

# ELAINE A. ROBINSON

Professor of Methodist Studies and Christian Theology  
Saint Paul School of Theology at Oklahoma City University  
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## EDUCATION

- Ph.D. Emory University (2000)  
Major Field: Theological Studies  
Minor Fields: Methodist Studies and Homiletics
- M.T.S. Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University (1995)  
*Summa cum Laude*
- M.A. California State University at San Bernardino (1987)  
Major: National Security Studies/Political Science
- M.S. Air Force Institute of Technology (1985)  
Major: Logistics Management  
*With Distinction*
- B.A. University of Colorado at Boulder (1982)  
Major: Political Science  
*Magna cum Laude*

## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- Present Professor of Methodist Studies and Christian Theology, Saint Paul School of Theology at Oklahoma City University
- 2014-2016 Interim Vice President of Academic Affairs and Dean, Professor of Methodist Studies and Christian Theology, Saint Paul School of Theology
- 2013-2014 Academic Dean and Professor of Methodist Studies and Christian Theology, Saint Paul School of Theology at Oklahoma City University
- 2008-2013 Academic Dean and Associate Professor of United Methodist Studies and Christian Theology, Saint Paul School of Theology at Oklahoma City University
- 2006-2008 Associate Professor of Theology and Methodist Studies, Brite Divinity School, Texas Christian University
- 2000-2006 Assistant Professor of Theology and Methodist Studies, Brite Divinity School, Texas Christian University
- 1998-2000 Adjunct Professor in United Methodist Studies, Candler School of Theology, Emory University
- 1990-1992 Assistant Professor of Political Science, United States Air Force Academy
- 1988-1990 Instructor of Political Science, United States Air Force Academy

## OTHER PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS

2017-present Co-Pastor, The Village UMC, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma (multi-ethnic)  
2006-2008 Pastor, Nueva Vida UMC, Fort Worth, Texas (bilingual congregation)  
1998-2000 Pastor, Nazareth UMC, Winder, Georgia  
1998-2000 Research Assistant to University Provost, Emory University  
1982-1992 Officer, United States Air Force: Aircraft Maintenance Manager in Delaware (C-5 aircraft), California (F-4 aircraft), and Korea (F-16 aircraft); Executive Officer to the Wing Commander in Korea; and Faculty Member in Political Science, U.S. Air Force Academy

## PUBLICATIONS

### Single-Authored Books

*Leading With Love: Spiritual Disciplines for Practical Leadership* (Minneapolis: Fortress, 2023).

*Introduction to Theology for Ministry* (Nashville: Foundry Books, 2017).

*Exploring Theology*, Fortress Foundations for Learning Series (Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2014).

*Race and Theology*, Horizons in Theology Series (Nashville: Abingdon, November 2012).

*Godbearing: Evangelism Reconceived* (Cleveland, OH: The Pilgrim Press, 2006)

*These Three: The Theological Virtues of Faith, Hope, and Love* (Cleveland, OH: The Pilgrim Press, 2004)

### Edited Books

*Global United Methodism: Telling the Stories, Living the Realities*, co-edited with Amos Nascimento (Nashville: Foundry Books, 2019).

*Coming Full Circle: Constructing Native Christian Theology*, co-edited with Steven Charleston (Minneapolis: Fortress, 2015).

*Considering the Great Commission: Mission and Evangelism in the Wesleyan Spirit*, co-edited with W. Stephen Gunter (Nashville: Abingdon, 2005).

### Book Chapters

"Reforming United Methodism: A Few Theses on Grace and the Call to Change," in *Missio Dei and the United States* (Nashville: GBHEM Publishing, 2018).

Faith, Hope, and Love in an Age of Terror," in *Faith, Hope, Love, and Justice*, edited by Anselm Min (Lanham, MD: Lexington Books, 2018).

"Recovering *Los Desaparecidos*, Renewing Wesleyan Theology," *A Living Tradition: Critical Recovery and Reconstruction of Wesleyan Traditions*, edited by Mary Elizabeth Moore (Nashville: Kingswood Books, 2013).

"Whiteness: The Structure of Institutional Racism," in *Moral Issues and Christian Responses*, eighth edition, edited by Patricia Beattie Jung and L. Shannon Jung (Minneapolis: Fortress, 2012), pp. 226-231.

