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## LINDA A. MERCADANTE

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Professor of Theology  
B. Robert Straker Chair  
The Methodist Theological School in Ohio

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### TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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- Professor of Theology in the B. Robert Straker Chair in Historical Theology, Methodist Theological School in Ohio [1987 - present]
- Theologian-in-Residence, First United Methodist Church, Boulder, CO 2010-15
- Visiting Professor, Regent College, "Victims and Sinners", 2003
- Visiting Professor, North West House of Theological Studies, Summer 2002
- VISITING SCHOLAR IN MEDIA AND THEOLOGY, New College, University of Edinburgh, Scotland, 1999
- Visiting Professor, Princeton Theological Seminary, 1991
- Adjunct Professor, Trenton State College, 1987
- Instructor, Regent College, 1984
- Teaching Fellow in Theology and History, Princeton Seminary, 1981-84
- Faculty Assistant, Regent College, 1976-7

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### AWARDS

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- **Best of Bearings Online 2017**, for article "Cheesy and the Church"
- **Writers' Theological Symposium, Collegeville Institute, Summer 2017**
- **One of "The Best of the Best Spiritual Books of the Year,"** by *Spirituality&Practice*, *Belief without Borders: Inside the Minds of the Spiritual but not Religious* (Oxford Univ. Pr.)
- **Ohioana Authors, Book Selection**, for *Belief without Borders*, April 2015
- **Henry Luce III Fellowship in Theology**, 2010-11: "Unfettered Belief, Untethered Practice: Thinking Theologically about 'Spiritual but not Religious'"
- **American Academy of Religion and Luce Foundation**, "Theologies of Religious Pluralism," Research Cohort II, 2010-11
- **Theological Research Grant**, Association of Theological Schools, for "I'm Spiritual But Not Religious[SBNR]: Addressing the Current 'Cultured Despisers' of Religion," 2007-8. [*Theological issues in cultural ethos*]

- **Collaborative Project Grant**, Louisville Inst., 1998-2002, *“Hope Deferred :Theological Reflections on Reproductive Loss”* [Focus on doctrinal issues raised by adoption, abortion, infertility, miscarriage, etc.]
- **Christian Faith and Life Sabbatical Grant**, Louisville Institute, 1998-9 [Theological reflections on victimization and methodological reflections on narrative]
- **Teaching and Learning in Theological Education Grant**, Association of Theological Schools, 1998-9
- **Research Award**, Louisville Institute for the Study of Protestantism and American Culture, 1994-5 [theological examination of addiction recovery metaphor compared to doctrines of sin and grace]
- **Summer Stipend Award**, Louisville Institute for the Study of Protestantism and American Culture, 1993-4
- **Younger Scholar Award**, Association of Theological Schools, 1991-2
- **Theological Scholarship and Research Grant**, Association of Theological Schools, 1991-2
- **Graduate Fellowships in Theology**, PC(USA), 1983-6
- **Teaching Fellowships in Theology and History**, Princeton Theological Seminary, 1981-4

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## FELLOWSHIPS AND CONSULTANCIES

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- **Consultant on Spiritual but not Religious**, Script Writers Research Team, ABC Television, 2017
  - **Fellow**, CENTER OF THEOLOGICAL INQUIRY, Princeton, New Jersey [1994-present]
  - **Consultant**, Unitarian Universalist General Assembly Leadership [2015]
  - **Consultant**, Presbyterian Church (USA), Task Force on Substance Abuse [2015]
  - **Member**, The Presbyterian Panel [2014-present]
  - **International Consult**, Media and Theology Project, THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH, New College, School of Divinity [2000-1]
  - **Women in Academic Leadership**, Association of Theological Schools, Fall 2001
  - **Consultant**, UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, National Institute of Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism of the National Institutes of Health, “Studying Spirituality in Alcoholism and Recovery” [1998]
  - **Consultant on Teaching Theology**, WABASH CENTER FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING IN THEOLOGY AND RELIGION [1996-8]
  - **Consultant**, “The Church in the Culture,” THE INSTITUTE FOR ECUMENICAL AND CULTURAL RESEARCH [1996]
  - **Fellow**, INSTITUTE FOR ECUMENICAL AND CULTURAL RESEARCH, Collegeville, Minnesota [1992, 1998]
  - **Consultant**, Women Administrators and Faculty, United Methodist Church, Board of Higher Education, 1993
  - **Mission Task Force**, Presbyterian Women Faculty & Administrators in Theological Seminaries, 1987
  - **Graduate Fellow in Theology**, PC(USA) [1983-86]
  - **Teaching Fellow in Theology and History**, Princeton Seminary [1981-4]
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## COLLABORATIVE ACTIVITIES

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- **PLANNING COMMITTEE**, 2018 WORLD PARLIAMENT OF RELIGIONS, DECLARATION ON "SPEAKING TRUTH TO POWER"
- **Co-CHAIR, SBNR GROUP**, AMERICAN ACADEMY OF RELIGION, 2017-PRESENT
- **THEOLOGY OF RELIGIOUS PLURALISM WRITERS' WORKSHOP**, EMORY UNIV., 2016
- **Antioch Writers' Workshop**, Maria Stein, Ohio, Oct. 14-16, 2016
- **FOUNDER & CO-CHAIR, RELIGIOUS CONVERSIONS UNIT**, AMERICAN ACADEMY OF RELIGION, 2008-PRESENT
- **Workgroup on Constructive Theology: Planning Committee, Book Contributor, 1991-present**
- **Oral History Project**, Rutgers University and The New Jersey Historical Society, May 2007
- **TRAINING MANUAL FOR REPRODUCTIVE LOSS COUNSELORS AND MINISTERS**, RELIGIOUS COALITION FOR REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS, 2004-5
- **"HOPE DEFERRED: THEOLOGICAL REFLECTIONS ON REPRODUCTIVE LOSS"**: Women Theologians project, Louisville Institute, 1998-2002
- **WOMEN IN ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP**, Association of Theological Schools, Fall 2001
- **FELLOW**, Institute for Ecumenical and Cultural Research, Collegeville, Minnesota, 1992, 1998
- **SABBATICAL GRANT PROPOSAL AWARD COMMITTEE**, Louisville Institute for the Study of Protestantism and American Culture, 1997
- **WABASH CENTER PROGRAM ON TEACHING IN THEOLOGY**, 1996-9
- **MEMBER**, Center of Theological Inquiry, 1995-6, 1997
- **LAY LIBERALISM CONSULTATION**, LOUISVILLE INSTITUTE, MAY 1995
- **OFFICIAL READER**, Samuel Robinson Scholarship Competition, PC(USA), 1984-87

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## ACADEMIC SERVICE

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- **Cross-Cultural Trip Leader, Cuba**, 2013-2016
- **MTSO COMMITTEES**: DOCTOR OF MINISTRY; Admissions and Student Aid [chair]; Faculty Personnel [chair]; Candidacy; Worship and Special Forums [chair]; Self-Study; Student Review; Academic Affairs; Joint Conference; Nominating Committee; Secretary to the Faculty; Center for Theology and Culture Planning Group; Campus Council Advisor; Academic Council; Matey Janata Award; multiple Search Committees [e.g., D.Min Director; Hebrew Bible, etc.].
- **MTSO CONVENER**, Theology and Ethics Division, Methodist Theological School, 1988-9, '93-4, '96-7, 2000-1
- **MTSO Student Group Advisor**: Interfaith Connections, 2008-9; Women Students, 1995-9
- **Workgroup on Constructive Theology**, 1990-present
- **Member**, American Academy of Religion, 1986-present
- **Founding Co-Chair**, Religious Conversion Program Unit, American Academy of Religion 2008-present
- **Founding Steering Committee**, Society of Comparative Theology, 2010 - ongoing
- **Session Chair**, American Italian Historical Association, 2004-5
- **Member**, Female Employees of Methesco (FEM), 1990-2000
- **TENURE REVIEWER**, Princeton Theological Seminary, 1987-8; Bethel Seminary, 2003
- **CHAIR**, Mission Task Force, Presbyterian Women Faculty/Administrators, Theological Seminaries, 1987.
- **REFERENCE LIBRARIAN**, Speer Library, Princeton Seminary, 1985-6
- **STAFF MEMBER**, Center for Women and Religion of the Graduate Theological Union, 1980.

- ASSISTANT TO DEAN, New College Berkeley (CA), 1979-80.

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## JOURNALISM AND EDITORIAL EXPERIENCE

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- **Regular Contributor**, Bearings Online, Collegeville Institute, [2016-present]
- **Writing Workshop**, Collegeville Institute, 2017
- **Creative Non-Fiction Writers**, editorial consultant, Columbus, OH [2006-8]
- **Christian Family Magazine**, editorial consultant, Columbus, OH [2006-7]
- **Special Correspondent**, The Columbus Dispatch, "Faith and Values" column [2004-2007]
- **Network reviewer**, RELIGIOUS STUDIES REVIEW [1995-2000]
- **Editorial board**, SCOTTISH JOURNAL OF THEOLOGY [1995-98]
- **Peer Reviewer**: Teaching Theology & Religion Journal
- **Copy Editor**, CRUX, Vancouver, B.C. [1978-9]
- **Reporter, Staff-writer and Housing-Issues Columnist**, The Daily Record, Morristown, N.J. [1971-4]
- **Staff-writer and Columnist**, The Beacon, Pequannock, N.J. [1970-1]

**Manuscript reviewer**: WESTMINSTER/JOHN KNOX PRESS, STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK PRESS, EERDMANS PRESS, INTERVARSITY PRESS, RELIGIONS, MDPI, EQUINOX, SPIRITUS, HORIZONS: The Journal of the College Theological Society, and others.

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## JOURNALISM AWARDS

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- **First Place**, Public Service Journalism, N.J. Press Association, 1973.
- **Second Place**, Features, N.J. Press Association, 1972
- **Environmental Award**, The Beacon, 1971

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## SELECTED LIST OF PUBLICATIONS

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### BOOKS

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***Belief Without Borders: Inside the Minds of the Spiritual but not Religious* [Oxford University Press, 2014]**

- ❖ "By taking the new spiritual impulse seriously as theology, she affirms the power of spiritual experience as a force remaking the patterns of contemporary faith." **Diana Butler Bass**
- ❖ "In the tradition of Robert Bellah's Habits of the Heart, Mercadante here offers us a **brilliant narrative introduction** to the theology and belief systems of the 'Spiritual but not Religious'...**Highly accessible and rife with insightful commentary...**[it] is **far and away the richest study I have seen to date** of the SBNRs and is **destined to become a classic** in the field." **Phyllis Tickle**

- ❖ “Breaks new ground...[and] offers an analysis of the role of belief in contemporary America. It is a welcome and much needed contribution.” **John C. Green [Sr. Scholar, Pew Forum]**
- ❖ A prominent theme...is that theology –typically thought to be uninteresting to the SBNR – often plays a decisive role both in the interviewees’ rejection of religion and their development of a meaningful spirituality....It is remarkable to hear from the SBNR themselves.” **Michael Webster**
- ❖ Awarded among the “**Best of the Best Spiritual Books of 2014**” by Spirituality&Practice
- ❖ As featured on NBCs **The Today Show**; **All Sides with Ann Fisher** (NPR affiliate WOSU); **The New York Times**, **The Huffington Post**, **CNN.com**; **The Christian Century**; **National Catholic Reporter**, and many other places. [List of online links attached]

