

Curriculum Vitae

Dr. Belden C. Lane

Professor of Theological Studies
Saint Louis University
3800 Lindell Blvd.
Saint Louis, Missouri 63108

PHONE: (314) 977-2893 EMAIL: lanebc@slu.edu FAX: (314) 977-2947

Originally from Orlando, Florida, Dr. Lane is a Protestant member of a Roman Catholic faculty, where he teaches in the areas of American religion and spirituality, interrelating various faith traditions. He lives with his wife Patricia, a spiritual director and retired school teacher, in Saint Louis. His interests include wilderness backpacking in the Ozarks, storytelling, the history of Desert Spirituality, exposing students to urban poverty through Karen House (the Catholic Worker), the poetry of Rumi and the writings of Ed Abbey. His travels have involved camping in Egypt, Ireland and the Virgin Islands, hiking in Greece, Hawaii, and Australia, and study in England, Israel and Mexico. For six years he served in the pastorate, from a village parish in western New York State to the historic First Presbyterian Church of Philadelphia. Not long ago he delightfully found himself introduced as a Presbyterian minister teaching at a Roman Catholic university telling Jewish stories at the Vedanta Society.

Education:

- B.A. Florida State University, Phi Beta Kappa, 1966.
- B.D. (M.Div.) Fuller Theological Seminary, 1969.
- Ph.D. Princeton Theological Seminary, with honors, 1976.

Employment:

1977-Present. Department of Theological Studies at Saint Louis University. Secondary appointment in American Studies 1981-2000. Tenure since 1981; Full Professor since 1989, Endowed Chair (Hotfelder Professor in the Humanities) from 1998 to 2004.

1980-1998. Visiting Professor (for summer sessions or individual courses) at Eden Theological Seminary (1980), Washington University (1982), Seattle University (Summer, 1986), Iliff School of Theology in Denver, Colorado (Summer, 1990), and Vancouver School of Theology (Summer, 1998).

1975-1977. Adjunct Professor and Lecturer in Religion at Trenton State College, Trenton, New Jersey, and Beaver College, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

1972-1977. Presbyterian Minister at churches in Ellicottville, New York, Bordentown, New Jersey, and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

1971-1972. Teaching Fellow, Princeton Theological Seminary.

Honors/Awards/Biographies:

Faculty Excellence Award for 2008, Student Government Association, Saint Louis University
Honorary Membership, Golden Key International Honor Society, 2001.
1998 Honorable Mention in Religion and Philosophy from the Association of American
Publishers, for The Solace of Fierce Landscapes.
A joint session of the AAR and SBL devoted to The Solace of Fierce Landscapes, in Orlando,
Florida, November 23, 1998 (a panel of scholars discussing my work).
“Outstanding Faculty Member,” Theological Studies, Saint Louis University, 1994-1995.
Nancy McNeir Ring Award for Teacher of the Year, Saint Louis University, 1993.
Associated Church Press Award for Best Article on Spirituality in 1989, and again in 1990.
Burlington Northern Award for Outstanding Teaching, College of Arts and Sciences, Saint Louis
University, 1988.
Catholic Press Association Award, Second Best Book in Spirituality published in 1988.
Alpha Sigma Nu National Book Award Honorable Mention, 1988.
Alpha Sigma Nu, honorary membership, 1988.
Phi Beta Kappa, Phi Kappa Phi, 1966.
Who's Who in Religion

Editorial Work/Professional Service:

Editor-at-Large, The Christian Century, 1984-2003.
Editorial Board, Spiritus: A Journal of Christian Spirituality (2000-present)
Editorial Board, Bulletin of the Society for the Study of Christian Spirituality, 1992-2000.
Editorial Board, Spirituality Today, 1990-1992.
President, Society for the Study of Christian Spirituality, 1993-1996.

University Service:

Chair, University Rank and Tenure Committee (1999-2002)
Organizing Committee for the University's Center for Teaching Excellence (1997-1999)
Committee on University Mission and Ministry (concerned with Mev Puleo Lectureship on
Third-World Theology), 1996-present.
Strategic Planning Committee on the Intellectual Profile of the University, 1995-96.
College of Arts and Sciences Committee on Rank and Tenure, 1994-96.
University Committee on Rank and Tenure, 1991-94.
Chair, Search Committee for new Chair of Fine and Performing Arts, 1989.
Pius XII Library Evaluation Committee, 1988.
University Committee on Environmental Concerns, 1990.
Science, Technology and Society Research and Study Committee, 1980-1983.
Dean's Seminar on the Nature of a Catholic University, 1982-1983.
Graduate Dean's Committee on Interdisciplinary Programs, 1982.

