

SCOTT L. THUMMA
Curriculum Vita

PRESENT POSITION

Hartford Seminary, Professor of Sociology of Religion, Director of Doctor of Ministry and Director of Hartford Institute for Religion Research.

EDUCATION

Ph.D., August, 1996. Division of Religion, Ethics and Society Program, Emory University, Atlanta, GA.

M. DIV., May 1987. Candler School of Theology, Emory University, Atlanta, GA. Graduated magna cum laude with Masters Honors Thesis.

B.A., May 1983. Southwestern University, Georgetown, TX. Major: Psychology. Undeclared minors: Religion, Sociology, and Philosophy.

DISSERTATION

The Kingdom, the Power, and the Glory: Megachurches in Modern American Society.
Committee: Nancy T. Ammerman (director), Steven M. Tipton, Frank Lechner, R. Stephen Warner, Robert Franklin

MASTERS HONORS THESIS

Straightening Identities: Evangelical Approaches to Homosexuality.
Committee: Nancy T. Ammerman (director), Steven M. Tipton (reader).

PUBLICATIONS

Forthcoming:

“Megachurches of North America” *Routledge Handbook of Megachurches.* Editors Afe Adogame, Chad Bauman, Damaris Parsitau, and Jeaney Yip. Routledge. Forthcoming 2023.

Published:

Books -

The Other Eighty Percent: Turning Your Church's Spectators into Active Disciples With Warren Bird, Jossey-Bass - Leadership Network Series. 2011.

Beyond Megachurch Myths: What We Can Learn from America's Largest Churches With Dave Travis, (J-B Leadership Network Series) Jossey-Bass. 2007.

Gay Religion: Innovation and Continuity in American Religion. Co-editor Edward Gray, Alta Mira Press. 2004.

World Methodism and World Issues: A Research Report. With Earl Brewer, World Methodist Council. 1989.

Chapters & Articles -

“The Pandemic Church?” in *Hybrid Hope: Church of the Future for Churches with a Future.*

Editor Michael Piazza. 2022.

“The Challenges of Religious Practice in a Post-Pandemic Digital Culture” in *Proceedings: Seventh Biennial Conference on Religion and American Culture*, editor Philip Goff, 2022.

“A Portrait of the 2020 Faith Communities Today Study” *Theology Today*, Sage Press, 2021.

“Exploring the Dynamics and Challenges of Congregational Size” *Theology Today*, Sage Press, 2021.

“Talking Over the Back Fence: A Conversation between a Sociologist of Religion and a Practical Theologian about the Faith Communities Today Findings” with Gordon S. Mikoski, *Theology Today* Sage Press, 2021.

“How Much Will Church Size Matter Post-Pandemic?” with Warren Bird, *Outreach Magazine*, 2021.

“Virtual Now, But For How Long?” in *The Distanced Church: Reflections on Doing Church Online*, edited by Heidi A Campbell, Texas A&M University, 2020.

“What Applied Implies: A Reflection on the Identity of the Religious Research Association” *Review of Religious Research*, April 2019.

“To Whom Is a Megachurch Accountable? A U.S. Case Study” in *Megachurch Accountability in Missions: Critical Assessment through Global Case Studies*. Eds. Kim, Jinbong, Dwight Baker, et al. Pasadena, CA: William Carey Library, 2016.

“Megachurches: Raised on Charisma, Sustained on Shared Leadership” with Charles C. Manz and Karen P. Manz in *Share the Lead* Stanford University Press, 2014.

“Megafaith for the Megacity: The global megachurch phenomenon” with Warren Bird. In *The Changing World Religion Map: Sacred Places, Identities, Practices and Politics*, edited by Stanley D. Brunn, Dordrecht: Springer, 2014.

“Creating a new heaven and a new earth: Megachurches and the reengineering of America’s spiritual soil.” With Elizabeth Leppman in *Engineering Earth: The Impacts of Megaengineering Projects*. Editor Stan Brunn Dordrecht, The Netherlands: Springer Publishing, 2010.

“Negotiating a Religious Identity: The Case of the Gay Evangelical,” reprinted in *Sexuality and Religion* edited by Stephen Hunt, Ashgate, 2010.

“The Megachurch Phenomenon: Reshaping Church and Faith for the 21st Century” *The Cambridge History of Religions in America* editor Stephen J. Stein, Cambridge University Press, 2010.

“The Order of Christ Sophia and Traditional Protestant Churches” In *Children of Jesus and Mary: A Study of The Order of Christ Sophia*, editor James Lewis, Oxford University Press, 2009.

