

Heesung Hwang

Assistant Professor of Christian Religious Education
Saint Paul School of Theology
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ACADEMIC RESEARCH INTERESTS

Practical Theology, Multicultural Religious Education, Curriculum Development, Ethnography, Postcolonial Feminist Theology, Human Developmental Theories, Child Advocacy, Asian and Asian American Theology, Eco Theology, Critical Pedagogy, Visual Arts, Theology and Pop-culture.

EDUCATION

- 2014-2019 Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, Evanston, IL
Doctor of Philosophy in Christian Education and Congregational Studies
Graduated with Honors: The Dr. Richard Ford Prize for Christian Education
Dissertation: “Come Play in my *Madang*: An Application of Redemptive Community for Emerging New Second-Generation Korean American Children in a Globalizing Society”
- 2008-2011 Wesley Theological Seminary, Washington, DC
Master of Divinity
Graduated with Honors
- 2005-2006 Providence Theological Seminary, Otturbune, Manitoba, Canada
Certificate, TESOL (Teaching English for Speakers of Other Languages)
- 2003-2005 The Graduate School of Methodist Theological University, Seoul, South Korea
Master of Theology in Christian Education
Thesis: “Aims of Future Christian Education in the Multi-Media Age: In light of Constructivism of Education.”
- 1999-2003 Methodist Theological University, Seoul, South Korea
Bachelor of Theology in Theology
Summa Cum Laude

ORDINATION

2018 Deacon, The United Methodist Church (Northern Illinois Conference)

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENT

Saint Paul School of Theology, Leawood, KS

2023-present Assistant Professor of Christian Religious Education 2023~

Chicago Theological Seminary, Chicago, IL

2021-2023 Visiting Assistant Professor of Religious Education and Public Ministry

2019-2021 Louisville Institute Postdoctoral Fellow and Visiting Assistant Professor of Religious Education

Introduction to Christian Religious Education (Fall 2019, Fall 2020, Fall 2022)

Religious Education in a Multicultural World (Spring 2020, Spring 2021)

Youth and Young Adult Ministries (Fall 2021, Spring 2022)

Living into Our Commitments and Effecting Social Change (Fall 2021, Sp, Fall 2022)

Christianity and Environmental Justice (Spring 2022)

Engaged Pedagogy and Course Design (Spring 2022)

Human and Faith Developmental Theories (Fall 2022)

Aesthetic Interpretation of Korean Church in Modern History (Fall 2022)

LGBTQ Developmental Theories and Ministries (Winter 2020, Fall 2020)

Faith and Film (Spring 2023)

Asian Feminist Theology (Spring 2023)

Study Trip: Religions in Context: Shamanism, Confucianism, Buddhism, and Christianity in South Korea (Summer 2023)

Wesley Theological Seminary, Washington, DC

2022-2023 Colloquy Professor, Global DMin Program

Transformative Pedagogies (June 2023)

Spiritual Formation (June 2022)

Dr. Gonzalo Báez Camargo Methodist Seminary, Mexico City, Mexico

2022 Adjunct Professor, in partnership with Wesley Theological Seminary
Pedagogy, online (January 2022)

Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, Evanston, IL

2021 Outside Faculty

Theological Thoughts, independent study, taught in Korean (Winter 2021)

2015-2017 Teaching Assistant

Introduction to Hebrew Bible (Dr. Julie Duncan), Spring 2017

Teaching for Biblical Faith (Dr. Jack Seymour), Fall 2016

Teaching for Biblical Faith, online (Dr. Reginald Blount), Spring 2016

Theological Education in the Parish (Dr. Virginia Lee), Fall 2015

TEACHER TRAINING

2018 Wabash Center Teaching Seminar for Doctoral Students, Chicago Cohort
 2017-18 PhD Teaching Certificate, Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary

INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE

2023-2025 Mentor. Resilience in Leadership Initiative. Korean Cohort
 2022-2023 Faculty Lead. Walking the Talk. Anti-Racist Pedagogy Development Project.
 Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religion Grant. CTS
 Member. Anti-Discrimination/Anti-Harassment Task Force. CTS
 2021-current Faculty Liaison. Advancement Committee. CTS
 2019-current Member. MA/STM/PhD Committee. CTS

COMMUNITY SERVICE & LEADERSHIP ENGAGEMENT

2021-current Board Secretary, Steering Committee Member, Religious Education Association
 2020-current Advisory Committee, member, JangDaeHyun School, Busan, South Korea
 (Alternative school for North Korean refugee children)
 2019-current Secretary, Open Methodists 열린 감리교 사람들
 (Progressive Korean UMC Clergy in Northern Illinois Conference, UMC)
 2019-2021 Advisory Council, member, Religious Education Association
 2018-current Coordinator, AANARE (Asian/Asian-North American Religious Educators)

PUBLICATIONS

Monograph

Emergence: Reframing Religious Education for the Global Generation. Pickwick. Forthcoming 2023

Book Chapters

“기독교적 양성 평등의 과제 [Christian Tasks for Gender Equality] based on Acts 18 and Romans 16:3-4,” in *Building the Kin-dom of God Together* by The Korean UMC Peace Initiative. Seoul: Sinang and Jisung, December 2021

“현대사회의 도전과 미래목회 [Challenges in the Modern Society and the Future Ministry],” in *Leadership and Discipleship*. The United Methodist Church Discipleship Ministries. Korean. Nashville: UMC Discipleship Ministries, 2021.