**BLOOMFIELD AVENUE: A JEWISH-CATHOLIC JERSEY GIRL’S SPIRITUAL JOURNEY** [Rowman & Littlefield, Cowley Imprint, 2006]

“Colorful and compelling!” *Publishers’ Weekly*, Aug. 2006

“An engaging, provocative, stimulating memoir which, hopefully, will spur many others to examine their lives and spiritual journeys... **Jane Gaeta, Trinity Seminar Review**

**VICTIMS AND SINNERS: SPIRITUAL ROOTS OF ADDICTION AND RECOVERY** [Westminster/John Knox Press, 1996]

- ❖ “In one of the most profound books written on the subject of addiction, Mercadante...thoughtfully compares addiction theories with the theology of sin....This is a thought-provoking work..” *Publishers Weekly*, Oct. 1996
- ❖ “She teases out theological themes that make this process effective....[offering] some important and incisive contributions...to theologians and laypersons who wonder about this movement....Mercadante’s thoughtful analysis...should be of enormous benefit to the churches.” **James Newton Poling, *The Journal of Religion***
- ❖ “The worlds of theology and therapy often know each other mainly by caricaturing stereotype. This book, respectful of both worlds, may help correct those distortions. Mercadante is definitely the theologian rather than the addictionologist, but this book is balanced...wide-ranging, insightful and...profound.” **Ernest Kurtz, *Journal of Studies on Alcohol***, Nov. 1997
- ❖ “What she advocates is moving away from the false dichotomy of an analysis of the human predicament as either a failure of will or a responsibility-free disease model....This is a landmark book for anyone in the addiction field especially those with a theological bent.” **Abigail Rian Evans, *Interpretation***, Aug. 1998
- ❖ “A thorough examination of the spiritual and theological assumptions of both addiction and recovery. The first assessment of this depth about recovery groups -- groups in which more than

a million Americans participate." *Forbes Book Club Choice: The Home Page for World's Business Leaders*

- ❖ "a serious, thoughtful, provocative, passionate and necessary theological corrective to the implicit theology of Twelve-Step programs." **Charles E. Brown, Assoc. Prof. Pastoral Counseling, Union Theological Seminary in Virginia**
- ❖ "Here is a book which promises much, and fulfills almost all of it." **Bela Toth, Ph.D., University Lecturer, Szentende, Rakoczi, Hungary; *American Journal of Pastoral Counseling***
- ❖ "Mercadante succeeds in bringing a much-needed objectivity and historical perspective to an emotionally charged subject." **Carol LeMasters, *Sojourners Magazine 1997***
- ❖ "This book provides a provocative historical and theological analysis of Alcoholics Anonymous and the twelve step paradigm of recovery. The author addresses the age old controversy of sin versus sickness....Her book will provide a new lens." **Robert H. Albers, Prof. of Pastoral Theology, Luther Seminary**
- ❖ "Mercadante brings personal experience, pastoral concern, and theological expertise to this multifaceted...study of the relationship between Christian understandings of sin and...addiction, especially as these terms are understood – and misunderstood – by the church and by...today's 'recovery movement.'" **Ken Moody-Arndt, *The Illuminator***
- ❖ **Other Reviews:** *Christian Century*, July 29-Aug 5, 1998; *Publishers Weekly*, Oct. 1996; and others.

#### ***GENDER, DOCTRINE AND GOD: THE SHAKERS AND CONTEMPORARY THEOLOGY*** [Abingdon Press, 1990]

- ❖ "The first comprehensive and systematic study of the Shaker doctrine of the dual, male-female God...demonstrates both the innovative aspects and the limitations of this nineteenth century experiment in inclusive God-imagery." **Rosemary Radford Ruether, *Garrett Evangelical***
- ❖ "We are all in debt to Linda Mercadante's book because it locates theological reflection about inclusive God-language within the social dynamics of a specific religious community. [It] skillfully traces connections between forces of language, doctrine and social structure, and thus provides new perspectives for...all theologians." **Mark Kline Taylor, Princeton Theological Seminary**
- ❖ **Other Reviews:** Nadia Lahutsky, *Critical Review of Books in Religion*, 341-3, 1992; Mary Schweitzer, *Theological Studies*, Dec. 1991; Marjorie Procter-Smith, *Theology Today*, April 1992; Sonya A. Quitslund, *Journal of Ecumenical Studies*, Spring 1992; Karmen R. Berger, *Religious Studies Review*, April 1993; Amanda Porterfield, *Church History*, Sept. 1993; Diane Sasson, *Syzygy*, 2, 150-1, Win-Sp 1993.

#### ***FROM HIERARCHY TO EQUALITY: A COMPARISON OF PAST AND PRESENT INTERPRETATIONS OF 1 COR 11: 2-16 IN RELATION TO THE CHANGING STATUS OF WOMEN IN SOCIETY*** [Vancouver, B.C.: GMH Books, 1978]

- ❖ "Mercadante puts her finger on the all-important matter of hermeneutics -- what causes us to perceive what we do in scripture? Her work should make us much more aware of how our culture informs (and sometimes determines) our exegesis, and should help us be a bit more cautious and humble in using scripture." **Larry W. Hurtado, New College, Edinburgh**

- ❖ “The Center for Women and Religion receives frequent, sometimes anguished letters and calls about just what to do with biblical passages like this one. Anyone who has tried to answer such questions will welcome Linda Mercadante’s thorough and readable answer.” **Mary Cross and Barbara Waugh, Directors, Center for Women and Religion, Graduate Theological Union, Univ. of California, Berkeley**
- ❖ “A helpful book...that ...summarize[s] the history of the interpretation of this particular passage, from the publication of John Calvin’s commentary...to the present.” **Tom Shoemaker, Maricopa College,** <http://www.mc.maricopa.edu/~tomshoemaker/BTB.html>

## BOOK ESSAYS AND CHAPTERS

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- **“Is a Theology for SBNRs Possible?”** in *Theology Without Walls: The Transreligious Imperative*, Jerry L. Martin, ed., (Routledge, forthcoming)
- **“Belief without Borders: Examining Anew the Minds of the Spiritual but not Religious,”** in *Being Spiritual but not Religious*, William B. Parsons, ed. [Routledge, 2018]
- **“From Baker’s Daughter to Protestant Theologian: Motivated by the Big Questions,”** FAITH OF OUR MOTHERS, LIVING STILL: PRINCETON SEMINARY WOMEN REDEFINING MINISTRY, WJKP 2017
- **Co-Author,** *Awake to the Moment: An Introduction to Theology*, Workgroup on Constructive Theology, WJKP, 2016
- **“Selected Topic: The SBNR Movement,”** Macmillan’s Handbook on Religion, Vol. 2 Social Religion: Historical Consciousness and the Social Sciences, 2016
- **“White Protestants Efforts to Convert Italian Americans: The Case of Constantine Panunzio”** STRANGERS IN THIS WORLD: MULTIRELIGIOUS REFLECTIONS ON IMMIGRATION, Hussam S. Timani, Allen G. Jorgenson, Alexander Y. Hwang, eds., Fortress Press, 2015
- **“Anguish: Perspectives on Victimization,”** CONSTRUCTIVE THEOLOGY: A Contemporary Approach to Classical Themes, with CD-Rom, Serene Jones and Paul Lakeland, eds., Fortress Press 2005
- **“Tasting the Bitter with the Sweet: The Spiritual Geography of Newark, New Jersey,”** SPIRIT IN THE CITIES, Katherine Tanner, ed.; Fortress Press, 2005
- **“Infertility, Ecclesiology, and the Quest for Family,”** HOPE DEFERRED: THEOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVES ON REPRODUCTIVE LOSS, Nadine Pentz Franz and Mary Stimming, eds., Pilgrim, 2005
- **“The Cosmic Christ in MidAmerica,”** Matthew Fox Festschrift, University of Creation Spirituality, 2000
- **“Sin, Addiction and Freedom,”** RECONSTRUCTING CHRISTIAN THEOLOGY, eds. Rebecca Chopp and Mark Kline Taylor, Fortress Press, 1994  
This article “achieve[s] an impressive clarity in [its] skillful and passionate ‘intertwinement’ of doctrine and problematic.” **Douglas John Hall, *Theology Today*** Apr. 1996
- **“Core Issues in Theological Debate,”** in *With Heart, Mind & Strength: The Best of Crux 1979-1989*, Credo Publishing, 1990
- **“Response to ‘Our Audience: Atheist or Alienated?’”, “Report on Galatians 3”** (with Richard Hays), and **“The Role of Women”**, in CONFLICT AND CONTEXT: HERMENEUTICS IN THE AMERICAS. Mark Lau Branson and C. Rene Padilla, eds., Eerdmans, 1986.

## REFERENCE WORKS

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- **“Lee, Mother Ann,”** ENCYCLOPEDIA OF THE BIBLE AND ITS RECEPTION, Vol. 15, De Gruyter, [www.degruyter.com/ebr](http://www.degruyter.com/ebr), 2017
- **“Selected Topic: The SBNR Movement,”** Macmillan’s Handbook on Religion, Vol. 2 Social Religion: Historical Consciousness and the Social Sciences, 2016
- **“Theology of Trauma,”** CAMBRIDGE DICTIONARY OF CHRISTIAN THEOLOGY, Cambridge University Press, 2012
- **“Religious and Theological Roots of Alcoholics Anonymous,”** Vol. 1, THE PRAEGER INTERNATIONAL COLLECTION ON ADDICTIONS, Praeger Perspectives on Abnormal Psych., 2009
- **CHRISTIAN THEOLOGY: AN INTRODUCTION TO ITS TRADITIONS AND TASK,** ELECTRONIC TEACHER, CD-ROM, FORTRESS PRESS 2002
- **“Violence, Abuse, and Oppression,”** WOMEN’S BIBLE COMMENTARY, InterVarsity Press, 2001
- **“Addiction,”** DICTIONARY OF FEMINIST THEOLOGIES, Westminster/John Knox Press, 1996
- **“Calvin Green,”** AMERICAN NATIONAL BIOGRAPHY, Oxford University Press, 1994
- **“Ann Lee,” “The Shakers,”** DICTIONARY OF CHRISTIANITY IN AMERICA, Intervarsity Press, 1990.