"Paul Tillich," in *Beyond the Pale: Reading Theology from the Margins*, edited by Miguel de la Torre and Stacey Floyd-Thomas (Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2011).

"The Limits of Freedom: Racism in a Global Age," *Alienation and Connection: Perspectives on Suffering in our Global Age*, edited by Lisa Withrow (Lanham, MD: Lexington Books, 2011).

"The Global Mission of The United Methodist Church," *Considering the Great Commission* (Nashville: Abingdon, 2005).

"The Future of the Great Commission," *Considering the Great Commission* (Nashville: Abingdon, 2005).

#### Journal Articles

"Toward a Method for Liberating Whiteness: The Significance of James Cone's Theology for White Theologians and Churches," in *Methodist Review* 12 (2020): 85-101.

"Preaching Methodist Doctrine," Quarterly Review Classics, Vol 4 (2008): *Preaching for the Twenty-first Century* (Reprint of 2002 article).

"El Exilio de Metodismo Argentino," *Cuadernos de Teología* 26 (2007), a journal of ISEDET, Buenos Aires, Argentina. Reprinted in *Revista de Historia Evangélica*, VII (2012) p. 123-147.

"Preaching Methodist Doctrine," *Quarterly Review* (Winter 2002).

"A Single Steady Aim: Images of Hope in Wesleyan Hymnody," *Proceedings of the Charles Wesley Society* (2000).

"Rivet Workforce and the F-16 Block 40: The Convergence of Training Issues in the 388 TFW's Conversion," *Air Force Journal of Logistics* 13:3 (Summer 1989): 16-20.

#### Miscellaneous Scholarly Works

Book Review of Mark Olson's *Wesley and Aldersgate* in Methodist History (January 2020).

Book Review of Ted Campell's *Encoding Methodism* in Methodist History 56:3 (April 2018).

Book Review of Donald Thorsen's *Calvin vs. Wesley: Bringing Belief in Line with Practice* in Methodist History 52:3 (April 2014): 188-189.

Entries on “authority,” “glorification,” “humility,” and “offering Christ,” in the *Wesley Study Bible* (Nashville: Abingdon, 2009).

Book Review of O. Wesley Allen’s *The Homiletic of All Believers*, *Encounter* 68:1 (Winter 2007): 95-96.

Book Review of Serene Jones’ *Feminist Theory and Christian Theology*, *Encounter* 64:2 (Spring 2003): 214-215.

Booknote on Charles Campbell’s *Preaching Jesus*, *Religious Studies Reviews* (1998).

### Church Publications

“Not Spirituality: Native Christian Theology,” co-authored with Steven Charleston, in *Quest for Respect: The Church and Indigenous Spirituality*, ed. J. Friesen and S. Heinrichs (Mennonite Church of Canada, 2017).

Contributor and Study Guide Writer for *Becoming Beloved Community: Stories for a New Dawn*, Council of Bishops, Anti-Racism Task Force publication, (Nashville: Abingdon, February 2013).

“Restructuring The United Methodist Church in an Age of Empire,” occasional paper, General Board of Higher Education and Ministry of The United Methodist Church (2008).

“Our Formative Foursome: The Wesleyan Quadrilateral and Post-modern Discipleship,” *Covenant Discipleship Quarterly* 18:2 (Spring 2003).

### **SCHOLARLY PRESENTATIONS**

Presenter “Toward a Method for Liberating Whiteness,” Wesleyan Studies Section, American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, San Diego, California (November 2019).

Response to *Do Jews, Christians, and Muslims Worship the Same God?* (Abingdon 2012), panel with authors Baruch Levine, Bruce Chilton, and Martin Marty. American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Chicago, Illinois (November 2012).

“Godbearing: The Gospel’s Challenge to Theology and the Church,” (On racism and white privilege), Scott Lectures, Brite Divinity School Ministers’ Week, February 2008.

Panelist, Outler’s Theological Legacy, “Albert Outler and the Wesleyan Spirit,” Perkins Ministers’ Week (January 2008).

Presenter and organizer of panel, “Sighting Whiteness: The Presence in Absence of Whiteness in White Theology and the Academy,” Religious and Theological Reflection Section, American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, San Diego, California (November 2007).

“The Church *contra* Empire,” presented at the 12<sup>th</sup> Oxford Institute of Methodist Theological Studies, Oxford, England (July-August 2007).