Departmental Service:

Historical Theology Core Faculty, 1977-Present.

American Studies Core Faculty, 1981-2000.
Member of various Search Committees for new Chairs and new faculty.
Director of Historical Theology Graduate Programs, 1980-1984.

Publications (Books, Monographs, Tapes):

The Solace of Fierce Landscapes: Exploring Desert and Mountain Spirituality (New Paperback Edition) (New York: Oxford University Press, 2007).

Landscapes of the Sacred: Geography and Narrative in American Spirituality (Second Expanded Edition) (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2001).

The Solace of Fierce Landscapes: Exploring Desert and Mountain Spirituality (New York: Oxford University Press, 1998).

Landscapes of the Sacred: Geography and Narrative in American Spirituality (New York: Paulist Press, 1988).

Storytelling: The Enchantment of Theology, studyguide pamphlet for cassette tape series (Saint Louis: Bethany Press, 1981).

“Storytelling: The Enchantment of Theology,” a four-cassette tape series on the uses of storytelling in ministry (Saint Louis: Bethany Press, 1981).

“Faith and the Magic of Language,” a four-cassette tape series on storytelling in various faith traditions (Saint Louis: Christian Board of Publication, 1988).

Publications (Articles in Refereed Journals):

“Backpacking with the Saints: The Risk-Taking Character of Wilderness Reading,” *SPIRITUS: A JOURNAL OF CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY* 8:1 (Spring, 2008), 23-43.

“Merton’s Hermitage: Bachelard, Domestic Space, and Spiritual Transformation,” *SPIRITUS: A JOURNAL OF CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY* 4:2 (Fall, 2004), 123-150.

“Jonathan Edwards on Beauty, Desire, and the Sensory World,” *THEOLOGICAL STUDIES* 65:1 (March, 2004), pp. 44-72.

“Saints and Writers: On Doing One’s Work in Hiding,” *THEOLOGY TODAY* 59:4 (January, 2003), 607-617.

“Spirituality as the Performance of Desire: Calvin’s Metaphor of the World as a Theatre of God’s Glory,” *SPIRITUS: A JOURNAL OF CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY* 1:1 (Spring, 2001), pp. 1-30.

“Giving Voice to Place: Three Models for Understanding American Sacred Space,” *RELIGION AND AMERICAN CULTURE* 11:1 (Winter 2001), pp. 53-81.

“Excellence in Teaching and a Spirituality of Desire,” *HORIZONS* 27:2 (Fall, 2000), pp. 311-21.

“Two Schools of Desire: Nature and Marriage in 17th-Century Puritanism,” *CHURCH HISTORY* 69:2 (June, 2000), pp. 372-402.

“Thomas Traherne and the Awakening of Want,” *ANGLICAN THEOLOGICAL REVIEW* 81:4 (Fall, 1999), pp. 651-664.

“Prayer without Language in the Apophatic Tradition: Knowing God as ‘Inaccessible Mountain’ - ‘Marvelous Desert,’” *STUDIA MYSTICA* XVII:3 (N.S.), 1996, pp. 3-29.

“Recovering the Intercession of the Saints in the Reformed Tradition,” *THE WAY* 36:4 (October 1996), pp. 294-303.

“The Sinai Image in the Apophatic Tradition,” *ST. VLADIMIR’S THEOLOGICAL QUARTERLY* 39:1 (1995), pp. 47-69.

“Desert Attentiveness, Desert Indifference: Counter-Cultural Spirituality in the Desert Fathers and Mothers,” *CROSS CURRENTS* 44:2 (Summer, 1994), pp. 193-206.

“Mother Earth as Metaphor: A Healing Pattern of Grieving and Giving Birth,” *HORIZONS* 21:1 (Spring, 1994), pp. 7-21.

“Fantasy and the Geography of Faith: Story and Place in the Religious Imagination,” *THEOLOGY TODAY* L:3 (October, 1993), pp. 397-408.

“Desert Catechesis: The Landscape and Theology of Early Christian Monasticism,” *ANGLICAN THEOLOGICAL REVIEW* LXXV:3 (Summer, 1993), pp. 292-314.

“Sinai and Tabor: Apophatic and Kataphatic Symbols in Tension,” *JOURNAL OF FORMATIVE SPIRITUALITY* XIV:2 (May, 1993), pp. 189-205.

“Landscape and Spirituality: A Tension Between Place and Placelessness in Christian Thought,” *THE WAY SUPPLEMENT* 73 (Spring, 1992), pp. 4-13.

“Sacred Place as Axis Ordinarii,” *SPIRITUALITY TODAY* 44:2 (Summer, 1992), pp. 173-176.