## JOURNAL AND ONLINE ARTICLES

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- **“Does Alcoholics Anonymous Help Grow the Spiritual but not Religious Movement?”**, *Journal of Implicit Religion*, (forthcoming 2019)
- **“Rethinking Theology for the Spiritual but not Religious,** in *Response: Magazine of Women in Mission*, United Methodist Women, (forthcoming 2019)
- **“The Earth is Not a Political Football,”** *Bearings Online*, Collegeville Institute, Jan. 2019
- **“Thank You for Your Service,”** *Bearings Online*, Collegeville Institute, Nov. 2018.
- **“A Pilgrim’s Questions: Walking the Camino de Santiago,”** *Bearings Online*, Collegeville Institute, July 2018.
- **“Does Sexual Harassment Prove the Doctrine of Sin? SBNRs on Human Nature,”** in *Bearings Online*, The Collegeville Institute, Feb. 2018
- **“Start by Listening: How Christians Can Find Common Ground with SBNR,”** *Bearings Online*, Collegeville Institute, Nov. 9, 2017.
- **“‘Cheesy’ and the Church: Cultivating Space for Authentic Emotion.”** *Bearings Online*, Collegeville Institute, July 20, 2017.
- **“How Does it Fit? Multiple Religious Belonging, Spiritual but not Religious, and Dances of Universal Peace,”** *Open Theology*, 2017, Vol. 3, Issue 1, pp.10-18, DeGruyter.com
- **“Spiritual But Not Religious? Let’s Talk.”** *Direction: A Mennonite Brethren Forum* 44, no. 2 (Fall 2015): 213-220.
- **“A Right Orientation,”** *Collegeville Institute*, *Bearings Online*, 11/19/2015 <http://collegevilleinstitute.org/bearings/a-right-orientation/>
- **“Excerpts from Sin and Addiction,”** in *JusticeUnbound*, May 2015, PCUSA <http://justiceunbound.org/carousel/sin-and-addiction-conceptual-enemies-or-fellow-travelers/>



- **“Sin and Addiction: Conceptual Enemies or Fellow Travelers?”** in **“What We Believe: Lessons for the Church from the Spiritual but not Religious”** UMC.org, May 2015 <http://www.umc.org/what-we-believe/lessons-for-church-from-the-spiritual-but-not-religious>
- “Sin and Addiction: Fellow Travelers or Conceptual Enemies?” in *Religions*, May 2015. <http://www.mdpi.com/2077-1444/6/2/614/html>
- **“What Must the Church Know about SBNRs?”**, Field Notes for Regent College, Winter 2015
- *CNN Blog*, “Good News about the Spiritual but not Religious,” Feb. 22, 2014 <http://religion.blogs.cnn.com/2014/02/22/good-news-about-the-spiritual-but-not-religious/>
- *The Huffington Post*, April 16, 2014, “Are the Spiritual but Religious Turning East?”
- Oxford University Press Religion Blog, Mar. 2, 2014, “Spiritual but not Religious: Knowing the Types, Avoiding the Traps.”
- **“The Seeker Next Door: What Drives the Spiritual but not Religious?”**, *The Christian Century*, May 30, 2012, Vol. 129, No.11, 30-33.
- **“Italian-Immigrants and Religious Conversions,”** in *PASTORAL PSYCHOLOGY*, August 2011, 60(4) 451-562. [www.springerlink.com](http://www.springerlink.com) SpringerScience+Business Media, LLC 2010 pdf
- **“Helping Addicts Move Beyond the Spiritual Wading Pool: A New Approach to Religion and Spirituality in the Healing of Addictions,”** in *THE JOURNAL OF EXISTENTIAL PSYCHOLOGY + PSYCHOTHERAPY* Fall 2010 [journal.existentialpsychology.org](http://journal.existentialpsychology.org).
- **“Life After L’Abri,”** *THE CHRISTIAN CENTURY*, Sept. 22, 2009 <http://www.christiancentury.org/article.lasso?id=7825>
- **“My Conversion and Aspiration: A Comparative Case Study, Constantine Panunzio,”** *ITALIAN AMERICANA*, 26:2, Summer 2008.
- **“Using Film to Teach Theology,”** *THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION*, Association of Theological Schools, 42:2, 2007
- **“Is Memoir Narcissistic or Evangelistic?: The Writing of *Bloomfield Avenue: A Jewish-Catholic Jersey Girl’s Spiritual Journey*,”** *JOURNAL OF THEOLOGY*, Summer 2006.
- **“The Church and Addiction Recovery”** in *Addiction in America*, *CHRISTIAN NETWORKS JOURNAL*, Summer 2005.
- **“From Infertility to Spiritual Abundance,”** *RELIGIOUS COALITION FOR REPRODUCTIVE CHOICE, Educational Series*, 2005 [http://www.rcrc.org/pdf/RCRC\\_EdSeries\\_Infertility.pdf](http://www.rcrc.org/pdf/RCRC_EdSeries_Infertility.pdf)
- **“Are We All Immigrants?: Ethnicity, Guilt and Religion in *The Sopranos*,”** *JOURNAL OF THEOLOGY*, Summer 2004.
- **“Winners or Whiners?: Victims Caught Between Anguish and Grace,”** *JOURNAL OF THEOLOGY*, Summer 2003.
- **“High Tech or High Touch: Will Technology Help or Hurt Our Teaching?”** *TEACHING THEOLOGY AND RELIGION*, Wabash Institute 5:1, Jan. 2002, pp.56-58. <http://www3.interscience.wiley.com/journal/118931785/abstract?CRETRY=1&SRETRY=0>
- **“The God Behind the Screen: *Pleasantville* and *The Truman Show*,”** *THE JOURNAL OF RELIGION AND FILM*, Fall 2001, [www.unomaha.edu/~wwwjrf/truman.htm](http://www.unomaha.edu/~wwwjrf/truman.htm); and in *JOURNAL OF THEOLOGY*, Spring 2000.
- **“The Christ Figure in *Breaking the Waves*,”** *THE JOURNAL OF RELIGION AND FILM*, 5:1, April 2001 [www.unomaha.edu/~wwwjrf/](http://www.unomaha.edu/~wwwjrf/)
- **“Anguish: Unraveling Sin and Victimization,”** *THE ANGLICAN THEOLOGICAL REVIEW*, Sp. 2000.
- **“Faith and Film: Teaching Theology Through Film,”** *CONNECTIONS*, Vol. 6, No.3, Fall 1999 (Association for Communication in Theological Education)

- **"Fall Books: Working With Available Light,"** review essay, *THE CHRISTIAN CENTURY*, Nov. 17-24, 1999
- **"The Religious Truce,"** *THE CHRISTIAN CENTURY*, Nov. 3, 1999, pp.1046-7
- **"A Spirituality 'After'"** *THE ISTI SUN*, Journal of the Interfaith Sexual Trauma Institute, Win. 1998-9  
<http://www.csbsju.edu/isti/ISTIArticles/after.html>
- **"Addiction: Close to Home,"** *THE CHRISTIAN CENTURY*, March 18-25, 1998  
[http://www.findarticles.com/p/articles/mi\\_m1058/is\\_n9\\_v115/ai\\_20460263](http://www.findarticles.com/p/articles/mi_m1058/is_n9_v115/ai_20460263)
- **"Reflection on the Conversion of Benjamin Chavis Muhammad"** *CHRISTIAN CENTURY*, May 1997  
[http://www.findarticles.com/p/articles/mi\\_m1058/is\\_n19\\_v114/ai\\_19550309](http://www.findarticles.com/p/articles/mi_m1058/is_n19_v114/ai_19550309)
- **"Gender, Sin, and Addiction,"** *JOURNAL OF MINISTRY IN ADDICTION & RECOVERY*, Fall '96
- **"Gender, Sin, and Addiction,"** *Response*, Spring 1992
- **"Theological Commentary on the Lectionary"**, Four articles, *LECTIONARY HOMILETICS*, Win.'90.
- **"Racism in the Women's Movement,"** *JOURNAL OF FEMINIST STUDIES IN RELIGION*, 4:1, 94-8, Sp.1989
- **"Making the Wrong Connections,"** *DAUGHTERS OF SARAH*, March/April 1985, 14-15.
- **"Report on Sixth Evangelical Women's Caucus,"** *TSF Bulletin*, Sept-Oct. 1984, 27-8
- **"Women's Realities: A Theological View,"** *TSF Bulletin*, Sept-Oct. 1984, p.8-10
- **"The Male-Female Debate: Can We Read the Bible Objectively?"** *CRUX*, XV:2, June 1979
- **"Core Issues in Theological Debate,"** *CRUX*, Dec. 1974, 7-11.

## BOOK REVIEWS

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- Elaine Graham, *Apologetics without Apology: Speaking of God in a World Troubled by Religion*, *INTERPRETATION: A JOURNAL OF BIBLE AND THEOLOGY*, 73(1), 2018.
- Roger Haight, *Spiritual and Religious*, Orbis, TOUCHSTONE CANADA (United Church of Canada) 2017
- Dennis Barone, *Beyond Memory: Italian Protestants in Italy and America*, *VOICES IN ITALIAN AMERICANA*, 2016
- *Reframing Theology and Film: New Focus for an Emerging Discipline*, *REVIEWS IN RELIGION & THEOLOGY*, 15: 3, July 2008
- Susan Hill Lindley, *You Have Stept Out of Your Place: A History of Women and Religion in America*, *THEOLOGY TODAY*, April 1997
- Timothy Gorringer, *God's Just Vengence: Crime, Violence and the Rhetoric of Salvation*, *RELIGIOUS STUDIES REVIEW*, Spring 1997
- Maxine Lavon Montgomery, *The Apocalypse in African-American Fiction*, *CHURCH HISTORY*, Spring 1997
- Ted Peters, *Sin: Radical Evil in Soul and Society*, *CROSS CURRENTS*, Winter 1995
- Carl Raschke and Susan Doughy, *The Engendering God: Male and Female Faces of God*, *RELIGIOUS STUDIES REVIEW*, 1995
- Jean M. Humez, *Mother's First-Born Daughters: Early Shaker Writings on Women and Religion*, *ASHLAND THEOLOGICAL JOURNAL*, 44:122-3
- Anne Carr "Transforming Grace: Christian Tradition and Women's Experience," *Princeton Seminary Bulletin*, X:2, July 1989
- Barbara Hilker Andolsen, *Daughters of Jefferson, Daughters of Bootblacks: Racism and American Feminism*, *JOURNAL OF FEMINIST STUDIES IN RELIGION*, 4:94-8, Spr 1988

- Margaret Hope Bacon, *Mothers of American Feminism: The Story of Quaker Women in America*, *THEOLOGY TODAY*, 44, 2:274-8, July 1987
- Marjorie Proctor Smith, *Women in Shaker Community and Worship: A Feminist Analysis of the Uses of Religious Symbolism*, *THEOLOGY TODAY*, 44, 2:274-8, July 1987
- Lawrence Foster, *Religion and Sexuality: The Shakers, the Mormons, and the Onedia Community*, *THEOLOGY TODAY*, 1985
- Elisabeth Schussler Fiorenza, *In Memory of Her: A Feminist Theological Reconstruction of Christian Origins*, *TSF BULLETIN*, Jan-Feb. 1985
- Robley Whitson, ed., *The Shakers: Two Centuries of Spiritual Reflection*, *THEOLOGY TODAY*, July 1984
- Robley Whitson, ed., *The Shakers: Two Centuries of Spiritual Reflection*, *TSF BULLETIN*, Sept-Oct. 1984
- Carol Cornwall Madsen, *In Their Own Words: Women and the Story of Nauvoo*, *CHURCH HISTORY*, 1994
- Kathleen Deignan, *Christ Spirit: The Eschatology of Shaker Christianity*, *CROSS CURRENTS*, 44:122-3, Spring 1994.
- Stephen J. Stein, *The Shaker Experience in America: A History of the United Society of Believers*, *ASHLAND THEOLOGICAL JOURNAL*, 25:180-82, 1993
- Dorothee Soelle, *Thinking About God: Introduction to Theology and The Window of Vulnerability*, *THEOLOGY TODAY*, 48:4, Jan. 1992
- Lawrence Foster, *Women, Family and Utopia: Communal Experiments of the Shakers, Oneida Community and the Mormons*, *THEOLOGY TODAY*, 49:440, Oct. 1992
- Joan M. Nuth, *Wisdom's Daughters: The Theology of Julian of Norwich*, *RELIGIOUS STUDIES REVIEW*, 1992
- James B. Hurley, *Man and Woman in Biblical Perspective*, *TSF BULLETIN*, Jan.-Feb. 1983
- Ray. S. Anderson, *On Being Human: Essays in Theological Anthropology*, *TSF BULLETIN*, Nov.-Dec. 1983
- Dana Greene, *Lucretia Mott: Her Complete Speeches and Sermons*, *TSF BULLETIN*, Jan-Feb. 1982
- Charles M. Wood, *The Formation of Christian Understanding: An Essay in Theological Hermeneutics*, *TSF BULLETIN*, Nov.-Dec. 1982
- Elizabeth O'Connor, *Letters to Scattered Pilgrims*, *TSF BULLETIN*, Sept-Oct. 1981
- Virginia Hearn, *Our Struggle to Serve: The Stories of 15 Evangelical Women*, *CRUX*, June 1979 and *JOURNAL OF THE EVANGELICAL THEOLOGICAL SOCIETY*, June 1979
- Malcolm Muggeridge, *Christ and the Media*, *CRUX*, XV:1, March 1979
- Letha Scanzoni and Virginia Mollenkott, *Is the Homosexual My Neighbor: Another Christian View*, *JOURNAL OF THE EVANGELICAL THEOLOGICAL SOCIETY*, 22:174-5, June 1979
- **ADDITIONAL BOOK REVIEWS** in: *REVIEWS IN THEOLOGY AND RELIGION*; *THE CHRISTIAN CENTURY*; *CROSS CURRENTS*; *CHURCH HISTORY*; *TRINITY SEMINARY JOURNAL*; *THEOLOGY TODAY*; *PRINCETON SEMINARY BULLETIN*; *RELIGIOUS STUDIES REVIEW*; *JOURNAL OF FEMINIST STUDIES IN RELIGION*; *CHURCH HISTORY*; *TSF BULLETIN*; *CRUX*

