

Nell M. Becker Sweeden

George Fox Evangelical Seminary
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Education

Boston University	Doctor of Philosophy in Practical Theology <i>Specializations: Church and Society; Wesleyan Theology; Liberation Theologies</i>	2012
Nazarene Theological Seminary	Master of Divinity	2007
Point Loma Nazarene University	Bachelor of Arts, Spanish and Philosophy and Theology	2002

Professional Experience

Teaching Experience

Assistant Professor of Theology, Richard B. Parker co-Chair of Wesleyan Theology George Fox Evangelical Seminary 2013-Present

Courses taught: Women in Church History, Theology in the Wesleyan Tradition, Essentials of Christian Theology, Church History and Theology II: Reformation and Its Ramifications, Images of God, Dynamics of Leadership and Ministry Organizations (DMin), Spirituality and the Writing of the Mystics, History of Spirituality and Renewal.

Adjunct Professor of Theology at Northwest Nazarene University	2012-2013
<i>Courses taught:</i> Theology of Holiness (BA) and Premodern, Modern, and Postmodern Philosophies (MA)	
Adjunct Professor of Religion at Eastern Nazarene College	2012
<i>Courses taught:</i> Issues in Missions (BA)	
Teaching Assistant with Dean Bryan Stone, Boston University	2010, 2011
<i>Courses:</i> John Wesley's Theology Today (MA) and Travel Seminar to Cuba: Church and Empire (MA)	
Teaching Assistant with Dr. Claire Wolfeich, Boston University	2009-2010
<i>Courses:</i> Practical Theology Proseminar (PhD); Church and Theology in the Contemporary World (PhD)	
Research Assistant for Dean Bryan Stone, Boston University	2009
Research Assistant for Dr. Shelly Rambo, Boston University	2008
Teaching Assistant for Dr. John Knight, Nazarene Theological Seminary	2005-2007
<i>Courses:</i> Philosophy of Religion (MA); Ethics (MA); Contemporary Theology (MA)	
Visiting instructor of theology Nazarene Seminary in Asunción, Paraguay	2003-2004
<i>Courses taught:</i> Doctrina de Santidad (Doctrine of Holiness) and Teología Sistemática I (Systematic Theology I)	

International Development Experience

Nazarene Compassionate Ministries (NCM)*

Education Consultant	2013-Present
Director of International Program Development and Education Initiatives	2010-2013
Compassion Education Coordinator	2007-2010

Scholarly Presentations

“(Dis)Unity in Social Holiness: Complexities of Race, Class, and Gender;” presented November 21-24, 2015 at the Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion in the Wesleyan Theology Group, Atlanta, Georgia.

“Holiness Activism: Social Engagement Among Nineteenth Century Wesleyan-Holiness Groups;” presented March 28, 2015 at the Annual Meeting of the Pacific Northwest Region of the American Academy of Religion, Marylhurst University, Portland, Oregon.

“Holiness Ecclesiology: Gathered as the Body of Christ;” presented March 6-7, 2015 at the Annual Meeting of the Wesleyan Theological Society, Mount Vernon Nazarene University, Mount Vernon, Ohio.

“Postdenominationalism and Activism: Re-forming Denominations toward Spaces of Collaboration;” presented November 23, 2013 at the Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion in the Ecclesiological Investigations Group (Theme: The Managerial Turn and the Thinning of Denominational Identity), Baltimore, Maryland.

“Empire and Immigration: Theological Reflection on Postcolonial Challenges to Hospitality Practice;” presented March 4, 2011 at Annual Meeting of the Wesleyan Theological Society (Theme: Empire, Church, *Missio Dei*), Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas.

Panel presentation “Scripture and the Public Life: Reading/Performing the Text as Engagement;” co-presented with Xochitl Alvizo, Bryan Stone, and Josh Sweeden at March 6, 2010 at Annual Meeting of the Wesleyan Theological Society (Theme: “The Future of Scripture”), Azusa Pacific University, Azusa, California.

“Scripture, Sacrament, and Ethics: How the Word and Table Shapes the Economic and Political Life of the Church as Gift in a Spirit of Hospitality;” co-presented with Brent Peterson March 4, 2010 at Annual Meeting of the Society for the Study of Psychology and Wesleyan Theology (Theme: Gift and Economy: Ethics, Hospitality and the Market), Azusa Pacific University, Azusa, California.