“The Tree as Giver of Life: A Metaphor in Pastoral Care,” *THE JOURNAL OF PASTORAL CARE* XLV:1 (Spring, 1991), pp. 15-22.

“Encounter at Ghost Ranch: Reflections on Desert Spirituality,” *SPIRITUALITY TODAY* 43:2 (Summer, 1991), pp. 161-173.

“Merton as Zen Clown,” *THEOLOGY TODAY* XLVI:3 (October, 1989), pp. 256-268.

“In Quest of the King: Image, Narrative, and Unitive Spirituality in a Twelfth-Century Sufi Classic,” *HORIZONS* 14:1 (Spring, 1987), pp. 39-48.

“Language, Metaphor, and Pastoral Theology,” *THEOLOGY TODAY* XLIII:4 (January, 1987), pp. 487-502.

“The Spirituality of the Evangelical Revival,” *THEOLOGY TODAY* XLIII:1 (July, 1986), pp. 169-177.

“Chutzpa K'lapei Shamaya: A Christian Response to the Jewish Tradition of Arguing with God,” *JOURNAL OF ECUMENICAL STUDIES* 23:4 (Fall, 1986), pp. 567-586.

“Miller and the Eldership: A Knickerbocker Goes to Nassau,” *PRINCETON SEMINARY BULLETIN* VI:3 (New Series, 1985), pp. 211-224.

“The Oral Tradition and its Implications for Modern Preaching,” *JOURNAL FOR PREACHERS* VII:3 (Easter, 1984), pp. 17-25.

“Presbyterian Republicanism: Samuel Miller's Answer to Lay-Clerical Tensions,” *JOURNAL OF PRESBYTERIAN HISTORY* 56:4 (Winter, 1978), pp. 311-324.

Publications (Encyclopedia Articles, Chapters in Books):

“Ghost Ranch: Sacred Place as Wound and Gift,” in Ghost Ranch and the Faraway Nearby, a forthcoming book celebrating the 50th anniversary of Ghost Ranch as a Conference Center, eds., Craig Varjabedian and Jay Packer (Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 2009).

“Writing in Spirituality as a Self-Implicating Act: Reflections on Authorial Disclosure and the Hiddenness of the Self,” in Exploring Christian Spirituality: Essays in honor of Sandra M. Schneiders, eds., Bruce Lescher and Elizabeth Liebert (New York: Paulist Press, 2006), pp. 53-69.

Entries on “Calvinist Spirituality” and “Puritan Spirituality” in The New Westminster Dictionary of Spirituality, ed. Philip Sheldrake (Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2005), pp. 162-164, 518-520.

“Spider as Metaphor: Attending to the Symbol-Making Process in the Academic Discipline of Spirituality,” in Elizabeth A. Dreyer and Mark S. Burrows, eds., Minding the Spirit: The Study of Christian Spirituality (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2005), pp. 108-117.

“Saints and Writers,” in Faith in Words: A Celebration of Presbyterian writers, edited by Ann Weems and Louis Weeks (Louisville, Kentucky: Geneva Press, 2004).

“Rivers of Pleasure, Waters of Affliction: Covenant and Desire in Reformed Spirituality,” in Congregationalism, Covenant and Community, ed. Steven A. Peay (Milwaukee: Congregational Press, 2003), pp. 72-92.

Entries on “Environment,” “Myth,” and “Narrative” in The New Dictionary of Catholic Spirituality, ed. Michael Downey (Collegeville, Minnesota: Liturgical Press, 1993), pp. 351-352, 692-695, 696-697.

“Arguing with God: Blasphemy and the Prayer of Lament in Judaism and Other Faith Traditions,” in Remembering for the future: The Impact of the Holocaust on the Contemporary World (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1988), pp. 233-247.

“Spirituality and Political Commitment: Notes on a Liberation Theology of Non-Violence,” in Angie O’Gorman, ed., The Universe Bends Toward Justice: A Reader on Christian Nonviolence in the United States (Philadelphia: New Society, 1990), pp. 221-230.

“Fierce Landscapes and the Indifference of God,” in Cass Adams, ed., The Soul Unearthed (New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1996), pp. 250-255.

Forward to Peter A. Huff’s Allen Tate and the Catholic Revival: Trace of the Fugitive Gods (Paulist Press, 1996), a dissertation for which I served as mentor.

Publications (Articles in Non-refereed Journals):

“Short Prayers that Pierce the Gates of Heaven,” HUNGRYHEARTS (Office of Spiritual Formation of the Presbyterian Church (USA) XIV:1 (Spring, 2005), 3-7.