## INTERVIEWED IN MEDIA

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- **“Who are the Spiritual but not Religious?” Interview**, Interfaith Voices Radio, [interfaithradio.org](http://interfaithradio.org); [http://interfaithradio.org/Archive/2018/Religion\\_Remixed](http://interfaithradio.org/Archive/2018/Religion_Remixed) “After going on her own nuanced spiritual journey, a researcher realizes that there are a lot of misconceptions about people who identify as “spiritual but not religious,” namely that they aren’t serious about their beliefs. Our guest says that couldn’t be further from the truth. She conducted hundreds of interviews with so-called SBNR’s to

let them tell their own spiritual stories - and compiled her research in a book called "[Belief Without Borders: Inside the Minds of the Spiritual But Not Religious.](#)"

- **"Connecting with the Dead: Spiritualists See People as Eternal Beings as Well as Flesh,"** interviewed by Danae King, *The Columbus Dispatch*, May 2017
- **"Spiritual But Secular: Will deleting God entice unbelievers to join a faith community?"** interviewed by Anne Bokma, *The United Church Observer*, June 2017  
[www.ucobserver.org/columns/2017/06/spiritual\\_secular/](http://www.ucobserver.org/columns/2017/06/spiritual_secular/)
- **"Spiritual But Secular: 10 books to help you understand the habits and drives of the 'spiritual but not religious'"** Reviewed by Anne Bokma, *The United Church Observer*, July 2017  
[www.ucobserver.org/columns/2017/07/sbs\\_july2017/](http://www.ucobserver.org/columns/2017/07/sbs_july2017/)
- **"Developing the Lay Evangelical Mind: Francis Schaeffer, James Houston, and the Rise of the Study Center in North American Evangelicalism,"** Featured in Charles Cotherman, Ph.D. Dissertation, Univ. of Virginia, 2016
- **"How to Get Millennials to Church? Houses of Worship Get Creative,"** Interviewed by Emily Thompson, *The Columbus Monthly*, July 2015
- **Comments on the Pew Religious Landscape Survey, WOSU NPR, "All Sides with Ann Fisher"**, May 2015 <http://radio.wosu.org/post/changing-us-religious-landscape>
- **"Can you be spiritual but not religious?" NBCs *The Today Show***, April 1, 2015  
<http://www.today.com/news/spirituality-religion-can-you-have-one-without-other-t12351>
- **"Lessons for the Church from the Spiritual but not Religious,"** Interviewed by Joe Iovino, UMC.org Feature, May 15, 2015
- **"FUMC Guests Bring Unique Views to Town,"** Interviewed by Megan Quinn, *Boulder Daily Camera*, June 6, 2015
- **Podcast, "Understanding SBNRs," *The Mystical Positivist*, Sebastopol, CA. Fall 2014**
- **The Columbus Dispatch, "How Faiths Can Reach 'spiritual, not religious,' interview article, by JoAnne Viviano, Jan 10, 2014**
- **"Religious Revival in Cuba,"** Interview on "All Sides with Ann Fisher," WOSU Radio NPR, 2/21/2013
- **"Conversations about Faith,"** WOSU 89.7 NPR News, 12/9/12; Interview with Fred Andrie
- **"'Spiritual but not Religious' What Does That Mean?"** Interview with L. Mercadante in *The United Methodist Reporter*, Vol. 159, No. 12, July 20, 2012
- **"The Spiritual but not Religious Show"** Internet TV interview with host George Lewis, Mar. 1, 2011  
<http://www.ustream.tv/recorded/13033144>
- **"Spirituality or Religion?,"** Interview and Call-In, WOSU 820 AM, *All Sides with Ann Fisher*, Aug. 2010  
<http://www.wosu.org/allsides/?archive=1&date=08/12/2010>
- **"What Does it Mean to Say You're Spiritual but Not Religious",** Interview with L. Mercadante. On **OPEN LINE WITH FRED ANDERLE**, WOSU [NPR affiliate] 6/08 <http://www.wosu.org/radio/radio-open-line/?archive=1&date=06/10/2008>
- **"Pelagian Theology Lives on in Science: Medical Model of Addictions Blames 'Religion'"** Interview with Linda Mercadante. In *VITAL THEOLOGY: HELPING PEOPLE THINK THEOLOGICALLY*, 11/07, 4:4
- **"Soul Survivors: Spirituality in Addiction and Recovery,"** Report on researchers, *SOCIAL WORK TODAY*, March/April 2006
- **"Interview on Addiction & Spirituality Conference,"** *SCIENCE AND THEOLOGY NEWS*, 2005

- “Is Addiction Sin?” *Interview, ADVENTIST REVIEW*, 2003 <http://www.adventistreview.org/2003-1531/story1.html>

## FEATURED IN MEDIA

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- “What Must the Church Know about SBNRs?” Field Notes from Regent College, Winter 2015.
- “The Gospel and the SBNR,” Report on Winter Forum featuring L. Mercadante, by Rick Bargar, President, Trinity Lutheran Seminary, 2/11/15
- “From Religious to Spiritual – and Back Again,” *The National Catholic Review*, Francis X. Clooney 7/19/14
- Blogger for CNN; The Huffington Post; Oxford Online
- Review of *Belief without Borders: Inside the Minds of the Spiritual but Not Religious. Secularism and Nonreligion*, 4: 9, pp. 1–2, Schaefer, D O 2015, DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.5334/snr.bb>
- Review of *Belief without Borders*, Publishers Weekly, Jan. 2014
- Review of *Belief without Borders* in *The Christian Century*, “Books to Read for Spring,” Mar. 2014
- Featured in *The New York Times*, Sat. July 19, 2014, article on “Belief without Borders: Inside the Minds of the Spiritual but not Religious.”
- Featured in *America Magazine*, July 2014, review of *Belief without Borders*
- “Minister Launches SBNR site: Interview,” THE CHRISTIAN POST, April 2009, <http://www.christianpost.com/article/20090430/minister-launches-spiritual-but-not-religious-movement/index.html#>
- “Help Needed,” THE’S POSTEROUS, Jan. 2009, <http://thestarthrower.posterous.com/help-needed-2>
- “Minister Studies Why Americans Are ‘Spiritual but not Religious,’” THE CHRISTIAN POST, Oct. 2008, <http://www.christianpost.com/article/20081022/minister-studies-why-americans-are-spiritual-but-not-religious/index.html#>
- “To church or not to church: PC(USA) researcher studies the ‘spiritual but not religious,’” Jerry Van Marter, PRESBYTERIAN NEWS SERVICE ONLINE, 10/08 <http://www.pcusa.org/pcnews/2008/08779.htm>
- “Minister Studies Why Americans are Spiritual but not Religious,” ANGLICANS ABLAZE, 10/23/08 <http://anglicansablaze.blogspot.com/search?q=mercadante>
- “More Describe Selves as Spiritual, Not Religious,” Front page story on Mercadante research project, in BOULDER DAILY CAMERA [BOULDER, CO] 4/08 [http://www.dailycamera.com/ci\\_13095951?IADID=Search-www.dailycamera.com-www.dailycamera.com#](http://www.dailycamera.com/ci_13095951?IADID=Search-www.dailycamera.com-www.dailycamera.com#)
- “To Church or Not to Church,” KRUSE KRONICLE, 10/08 [http://krusekronicle.typepad.com/kruse\\_kronicle/2008/10/to-church-or-not-to-church.html](http://krusekronicle.typepad.com/kruse_kronicle/2008/10/to-church-or-not-to-church.html)
- “What does ‘Spiritual but not Religious’ Mean?” NOVA SCOTIA SCOTT, Oct. 24, 2008 <http://www.novascotiascott.com/2008/10/24/what-does-spiritual-but-not-religious-really-mean/>
- “To Church or Not to Church,” JOHN MARK MINISTRIES, Oct. 2008 <http://jmm.aaa.net.au/articles/21808.htm>
- Faith and Values Columnist, The Columbus Dispatch
  - “Going Through My Mother’s Drawers,” 4/08/04
  - “Christians Should Heed the Victims Among Us,” 4/15/05
  - “Mother’s Legacy Can’t Be Found in Possessions,” 4/4/05

- "God Wants Us to Treat Immigrants with Compassion and Patience," 12/20/05
- *And others*
- **Columnist**, "Christmas Reflections," *THIS WEEK*, Suburban chain of newspapers, Dec. 2005

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## SELECTED LIST OF SPEECHES AND SEMINARS

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### TO SCHOLARS AND PROFESSIONALS IN RELIGION

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- **"Spiritual but not Religious,"** *Parliament of World Religions*, Toronto, Nov. 2018
- **"Is Religious Hybridity Possible?"**, *Parliament of World Religions*, Toronto, Nov. 2018
- **"Speaking Truth to Power,"** *Parliament of World Religions*, Toronto, Nov. 2018
- **"Current Trends, SBNRs,"** *Harvard Center on World Religions Research Symposium*, April 2018
- **Public Panel on SBNR Beliefs**, *Harvard Center on World Religions*, April 2018
- **Keynote, "SBNRs for the Church"**, *Church Next*, April 2017 Kansas City, <https://nextchurch.net/2017-national-gathering-keynote-linda-mercadante/>
- **"Scholarship for Broader Publics,"** Keynote, Midcareer Faculty Conference, *Association of Theological Schools*, March 2017
- **"SBNRs Beliefs", Being Spiritual but not Religious: Past, Present, Futures**, *The Boniuk Institute and Rice University*, Dept. of Religion Humanities Research Cntr Conference, March 17-20, 2016
- **"Mysticism and SBNR,"** Respondent, AAR Unit on Mysticism, Nov. 2015
- **Keynote, Faith in Culture Institute**, Wycliffe College, Univ. of Toronto, 11/6/15
- **"Serving SBNR Spiritual Needs,"** American Association of Pastoral Counselors Conference, Chicago, 10/23/15
- **"Church and SBNRs," *Belief without Borders: Inside the Minds of the Spiritual but not Religious* (Oxford Univ. Pr.)** Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Virginia Synod, Annual Event, 10/12-13/15
- **Keynotes**, Leadership Day, Ohio-Meadville District, UU Association, 9/12/2015
- **Keynote**, Presbyterian Church (USA) Consultation on Substance Abuse, Charleston, WV, Sept. 2015
- **Keynote Speaker and Consultant**, Unitarian Universalist General Assembly, Leadership event, Portland, OR June 23-24, 2015
- **"Belief without Borders,"** Scioto Valley PCUSA Clergywomen, May 6, 2015
- **Keynote Speaker**, Metro Area Clergy Association, Columbus, OH, May 4, 2015.
- **Four Keynotes and Leadership**, "What Can We Learn from SBNR?" Capital Region Theological Center, Albany, NY, May 1-2, 2015.
- **"Qualitative Research on SBNR 'Nones': Heterogeneous yet Conceptually Converging,"** AAR quad session, Religion and the Social Sciences; Religious Conversions; Secularism and Secularity; Sociology of Religion. Nov. 2014
- **"Spiritual, Religious, or Restless?"**, Chaplain Assoc. of OH, Fall Conference Leader, 10/2/14
- **"Chaplains Serving SBNRs,"** OhioHeath conference, Nov. 2014
- **"Spiritual Needs of SBNRs,"** Keynote, Wellstreams Spiritual Directors Retreat, Nov. 2014
- **"The Fleeing Nones,"** Faculty Lecture, **Theological Commons, MTSO, Mar. 27, 2014**
- **"The Rise of the Nones,"** **Theological Libraries Month, MTSO, Oct, 2013**
- **Theologies of Religious Pluralism**, American Academy of Religion, Week-long seminars, 6/ 2010; 6/ 2011