“That We may be the Church of Jesus Christ,” paper presented at General Board of Higher Education and Ministry consultation on Judicial Council Decision 1032, Nashville, Tennessee (February 2007).

“Ecclesiology and Ministry in The United Methodist Church,” paper prepared for the Commission on the Study of the Ministry (2006).

“Recovering *Los Desaparecidos*; Renewing Wesleyan Theology,” Wesleyan Theology Section, American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, San Antonio, Texas (November 2004).

Summary and analysis of reflections submitted by Roman Catholic and United Methodist participants in national Roman Catholic-United Methodist bilateral dialogue (2003).

“The Mission of The United Methodist Church,” paper presented at meeting of the national Roman Catholic-United Methodist bilateral dialogue (2003).

“Suffering in the Wilderness: Dietrich Bonhoeffer’s *Stellvertretung* meets Delores Williams’ *Sister Hagar*, joint session of the Christian Systematic Theology and Bonhoeffer Groups, American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Toronto, Canada (November 2002).

“Life over Death: The Public Sphere as Biotheological Space,” Iliff School of Theology Triologue of nine theologians from Korea, Latin America, and the U.S. (October 2002).

“Christ Creating all Things New: The New Creation in Charles Wesley’s Theology,” Wesley Studies and Early Methodism Working Group, The Oxford Institute of Methodist Theological Studies (July 2002).

“Charles Wesley’s Theological Anthropology: A Song of the Self?” American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Denver, Colorado (November 2001).

“A Single Steady Aim: Images of Hope in Wesleyan Hymnody,” Annual Meeting of the Charles Wesley Society, Liverpool, England (July 2000).

“True Wesleyans: A Postmodern Apologia,” American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, San Francisco, California (November 1997).

“These Bones and Other Poems,” Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, Chicago, Illinois (November 2004).

“DOD Environmental Policy Implementation: A Unit-Level Assessment,” American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Washington D.C. (December 1991).

“Re-examining Gramsci’s Democratic Marxism in the Gorbachev Era,” Western Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Newport Beach, California (April 1990).

## **OTHER PROFESSIONAL PARTICIPATION**

Presentation, “Leading with Love,” Oklahoma Conference Orders Meeting (January 2024)

Podcast, “Leading with Love,” with the Lewis Center for Church Leadership (October 2023).

Managing Editor, *Journal of Race, Ethnicity, and Religion* (2021-present)

Editorial Board, *Methodist Review* (2019-present)

Editorial Board (*Comité Asesor Internacional*), *Acta Teológica* (2019-present)

Editorial Board, Foundery Books (2017-present)

Qualified Administrator, Intercultural Development Inventory (June 2011 – present).

Northeast Stakeholders Committee, advisory group to Oklahoma City's Redevelopment Project for the Northeast, historically African American, sector of the city (2014-2018).

Board of Directors, Criminal Justice and Mercy Ministries, Oklahoma Conference, United Methodist Church (June 2011-2021).

Facilitator, UMC Scholarly Convocation on Human Sexuality, Atlanta, GA (March 2017)

Participant, Appreciative Inquiry Summit, General Commission on Religion and Race, Chicago, Illinois (November 2012).

"La Teología de Wesley," Lay Missionary Planting Network for Hispanic Churches, Oklahoma City, OK (November 2012).

Plenary and Workshop Leader, "Facing the Future," Cross-Cultural and Cross-Racial Appointments, General Commission on Religion and Race Conference, Baltimore, Maryland (July 2012).

"White Privilege," workshop, Beyond the New Jim Crow Conference, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma (July 2012).

Presenter, "Increasing Capacity for Leadership in a Multi-Racial Context," Women in Leadership Seminar, Association of Theological Schools (October 2011).

Participant, "Facing the Future," General Commission on Religion and Race conference on cross-cultural appointments and churches, Los Angeles, California (May 2011)

Participant, Association of United Methodist Theological Schools conference on Global Theological Education, Atlanta, Georgia (March 2011).

Participant, Association of Theological Schools, Women Dean's Consultation and CAOS meeting, Orlando, Florida (March 2011).

Lectures, "Healthy, Wealthy, and Wise: John Wesley on Health, Money, and Wisdom," Kansas Area of the United Methodist Church, Professional Seminar, Wichita, Kansas (January 2011)

Planner and Moderator, "Faith Forum: Overcoming Racism in the Body of Christ," co-sponsored by Oklahoma Commission on Religion and Race and Oklahomans Against Racism, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma (March 2010).