“Spirituality and Geography: An Interview with Dr. Belden C. Lane,” LEADING FROM THE CENTER (Winter, 2003). Reprinted in the United Church of Canada national publication, WOMEN’S CONCERNS, Spring, 2004.

“Keepers of the Night, Heralds of the Dawn,” STORYTELLING 15:1 (January/February, 2003, 28-29.

“The World as a Theatre of God’s Glory,” PERSPECTIVES: A JOURNAL OF REFORMED THOUGHT 16:9 (November, 2001), 7-12.

“Biodiversity and the Holy Trinity,” AMERICA 185:20 (December 17, 2001), pp. 7-11. Cover article. Excerpted and reprinted in the May 2002 issue of EARTH LETTER.

“Holy Silence: Invitation to Sabbath,” THE CHRISTIAN CENTURY 118:29 (October 24-31, 2001), pp. 24-27.

“The Whole World Singing: A Journey to Iona and Taizé,” THE CHRISTIAN CENTURY 117:10 (March 22-29, 2000), pp. 336-341.

“Discovering the Desert Paradox: Link Interview: A Conversation with Belden Lane,” CHRISTIAN HISTORY XVIII:4 (November, 1999), pp. 42-45.

“Lovers and Thieves: The Role of Desire in the Contemplative Life,” SPIRITUALITY (Dublin) 5:25 (July-August, 1999), pp. 230-232.

“Spider as Metaphor: Attending to the Symbol-Making Process in the Academic Discipline of Spirituality,” CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY BULLETIN 6:2 (Fall, 1998), pp. 1-7.

"A Presbyterian Assumption," AMERICA 179:4 (August 15-22, 1998), p. 16. Reprinted in OUR FAMILY: Canada's Catholic Monthly Magazine 50:7 (July/August, 1999), pp. 26-27.

"Drinking from Places: Recent Studies in Geography, narrative, and Spirituality," CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY BULLETIN 5:2 (Fall, 1997), pp. 18-19.

"Open the Kingdom for a Cottonwood Tree: A Case for the Inclusion of Trees in the Communio Sanctorum," THE CHRISTIAN CENTURY 114:30 (October 29, 1997), pp. 979-983.

"Imaginary Mountains, Invisible Landscapes," THE CHRISTIAN CENTURY 112:2 (January 18, 1995), pp. 46-48.

"Galesville and Sinai: The Researcher as Participant in the Study of Spirituality," CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY BULLETIN 2:1 (Spring, 1994), pp. 18-20.

"Death and Transformation at Upper Moss Creek," THE CHRISTIAN CENTURY 110:25 (September 8-15, 1993), pp. 846-848.

"Dragons of the Ordinary: The Discomfort of Common Grace," THE CHRISTIAN CENTURY 108:24 (August 21-28), 1991, pp. 772-775.

"Grace and the Grotesque," THE CHRISTIAN CENTURY 107:33 (November 14, 1990), pp. 1067-1069.

"The Breath of God: A Primer in Pacific/Asian Theology," THE CHRISTIAN CENTURY 107:26 (September 19-26, 1990), pp. 833-838. Reprinted in MISSION STUDIES VIII:1 (1991).

"Fierce Landscapes and the Indifference of God," THE CHRISTIAN CENTURY (October 11, 1989), pp. 907-910.

"The Core Curriculum at a Jesuit University," OCCASIONAL PAPERS, The College of Arts and Science, Saint Louis University, I (1989-1990), pp. 13-17.

"The Power of Myth: Lessons from Joseph Campbell," THE CHRISTIAN CENTURY 106:21 (July, 1989), pp. 652-654.

"Blending Salt and Spice, Joining Wisdom and Prophecy," THE CHRISTIAN CENTURY 106 (May 10, 1989), pp. 499-502.

"Artists in Conversation," THE ROUNDTABLE (Saint Louis Catholic Worker), Winter, 1989, pp. 3-9.

"A Hidden and Playful God," THE CHRISTIAN CENTURY 104:27 (September 30, 1987), pp. 812-813.

"God Plays Rough for Love's Sake," THE CHRISTIAN CENTURY 104:29 (October 14, 1987), pp. 879-881.

"Working with our Art: Story and Ministry," NATIONAL STORYTELLING JOURNAL IV:4 (Fall, 1987), pp. 18-19.

"Gently Echoed Music: Dynamics of the Storyteller/Storylistener Relationship," NATIONAL STORYTELLING JOURNAL III:2 (Spring, 1986), pp. 4-6.

"Galesville, Wisconsin: Locus Mirabilis," THE CHRISTIAN CENTURY 103:4 (January 29, 1986), pp. 89-91.