- **Great Lakes Theological Academy**, Traverse City, MI, Four Lecture Series, "The Church and the Spiritual but not Religious Movement," June 25-30, 2010
- **Synod of the Covenant, PCUSA**, "An Emerging Meta-Narrative," Toledo, Mar. 2010
- **Ohio Campus Ministries**, "Spiritual but not Religious Students," Mar. 2010
- AMERICAN ACADEMY OF RELIGION
  - **"Is a Theology for SBNRs Possible?"** AAR Unit, Theology Without Walls, Nov. 2018
  - Presenter and Panelist, "Exploratory Session on the Spiritual but not Religious: A Roundtable Discussion on Past, Present, and Future(s) of Research, Nov. 2017
  - **"The Present Status of SBNR Beliefs,"** SBNR Group, Nov 2017
  - **"Immigrants and Religion,"** Respondent, Inter-religious Reflections on Immigration Group, 2016
  - **"Mysticism and SBNRs"**, Mysticism Unit, Nov. 2015
  - **"SBNRs as Heterogeneous yet Conceptually Converging,"** Sociology sections, Nov. 2014
  - **"Alternative Spirituality, Alternative Theology,"** North American Paul Tillich Society, 11/17/12
  - **"Themes in Religious Conversion,"** Respondent, Religious Conversion Consultation, Nov. 2010
  - **"Religious Conversion and Immigration: Italian Americans as Case Study,"** Religious Conversion Consultation, Nov. 2008
  - **"Ethnicity and/as Religion: The Sopranos [Just When You Can't Go Home Again, It's Finally OK to be from New Jersey],"** Religion and Popular Culture Group, Nov. 2001
  - **"Panel: Television as Religion and Religion as Television,"** Religion, Film, and Visual Culture Group, and Religion, Culture and Communication, Nov. 2001
  - **"Religious Viewers' Interpretations of *Breaking the Waves: Redemptive or Retrograde?*"** Religion, Film, and Visual Culture Group; Nov. 1999
  - **"A Unique Shaker Identity and Its Relation to a Counter-Cultural and Gender-Inclusive View of God"**, 4/91, Midwest, North American Religions section
  - Chair, Annual meetings, **History of Christianity**, Chair, 1991-89.
  - **"Popular Piety in Cross-Chronological Perspective"**, 1990, Annual meeting, History of Christianity, Resp.,
  - **"The Journey to Shakerism and the Journey Within It"**, 1988, Annual meeting, History of Christianity Section
  - **"Hands to Work and Hearts to God"**, 1988, Annual meeting, Film Section
  - **"Prophetic Dimensions of Shaker Divine Imagery"**, 1988, Midwest, Religion and American Culture Section
  - **"Shakers and Gender,"** American Religions Section, Mid-Atlantic, 1985
- **Response to Bishop John Shelby Spong**, MTSO, Nov. 2008
- **"Research Report on Spirituality Ethos [SBNR]"**, General Ccl, Presby.Ch. (USA), Louisville, KY, 8/08
- **"Christian Theology – Buddhist Theology,"** Naropa University, Senior Seminar, 3/08
- **"Theological Aspects of Addiction and Recovery,"** Report to Bishops of the North Central Juris., 9/07
- **"Theology in Memoir Writing,"** Center of Theological Inquiry, Princeton, 10/07
- **"Victimization and Christology,"** Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, 11/07
- **"LIVED RELIGION SERIES: CHRISTOLOGY AND COOKING,"** WORKGROUP ON CONSTRUCTIVE THEOLOGY, NASHVILLE, TN, 4/07
- **"USING FILM TO HELP SEEKERS,"** THE SCHOOLER INSTITUTE ON PREACHING, MTSO, SPRING 2005

- **"Film and the Religious Imagination,"** *ST. JOHN'S SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY, A SENSE-ABLE GOD CONFERENCE, Collegeville, MN, Oct. 2002.*
- **"Faith and Film,"** *THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON MEDIA, RELIGION AND CULTURE, UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH, July 1999*
- **"Sin, Victimization and Responsibility,"** *NEW COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH, Theology Convocation, May 1999*
- **"Anguish: Theological Perspectives,"** *ECUMENICAL INSTITUTE, St. John's University, Dec. 1998*
- **"Spiritual and Theological Perspectives,"** *DANIELSEN INSTITUTE OF BOSTON UNIVERSITY, Conference on "Addiction and Spirituality: Challenging Perspectives in an Emerging Field," May 1998*
- **Panelist with Benjamin Chavis Muhammad,** *Trinity Lutheran Seminary, April 1997*
- **"Anguish and Anxiety,"** *CENTER OF THEOLOGICAL INQUIRY, Member Presentation, July 1997*
- **"Spiritual but not Religious: Theological Challenge,"** *Workgroup on Constructive Theology, May 1997*
- **"Sin and Addiction,"** *Center of Theological Inquiry, Members Presentation, Princeton, NJ 1/95*
- **"The Central Role of Faith in the Recovery Process,"** *Addiction SYMPOSIUM, Keynote Speaker, The Methodist Theological School in Ohio, September 22, 1995.*
- **"Victims and Sinners in an Age of Addiction,"** *CHARIS ECUMENICAL INSTITUTE, Leader, Clergy Seminar, October 11, 1994, Moorhead, Minnesota*
- **"The Theological Influence of the Recovery Movement,"** *Leader, Spring Symposium, GREAT PLAINS INSTITUTE OF THEOLOGY, May 2-3, 1994, Assumption Abbey, Richardton, North Dakota*
- **2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Faculty Lecture,** *"From Sin to Addiction: Changing Metaphors, Changing Meanings," MTSO, April 1993*
- **"Addiction and Oppression in an Alien Land: Spiritual, Self, Social,"** *Alumni/ae Days, MTSO, April 1993*
- **"Sin and Addiction,"** *ECUMENICAL INSTITUTE, ST. JOHN'S UNIVERSITY, May, 1992*
- **"Gender, Sin, and Addiction,"** *Keynote, BOARD OF GLOBAL MINISTRIES, UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, Conference: Theology and Addiction: A Tapestry of Ministry in Action, Sept. 1991. Excerpted in Response, Spring 1992.*
- **"Is 'Addiction' the New Metaphor for Sin?: Some Theological Dimensions of a Cultural Movement,"** *Ecumenical Institute Seminar, St. John's University, May 1992*
- **"Sin and Addiction: Theological Problems,"** *Workgroup on Constructive Theology, June 1991*
- **"Addiction and Sin,"** *M.A./A.D.A.M. Forum, MTSO, March 1990*
- **"Gender, Doctrine, and God,"** *Scioto Valley Clergywomen conference, Oct. 1990*
- **"Gender Imagery for God,"** *COLUMBUS CLUSTER FACULTY WOMEN, Winter 1988*
- **"Faith, Politics, and Fundamentalism,"** *PRINCETON THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, Center of Continuing Education, October, 1988.*
- **"Contemporary Theology,"** *Scioto Valley Clergywomen, Fall 1988*
- **"Faith, Spirituality and Religion: A Comparative View,"** *PRINCETON THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, Center of Continuing Education, World Religions Seminar, Nov. 9-10, 1987*
- **"How Should We Use Gender When We Speak About God?"** *METHODIST THEOLOGICAL SCHOOL, Inaugural Address, 1987*
- **Plenary Address,** *Seventh EVANGELICAL WOMEN'S CAUCUS INTERNATIONAL, 1986.*

## TO PROFESSIONAL GROUPS AND SCHOLARS IN OTHER FIELDS

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- **Panel, "Not the Nones You Know,"** *Religious News Writers Conference, Columbus, Sept. 13-15, 2018*
- **"SBNRs Beliefs,"** *Rice University Sociology of Religion Conference, March 2016*
- **"Sin and Addiction: Conceptual Enemies or Fellow Travelers?"** *Video Presentation, Recovery from Addiction Conference, University of Chester, UK, Nov. 2-3, 2015* **"Sin and Addiction: Conceptual Enemies or Fellow Travelers?"** *Video Presentation, Recovery from Addiction Conference, University of Chester, UK, Nov. 2-3, 2015* <http://csarsg.org.uk/4th-annual-recovery-from-addiction-conference-2015/>