“The Shape of Things to Come: Megachurches, Emerging Churches and Other New Religious Structures Supporting an Individualized Spiritual Identity.” Chapter in *Faith in America: Changes, Challenges, New Directions*. Editor Charles Lippy, Praeger Press, 2006.

“‘Open and Affirming’ of Growth? The Challenge of Liberal LGB-supportive Congregational Growth.” Chapter in *Why Liberal Churches Are Growing*. Editors Martyn Percy and Ian Markham. Oxford: Basil Blackwell, 2006.

“Goliaths in the Midst: Lutheran Megachurches,” co-authored chapter in edited volume *Contemporary American Lutheranism*, Richard Cimino (ed.) Eerdmans Press, 2003.

“Methods in Studying a Congregation” chapter in *Studying Congregations* Ammerman, Carroll, Dudley, & McKinney (eds.), Abingdon Press, 1998.

“The Gospel Hour: Liminality, Identity, and Religion in a Gay Bar.” published in *Contemporary American Religion: An Ethnographic Reader*, Eiesland and Becker (eds.), Alta Mira Publishers, 1997.

“Amazing Grace: Gay Gospel in a Southern City” published in *A Rainbow of Religious Studies. Vol. 7 Gay Men's Issues in Religious Studies*. Clark and Goss (eds.), Monument Press, 1996.

“Megachurches of Atlanta” article in *Religions of Atlanta: Religious Diversity in the Centennial Olympic City*. Gary Laderman (ed.), Scholars Press, 1996.

“Rising out of the Ashes: An Exploration of One Congregation's Use of Southern Symbolism” article in *Religion in the Contemporary South: Diversity, Community, and Identity*, White and White (eds.), Southern Anthropology Proceedings, No. 28 University of Georgia Press, 1995.

“Negotiating a Religious Identity: The Case of the Gay Evangelical” article in *Symbolic Interaction: An Introduction to Social Psychology*. Herman and Reynolds (eds), General Hall Publ., 1994, p.224-38.

“Negotiating a Religious Identity” *Sociological Analysis*_Vol.52: 4 Winter, 1991, p.333-347.

“Seeking to Be Converted: An Examination of Recent Conversion Theories” *Pastoral Psychology* Vol.39 January, 1991, p.185-194.

Encyclopedia Articles -

“Megachurches, their practices and theology” entry for *The Cambridge Dictionary of Christianity*, editor Daniel M. Patte, Cambridge University Press, September 2010.

“Internet technologies and congregational life” entry for *The Cambridge Dictionary of Christianity*, editor Daniel M. Patte, Cambridge University Press, September 2010.

“Megachurch” entry for *The New Encyclopedia of Southern Culture*, Volume 1 Religion, Editor Samuel Hill. University of North Carolina Press, June 2010.

“Homosexuality and Evangelical Christianity” entry for *Encyclopedia of Homosexuality and Religion*, Editor Jeffrey S. Siker. Greenwood Press, 2006.

“Megachurches” entry for *Encyclopedia of Fundamentalism*, Brenda Brasher, ed. Routledge Press, 2001.

Research Reports and Web Publications –

Religious Education During the Pandemic: A Tale of Challenge and Creativity. EPIC report three. April 2022.

Social Outreach during the Pandemic. EPIC report two. December 2021.

Navigating the Pandemic: A First Look at Congregational Responses. EPIC report one. October 2021.

Twenty Years of Congregational Change: The 2020 Faith Communities Today Overview September 2021.

Faith Communities Today Newsletter “Challenges Facing Congregations Today” 3 of an 8 part series ongoing 2019-2020.

Research report for Faith Communities Today “Congregational Vitality” contributed a section of the report. 2018.

Research report for Faith Communities Today “Technology and Social Media in American Congregations” 2017

Research report on Faith Communities Today Megachurch 2015 Study

Research report on Faith Communities Today Large Churches 2015 Study

Searchable Database of all Mosques and Islamic Centers in United States 2013

Research report for Faith Communities Today “Virtually Religious: Technology and Internet Use in American Congregations” 2012

Research report on Faith Communities Today Megachurch 2010 Study

Research report on Faith Communities Today Nondenominational Churches Study 2010

Research report on Nondenominational Churches Religious Congregations Membership Study 2010

Research report “Not Who You Think They Are: A Profile of the People Who Attend America's Megachurches” 2009

Research report on Megachurches Today 2008

Research report on Megachurches Today 2005

Research report on Faith Communities Today Megachurch 2000 Study

Research report on Faith Communities Today Nondenominational Churches Study 2000

Sociology of Religion Encyclopedia Project

Hartford Institute Email Newsletter “News and Notes”

Research report on Church Webmaster Study

“Walking the Cyber-Labyrinth,” article on the implications of the web on religious life.