“‘Last Night I Dreamed of Peace’: Letters to Women Who Hold Up the Moon” in *Asian and Asian American Women in Theology and Religion: Embodying Knowledge (Asian Christianity in the Diaspora)*, co-authored with Mai-Anh Le Tran, Linna Gunawan, Kwok Pui-lan, ed. New York: Palgrave Mcmillian, 2020.

Journal Articles

“Crossing the Border: Religious Education of Coexistence with the Case of North Korean Refugees in the U.S.” in the Journal of Religious Education, Conference Edition. (May 2020): 1-9.

<https://doi.org/10.1080/00344087.2020.1768473>.

Blog

“Deacon’s Call: Heesung Hwang” – An article contributed to Deacons Hold the Bowl: Resources for the United Methodist Deacons. (<https://deaconsholdthebowl.wordpress.com/2018/07/23/deacons-call-heesung-hwang/>)

ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

“Meaning, Purpose, and Faith: Spiritual Formation for Emerging Adults in the 21st Century” – Paper Presentation in International Academy of Practical Theology, Seoul, South Korea, June, 2023.

“Spiritual Formation for the Burnout Generation: with Asian Spiritual Perspective” – Research Interest Group Paper Presentation in Religious Education Association Annual Meeting, ZOOM. July 8, 2022.

“Queering Religious Education: Interweaving LGBTQ+ Life and Religious Yearning to LGBTQ+ Advocacy Education and Ministry” – Research Interest Group Paper Presentation in Religious Education Association Annual Meeting, ZOOM. July 6, 2021.

“LGBTQ+ Identity Developmental Theories” – Center for Religion and Psychotherapy of Chicago, Chicago, IL. ZOOM. January 15, 2021.

“Abundant Life Together: An Application of *Sok* Practice for Identity Formation of Second-Generation Korean American Children in the Globalizing Society” – American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, ZOOM. December 8, 2020.

“Crossing the Border: Religious Education of Coexistence with the Case of North Korean Refugees in the U.S.” – Research Interest Group Paper Presentation in Religious Education Association Annual Meeting, Toronto, CA. November 2019.

“Encounter with *Sewol: Madang* as a Possibility of Interreligious Solidarity for Social Justice in South Korea” – Research Interest Group Paper Presentation in Religious Education Association Annual Meeting, St. Louis, MO. November 2017.

WORKSHOPS AND CONSULTATIONS

“‘Homosexuality and the Bible’ by SeokYeol Hong” – Lead Facilitator, OPEN Methodists Book Club, OPEN. ZOOM. February-April 2022

“Anti-Asian, Anti-Black, Anti-Muslim Violence” – Asian Scholar Representative and the Asian Student Group Facilitator. CTS-IFYC Hearing Session. ZOOM. January 25, March 18, 2022.

“‘Rainbow Theology’ by Patrick Cheng” – Lead Facilitator, OPEN Methodists Book Club, OPEN. ZOOM. October, 2021

“Outside the Lines: Queering Spirituality” – Bridge Builder’s Book Club, First UMC of the Chicago Temple. ZOOM. May 26, 2021.

“Our Steps for Reconciliation and Social Justice” – Korean UMC National Rainbow Network. ZOOM. December 7, 2020.

“What is Rainbow Theology” – Open Methodists Gathering. ZOOM. April 23, 2020

“Creating a Space for Self-Care by Creating the Meditation Beads,” – the 35th Annual Meeting of Pacific, Asian, and North American Asian Women in Theology and Ministry (PANAAWTM), Evanston, IL. April 2-4, 2020 [canceled due to COVID-19]

“LGBTQ Issues and Advocacy in Korean United Methodist Church” – OPEN Methodists Gathering, Incarnation United Methodist Church, Schaumburg, IL. Nov. 15, 2019.

“Current Issues in Children’s Ministry in the Korean United Methodist Church” – Korean Ministry Initiative of the United Methodist Church, Children’s Pastor’s Retreat, San Diego, CA. Feb. 2016.

“Leadership Development” – Education Ministry Volunteer Training, Korean United Methodist Church of Greater Washington, McLean, VA. May 2014.

“Introduction to Children’s Ministry: Step by Step” – Children’s Ministry Volunteer Training, Cherryhill Korean United Methodist Church, Cherryhill, NJ. May 2013.

“Five Love Languages for Children” – Workshop leader at Education Ministry Volunteer Training in KUMC of Greater Washington, McLean, VA. Aug. 2012.

GUEST PREACHING

“You Will be with Me in Paradise” – First UMC at the Chicago Temple, Chicago, IL. April 15, 2022. Good Friday Worship Service, Group Preaching.