"Laughter and Faith," THE ROUNDTABLE (Saint Louis Catholic Worker) Spring/Summer, 1986, pp. 89-91.

"The Desert Imagination of Edward Abbey," THE CHRISTIAN CENTURY 102:24 (July 31-August 7, 1985), pp. 706-709.

"The Mountain that was God," THE CHRISTIAN CENTURY 102:20 (June 5-12, 1985), pp. 579-581. Reprinted in Alive Now, September/October, 2002, pp. 18-21.

"The Remapping of Politics: National Defense and the Prophetic Imagination," THE CHRISTIAN CENTURY 102:11 (April 3, 1985), pp. 322-327.

- “Inadvertent Ministry,” THE CHRISTIAN CENTURY 101:34 (November 7, 1984), pp. 1030-1031.
- “The Ordinary as Mask of the Holy,” THE CHRISTIAN CENTURY 101:29 (October 3, 1984), pp. 898-901.
- “Rediscovering the Holy,” THE ROUNDTABLE (Spring, 1984), pp. 3-5.
- “Stalking the Snow Leopard: A Reflection on Work,” THE CHRISTIAN CENTURY 101:1 (January 4-11, 1983), pp. 13-16.
- “The Breviary in the Woods,” THE CHRISTIAN CENTURY 100:18 (June 1, 1983), pp. 564-566.
- “The Spirituality and Politics of Holy Folly,” THE CHRISTIAN CENTURY 99:40 (December 15, 1982), pp. 1281-1286.
- “Storytelling and the Theologian's Craft,” THE REFORMED JOURNAL 32:1 (January, 1982), pp. 17-21. Reprinted in PRABUDDHA BHARATA, Mayavati, Himalayas, 88 (September, 1983), pp. 382-388.
- “Rabbinical Stories: A Primer on Theological Method,” THE CHRISTIAN CENTURY 98:41 (December 16, 1981), pp. 1306-1310. Reprinted in THE CATHOLIC DIGEST (April, 1982), pp. 45-50.
- “Spirituality and Political Commitment: Notes on a Liberation Theology of Non-Violence,” AMERICA 144:10 (March 14, 1981), pp. 197-202.
- “Brainwashing and Conversion,” THE REFORMED JOURNAL 29:4 (April, 1979), pp. 9-12.

Publications (Poetry):

- “Poverty of Words,” THE CHRISTIAN CENTURY 111:36 (December 14, 1994), p. 1189.
- “The Beast of Contemplation,” REVIEW FOR RELIGIOUS 61:1 (February, 2002), p. 22.

Publications (Book Reviews in Academic Journals): Numerous reviews in MODERN THEOLOGY, THE JOURNAL OF PRESBYTERIAN HISTORY, REVIEW FOR RELIGIOUS, THEOLOGY TODAY, THE PRINCETON SEMINARY BULLETIN, RELIGIOUS STUDIES REVIEW, SPIRITUALITY TODAY, RELIGION IN LIFE, CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY BULLETIN, and SPIRITUS: A JOURNAL OF CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY.

Courses Taught (Graduate and Undergraduate):

- Wilderness, Ecology, and Spirituality (a field-based course involving backpacking & canoeing)
- American Spirituality and Landscape (a field-based course involving trips to local sacred places)
- Theologies of Nature (Environmental Ethics)
- Desert & Mountain Spirituality in the Contemplative Tradition
- American Myth & Symbol: Narrative & Invention
- Narrative, Language, and Faith (a course focused on the theology and practice of storytelling)
- Spirituality and Political Commitment (a course on themes in liberation theology)
- History of the Christian Tradition
- Theological Foundations (a field-based course involving volunteer work in the inner city)
- Religion and American Culture
- Fall and Redemption in American Literature
- American Theology: Edwards to Niebuhr

Individualism and Community in American Life

World Religions

Judaism, Christianity, and Islam (Abrahamic Traditions)

Reformation Theologies

Protestant Theology: Schleiermacher to Bonhoeffer

American Seminar (a graduate course involving Historical Theology faculty and graduate students in the American Period, focused on the sharing and mutual critique of research and writing)

Papers Read at Professional Meetings:

“Nature and Desire: The Double Irony of Reformed Spirituality,” paper presented for a joint session of the Christian Spirituality Group and Reformed Theology and History Group at the AAR, Chicago, November 3, 2008.

“Strategies for Teaching Intersubjectivity: Spiritual Perception and the Natural World,” paper presented for the Academic Teaching and the Study of Religion Section of the AAR, Toronto, November 24, 2002.

“Tasting the Goodness of the Lord: Jonathan Edwards, the Sensus Suavitatis, and Nature as a School of Desire,” paper presented for the Christian Spirituality Group of the AAR, Denver, November 18, 2001.