“Exploring a Mega-trend,” article on the basic characteristics of megachurches.

“Connectionalism beyond the Denomination: Local Religious Ecologies and Beyond.”

“Non-denominational Identities and the Networks that support them.”

Produced the content for hundreds of webpages on the Hartford Institute, Faith Communities Today and Insights into Religion websites.

Popular Writings –

“Is there a Great Resignation Brewing for Pastors?” Religion News Service editorial March, 2022

“Poised for Growth” co-author with Warren Bird. Outreach Magazine, September, 2021.

“Reflections on the Significance of the Lantern Floating Ceremony” *Lantern Floating Hawaii* Shinnyo-en publication November, 2018

"Racial Diversity Increasing In U.S. Congregations" Huffington Post March 24, 2013

Participated in Biennial Conference on Religion & American Culture, written comments published in proceedings of conference, Philip Goff organizer, Indianapolis IN, Center for the Study of Religion and American Culture. 2013

"Suggestions for Resurrecting Your Church at Easter" Huffington Post April 7, 2012

Participated in "Faith 2.0 - Religion and the Internet" Conference at the Tony Blair Faith Foundation, audio published in proceedings of conference, Drew Collins, London, Center for the Study of Religion. 2011

"Death of Denominations" article in *The Progressive Christian* Nov/Dec 2008 pp.22-24.

Book Review in "Family Ministry," on *Give me that Online Religion*, Brenda Brasher. 2002

Participated in project on Globalization, Technology and Spirituality Project, written comments published in proceedings of conference, Steve Jacobsen, University of California, Santa Barbara, Center for the Study of Religion. 2000

INTERNET WEBSITES

Sites created and currently maintained:

Hartford Institute for Religion Research www.hartfordinstitute.org

Faith Communities Today www.faithcommunitiestoday.org

Pastoral Innovation Network www.pastoralinnovationnetwork.org

Exploring the Pandemic's Impact on Congregations www.covidreligionresearch.org

Robert Bellah's website www.robertbellah.com

Many additional sites designed and previously maintained over the past 15 years such as,

Religious Research Association www.RRA.hartsem.edu and Lilly Endowment Portal Site

www.religioninsights.org

PRESENTATIONS

Academic –

Participated in Biennial Conference on Religion & American Culture, Philip Goff organizer, Indianapolis IN, Center for the Study of Religion and American Culture. August, 2022.

Organized and chaired a session at the American Academy of Religion in San Antonio, TX November 2021.

Research on the Impact of COVID on Churches Presentation at the Association of Statisticians of American Religious Bodies, virtual October 2021.

Organized and chaired three sessions of the Religious Research Association conference in Portland, OR October 2021.

"Positionality and Reflexivity in Applied Religious Research" Panel respondent. Religious Research Association conference in Portland, OR October 2021.

"The 2020 Nondenominational Church Reality: Strong and Growing" A Paper presented at Religious Research Association conference in Portland, OR October 2021.

"A 2020 Portrait of Megachurch Congregations" (co-presenter with Warren Bird) A Paper presented at Religious Research Association conference in Portland, OR October 2021.

"The Present and Future of the Pandemic Project" A Paper presented at Religious Research Association conference in Portland, OR October 2021.

Organized and chaired three sessions of the Religious Research Association conference in St. Louis, MO October 2019.

Speaker at Princeton Seminary Conference on the American Religious Landscape. In Princeton, NJ Nov 7-9, 2019.

Presidential address "What Applied Implies: A Discussion of Identity in the RRA" for Religious Research Association in Las Vegas, NV October 2018.

"The Megachurch Phenomenon and Its Global Spread" A Paper presented at international conference Currents, Perspectives and Methodologies in World Christianity in Princeton, NJ January 2018.

Organized and convened 6 sessions at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion and the Religious Research Association in Washington, DC 2017.

Organized and convened The H. Paul Douglass Lecture at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion and the Religious Research Association in Washington, DC 2017.

Organized and convened 5 sessions at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion and the Religious Research Association in Washington, DC 2016.

"The Benefits of Being Multisite No Matter What Your Size" A paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion and the Religious Research Association in Atlanta, GA 2016.

"How do you measure health? Characteristics of Vital, Thriving and Growing Congregations in the Faith Communities Today 2015 Study" A paper co-presented with David Roozen at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion and the Religious Research Association in Atlanta, GA 2016.