Participant, Association of Theological Schools, Workshop on Racial and Ethnic Diversity (March 2010).

Faculty Lecturer, Five Day Academy for Spiritual Formation, Pottsboro, Texas (March 2010).

Presentation, "White Privilege and Racial Injustice," President's Advisory Council on Diversity, Oklahoma City University (February 2010).

Presentation, "Decentering Whiteness as a Spiritual Practice," South Central Jurisdiction of the United Methodist Church, Overcoming Racism Conference (September 2009).

United Methodist Scholars Roundtable, *In Defense of Creation* letter and background document, Atlanta, Georgia (August 2009).

Participant, South Central Jurisdiction Hispanic/Leadership Development Conference, Perkins School of Theology, Dallas, Texas (May 2009).

Member, Board of Directors, United Community Centers, Fort Worth, Texas (2006-2008).

Participant, Restorative Justice Summit, General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, The United Methodist Church, Washington, D.C. (November 2008).

Visiting Professor, Christology Course, Russian United Methodist Theological Seminary, Moscow, Russia (March 2006).

Pastor's Workshop on Christology, Moscow District of the Russian United Methodist Church (March 2006).

"Beneath the Surface," guest editorial on Hurricane Katrina co-authored with Nancy Ramsay on behalf of Brite Divinity School faculty, *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* (September 14, 2005).

Faculty Lecturer, Five Day Academy for Spiritual Formation, Cedar Falls, Iowa (2005).

Faculty Lecturer, the Iowa School for Ministry, United Methodist Church, Des Moines, Iowa (2005).

Faculty Lecturer, Five Day Academy for Spiritual Formation, Wichita, Kansas (2004).

Faculty Lecturer, Five Day Academy for Spiritual Formation, Tyler Texas (2004).

Faculty Lecturer, Two Year Academy for Spiritual Formation, Sinsinawa, Wisconsin (2004).

Participant and Small Group Facilitator, Methodist Summit on Evangelism, Havana, Cuba (2004).

Lectures on Feminist Theologies, Instituto Universitario ISEDET, Buenos Aires, Argentina (October 2003).

Member, Roman Catholic-United Methodist national bilateral dialogue (2002-2005).

Participant, Wabash Center Workshop for Pre-Tenure Faculty in Schools of Theology, Crawfordsville, Indiana (2002-2003).

Co-convener, Wesley Studies and Early Methodism working group, Oxford Institute of Methodist Theological Studies, Oxford, England (2002).

Participant, Hispanic Summer Program Faculty Seminary, San Antonio, Texas (2001).

“Theology and Preaching,” workshop, Red River Preaching Workshop, Lake Murray Resort, Oklahoma (May 2001).

Presider, Issues in the Thought of Paul Tillich Group, American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting (November 1997).

## **COURSES TAUGHT**

Building Communities in Context (Saint Paul School of Theology)  
Spiritual Leadership (Saint Paul School of Theology)  
Adaptive Church Leadership (Saint Paul School of Theology)  
Leading the Multiethnic Church (Saint Paul School of Theology)  
Introduction to Ministry (Saint Paul School of Theology)  
Mid-Degree Seminar (Saint Paul School of Theology)  
Biblical Preaching for Missional Capacity (Saint Paul School of Theology)  
Intercultural Competence (Saint Paul School of Theology)  
DMIN Orienting Seminar (Saint Paul School of Theology)  
Theology of Dietrich Bonhoeffer (Saint Paul School of Theology, Brite Divinity School)  
Theology and the Church’s Ministry (Saint Paul School of Theology)  
Theology of John Wesley (Saint Paul School of Theology, Candler School of Theology)  
United Methodist Doctrine (Saint Paul School of Theology)  
United Methodist History (Saint Paul School of Theology)  
United Methodist Polity (Saint Paul School of Theology)  
Native American Religious Traditions (Saint Paul School of Theology)  
Theology in Red and White (Saint Paul School of Theology)  
Introduction to Theological Writing (Saint Paul School of Theology)  
Introduction to Contemporary Theology (Brite Divinity School)  
Emerging Theologies (Brite Divinity School)  
Contemporary Theological Hermeneutics (Brite Divinity School) – Ph.D. seminar  
Liberation Theologies (Brite Divinity School)  
Theology and Preaching (Brite Divinity School)  
United Methodist History and Doctrine (Brite Divinity School)

