spiritual Formation for Spiritual Direction, Alabama-West Florida United Methodist Annual Conference, 2017-2018

Leadership Team, Workshop for Pre-Tenure Faculty at Theological Schools, Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religion, June 2017-June 2018.

Faculty, Five Day Community for Spiritual Formation, British Methodist Church, May 2017.

Keynote, Clergy Excellence Convocation, Virginia Annual Conference, May 2017.

“God’s Welcome,” Five Day Academy for Spiritual Formation, North Florida Annual Conference, March 2017.

“Hospitality and Watchfulness as Spiritual Practices within Wesley’s Soteriological Framework,” John Wesley Theological Institute, Chicago, IL. February 2017.

Faculty, Five Day Academy for Spiritual Formation, Episcopal Retreat Center, Alabama, October 2016.

Graduate, HeartPaths Spirituality Center Program in Spiritual Formation, Ignatian Exercises and Spiritual Direction. Trained Spiritual Director, May 2016.

Panelist, “Navigating Cross Currents: Looking Back, Looking Forward,” Southern Methodist University, Dallas, TX, April 2016.

Paper, “Wesleyan Framework for Cultivating Holiness in Virtual Age,” Wesleyan Theological Society Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA, March 2016

Lectureship, “Traditions of Christian Spirituality,” Academy for Spiritual Formation, Camp Sumatanga, AL, August, 2015.

Wesley Seminar Summer Institute, Asbury Theological Seminary, June 2015.

Keynote Speaker, Oklahoma United Methodist Historical Society, May, 2015.

Retreat Leader and Keynote Speaker, “Women Speak of God,” Women’s Spirituality Retreat (for Western PA UM Conference), Olmsted Retreat Center, Ludlow, PA, March 15-17, 2015.

Keynote, Refresh Campus Ministry Conference, Atlanta, GA, December, 2014.

Faculty, Spiritual Formation Retreat, Academy for Missional Wisdom, El Paso, TX, November, 2014.

Lectureship, “Protestant Spirituality,” Academy for Spiritual Formation, Burlingame, CA Faculty, November, 2014.

Lectureship, “Spiritual Formation for Theological Education,” Campbell University Divinity School, North Carolina, September, 2014.

Leadership Institute Workshop, "Welcoming Strangers: Meeting Jesus," Church of Resurrection, Kansas City, KS, September, 2014.

Workshop, "Holy Conversation: Difficult Conversations Among Christians," Boston Avenue United Methodist Church, Tulsa, OK, September 7 and 14, 2014.

Wertsch Lecture, "Unbending Ourselves: Early Christian Practices," Saint Paul School of Theology, November, 2013.

Oxford Institute of Methodist Theological Studies, "Engaging non-Christians Seriously and Constructively: Academic Inquiry as Means of Grace," August 2013.

Director, Workshop for Pre-Tenure Faculty at Theological Schools, Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religion, June 2013-June 2014.

Albright-Deering Lecture, "Wesley and Welcoming the Stranger," Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, April 2013.

Barton Clinton Gordey Lecture Series, "Spiritual But Not Religious," Boston Avenue United Methodist Church, Tulsa, OK, February 2013.

Respondent, "Women in Wesleyan and Methodist Traditions," Wesley Studies Group, American Academy of Religion, November 17, 2012, Chicago, IL.

"God's Welcome," Keynote Addresses, Southeast Minnesota Synod ELCA, LaCrosse, WI, 2012.

"Christology and Theological Education," Faculty Speaker, John Leland Seminary, Alexandria, VA, January 2011.

"Radical Hospitality," District Retreat, Peninsula District, Virginia Annual Conference of UMC, Williamsburg, VA, October, 2010.

"The Good News of God's Welcome," Seattle Synod Assembly Keynote Addresses, May 15-17, 2010.

"Protestant Spirituality," lecture series. Academy for Spiritual Formation, April 2010.

Panel Chair, Teaching the Introductory Course in Church History, American Society of Church History Meeting, San Diego, CA, Jan 7-10, 2010

Staff, Workshop for Mid-Career Faculty Workshop, Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religion, June 2010-July 2011.

"Let Us Dream God's Reign Anew" St. Paul Synod Assembly Keynote Addresses, St. Paul, MN, May 29-30, 2009.