"Tech Use in American Congregation" A paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion and the Religious Research Association in Newport Beach, CA October 2015.

"Overview and Changing Dynamics based on the 2015 U.S. Megachurch Study" A session organized and a paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion and the Religious Research Association in Newport Beach, CA October 2015.

"Exploring a New Profile of America's Congregations" A paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion and the Religious Research Association in Indianapolis, IN October 2014.

"He Said, She Said: Gender Differences in Congregational and Pastoral Choice Dynamics" A session organized and a paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion and the Religious Research Association in Indianapolis, IN October 2014.

"The Twenty-First Century Scholar: Employing Multiple Media to Educate the World" A paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion and the Religious Research Association in Boston, MA November, 2013.

"Are Multiracial Congregations Calmer?" Adair T. Lummis with David Roozen & Scott Thumma. A paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion and the Religious Research Association in Boston, MA November, 2013.

"Mapping Organizational Individualism: Nondenominational Churches in the US" A paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion and the Religious Research Association in Phoenix, AZ November, 2012.

"Examining the Global Megachurch Phenomenon" with Warren Bird. A paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion and the Religious Research Association in Phoenix, AZ November, 2012.

"Virtually Religious: A Continued Look at the Use of Technology and the Internet by Churches" A paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion and the Religious Research Association in Milwaukee, WI October, 2011.

“Fractured Commitment? An Exploration of Involvement in Single-site and Multi-site Churches” A paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion and the Religious Research Association in Milwaukee, WI October, 2011.

“Nondenominational Churches: Alive and Growing, Vitality” A paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion and the Religious Research Association in Milwaukee, WI October, 2011.

“The Many Paths to Involvement: Commitment Characteristics of Megachurch Members” A paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion and the Religious Research Association in Baltimore, MA October, 2010.

“Research Agendas in Congregational/Pastoral Studies” panelist at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion and the Religious Research Association in Baltimore, MA October, 2010.

“Megachurch Pandemic: Is the Megachurch Model Symptomatic of Broader Religious Organizational Changes?” Organized two sessions and presented a paper at the annual meeting of the Religious Research Association in Denver, CO. October, 2009.

“The View from the Comfy Padded Pew: New Data on Megachurch Attendees” A paper presented at the annual meeting of the Association for the Study of Religion, Economics, and Culture in Washington D.C. April 2009.

“Where 2 or 3 Thousand are Gathered: Overview of Findings of a National Field Study of Megachurch Attendees” A paper presented at the annual meeting of the Religious Research Association in Louisville, KY. October, 2008.

“Growing Up and Leaving Home: Megachurches That Depart Denominations” A paper presented at the annual meeting of the Religious Research Association in October, 2007.

“The Business of Megachurches” A paper presented at the annual meeting of the Association for the Study of Religion, Economics, and Culture in October, 2007.

“Church Writ Large: A Profile of Megachurches in the United States” A paper presented at the annual meeting of the Religious Research Association in October, 2007.

“Regularly Attending to Internet Altars” A paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion October 2007.

"Outreach Lessons from the Fastest Growing Megachurches" A presentation given at the National Outreach Conference in San Diego, CA, November 2006

“New Religious Movement or Christian Niche Congregation: A comparison of the Order of Christ / Sophia and ‘traditional’ Protestant Churches.” A paper presented at the annual meeting of the Association of Sociology of Religion 2006

“Do Online Surveys Work? It Depends on the Audience” A paper presented at the annual meeting of the Religious Research Association in October, 2005.

“Answering the Reporter’s Call” Panelist in a workshop at the American Academy of Religion annual meeting in Atlanta, GA. November, 2003.

“Are We Public Educators: A Discussion with Journalists of Religion” co-organizer, convener and presenter at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion in Norfolk, VA. October, 2003.

“The Mega-Church Engaged.” A paper presented at the annual meeting of the Religious Research Association in Norfolk, VA. October, 2003.

“When Theology is the Causal Variable.” A paper presented at the annual meeting of the Association of Sociology of Religion in Atlanta, GA. August, 2003.

“Religion and the Internet” Invited presentation at Louisville Institute Sabbatical Grant Consultation. Louisville, KY. April, 2003

“Of Mice and Members: Using the Web to Research Religious Phenomena” A paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion in Salt Lake City UT. October, 2002.

“A Sunday Drive on the Information Superhighway: The Use of Web-based Research by Religious Groups” A paper presented at the annual meeting of the Religious Research Association in Salt Lake City UT. October, 2002.