- **Keynote**, "Moral Injury and Addiction Recovery," **Volunteers of America, Training**, Texas, 9/23-25/15
- "Inspirational Stories," **Ohioana Authors' Book Festival**, Columbus, OH April 25, 2015
- "The Gospel and the SBNR" Winter ConEd Event, **Trinity Lutheran Seminary**, Feb. 2015
- "Spiritual, Religious, or Restless? Reaching the Spiritual but not Religious," **Chaplains Association of Ohio**, Mansfield, Oct. 2, 2014.
- "Why Should We Care? SBNRs and Chaplaincy," **OhioHealth, Chaplain Conference**, Oct. 27, 2014.
- "Belief without Borders," **Juniata College**, Office of Diversity & Inclusion, "Beyond Tolerance" series, 11/6/14
- "Good and bad theology in the treatment of persons with addiction," **Workshop for Clinical Professionals**, MTSO, July 2013
- Performance, The Victory Drummers, **Scioto Juvenile Correctional Facility**, May 7, 2013
- **Missouri State Mental Health Dept., Spring Training Institute**, "The Historical Roots of the Addiction Recovery Model," Concurrent Session, May 2011
- "**Addiction and Spirituality**," Oberlin College, 10/10
- **Missouri State Mental Health Dept., Spring Training Institute**, "A Circle of Healing," SuperSession and "Spirituality of Addiction and Recovery" Healthy and Unhealthy," Concurrent Session, May 2010
- "**Theological Roots of Addiction and Recovery**," Kansas Wesleyan, *Intro. to Addiction Theory*, 10/08
- "**Spirituality [SBNR] Interviews Research Report**," University of Colorado at Boulder, Interview Research Methods with Prof. Stewart Hoover, 3/08
- "**Women Matter**," Princeton University Women Faculty and Staff Sponsored by Dean of Religious Life, 4/08
- "**JUST A PROTEST OF 'LOCAL REACTIONARY WHITES'? : KAWAIDA TOWERS AND NEWARK, NJ**", *RUTGERS UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE ON ETHNICITY, CULTURE AND EXPERIENCE & THE NEW JERSEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY*, CONFERENCE "LONG HOT SUMMER IN RETROSPECT, II", 10/07
- "**HELPING ADDICTS MOVE BEYOND THE SPIRITUAL WADING POOL: A NEW APPROACH TO RELIGION AND SPIRITUALITY IN THE HEALING OF ADDICTIONS**," The Meaning Conference, Vancouver, B.C., *INTERNATIONAL NETWORK OF EXISTENTIAL PSYCHOLOGISTS*, 7/06
- "**WHAT GOOD CAN COME OUT OF NEWARK?: SACRED PLACE AND THE HBO SERIES 'THE SOPRANOS'**", *INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON RELIGION, LITERATURE AND CULTURE, UNIV. OF STIRLING, SCOTLAND*, OCT. 2006
- "**ADDICTION & SPIRITUALITY**," *Faith Partners, Malone College*, Fall 2006
- "**SPIRITUAL ROOTS OF ADDICTION AND RECOVERY**," AND "**SPIRITUALITY AND VICTIMIZATION**," AT THE 16<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL ADDICTION TRAINING INSTITUTE, *WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE*, JUNE 2005
- "**SPIRITUAL ROOTS OF ADDICTION & RECOVERY**" **KEYNOTE**; "**THEOLOGICAL & RELIGIOUS ROOTS OF AA**," + PANEL; CLOSING, MARCH 10-12, 2005, *INDIANA STATE UNIV., LANDSBAUM CENTER FOR HEALTH EDUCATION*, ADDICTION AND SPIRITUALITY: SCIENTIFIC, THEOLOGICAL AND CLINICAL PERSPECTIVES: A CONFERENCE FOR RESEARCHERS, CLINICIANS & CLERGY
- "**AS WE SOW, SO SHALL WE REAP: THE TRAINING OF CLERGY AND TREATMENT PROVIDERS**," AT *THE NATIONAL CENTER OF ADDICTION AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE AT COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY*, CASACONFERENCE, SO HELP ME GOD II, SEPT. 21, 2005, NEW YORK CITY
- "**Varieties of Religious Experience**," Co-Chair, American Italian Historical Assoc., 10/05
- "**My Conversion and Aspiration: Comparative Case Studies of Italian American Protestants II**", American Italian Historical Association, 10/05
- "**WHEN TERRORISM COMES HOME**," OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY, TEACH-IN, 9/20/01
- "**AN IMMIGRANT'S NARRATIVE**," *AMERICAN ITALIAN HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION*, LOS ANGELES, CA, SPRING 2004
- "**Faith and Law: Religious and Ethical Dimensions of Zealous Advocacy**," *OHIO STATE BAR ASSOCIATION, CLE INSTITUTE*, Nov. 1999

- **“America as Apocalypse: The Shakers’ Millennial Beliefs and Female Imagery,”** UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY, CULTURAL STUDIES PROGRAM, October 1999
- **Keynote, “Addiction and Theology,”** The Danielsen Institute, *Boston Univ.*, May 1-2, 1998
- **“Anguish: A New Theological Concept,”** The Ecumenical Institute, St. John’s Univ. 10/98
- **“Victims & Sinners,”** DENISON UNIVERSITY, March 1998
- **“Anguish – Distinguishing between Sin and Victimization,”** Wabash Consultation on Theology, 1998
- **“Theological Reflections on the Addiction Recovery Model,”** ASHLAND UNIVERSITY, March 1998
- **“Using Film in the Teaching of Theology,”** Wabash Consultation on Teaching and Learning in Theology, July 1998
- **“World Religions,”** Continuing Education Seminar, Princeton Theological Seminary, Fall 1988
- **Keynote, MENNONITE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES SYMP.** 1984. [TSF Bulletin, Sept./Oct. 1984, 8-10.]

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## SELECTED LIST OF CHURCH AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

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### SERVICE TO CHURCH

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- **Ordained,** Ministry of Word and Sacrament, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), 1987-present
- **Member,** Scioto Valley Presbytery, 1987-present
- **Presbyterian Women Clergy,** 2017-present
- **Consultant,** PCUSA Social Justice Unit, Drug Policy Task Force, 2015-16
- **Worship Leader,** Columbus Mennonite Church, Oct. 2016
- **PC(USA) Liaison** for seminarians and inquirers, 1987-present
- **Theologian-in-Residence,** First United Methodist Church, Boulder, CO, Winter-Spring 2008, Spring 2009, Aug.-Nov. 2010, Spring 2015
- **Musician,** Columbus Mennonite Church, 2013-present
- **Consultant,** Special Program on Substance Abuse and Related Violence, Clergy Education Advisory Team, Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church, 2008
- **Adult Education Committee,** Columbus Mennonite Church, Columbus, Ohio 2007-8
- **Religion and Life Forum Clergy-in-Residence,** Bay View Association, Bay View, Michigan, Summer 2008
- **Adult Education Leader,** area Presbyterian, Methodist and UU churches.
- **Consultant,** Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice, 2005
- **Member,** Women Administrators and Faculty, United Methodist Church, Board of Higher Education, 1993
- **Women Faculty and Administrators of the PCUSA Team,** Chicago, Nov. 1988
- **Elder,** Hopewell Presbyterian Church, Hopewell, N.J., 1984-87

### SERVICE TO COMMUNITY

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- **President, Board of Trustees,** Worthington Libraries, 2018
- **Legislative Day Volunteer,** Worthington Libraries, 2016-present
- **Trustee,** Worthington Libraries, Board of Trustees, Jan. 2013-present
- **Volunteer,** Festival Latino, Columbus, OH 2009, 2016

- **Worthington Area Chamber of Commerce**, 2013-present
- **Legacy Society Donor**, The Columbus Foundation, 2014-ongoing
- **Keynoter**, Cancer Support Community, 2011
- **Drummer**, The Victory Drummers, The James Care for Life, James Cancer Center, 2011-present
- **Reader**, Harambee, Children's Defense Fund Freedom School, Columbus, OH, Summer 2011
- **Member and Graduate**, Leadership Worthington, 2001-present
- **Member**, Mayor's Prayer Breakfast, Worthington, OH 2009
- **Liturgist**, People of Faith Health-Care Rally, Columbus, OH, Fall 2009
- **Sponsor**, Leadership Worthington First Wed Gathering, 8/5/09
- **Liturgist**, Ohio Hispanic Coalition, 2008-present
- Election Day **Poll Watcher**, 2006-7
- **Treasurer**, Mas for Judge Committee, 2007
- **Member**, "We Believe", Religious professionals, 2006-8
- Ohio Democratic and Progressive Clubs, **Message Crafting Subcommittee**, 2005-6
- **Participant**, Ohio Interpreters Guild Conference, Oct. 2005
- **Trustee**, Colonial Hills Civic Association, 2000-2009
- **Volunteer Naturalist**, Columbus Metro Parks, 1995-6

#### INTERFAITH, ECUMENICAL AND CROSS-CULTURAL WORK AND PRESENTATIONS

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- **"Understanding the Spiritual but not Religious,"** World Religions Series, sponsored by First Community Church, Dec. 2017
- **Theological Writers' Conference**, Collegeville Institute, Aug 2017
- **Interfaith March for Peace and Justice**, Columbus planning committee, 2016-present
- **"Marching for Unity," Podium speaker**, Columbus Interfaith March for Peace and Justice, April 2017
- "Who are the SBNRs?", Keynoter, **Mayor's Interfaith Prayer Breakfast**, Worthington, Ohio. Oct. 2016
- Member, **Interfaith Association of Central Ohio** 2008-present
- Interfaith Task Force, **Mershon Center Peace Chair Initiative**, 2008-2014
- Cross-Cultural Trip Leader, Cuba, **Center for Global Education and MTSO 2013**
- Speaker, **Ohio State Humanities Institute**
- Adelante, **Ohio Hispanic Caucus**, 2005-present
- **Ohio Hispanic Coalition**, Events Volunteer, 2005-present
- Consultant, **"The Church in the Culture," Institute for Ecumenical and Cultural Research**, Collegeville, MN, August 1996
- Section Leader, **"Ecumenism Among Us" Conference, Institute for Ecumenical and Cultural Research**, Collegeville, MN, June 1994
- Board Member, **Interfaith State Task Force on Religion**, N.J. National Organization of Women, 1983-4
- Participant, **Globalizing Theological Education**, Native American project, Lac Ste. Anne, Alberta, Canada; sponsored by **Association of Theological Schools**, Summer 1990.
- Participant and Respondent, "Context and Hermeneutics in the Americas," **Latin American Theological Fraternity and Theological Students Fellowship**, Tlayacapan, Mexico, November 1983.

## SAMPLING OF PRESENTATIONS AT CONFERENCES, COLLEGES, RETREATS, AND CHURCHES

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- **Sermon, "Creation Care,"** Jubilee Mennonite Church, Belle Fontaine, March 1, 2019
- **Sermon, "Caring for Creation,"** Rose Run Presbyterian Church, New Albany, Feb.24, 2019
- **"America's Fastest Growing Religion 'Spiritual but not Religious,"** Browning Lecture series, University of Pikeville, Nov.11, 2018
- **"The Spirituality of Addiction Recovery,"** Spiritual Emphasis Week, University of Pikeville, Nov. 12, 2018
- **"The History of Immigration and its Relationship to Today's Dilemma,"** Columbus Mennonite Church, March 2018
- **"Addiction and Ministry,** Princeton Theological Seminar Women in Ministry Conference, Oct. 2017
- **"Spirituality, Theology, and Addiction,"** Biola University Chapel Speaker, May 1, 2017
- **"Well-Being in a Thirsty World: SBNR Theology,"** Keynotes and panelist, Next Church National Gathering, March 13-15, 2017, <https://nextchurch.net/2017-national-gathering-keynote-linda-mercadante/>
- **"Understanding SBNRs Among You,"** Cols. United Church of Christ World Religions Series, Nov. 2017
- **"Belief without Borders"** Featured Speaker, Burchenal Lecture Series, Center for Spiritual Life, Eckerd College, April 2016
- **"Reaching SBNR Baby Boomers,"** Keynote, Panelist, "Boomerstock" United Methodist Board of Global Ministry Colloquium, Nashville, Sept. 27-30, 2016.
- **"Theology of SBNRs,"** Conference Leader, Keynote, Brethren in Christ Canada, Toronto, Nov. 2016
- **"Focusing on SBNRs,"** Moebius, Church of the Messiah, Westerville, Ohio, Nov. 2016
- **"SBNRM and the Church,"** Plenary Address, Episcopal Cathedral, Houston, TX, March 2015
- **"Understanding the Rise in SBNR and Why it Matters,"** Keynote, Anglican Women's Event, Wycliffe College, University of Toronto, 11/7/15
- **"Cuba, Past and Present,"** with Joseph Mas, Worthington International Friends Assoc., 10/28/15
- **"SBNR? Let's Talk,"** Sermon, First United Methodist, Boulder, CO May 24, 2015.
- **Adult Forum Speaker,** First United Methodist, Boulder, CO May 17 and 24, 2015.
- **Outreach Speaker,** "Sacred Bites" First United Methodist, Boulder, CO, May 19
- **"Theological Issues in the Spiritual but not Religious Movement,"** Retired clergy, Willow Brook Christian Communities, July 25, 2014
- **Sermon Reflection,** Columbus Mennonite Church, July 20, 2014.
- **"Understanding the SBNRs,"** Albion District United Methodist Clergy Leadership Event, MI, March 14, 2015
- **"Who are the SBNRs?"** Presentation and Book Signing, Columbus Mennonite Church, April 2014
- **"Meeting/Reaching SBNRs,"** Progressive Brethren annual conference, Huntingdon, PA, 11/7-8/14
- **"Cross Training: Spiritual but not Religious,"** All Saints Lutheran, Worthington, OH Nov. 2014
- **"Conversation with the Author,"** SBNR class, Trinity Lutheran Seminary, Nov. 10, 2014
- **"The Rising Influence of SBNRs,"** 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Sch.Older-Wiser-Lifelong-Learners, Westminster Thurbur, Cols 10/23-24, 2014
- **"Got Community? Belief without Borders,"** Sermon, St. John's Evangelical Protestant Church, May 18, 2014
- **"Spiritual but not Religious?"** Seminar, St. John's Evangelical Protestant Church, May 18, 2014
- **Six-Part Series, "Christians and the Spiritual but not Religious Movement: Theological Reflections,"** College of Christian Life, UM Conferences of Indiana, Peoria, Ill, August 2013
- **Call to Action, Catholics of Columbus,** "Who is SBNR and Why?" May 15, 2013