“Eucharist as Gift in God’s Economy of Grace: Explorations in Hospitality and Pilgrimage in Relation to Global Migration;” presented March 2009 at Annual Meeting of the Wesleyan Theological Society (Theme: “*All the Treasures of Wisdom and Knowledge: The Centrality of Christ*”), Anderson University, Anderson, Indiana.

“Food, Eucharist, and Holy Itinerary: Re-envisioning Ecclesial ‘Place’ and ‘Pilgrimage’ in Light of Twenty-first Century Migration;” presented November 2008 at Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion in the Bible, Theology, and Postmodernity Group (Theme: *International Focus: South Asia*), Chicago, Illinois.

Publications

Academic Contributions

Books:

Church on the Way: Hospitality and Migration. Eugene, OR: Pickwick, 2015.

Book chapters:

“Missional Church: A Wesleyan Tautology.” In *Essential Beliefs: A Wesleyan Paradigm*. Edited by Diane Leclerc and Mark Maddix. Kansas City, MO: Nazarene Publishing House, 2016.

“Wesleyanism After Religion: An Exercise in Christian Ethics Amidst the Social Conscious Turn of the Post-Christian Nones.” In *Embracing the Past – Forging the Future*. Edited by Wm. Andrew Schwartz and John M. Bechtold. Eugene, OR: Pickwick, 2015.

“Reaching the Least of These: Hospitality as the Heart of Wesleyan Identity.” In *Pastoral Practices: A Wesleyan Paradigm*. Edited by Diane Leclerc and Mark Maddix. Kansas City, MO: Nazarene Publishing House, 2013.

Journal Articles:

“Postdenominationalism and Activism: Re-forming Denominations toward Spaces of Collaboration.” *Wesleyan Theological Journal* 50, no. 2. (Fall 2015): 209-220.

“Holiness Ecclesiology: Gathered as the Body of Christ.” *Wesleyan Theological Journal*. (forthcoming).

Encyclopedia Articles:

“Betwixt and Between”, “Church of Christ (Holiness)”, “Church of the Nazarene”, “Churches of Christ in Christian Union”, “Churches of God (Anderson, Indiana)”, “Free Methodist Church”, and “Korean Evangelical Church of America”, “Pillar of Fire”, “Wesleyan Church”, “Wesleyan Holiness Association of Churches.” In *Encyclopedia of Christianity in the United States*, 5 vols, edited by George Thomas Kurian & Mark Lamport. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield, 2016.

Book Review:

Oh, Gwang Seok. *John Wesley’s Ecclesiology: A Study in its Sources and Development*. Lanham, MD and Oxford: Scarecrow Press, Inc., 2008. 301 pages. ISBN: 0810859645. Reviewed in *Wesleyan Theological Journal*, Vol. 44, No. 1 2009.

Publications as Student:

“Exploring the Church in Cuba,” *Focus*, Boston University School of Theology (Winter 2011), 44-47. Also available online at: www.bu.edu/sth/publications/focus.

“Reclaiming the Restorative Justice and True Freedom of the Kingdom of God,” *Didache: Faithful Teaching* 8, no. 1 (Summer 2008) available online at: didache.nts.edu.

“Unity and Diversity in Dialogue,” *Didache: Faithful Teaching* 7, no. 1 (Summer 2007) (Summer 2001) available online at: didache.nts.edu.

Ecclesial Affiliations and Contributions

Church of the Nazarene, ordained elder	2011-present
Advisory Council, Micah Challenge USA	2012-present
Board of Directors, Accord Network**	2010-2013
Board of Directors, Center for Responsibility and Justice, Eastern Nazarene College	2010-2013

Presentations:

“Living the Blessed Unrest,” Commencement Charge George Fox Evangelical Seminary, April 29, 2016.