“Being a Public Educator” Organizer, convener and one of the presenters in a panel session at the annual meeting of the Religious Research Association in Salt Lake City UT. October, 2002.

“Religion and the Internet” Paper given at Communications Forum lecture at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology on April 18, 2002.

“The Hartford Institute for Religion Research web site – A Resource for Research and Teaching.” A paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion in Columbus, Ohio. October, 2001.

“Internet Strategy: Design and Technology for a Web-User World.” A paper presented at the annual meeting of the Religious Research Association in Columbus, Ohio. October, 2001.

“Christianity: Present and Future.” Presentation to the Religion Newswriters Association, Boston, MA, September, 2001.

“Assessment of the Life Work of Margaret Poloma.” A paper presented at the annual meeting of the Southern Sociological Society in Atlanta, GA. April, 2001.

“Show me the data: The web as a publishing medium for denominational research findings.” Organizer, convener and one of the presenters in a panel session at the annual meeting of the Religious Research Association in Houston, TX, October, 2000.

“Exploring a Goldmine? ‘American Church Lists’ as a Research Source.” A paper presented at the annual meeting of the Religious Research Association in Houston, TX. October, 2000.

“Gender, Sexualities and Religious Research” Paper presenter in a Special Plenary Session at the annual meeting of the Religious Research Association in Houston, TX. October, 2000.

“Ethics and Research Standards of On-line Self-publishing” One of the presenters in a panel session at the annual meeting of the Religious Research Association in Houston, TX. October, 2000.

“Non-denominational Identities and the Networks that support them.” A paper presented at the annual meeting of the Religious Research Association in Boston, MA. November, 1999.

“Revisiting the Cross: Routinization and Revival within the Assemblies of God.” Co-authored with Margaret Poloma, A paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion in Boston, MASS November, 1999.

“Describing and measuring Congregational Change in Independent Christian Churches.” A paper presented at the annual meeting of the Religious Research Association in Boston, MA. November, 1999.

“Surfing for Saints: Tour of Religious and research sites.” Organizer, convener and one of the presenters in a panel session at the annual meeting of the Religious Research Association in Boston, MA. November, 1999.

“Connectionalism Beyond the Denomination: Local Religious Ecologies and Beyond.” A paper presented at the annual meeting of the Association of Sociology of Religion in San Francisco, CA. August, 1998.

“The Gospel Hour: Liminality, Identity, and Religion in a Gay Bar.” A paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion in Nashville, TN. November, 1996.

“Amazing Grace: Gay Gospel in a Southern City” A paper co-written with Edward Gray and presented at the American Academy of Religion annual meeting in Philadelphia, Pa. November, 1995.

“The Megachurch: A Sacred Power in a Secular Society.” Keynote lecture given at Catholic University of America, School of Architecture Summer series. June, 1995.

“And Like a Phoenix: The Influence of `New South in a Southern Congregation” A paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion in Raleigh

NC, October 1993.

“Issues in Qualitative Research: The Interface between Qualitative and Quantitative Research in Fieldwork” Organized and convened a roundtable discussion at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion in Raleigh, NC, October 1993.

“Switching In: Mainline Charismatic Converts in One Nondenominational Congregation” A paper presented at The Institute for the Study of American Evangelicalism consultation held at Princeton, NJ, October 1993.

“Sketching a Megatrend: The Phenomenal Proliferation of Very Large Churches in the United States” A paper presented at the annual meeting of the Association of Sociology of Religion in Miami FL, August 1993.

“Rising from the Ashes: An Exploration of One Congregation's Use of Southern Symbolism” A requested Key Symposium paper for the annual conference of the Southern Anthropological Society, Savannah, GA, March 1993.

“Beyond the Objective Observer: Problems in Qualitative Research” Organized and convened a roundtable discussion session at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion in Washington, D.C. November 1992.

“Where Two or Three Are Gathered: Experiences in Group Interviewing” A paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion in Washington, D.C., November 1992.

“The Spy Among Us: Problems in Researching a Congregation” A paper presented at the annual meeting of the Association of Sociology of Religion in Pittsburgh, PA, August 1992.

“Quench Not the Spirit: The Effects of Bureaucracy on Charisma” A paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion in Pittsburgh, PA, November 1991.

“A Good Shepherd?: An Analysis of the Appeal of a White Minister for African American Christians” A paper presented at the Southeast regional meeting of American Academy of Religion in Atlanta, GA, March 1991.

“Seeking to Be Converted: An Examination of Recent Conversion Theories” A paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion in Salt Lake City, Utah, October 1989.