- **Central Ohio Peace Association, “Cuba, Yesterday and Today,”** April 22, 2013
- **“Spiritual but not Religious?”** Trinity United Methodist, Columbus, OH Nov. 3-10, 2013
- **“Where Have All God’s Children Gone?”** Buckeye Ministerial Association, Medina, OH 4/11/13
- **Sermon “Rita Rodriguez and the Resiliency of Religion,”** Columbus Mennonite Church, 11/17/13
- **Lakeside Chautauqua,** Week-long series, Chaplain-of-the-Week, Aug. 5-10, 2012
- **First Presbyterian, Boulder, CO,** “Is This the New Christianity” weekend conference, 2/12
- **Ohio State University Humanities Institute,** Public conversation about spirituality and religion, hosted by Fred Andrie of WOSU; First Community Church, Columbus, 2/12
- **Indiana Campus Ministries Conference Keynote Speaker,** 11/11
- **“The Changing Church, the Changing Society,”** Goshen College Theology Forum Conference, 10/1/11
- **“Spiritual but not Religious and Sexual Orientation,”** Delaware Gay-Straight Christian Alliance, 3/11
- **“Meeting the Spiritual but not Religious,”** Worthington Presbyterian, 12/5/10
- **“A Non-Violent Atonement,”** Columbus Mennonite, 11/10
- **“Contemporary Spirituality and the Church,”** Worthington Presbyterian, 11/10
- **“Spirituality and Addiction Recovery,”** First United Methodist, Boulder, CO, 10/17/10
- **“Getting in Touch with the Spirit: Spiritual Memoir Writing,”** First U.M.Ch., Boulder, CO, 10/ 7-21/10
- **“Unfettered Belief, Untethered Practice: The Spiritual but not Religious Movement,”** First U.M.Ch, Boulder, CO, 10/4/10
- **“Theological Perspectives on Trauma and Victimization,”** First United Methodist, Boulder, CO, 9/19/10
- **Guest Theologian and Preacher,** First Congregational Church, Nantucket, MA, 6/24-27/10
- **Ohio Campus Ministries Association,** “Youth, Spirituality and Belief,” May 2010
- **“Spirituality vs. Religion?”**, Worthington Presbyterian Church, May 23, 2010
- **“Theology and Context: Spiritual but not Religious?”** Seminar, Broad St. Presbyterian Church, April 2010
- **Overbrook Presbyterian Church,** “Understanding the ‘Spiritual but not Religious,’ Feb. 7, 2010
- **Keynote Speaker, Ohio Ministries Convocation,** “Understanding this New Movement,” “The Church’s Response,” Jan. 2010
- **“First Community Church Staff Retreat: Theology and Context in the SBNR Movement,”** Camp Akita, Logan, OH Oct. 2009
- **“Welcoming the SBNRs,”** Seminar, First Community Church, Columbus, Oct. 2009
- **“Helping Presbyterians Understand the SBNR Movement,”** First Presbyterian Church, Boulder, CO, June 2009
- **“Learning from the SBNRs,”** Retreat, First United Methodist Church, Boulder, CO June 2009
- **“A Non-Violent Atonement,”** 2 Part Bible Study, Mennonite National Conference, July 2009
- **“Writing Your Spiritual Memoir,”** *Writer’s Bloc at Thurbur House,* Columbus, March 2009
- **“Reaching the ‘Spiritual but not Religious,’”** *Interfaith Series, Worthington United Methodist Church, March 2009*
- **“Death and Resurrection,”** Sermon, Columbus Mennonite Church, Jan. 2009
- **“The Impact of Faith on Loss,”** *The Hope Center HomeReach Hospice, Ohio Health,* March 2009
- **“Talking with the ‘Spiritual but not Religious,’** Series, St. Mark’s Episcopal, Upper Arlington, OH 1/09
- **Sermon, “Frozen or Chosen?”** Columbus Mennonite Church, Jan. 2009
- **“Speaking to SBNR Seekers,”** Series, Indianola Presbyterian Church, Columbus, 11/08
- **“Workshop on Small Church Growth: Reaching the SBNR Seekers,”** Small Growth Ministry Team, Kansas Conference of Ministers, 10/08
- **“Understanding and Reaching the ‘Spiritual But Not Religious,’”** 3 talk series at Trinity United Methodist Church, Salina, Kansas, 10/08

- **Sermon, "Frozen Dead Guy Days and Life After Death,"** First United Methodist Church, Boulder, CO March 2008
- **"Writing as a Spiritual Discipline"** Retreat, Light on the Hill Retreat Center, Van Ettan, New York, 9/08
- **Sermon: "Your Life's Meaning is in Your Story,"** Bay View, Michigan, 8/08
- **"How to Seek God When There's No Clear Path,"** Religion and Life Forum, Bay View Association, Michigan, 8/08
- **"How to Learn from Other's Journeys: Thomas Merton, Dorothy Day, C.S. Lewis and Others,"** Religion and Life Forum, Bay View Association, Michigan, 8/08
- **"How to Find Help at the Movies: Seekers and the Big Questions,"** Religion and Life Forum, Bay View Association, Michigan, 8/08
- **"The Heel,"** Antioch Writers Workshop, July 2008
- **"Viewing and Discussion of Angel-A: Finding Theology in a Film,"** International Film Series, Bay View Association, 8/08
- **"How to Map Your Spiritual Journey: Looking Within, Sharing with Others, Finding God's Grace,"** Religion and Life Forum, Bay View Association, 8/08
- **"Meet the Authors: Literature Responding to a Changing World – Linda Mercadante's Bloomfield Avenue: A Jewish-Catholic Jersey Girl's Spiritual Journey"** Erdman Center at Princeton Theological Seminary, 6/08
- **"What Can We Learn from the Spiritual but not Religious?"** Evening Forum, First United Methodist Church, Boulder, CO, 4/08
- **How to Map Your Spiritual Journey and Find Grace,"** Retreat at First United Church, Boulder, CO, 4/08
- **Learning from Others' Spiritual Memoirs,"** Adult Education, First United Church, Boulder, CO, 3/08
- **"Sermon: "Death and Resurrection,"** at First United Methodist Church, Boulder, CO, 3/08
- **"Mixed Faith Backgrounds,"** Adult Education, First United Methodist Church, Boulder, CO, 2/08
- **"Finding the Grace on My Journey: Spiritual Memoir,"** Columbus Mennonite Church Seminar, 2/08
- **Seminar on "Faith and Film,"** First United Church, Boulder, CO, May 2008
- **Sermon, "Why Do We Work?"** Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, Dec. 2007
- **"Finding Grace through Writing,"** Retreat, *Covenant Presbyterian Church*, Upper Arlington, OH, 4/29/07
- **"WHY DO WE GO TO THE MOVIES?" 4 PART SERIES, SIXTH STAR, SHIPBOARD EDUCATION,** MARCH 2007
- **"BLOOMFIELD AVENUE,"** SUN. MORNING FORUM, ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL, FEB. 11, 2007
- **"URBAN SPACE AS SACRED SPACE: NEWARK & THE SOPRANOS,"** EVENING SEMINAR, ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, COLS., FEB. 2007
- **"BLOOMFIELD AVENUE,"** COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CH., APRIL 22, 2007
- **"Growing Up Jewish-Catholic,"** *Sons of Italy Columbus Chapter*, June 2007
- **"Spiritual Memoir Workshop,"** *Light on the Hill Retreat Center*, April 2007
- **"Introduction to Spiritual Memoir, 2 part series"** *St. John's Episcopal*, Worthington, OH, March 2007
- **Worship Leader,** Alum Days, Regent College, Vancouver, B.C., July 2007
- **"Religious Language and Politics,"** Delaware County Democratic Club, March 2006
- **"Little Jewish Girls Don't Wear Crosses,"** St. John's Episcopal Church, Worthington, Oh, Fe. 5-26, 2006
- **Sermon, "Why Work?"** Columbus Mennonite Church, March 2006
- **"Spiritual Memoir: Advent Retreat,"** *Degrees of Freedom Retreat Center*, Nov. 2006

- **“History of Religion and Politics in America,”** Series, *Covenant Presbyterian Church*, Sept. 2006
- **Sermon, “God is in Your Story,”** *New Creation Metropolitan Community Church, Columbus, Oct.. 2006*
- **“Finding Grace through Life Writing,”** *Degrees of Freedom Retreat Center*, Nov. 2006
- **“Religious Language in Politics,”** *Upper Arlington Progressive Action Club*, Summer 2006
- **“RELIGIOUS LANGUAGE IN POLITICS,”** *FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, DELAWARE, OH, JAN. 2006*
- **“WHY DO WE GO TO THE MOVIES?” 4 PART SERIES, SIXTH STAR, SHIPBOARD EDUCATION,** MARCH 2005
- **“Jesus at the Movies,”** St. John’s Episcopal Church, Worthington, OH, April 17, 2005
- **“Writing Your Spiritual Autobiography,”** *Kirkridge Retreat Center*, June 2005
- **“Jesus and Film,”** Delaware Presbyterian Church, March 6-13, 2005
- **“Little Jewish Girls Don’t Wear Crosses,”** *First Church Forum, First Unitarian Universalist Church,* Columbus, OH Feb. 2005
- **“What about ‘The Passion of the Christ’?”** *St. John’s Episcopal Church*, Worthington, OH, Winter 2005
- **“Jesus at the Movies,”** *First Presbyterian Church, Delaware, OH, Fall 2004*
- **“Christ Figures in Film,”** St. John’s Episcopal Church, Worthington, OH, Fall 2004
- **Sermon, “Finding the Meaning in Your Life,”** North Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, Oct. 18, 2003
- **“Spiritual Autobiography and the Quest for Meaning,”** NORTH UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP, Powell, Ohio, August-November, 2003
- **Sermon “Our Stories Will Save Us,”** North Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, August 17, 2003
- **“Victims & Sinners in an Age of Addiction : Theological Reflections,”** West Point Grey Baptist Church, Vancouver, B.C., Canada, July 13, 2003
- **“Jesus and Christ Figures in Film,”** First Presbyterian Church, Delaware, OH, Nov. 3, 2002
- **“Introduction to Spiritual Autobiography,”** Yoga Center for Wholeness, Sept. 2002, Worthington
- **“Spiritual Narrative of a Mixed Family,”** Covenant Presbyterian Church, Mar. 3, 2002
- **Keynote “Beckoned by the Spirit to the Church of the Future,”** Equipping the Saints Annual event, UCC and Disciples of Christ, March 3, 2001
- **Theological Anthropology: Sex, Gender and Sexual Orientation,”** First Presbyterian Church, Delaware Adult Education, Nov. 5, 2000
- **“Media Domination: What Response?”** Ecumenical Clergy Retreat, Toledo, OH Fall 2000
- **“Christ Among the Unnoticed,”** Lenten Series, First Presbyterian Church of Westerville, April 9, 2000
- **Sermon, “Going Beyond Kin Altruism,”** St. Paul United Methodist Church, Dayton, Ohio Oct. 22, 2000
- **“VICTIMS & SINNERS: THEOLOGICAL REFLECTIONS ON THE ADDICTION-RECOVERY MODEL,”** *Ashland University*, March 26, 1998
- **KEYNOTE “THEOLOGY MATTERS IN PRACTICE -- SIN, ADDICTION, AND THE CHURCH,”** LENTEN SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY, FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF FORT LAUDERDALE, March 8, 1995
- **“Faith and Film,”** Organize and lead programs helping churches to think theologically through film. Film discussion groups in *Presbyterian*, and *United Methodist* churches in Columbus, Worthington, and Delaware, Ohio; 1999 – present
- **“Spiritual Narratives”** – Adult Education series, *St. Mark’s Episcopal*, Upper Arlington; *Covenant Presbyterian*, Upper Arlington; *St. John’s Episcopal*, Worthington; *Worthington Presbyterian*; *First*