- “Church on the Way: Reflections on Migration” presentation for Pentecostal-Charismatic Student Group at George Fox Evangelical Seminary, September 17, 2015.
- “When Christianity is Qualified by ‘After,’ ‘Post,’ and ‘None’: Wesleyan Ecclesial Responses,” Residents in Ministry Academy for UMC California Nevada Conference, August 25-28, 2014 at Zephyr Point, Lake Tahoe, Nevada.
- “Theological Themes in Compassionate Ministries,” Nazarene Theological College, Manchester, Masters-level course in Compassionate Ministries, Manchester, England, June 2014.
- “Religious ‘Nones’ are on the Rise: A Christian Response,” Church of the Nazarene Oregon Pacific District Assembly, McMinnville, OR, May 2014.
- United States Small Group Leader, Church of the Nazarene, Global Theology Conference, Johannesburg, South Africa, March 2014.
- “Child Protection/Child Safe,” NCM Global Child Development Conference, Singapore, September 2012
- “Holistic Child Development,” Eurasia Regional Conference, Church of the Nazarene, Antalya, Turkey, October 2011
- “Theology of Compassion/Teología de Compasión,” for Nazarene Compassionate Ministries, San Jose, Costa Rica, September 2010
- “Living the Resurrection,” with Joshua Sweeden, Boston University School of Theology Chapel, Boston, MA April 25, 2010
- “Practices of Resurrection,” with Joshua Sweeden, Boston University School of Theology Chapel, Boston, MA, April 14, 2009
- “Gospel and Global Epidemics: How are we responding to crises that impact worldwide population?” for Church of the Nazarene 27th General Assembly in Orlando, Florida, June 2009
- United States Small Group Leader, Church of the Nazarene, Global Theology Conference, Amsterdam, April 2007

Writings in Service to the Church:

- “Theology and Practice: How Learning by Doing Shapes the Christian Life,” *Holiness Today*, Fall 2015.
- “Being a Holiness Denomination in a Post-Denominational Age.” In *Renovating Holiness*. SacraSage Press, 2014.
- Editor and Contributor, Nazarene Compassionate Ministries Magazine 2007—2013
- “Compassion and Care for the Poor: Then and Now,” *Cultural Expressions Magazine* (culturalexpressions.org), Summer 2010.
- “Give All You Can: Reflections on John Wesley’s Evangelical Economics,” *Cultural Expressions Magazine* (culturalexpressions.org), Winter 2009.
- “Discipleship for Life: Hope and Imagination,” Youth Ministry Academy online resource (youthministryacademy.org), Spring 2009.
- “Connecting With: A Compassionate Lifestyle in Your Community,” *Holiness Today*, Nov/Dec 2008.

Professional Affiliations

American Academy of Religion
 Association of Practical Theology
 Wesleyan Theological Society

Scholarship Awards

Boston University School of Theology, Teaching Assistant Fellowship, 2008-2010

Recipient of full tuition remission, Boston University 2007-2009
Recipient of the Tom Nees Social Justice Award, Nazarene Theological Seminary, April 2006
Recipient of the Phillip Riley Honors Scholarship—full tuition remission, Nazarene Theological Seminary, 2004-2007
Graduated Summa Cum Laude—Point Loma Nazarene University (PLNU), 2002
Graduated with Distinction in the Department of Literature, Journalism, and Modern Languages, Spanish PLNU, 2002
Graduated with Highest Academic Standing in the Department of Religion (4.0), PLNU, 2002
Graduated with Highest Academic Standing in the Department of Literature Journalism, and Modern Languages, Spanish (4.0) PLNU, 2002
Recipient of academic merit scholarship—half tuition remission, PLNU 1998-2002
Recipient of athletic scholarship—half tuition remission, PLNU 1998-2002

Languages

Spanish fluency in reading, speaking, and writing
French reading

** More information on Nazarene Compassionate Ministries can be found at ncm.org. NCM's mission statement reads: "Following the example of Jesus, NCM partners with local Nazarene congregations around the world to clothe, shelter, feed, heal, educate, and live in solidarity with those who suffer under oppression, injustice, violence, poverty, hunger, and disease. NCM exists in and through the Church of the Nazarene to proclaim the Gospel to all people in word and deed." NCM is the relief and development arm of the Church of the Nazarene and facilitates many NGO and para-church partnerships worldwide, including Compassion International and World Vision.*

*** The Accord Network (accordnetwork.org) is a catalyst for learning, collaboration, and building Christ-centered unity around the shared vision of eliminating poverty. Accord serves Christian organizations and churches involved in this vision to achieve the highest standards, principles and effectiveness in relief and development.*