“Preserving the Reverence for Life in the Whirlwind of AIDS,” Coauthored with Mark Sciegaj. A paper presented to the Director's Staff, Georgia Division of Public Health, Department of Human Resources, Atlanta, GA, November, 1987.

“Conservative Christian and Homosexual: A Feat of Religious Accommodation” A paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion in Louisville, KY, October 1987.

“Conflicts of Autonomy: AIDS and Preventive Health Care Policies” Coauthored with Mark Sciegaj. A paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Public Health Association, Las Vegas, NV, October, 1986.

“Straightening Identities: A Look at Two Evangelical Approaches to Dealing with Christian Homosexuals” A paper presented at the annual meeting of the Association for the Sociology of Religion, New York City, NY, August 1986.

Religious, Practical, Applied – (selected listing)

Presentation to the Yale Divinity School faculty retreat August 2022

Keynote Workshop Presentation to Biennial gathering of the Association of Theological Schools. Pittsburgh, PA May, 2022

Keynote Lecture at Protestant Christian Publishers Association annual conference Nashville, TN, April 2022.

Workshop presentation at National Initiative to Address Economic Challenges Facing Pastoral Leaders conference zoom March 2022.

Workshop presentation at Thriving Congregations conference zoom February 2022.

Workshop presentation at Thriving in Ministry conference zoom October 2021.

Presentation on the Nonaffiliated at Conference for Chaplains co-sponsored by Trinity College, Hartford Seminary and a national Chaplaincy Association. February 2020.

Lantern Lighting Ceremony Participant Shinnyo-en Buddhist Organization, Honolulu, HI October 2018.

Speaker at Boise Center gathering of National Research Centers, Boston September 2018.

International Retreat Shinnyo-en Buddhist Organization, San Francisco, CA August 2017.

Interfaith Workshop Shinnyo-en Buddhist Temple, White Plains, NY Summer 2017.

Boston University Congregational Studies Team, Boston Summer 2017.

Workshop on Executive Clergy, UJA Synergy Jewish Gathering, New York City April 2017.

Workshop on Hospitality and Radical Welcome for Smith Memorial Congregational Church, Hillsborough, NH April, 2016.

Presentation in Seoul Korea on Megachurches and their Missions Programs. Korean Global Mission Leadership Forum Seoul, November, 2015.

Organized conference on changing religious landscape in honor of David Roozen's retirement, Hartford, November, 2015.

Organized conference on College and University Chaplaincy in New England, Hartford, November, 2015&2017.

Presentation to Rabbis in the Tisch Fellows Program of Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, New York City, April, 2014.

Presentation for the leadership team at West Hartford Congregational Church, West Hartford, CT March 2014.

Presentation for the leadership retreat Round Hill Community Church, Greenwich, CT March 2014.

Consultation with Ihsan Bagby on Leadership and Masjid Development and future research, Hartford CT October 2013.

Presentation at leadership retreat Asylum Hill Congregational Church, Hartford CT August 2013.

Workshop on member Engagement Asylum Hill Congregational Church, Hartford CT April 2013.

Multiple presentations during action research consulting project with MA Episcopal Diocese. Spring 2013-Spring 2014.

Presentation to planning team at Asylum Hill Congregational Church, Hartford CT November 2012.

Keynote speaker at Future of the Church Summit, Group Publishing, Loveland CO October 2012.

Presentation at large church retreat Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church, Philadelphia PA September 2012.

Presentation at church gathering Fourth Presbyterian Church, Chicago IL August 2012.

Presentation at UCC Interim Ministers conference, Newington CT May 2012.

Keynote talk "For where your heart is, there your treasure is also" and workshop talk "And the survey says....what promotes robust giving." for UCC CT Stewardship conference West Hartford CT. March 2012.

Consultation with ADAMS Mosque board members, Herndon VA January 2012.

Consultation with Synagogue 3000 leadership, Indianapolis July 2012.

Two Session Presentations at Celebrating Call/Celebrating Challenge Conference hosted by the MA United Church of Conference May 2011.

Presentation for the leadership at the staff retreat of a very large Synagogue B'nai Jeshurun New York City May 2010.

Workshop presentation with Deborah Bruce at Religion Communication Congress Chicago IL April 2010.

Presentation for a gathering of Jewish leaders exploring innovative Synagogue business models, New York City March 2010.

Presentation and consultation at Consultation on Lifelong Learning for Clergy in the Twenty-First Century. Alban Institute Washington DC January 2009.