“Christ’s Seven Last Words” – First UMC at the Chicago Temple, Chicago, IL. April 2, 2021. Good Friday Worship Service, Group Preaching.

“Let’s Keep Walking” – Chicago Theological Seminary, Chicago, IL. June 24, 2020. Wednesday Reflection Series.

“Look at the Mirror” – First UMC at the Chicago Temple, Chicago, IL. May 31, 2020. Pentecost & Asian American Heritage Month.

“Laying Down the Water Pot” – Chicago Theological Seminary, Chicago, IL. March 11, 2020. Women’s History Month.

“Untitled” – First UMC at the Chicago Temple, Chicago, IL. March 5, 2020. Wednesday Lenten Series.

“Preparing the Way of the Lord” – Waterman UMC, Waterman, IL. December 10, 2017. Advent Series.

FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

2019-2021	Postdoctoral Fellowship, Louisville Institute, Louisville, KY
2019	The Dr. Richard Ford Prize for Christian Education, Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, Evanston, IL
2014-2019	Dorothy Jean Furnish PhD in Christian Education Scholarship, Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, Evanston, IL
2014-2019	Next Generation Ministry Scholarship, Korean United Methodist Church of Greater Washington, McLean, VA
2016-2018	Diaconia Fellowship General Board of Higher Education and Ministry of the United Methodist Church
2016	Mount Olivet Foundation Grant, Mount Olivet Foundation, Arlington, VA
2015	The HANA (Hispanic, Asian and/or Native American) Scholarship, General Board of Higher Education and Ministry of the United Methodist Church
2009-2010	Korean Endowment Scholarship, Wesley Theological Seminary, Washington, DC
2008-2011	Bishop’s Scholarship, Wesley Theological Seminary, Washington, DC
2008-2009	Women’s Ministry Scholarship, Korean United Methodist Church of Greater Washington, McLean, VA
2003-2005	Academic Honor Scholarship, The Graduate School of Methodist Theological University, Seoul, South Korea
2003	Highest Honors Student Award
1999-2003	Academic Honor Scholarship, Methodist Theological University, Seoul, South Korea

MAJOR MINISTRY EXPERIENCES

2019-current Deacon, First United Methodist Church at The Chicago Temple, Chicago, IL

2018 Ordained as Deacon, Northern Illinois Annual Conference of the UMC

- 2014-2016 Children's Pastor, Naperville Korean United Methodist Church, Naperville, IL
- 2010-2014 Children's Pastor,
Korean United Methodist Church of Greater Washington, McLean, VA
- 2008-2010 Children's Pastor,
Korean United Methodist Church of Greater Washington, Centreville Campus,
Centreville, VA
- 2006-2008 Bible teacher/Small Group leader, Young Adults Ministry,
Changchun Methodist Church, Seoul, Korea
- 2003-2005 Pastor of International Ministry and Director of English Sunday School,
Seshin Methodist Church, Seoul, Korea
- 2001-2003 Children's Pastor, Soopyogyo Methodist Church, Seoul, Korea
- 2000-2001 Church School Administrator, Youngsaeng Methodist Church, Seoul, Korea
- 1999-2000 Assistant Pastor of Children's ministry,
Youngsaeng Methodist Church, Seoul, Korea

INSTITUTIONAL & PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE IN OTHER FIELDS

- 2016-2018 Site Testing Manager,
Children's Defense Fund Freedom Schools Program, Garrett-Evanston Site
- 2015-2019 Art Coordinator & Curator, the Arts Committee,
Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, Evanston, IL
- 2007-2008 Chief Executive Officer, ILM (International Language Ministries), Seoul, Korea
- 2006-2008 Executive Manager, eE-world, Seoul, Korea
- 2006 Interpreter, *Korean Christian Times*, Seoul, Korea
- 2005 Head Translator, *Bible People*
(Standard Publishing, USA/ Future Education Ministry, Korea)
- 2004 Head Translator, *Bible Friends*
(Group Publishing, USA/ Future Education Ministry, Korea)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- 2022-current International Academy of Practical Theology (IAPT)
- 2019-current Korean Society of Christian Religious Education (KSCRE)
- 2018-current American Academy of Religion (AAR)
- 2018-current The Association of Practical Theology (APT)
- 2015-current Religious Education Association (REA)
- 2014-current Pacific, Asian, and North American Asian Women in Theology and Ministry (PANAAWTM)
- 2008-current The United Methodist Church (UMC)

LANGUAGES

- Korean (native)
- English (oral and written fluency)

CERTIFICATES

- Title IX Coordinator, The National Association of College and University Attorneys, Online, 2022.
- PhD Teaching Certificate, Garrett-Evangelical Theological seminary, Evanston, IL, 2019.
- Certificate of Teaching for English Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL),
Providence Theological Seminary, Otturbune, Manitoba, Canada, 2006.
- Certificate of American Social Welfare Policy, KCServices, California, USA, 2005.