“Beauty and Body in the American Religious Landscape,” a response paper given at a session put together by my graduate students at the Midwest meeting of the AAR, Chicago, March 31, 2001.

“Two Schools of Desire: Nature and Marriage in Seventeenth-Century Puritanism,” paper presented for the Christian Spirituality Group of the AAR, Boston, November 21, 1999.

“Bryan Turner on the Body as a Response to Papers on Christianity and the American Environment,” response paper presented for the History of Christianity Section of the AAR, Boston, November 20, 1999.

“Methodology in the Study of Spirituality: Reflections on the Writing of The Solace of Fierce Landscapes,” response paper presented for the Christian Spirituality Group of the AAR and the Prayer in the Greco-Roman World Group of the SBL, Orlando, November 23, 1999.

“Theatrum Gloriae Dei: Praise as World-sustaining Performance in Reformed Spirituality,” paper presented for the Mysticism and Religion and Ecology Groups of the AAR, Orlando, November 21, 1998.

“Spider as Metaphor: Attending to the Symbol-Making Process in the Academic Discipline of Spirituality,” paper presented for the Christian Spirituality Group of the AAR, San Francisco, November, 1997.

“Fierce Landscapes in the History of Mysticism: Ascetic Performance and Self-Forgetfulness,” paper presented for a Roundtable Discussion at the American Academy of Religion, New Orleans, November, 1996.

“Dorothy Day’s Theology of the Laity,” a response to papers given in a session on the Catholic Worker Movement at the meetings of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Saint Louis, October 28, 1995.

“Toward a Definition and Taxonomy of American Sacred Places: Asking Preliminary Environmental Questions,” paper presented for the Religion and Ecology Group of the AAR, Chicago, November, 1994.

“Galesville and Sinai: The Researcher as Participant in the Study of Spirituality and Sacred Place,” paper presented for the Society for the Study of Christian Spirituality, at the AAR, Washington, D.C., November, 1993.

“The Sinai Image in the Apophatic Tradition: Using Language against Language,” paper presented at the AAR, San Francisco, November, 1992.

“Landscapes of the Sacred: Reflections on Geography, Religion and Interdisciplinarity,” paper present at the AAR, Kansas City, Missouri, November, 1991.

“Shaker Theology and the Doctrine of Correspondence,” paper presented at the Midwest Regional Meeting of the AAR, Saint Louis, Missouri, March, 1989.

“Arguing with God: Blasphemy and the Prayer of Lament in Judaism and Other Faith Traditions,” paper presented at an International Conference on the Holocaust at Oxford University, Oxford, England, July, 1988.

“Language as Dance: The Role of Metaphor in Therapeutic Change,” paper presented for a conference on Narrative Theology at St. Edmund's House, Cambridge University, England, August, 1984.

“The Use of Metaphor in Pastoral Ministry and Spiritual Direction,” Assembly of Episcopal Hospitals and Chaplains, Kansas City, Missouri, March, 1984.

Invited University Lectures:

“Ravished by Beauty: Nature, Desire, and Ecology in the Reformed Tradition,” The Schaff Lectures for 2008 at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, March 10-12, 2008.

“The Role of Storytelling in Justice and Healing,” Conference Address for Bangor Theological Seminary and the Maine Council of Churches, Topsham, Maine, May 18, 2006.

“Are There American Sacred Places: Cultural Studies and Beyond,” the 8th Annual Kenefick Lecture at Creighton University, Omaha, Nebraska, April 15, 2005.

“Merton’s Hermitage and Spiritual Transformation,” for the Thomas Merton Society of Canada and Chalmer’s Institute, Vancouver School of Theology,” February 11, 2005.

“Connecting Spirituality and Ecology in the Reformed Tradition,” Florida Winter Pastors’ School at Stetson University, Deland, Florida, January 27-30, 2004.

“Merton’s Hermitage and the Deconstruction of the Self: A Topoanalysis Using Gaston Bachelard’s *The Poetics of Space*,” lecture for the 40th anniversary of the Thomas Merton Center, Bellarmine University, Louisville, KY, October 22, 2003.

“Landscapes of the Sacred: Connecting Spirituality and Place,” series of lectures for the Charis Ecumenical Center at Concordia College, Moorhead, MN, April 25, 2002.

“Celtic Spirituality and Sacred Space,” a lecture for the Indiana Network of Higher Education Ministries Annual Meeting, November 9, 2001, followed by an all-day workshop on “Landscapes of the Sacred” at Christian Theological Seminary, in connection with the Spirit and Place Civic Festival, Indianapolis, IN, November 10, 2001.