“Christianity and Strangers: Charting Early Christian Practices of Otherness.” H. Orton Wiley Lectures in Theology, Point Loma Nazarene University, March, 2009.

“Strangers in the Empire: The Landscape of Early Christianity” for “Abraham’s Children: Judaism, Christianity and Islam,” Camden County College, Blackwood, NJ, October, 2008.

Director, Workshop for Pre-Tenure Faculty at Theological Schools, Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religion, June 2007-June 2008.

“To Exercise Our Churchly Character: A Modest Proposal,” Oxford Institute for Methodist Studies, August 2007.

“Categories of Otherness in Early Christian Texts,” Annual Meeting, American Society of Church History, Philadelphia, January, 2006.

“Early Christianity,” Russian United Methodist Theological Seminary, Moscow, February-March, 2005.

“Living Theology,” Christian Educators Fellowship, Annual Conference, New Orleans, October 14-16, 2004.

“Women Speak of God,” Study Series for Wesley Ministry Network, Fall 2004.

“Wesleyan Ethics: Promise and Problem,” Wesley at 300: Controversy, Consensus and Conversation, Duke Divinity School, Jun 27-29, 2003.

“Hospitality and Early Methodism: An Exploration,” Oxford Institute for Methodist Theological Studies, Christ College, Oxford, England, August 2002.

Senior Staff, Wabash Center Workshop on Teaching and Learning for Pre-Tenure Religion Faculty at Church-Related Colleges and Universities, July 2002-July 2003.

“Knowledge and Vital Piety: Higher Education and Vocation in the Wesleyan Tradition,” Hendrix College, Conway, Arkansas, March 2002.

“What’s Wrong with This Picture? God, Evil and Suffering,” Oxford Institute for Methodist Theological Studies, Oxford, England, August, 1997.

“The Role of Doctrine in the Life of Faith,” Quillian Lectureship, Ministers Week, Candler School of Theology, Atlanta, January, 1997.

“Ecclesiology in Augustine’s *Enarrationes in Psalmos*,” American Society of Church History, Wheaton, April, 1996.

“Sor Juana Ines de la Cruz: The Stuff of Theologians,” American Academy of Religion, Southwest Regional Meeting, Dallas, March, 1993.

#### D. Academic Grants Awarded

Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religion, Small Project Grant, 2008-2009.

Convenor, Rhodes Consultation on the Future of the Church-Related College, 1998-99.

Bridwell Fellowship for Methodist Studies, Southern Methodist University, 1997.

Lilly Teaching Fellow, 1995-96.

#### **IV. Honors, Awards and Offices**

Exemplary Teacher Award at Saint Paul School of Theology, General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, United Methodist Church, 2017.

Director, Workshop for Pre-Tenure Faculty at Theological Schools, Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religion, June 2013-June 2014.

Director, Workshop for Pre-Tenure Faculty at Theological Schools, Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religion, June 2007-June 2008.

Chair, Program Policy Committee, American Society of Church History, 2004-2007.

Theologian-in-Residence, First United Methodist Church, Boulder, CO, August 1-15, 2003.

Senior Staff, Workshop for Non-Tenured Faculty at Church-Related Colleges, Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religion, 2002-2003.

Award Selection Committee for Outler Prize in Church History, American Society of Church History, 2002.

Vice President, Southwest Commission on Religious Studies, 2001-2002.

Nominations and Program Committees, American Society of Church History, 2001-2003.

Council Member, American Society of Church History, 1998-2000.

Exemplary Professor of the Year, OCU, 1998.

Elected Faculty Representative, Presidential Search Committee, OCU, 1997-98.

President, Southwest Region, American Academy of Religion, 1998-1999.

CASE Professor of the Year, OCU, 1997.

Vice President, Southwest Region, American Academy of Religion, 1996-1997.

Lilly Fellow, American Academy of Religion Workshop, *Teaching Religion in the Buckle of the Bible Belt: Cultural and Academic Traditions of Diversity*, 1995-96.

President, OCU Chapter, American Association of University Professors, 1995-97.

Ollie Bell Chair of Church History, Oklahoma City University, 1992 to present.

SMU Graduate Program in Religious Studies Fellowship, 1984-1989.

North American Fund for Theological Education Fellowship, 1980.

Ewing Fellowship in Political Science, University of Oklahoma, 1978.