Twice presented at the annual Religion NewsWriters Association gathering. 2002, 2006

RESEARCH

EXPERIENCE

Principle Investigator of \$5,300,000 grant Lilly Endowment, for Exploring the Pandemic Impact on Congregations: Innovation Amidst and Beyond COVID-19 project (2021-2026).

Principle Investigator of \$300,000 planning grant Lilly Endowment, for Exploring the Pandemic Impact on Congregations: Innovation Amidst and Beyond COVID-19 project (2021).

Director of 1-million-dollar Program grant Lilly Endowment project to create Pastoral Innovation Network of New England Incubator (2018-2023).

Research Director for national study of Nondenominational churches includes a survey and creation of a database of churches for the US Religion Census which funded the project with a grant of \$65,000. 2019-2021.

Director and Researcher for Faith Communities Today, guiding numerous studies of America's congregational life while also guiding the steering committee, and functioning as publicist for the Faith Communities Today CCSP project. 1998-2021.

Research Director for national study of Megachurches and churches over 500 attendees in coordination with Leadership Network and Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability. 2019-2021.

Co-Director of multimillion dollar Lilly Endowment Website development project with 25 organizations (2002-2019).

Contract action research on 14 parishes for Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts 2013-2014

Consultant researcher assisting FaithStreet website company, NYC in creating an address database of all the congregations in the United States 2013-2014.

Research on nondenominational churches for the Religious Congregations Membership Study \$32,000 funding to do the research 2010.

National field research study of 12 megachurches with Leadership Network granted \$150,000 2008.

Consultant to Web Re-design Project and Institutional Networking Project with Louisville Presbyterian Seminary's Resourcing American Religion Web Site. 2002-2006.

Consultant to web re-design of Practicing our Faith web site. 2002.

Contract Research Project for Hartford Seminary Ian Markham, Interfaith programs in ATS Seminaries. 2002.

Project manager for Organizing Religious Work Project, Hartford Seminary also assisted in study of Assemblies of God pastors and Study of Vineyard Fellowship pastors. 1997-2000.

Independent Consultant, Congregational Consultants, Specializing in congregational consulting, church research, and denominational consultation. 1994 to present.

Consultant to Candler School of Theology; St. Joseph Hospital; Atlanta Interfaith Health Project, Carter Center of Emory University; The United Methodist General Council on Ministries; and Charter Brook Hospital. 1990-1997

Project Researcher for Research Project on the Faith and Practice of the Congregation, Dr.

James W. Fowler and Dr. Thomas Frank, co-directors 1988-1989.

Researcher for World Methodism and World Issues project, Dr. Earl Brewer and Dr. Mance C. Jackson, co-directors.

Assistant to the Director, Center for Religious Research, Candler School of Theology, Emory University. Director Nancy T. Ammerman, Data collection for study of Southern Baptists. 1984-1986.

HONORS AND AWARDS

Grant from US Religion Census Nondenominational data collection \$65,000 2019-2021

Program Grant from the Lilly Endowment \$997,000 2018-2023

Congregational Studies Course re-grant from the Lilly Endowment \$25,000 2018

Grant from RCMS Nondenominational data collection \$32,000 2009-2011

Grant from Louisville Institute \$13,000 2008-09

Grant from Lilly Endowment \$25,000 redesign of HIRR website 2007

Post-doctorate, Hartford Seminary, Hartford Institute for Religion Research, Hartford, CT 1997-2000

Dissertation Fellowship, Louisville Institute for the Study of Protestantism and American Culture, 1992-93

Religious Research Association, Research Grant, Summer 1991

Emory Graduate Fellowship, 1988-1992

Dean's Award, Candler School of Theology, 1983-1986

Member, Psi Chi, Psychology Honors Society, 1983

Member, Theta Chi, Theology Honors Society, 1985

Awarded Outstanding Theology Student, Southwestern Univ., 1983

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

Chair, Research Advisory Committee of Association of Theological Schools 2017-2022

Steering Committee member for decadal US Religion Census project 2015-2022

President, Religious Research Association, 2016-2018

Governing board of the Association of Statisticians of American Religious Bodies 2015-2017

Steering Committee for the Yearbook of American and Canadian Churches 2014-2015

Webmaster of Robert Bellah's web site 2003 to present

Religious Research Exchange Listserv manager, 2000 to 2019

Webmaster for Religious Research Association, 1999 to 2015

Director-at-large, Religious Research Association, 2010-2012

Publicity Committee chair, Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, 2000 to 2012

Publicity Committee chair, Religious Research Association, 2000 to 2012

Research Planning Committee chair, Religious Research Association, 2000 to 2012

Program Chair, Religious Research Association Annual meeting 2008

Webmaster for American Sociological Association, religion section, 2002 to 2006

Awards Committee, Religious Research Association, 3 years, chair 1 year 1998-2000

Student Paper Committee member, Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, 2000

Article reviewer for Sociology of Religion, Review of Religious Research, American Sociological Review, and several other journals

Book reviewer for several Publishers

SERVICE TO THE

COMMUNITY

Consultant with Agile Church Consulting.