“Approaches to the Study of Sacred Space,” a lecture at McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago, October 31, 2001, as well as preaching the Reformation Day sermon that day for the joint chapel service of the Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago and McCormick Seminary.

“Biodiversity and the Holy Trinity,” Endowed Chairs Lecture at Saint Louis University, November 15, 2000.

“Excellence in Teaching and a Spirituality of Desire,” Saint Louis University Conference on Spirituality and Teaching, sponsored by the Center for Teaching Excellence (November 12, 1999).

“The World as Theatre of God's Glory: Spirituality and Ecology in the Reformed Tradition,” Vancouver School of Theology, Vancouver, British Columbia (July 23, 1998)

“Fierce Landscapes and the Experience of God,” Florida Winter Pastor's School, Stetson University, DeLand, Florida (February 6-9, 1996).

“The Body that Teaches, the Story that Heals,” the William T. Longust Lecture, sponsored by the Gateway Catholic Ethics Network and Saint Louis University, September 29, 1995.

“The Wisdom of the Desert Fathers,” Provost Series of Lectures: “Great Teachers on Great Issues,” Saint Louis University, March 16, 1994.

“Place and Story in the Religious Imagination,” Killeen Lecture in Theology and Philosophy at St. Norbert College, De Peres, Wisconsin, October, 1992.

“Religion and Geography: Axioms for the Study of Sacred Space,” lecture before the faculty and graduate students of the Department of Geography, University of Texas at Austin, April, 1992.

“Faith, Language, and Narrative Theology,” lecture series for the Religion Department and Campus Ministry at Oberlin College, Oberlin, Ohio, September, 1991.

“Metaphor and Wholeness: The Use of Story in the Healing Professions,” Continuing Education lecture, University of Missouri, Saint Louis, February, 1990.

“A Shared Brokenness: Stories and Spirituality,” presentations for the Department of Theology, St. Thomas University, Miami, Florida, October, 1989.

“Narrative and Metaphor in Christian Education,” lectures at Ewart College, Toronto, Ontario, June, 1985.

“Parable, Story, and the Spoken Word: A Workshop on Preaching,” Eden Theological Seminary, St. Louis, June, 1983.

“The Spirituality of Holy Folly and its Political Implications,” The Bonaventure Lecture for 1982 at Quincy College, Quincy, Illinois, April, 1982.

Workshops and Conference Leadership:

Weaver/Elder leadership at a Men's Rites of Passage Retreat in Phoenix, AZ (for Richard Rohr and The Center for Action and Contemplation IN Albuquerque), April 25- 30, 2007.

Seminar on “Photography, Spirituality, and the Land,” at Ghost Ranch, New Mexico, June 25-30, 2007.

Workshop on “Storytelling and Spirituality” (and participation in a plenary session on “Story and Wisdom” for the National Storytelling Conference in St. Louis, July 11-15, 2007)

“Finding the Center: Approaches to the Study of Sacred Place,” Lecture and Workshop at the Center for Spiritual Development, Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, Portland, Oregon, January 13-15, 2006.

“The Solace of Fierce Landscapes,” a Workshop at the Living Water Spiritual Center, Winslow, Maine, May 19-21, 2006.

“Desert Spirituality and the Power of Place,” Lecture and Workshop for the Christ Church Fall Forum Series, at Christ Episcopal Church, Cody, Wyoming, September 15-17, 2006.

Keynote Address (on “Desert Spirituality and God's Call to Life on the Margins”) to the 2005 Presbyterian Health, Education, and Welfare Association Conference, Tuscon, AZ, January 15, 2005.

Workshop on Desert Spirituality and Contemplative Prayer at St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church, Albuquerque, NM, August 9-11, 2002.

...Seminar on Wilderness, Ecology, Spirituality, and the Psalms at Retreats International, Notre Dame University, July 7-12, 2002. Previous seminar on American Spirituality there on July 16-21, 2000 and subsequent seminar on storytelling on Jun2=26-July 1, 2005.

Seminar on Wilderness and Spirituality at Ring Lake Ranch, Dubois, Wyoming, July 1-7, 2001. Subsequent seminars on Nature and Spirituality in 2003 and on Storytelling in 2005.

Workshops on Desert Spirituality for people at mid-career in the religious life at the Sangre de Cristo Center, Santa Fe, N.M., March 8-10, 2005. Previous workshops from 2000 to 2004.

Keynote speaker and workshop presentations on nature and spirituality in the Reformed tradition at the Presbyterians for Restoring Creation Conference on "Living Waters - Streams of Faith," St. Simon's Island, Georgia, February 25-29, 2000

"Do All Creatures Chant Psalms with Us? The Ecological Implications of Praise," Kirkridge Conference Center, June, 1999.