- Presbyterian; Delaware; United Methodist Church, Marion; North Broadway United Methodist, Columbus; North Unitarian-Universalist Fellowship, Powell; 1999-present*
- **Preacher and Worship Leader**, Mytholmyroyd *Methodist* Church, Scotland, March. 1999
  - **Preacher**, Kylsyth *Methodist* Church, Scotland, Spring 1999
  - **Worship Leader**, St. Andrew's *Methodist* Church, Glasgow, Scotland, March 1999
  - **Worship Leader**, Mayfield Salisbury Church, Church of Scotland, Edinburgh, Scotland May 1999
  - **Adult Education Leader**, *Central College Presbyterian* Church, Fall 1996
  - **"History and Theology of United Methodism,"** Central College *Presbyterian* Church, Aug. 1996
  - **Retreat and Worship Leader**, *Worthington Presbyterian* Retreat; Geneva Hills, 2/96
  - **"If Everything is an Addiction, What is a Sin?"** Marysville U.M. Church, 4/94
  - **"Christian Theology and the Addiction Recovery Movement,"** North Broadway U.M. Church, Oct. 1993
  - **"Gender, Theology, and Addiction,"** St. Paul's U.M. Church, Vacaville, CA, Nov. 1993
  - **Sermon, "Sometimes Your World Turns Upside Down,"** Old Stone *Presbyterian* Church, Aug. 1993
  - **Cluster Day Coordinator**, Trinity, PCJ and MTSO Consortium, Spring 1993
  - **"The Church in an Alien Land,"** Alumni/ae Days, MTSO, April 1993
  - **"Addiction and Theology,"** St. Cloud U.M. Church, St. Cloud, MN, Feb. 1992
  - **Retreat Leader**, Church Professionals Retreat of the *Presbytery* of Scioto Valley, PC(USA), Nov. 3-5, 1991.
  - **Retreat Leader**, Bloomington District Ministers and Spouses Retreat, *United Methodist* Church, South Indiana Conference, April 22-23, 1991.
  - **"Sin, Addiction and Freedom,"** M.A./ADAM Forum, MTSO, March 1991
  - **"The Trinity: A Model for Community,"** Fall Continuing Education Workshop, MTSO, Sept. 1990
  - **Advent Series**, North Broadway U.M. Church, Nov. 1990
  - **Speaker**, "Gender, Doctrine, and God", Scioto Valley clergywomen, Oct. 1990.
  - **Sermon, "Grace – Unexpected Blessing,"** Old Stone *Presbyterian* Church, Delaware, OH, April 1990
  - **New Members Class**, Liberty *Presbyterian* Church, Oct. 1989
  - **"Alcoholism: Sin or Sickness?"**, M.A./ADAM Forum, MTSO, March 27, 1989
  - **Retreat leader**, "Calm in the Whirlwind", jointly sponsored by Broad St. *Presbyterian* Church, Overbrook *Presbyterian* Church, and Female Employees of *Methesco*, Geneva Hills conference center, June, 1989.
  - **Keynote speaker**, "The Theology of Stewardship", Broad Street *Presby.* Ch., Columbus, Ohio, Fall 1988.
  - **Leader**, "Seminar on Contemporary Theology", Scioto Valley Clergywomen, Fall 1988.
  - **Retreat Leader**, "This Pilgrim's Journey: A Women's Spirituality Retreat", Geneva Hills, OH, Feb. 2-3, 1988.
  - **"The Shakers God-Imagery,"** North Broadway U.M. Church, Jan. 1988
  - **Sermon, "The Sacrifice of Praise,"** First *Presbyterian* Church, Delaware, OH April 1988
  - **Shalom**, *interdenominational* clergywomen support group, 1987-8.

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## REVIEWS & MEDIA ON

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BELIEF WITHOUT BORDERS: INSIDE THE MINDS OF THE SPIRITUAL BUT NOT RELIGIOUS

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## LINK SAMPLER

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New York Times

[http://www.nytimes.com/2014/07/19/us/examining-the-growth-of-the-spiritual-but-not-religious.html?\\_r=1](http://www.nytimes.com/2014/07/19/us/examining-the-growth-of-the-spiritual-but-not-religious.html?_r=1)

USA Today

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2013/10/02/millennials-religion-needs/2907073/>

The Christian Century

<http://www.christiancentury.org/reviews/2014-04/belief-without-borders-linda-mercadante>

Nova Religio: The Journal of Alternative and Emergent Religions, Vol. 20, No. 1, 8/2016

- <http://nr.ucpress.edu/content/20/1/148>

Times Higher Education

<http://www.timeshighereducation.co.uk/books/belief-without-borders-inside-the-minds-of-the-spiritual-but-not-religious-by-linda-a-mercadante/2014785.article>

Publishers Weekly

<http://www.publishersweekly.com/978-0-19-993100-2>

Spirituality and Practice

<http://www.spiritualityandpractice.com/books/books.php?id=26773>

Mormon Forum

[http://forums.mormonletters.org/yaf\\_postst1714\\_Mercadante-Belief-without-Borders-Inside-the-Minds-of-the-Spiritual-but-not-Religious-reviewed-by-Boyd-J-Peterse.aspx](http://forums.mormonletters.org/yaf_postst1714_Mercadante-Belief-without-Borders-Inside-the-Minds-of-the-Spiritual-but-not-Religious-reviewed-by-Boyd-J-Peterse.aspx)

Loukavar

<http://blog.loukavar.com/2014/06/26/what-ive-been-reading-this-year/>

The Columbus Dispatch

[http://www.dispatch.com/content/stories/faith\\_and\\_values/2014/01/10/faiths-advised-on-how-to-reach-the-spiritual-but-not-religious.html](http://www.dispatch.com/content/stories/faith_and_values/2014/01/10/faiths-advised-on-how-to-reach-the-spiritual-but-not-religious.html)

Beliefnet.com

<http://www.beliefnet.com/columnists/fellowshipofsaintsandsinners/2014/05/belief-without-borders-the-importance-of-wandering.html>

National Catholic Reporter

<http://ncronline.org/books/2014/08/going-going-gone-books-study-exodus-religion>

Cooperstown UMC Blog

<http://www.cooperstownumc.org/blogspot.html>

American Magazine

<http://americamagazine.org/content/all-things/religious-spiritual-and-back-again>

Hearts and Minds Books

[http://www.heartsandmindsbooks.com/booknotes/books\\_to\\_follow-up\\_james\\_ka\\_sm/](http://www.heartsandmindsbooks.com/booknotes/books_to_follow-up_james_ka_sm/)

The Mystical Positivist

<http://mysticalpositivist.blogspot.com/2014/10/the-mystical-positivist-radio-show-161.html>

## Readings and Discussion of

### *Bloomfield Avenue: A Jewish-Catholic Jersey Girl's Spiritual Journey*

- **Bay View Association**, Petosky, MI Aug. 2008
- **First United Methodist Church**, Boulder, CO, Feb. 2008
- **Newark Public Library**, Newark, NJ, Oct. 2007  
<http://www.npl.org/Pages/ProgramsExhibits/Programs/Bloomfield.html>
- **Center of Theological Inquiry**, Princeton, NJ, Oct. 2007
- **St. John's Catholic Church**, Sons of Italy Columbus Lodge, Columbus, June 2007
- **Broad St. Presbyterian Church**, Columbus, May 2007
- **Upper Arlington Public Library, Sundays with Authors**, May 2007
- **Covenant Presbyterian Church**, Upper Arlington, April 2007
- **St. Mark's Episcopal Church 4 part series**, Upper Arlington, February 2007
- **Barnes & Noble Easton**, February 2007
- **St. John's Episcopal Church 4 part series**, Worthington, OH, Jan. 2006
- **North Unitarian-Universalist Church** (in mss.), Lewis Center, 2004
- **Worthington Presbyterian** (in mss.), 2003
- **First Presbyterian, Delaware** (in mss.), 2002
- **North Broadway United Methodist** (in mss.), Columbus, 2000

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### SELECTED LIST OF COURSES TAUGHT AT MTSO AND ELSEWHERE

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| • Introduction to Theology             | • Doctrine of Christ                            | • Doctrine of the Trinity |
| • Ecclesiology                         | • Gender, Sin, and Addiction                    | • Film and Theology       |
| • Sin and Victimization                | • Gender and Theology                           | • Liberation Theology     |
| • Immigration:<br>Faith on the Journey | • Theology & Culture                            | • Victims & Sinners       |
| • Person & Relation                    | • Sources of Debate in<br>Contemporary Theology | • World Religions         |
| • Cross-Cultural Immersion             | • Nones: Spirituality Outside Religion          | • Spiritual Memoir        |

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### EDUCATION

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Ph.D. **Princeton Theological Seminary**, Princeton, N.J. 1986 [Theology/History of Doctrine]  
Dissertation: "The Influence of Gender Imagery for God: A Case Study in Theology and Narrative Using the Shaker Father-Mother God Metaphor."  
Doctoral studies, **Graduate Theological Union**, Berkeley, CA, [Theology, Anthropology, Hermeneutics]  
Master of Arts in Theological Studies, **Regent College**, Vancouver, B.C. [Biblical Studies]  
Thesis: "From Hierarchy to Equality: A Comparison of Past and Present Interpretations of 1 Cor 11:2-16 in Relation to the Changing Status of Women in Society."  
Graduate Diploma in Christian Studies, **Regent College**, Vancouver, B.C.  
B.A. **American University**, Washington, D.C.

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## CONTACT INFORMATION

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439 Colonial Avenue

Worthington, Ohio 43085

614-848-3455 (home)

14-638-4031 (cell)

Website: [www.healthybeliefs.org](http://www.healthybeliefs.org)