Co-director of Lilly Endowment Web Consultation Project.

Taught many educational outreach events webinars and workshops for Hartford Seminary.

Consulted with over 120 congregations in New England on the use and interpretation of the Parish Profile Inventory in the past 18 years. Created over 95 reports for churches using the Inventories

Consultant, guest speaker, Church School presenter for many area churches

Consultant to several law firms across the United States

Unpaid consultant and publicist to the U.S. Religion Census 2010 data release

Unpaid consultant to Religion Newswriters Association on their program, planning and web site

Unpaid consultant to American Academy of Religion on their redesign of the web site & director project

Unpaid consultant to Religion Section, American Sociological Association Web Site

TEACHING

EXPERIENCE

“DMIN Colleague Group I Fall 2011, 2013-2020

“The Changing Religious Landscape” Spring 2019, Fall 2020

“DMIN Colleague Group II” Spring 2014-2019

“Nones’ Religion Fall 2019

Lecturer in Leadership course for megachurch pastors Wheaton College, Chicago January 2019

“DMIN

Lecture in a course on the religious traditions of Korea, China and Japan. Summer 2016

Interfaith Congregational Studies course, Summer 2017

Congregational Studies Course taught for Presbyterian Church in the Republic of Korea Seoul, Korea Spring 2012, Fall 2015

“Churches, Technology and Social Media” Summer 2014

“DMIN Colleague Group III” Spring 2013

“Building Congregational Participation” Summer 2013

“Understanding Muslim Congregations” co-taught with Timur Yuskaev Fall 2011, Jan 2012

“Changing Nature of Religious Organizations” Summer 2011

“Strength at Any Size: Exploring the Qualities of Large and Small Congregations” Spring 2010

“Global Pentecostalism” Fall 2009

“Global Religious Movements” Spring 2009

“Growing Healthy Churches” Summer 2008

“Studying Congregations” Summer 2005, 2007, 2010, 2014, 2016

“Religious Megatrends” Spring 2005

“Evangelicalism” Spring 2007

“Megachurches: What Can My Church Learn from These Giants” Summer 2006, 2009, 2012

“Contemporary American Religion” Fall 2005, Fall 2012

“Varieties of Gay Religious Life” Fall 2004, Fall 2006, Fall 2008

“American Religious History” Spring 2004

“Sociology of Religion” Fall 1999, Fall 2003, 2005, 2010, 2013

“Dmin Colleague Group” with Nancy Ammerman Hartford Seminary, Fall 2002, Spring 2003.

“Pentecostalism” co-teaching with Efrain Agosto Hartford Seminary, Spring, 2002.

“Congregational Studies Institute” Hartford Seminary, Summer 1998, 2001, 2003.

“Religion and the Web” Fall 2000.

“The Death of Denominations” Spring 1999.
“Understanding Congregations” assisted Nancy Ammerman, Spring 1998.
“Social Ethics” in the health arts program of the College of St. Francis, Spring 1997, Fall 1996, Spring 1996.
“The Social Dynamics of Congregational Life” in Candler School of Theology, Emory University, Fall 1996, Spring 1994.
“Religion in American Society” in Candler School of Theology, Emory University, Spring 1996.
“Introduction to Sociology” in the undergraduate Sociology Department at Oxford College of Emory University, Fall 1995.
“Performing our Theological Task” Course of Study School, Emory University, July 1995.
“World Religions” in the undergraduate health arts program of the College of St. Francis, Summer 1995.
“Religion in America” in the undergraduate health arts program of The College of St. Francis, Fall 1994 and Fall 1995.
“Fundamentalism” in Candler School of Theology, Emory University, Fall 1994.
“The Individual and Society” in the undergraduate department of Sociology, Emory University, Spring 1993.
“Sociology of Religion” in Candler School of Theology, Emory University, Spring 1993.

**AREAS OF
SPECIALIZATION**

Megachurches, Nondenominationalism, Religion in America, Congregational Studies, Sociology of Religion, Religion and Sexuality, Qualitative Research Methods, Religion and the Internet, Pentecostalism.

References furnished upon request.