Workshop on Landscape and Ecology at the Presbyterians for Restoring Creation Conference on "Strands in the Web of Life," Montreat, N.C., August, 1998.

Storytelling and workshop at the Asheville Storytelling Festival, Asheville, N.C., May, 1998.

Carson Lectures at Highland Presbyterian Church, Lancaster, Pennsylvania (on "Desert Environment and the Life of the Spirit"), October, 1996.

Seminars on "American Spirituality" and "The Solace of Fierce Landscapes" at the Diocesan Ministries Institute, Saginaw, Michigan, June, 1994 and June, 1996.

Conferences on Desert Spirituality, given to the monastic community at Our Lady of Gethsemani Abbey, Bardstown, Kentucky, July, 1995.

"Mountain and Desert Spirituality," seminars given at Ghost Ranch, Conference Center of the Presbyterian Church, U.S.A., Abiquiu, New Mexico, July, 1990 and June, 1995.

"How Stories Nourish the Spirit," presentation at a conference on narrative and theology, Christ Church Cathedral (Episcopal), Houston, Texas, February, 1993.

"Landscapes of the Sacred" and "Desert and Mountain Spirituality," weekend seminars led at Kirkridge Conference Center, Bangor, Pennsylvania, May, 1991, February, 1993, and April, 1995..

"Story, Landscape, and the Spiritual Life," Continuing Education workshop for Clergy, Northwest Ohio Conference of the United Methodist Church, Findlay, Ohio, September, 1992.

Workshop on Narrative Theology and Ministry for the South Carolina District of the United Methodist Church, White Oak Conference Center, January, 1992.

"Storytelling and Pacific/Asian Experience," keynote speaker at a Conference of the Pacific and Asian Ministries Taskforce of the United Church of Christ, held in Hilo, Hawaii, June, 1988.

"Storytelling and Ministry," National Storytelling Institutes presented at NAPPS, Jonesborough, Tennessee, May, 1988 and July, 1991.

Conference on Sacred Place, Ecology, and Energy Conservation, sponsored by the First Congregational Church in Los Angeles, at Cedar Lake, California, September, 1991.

"The Role of Story in Peace Education," keynote address to the annual meeting of the Canadian Association of Montessori Teachers, Toronto, Ontario, November, 1989.

"Jesus as Parabler and Peacemaker," Conference on Storytelling, World Religions, and Peace, at Beaver Conference Farm, Yorktown Heights, New York, October, 1988.

Participation in a study program on Latin American Christianity at the Cuernavaca Center for Intercultural Dialogue on Development (CCIDD) at Cuernavaca, Mexico, March, 1988.

“Image and Narrative in Christian Education,” workshop at the 1985 Christian Education Conference of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) at Montreat, North Carolina, July, 1985.

“Storytelling and the Paradoxes of Faith,” conference sponsored by the Department of Education, the Episcopal Diocese of West Tennessee, Memphis, March, 1985.

Workshop on Narrative and Biblical Theology, given at the National Workshop on Storytelling and the Religious Message, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, June, 1984.

“Storytelling and Prayer: The Language of Suffering and Joy,” workshop at the Church in the Gardens, Forest Hills, New York, October, 1984.

“Imagination and the Spiritual Journey,” lecture series at St. Mark's Episcopal Cathedral, Seattle, Washington, May, 1983.

“The Politics of Nuclear War: First and Second Order Change,” workshop sponsored by the Church Council of Greater Seattle, Washington, September, 1982.

“Storytelling: The Enchantment of Theology,” conference sponsored by the Palisades Presbytery of the United Presbyterian Church, Hackensack, New Jersey, September, 1982.

Television / Radio Programs (Cable):

“Joy and Suffering in Hassidic Tales,” taped for a series of lectures available through Retreats International, at Notre Dame University, July 9, 2002.

Interview re/ Landscapes of the Sacred (expanded edition) for Mars Hill Audio Digital Journal, volume 56 (May/June 2002).

“Desert Indifference, Desert Love,” Preaching for Public Television, The Chicago Sunday Evening Club (30 Good Minutes), taped in Chicago on January 9, 1996. “Spirituality in a Desert Monastery,” for Third Thursday Series at St. Francis Xavier College Church, St. Louis, Missouri, taped for Cable TV in St. Louis on February 3, 1995.

Interview re/ Landscapes of the Sacred for Religious Book World, taped in New York (for Paulist Press) on December 12, 1988.

Memberships in Professional Societies:

American Academy of Religion
Society for the Study of Christian Spirituality
College Theology Society
Presbyterian Writers Guild