## **DOCTORAL COMMITTEE PARTICIPATION**

### Ph.D.

Chris Baker, Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary (Advisor: Anne Joh). Dissertation Reader. (2020)

Linda King, Brite Divinity School (Advisor: Warren Carter). Minor field examiner in theological hermeneutics. (2009)

Coleman Baker, Brite Divinity School (Advisor: Carolyn Osiek). Minor field examiner in theological hermeneutics. (2008)



### D.Min.

Margaretta Narcisse, Reader. (2024)

Semaj Vanzant, Advisor. (2017)

### **GRANTS RECEIVED**

Woodworth Foundation for Global Histories Project (2018)

The World is My Parish, General Board of Archives and History (2017)

General Board of Global Ministry for Global Histories Project (2017)

Missouri United Methodist Foundation for faculty online course (2015)

GCORR Grant for Native American mentoring program (2011)

Luce Grant for Native American faculty position at SPST at OCU (2010)

GBCS Grant for Native American Dialogue Event (2009)

GBHEM Grant for Native American Dialogue Event (2009)

Brite Faculty Research Grant (2006, 2008)

Wabash Pre-Tenure Faculty Grant (2003)

### **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

Member, World Methodist Council (2016-2021)

Executive Committee, Oxford Institute of Methodist Theological Studies (2002-2013)

Program Director, The Charles Wesley Society (2002-2005).

### **SEMINARY AND UNIVERSITY SERVICE**

#### Saint Paul School of Theology

Chair, Faculty Personnel and Steering Committee, (2022-2024)

Chair, Faculty Searches in History of Christianity and in Practical Theology (2022-2023)

Member, BOT Trust and Collaboration Task Force (2021-present)

Interim Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean (2014-2016)

Dean of SPST at OCU (2008-2014)

Member, Self-Study Coordinating Committee (2009-2011)

Member, Vice President for Advancement Search Committee (2010)

Member, Vice President for Academic Affairs Search Committee (2010-11)

Facilitator, Board of Trustees Study Team, SPST at OCU (2012)

#### Oklahoma City University

Member, Deans' Council (2008-2016)

Member, President's Leadership Team (2008-2016)

Member, Graduate Council (2008-2016)

#### Brite Divinity School, Texas Christian University

Chair, Planning Committee (2006-07)

Chair, Latino/a Studies Search Committee (2006-07)

Chair, Masters Admissions Committee (2005-07)

Chair, Theology and Ethics Area (2005-07)

Chair, Community Life and Continuing Education Committee (2004-05)

Member, Multicultural Committee (2007-08)  
Member, Committee of Review (2004-06)  
Member, Planning Committee (2004-06)  
Member, DMin Committee (2004)  
Member, Masters Program Committee (2000-03)  
Member, Community Life and Continuing Education Committee (2001-02)  
Chair, Ethics and Black Church Studies Search Committee (2001-02)  
Prepared United Methodist Quadrennial Review Report for the University Senate (2001)  
Member, Admissions Committee (2000-01)

#### Candler School of Theology

Member, Methodist Studies Faculty Committee (1998-2000)  
Member, Bandy Chair in Homiletics Search Committee (1998-99)  
Member, Graduate Division of Religion Policy and Curriculum Committee (1996-98)

#### Other

Advisor-in-Charge, Political Science Department, U.S. Air Force Academy (1991-92)

### **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

American Academy of Religion (1995-present)  
Academy of Religious Leadership (2021-present)  
The Academy of Homiletics (2003-2007)  
The Charles Wesley Society (2000-2006), Program Director (2002-2005)

### **ORDINATION**

Elder, United Methodist Church (Oklahoma Conference, previously Rocky Mountain Conference)

### **AWARDS AND HONORS**

The Bishop Robert E. Hayes, Jr. Racial Unity Award, Oklahoma UM Conference Commission on Religion and Race (2011)  
The Brittain Award for Superlative Teaching, Brite Divinity School (2006)  
Dempster Fellowship, United Methodist Church (1998)  
Perkins School of Theology Banner Bearer – Valedictorian (1995)  
The Outstanding Graduate Student, Southern Methodist University (1995)  
Perkins Graduate Awards in Hebrew Bible, Greek, Worship, and Preaching (1995)  
Phi Beta Kappa (1982)