

## **KENDRA WEDDLE**

**Scholar-in-Residence, Northaven Church**

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### **Academic Specialization**

**Ph.D. Degree:** Religion; History of Christianity

**Other Areas of Teaching and Research:** World Religions, Biblical Studies, Feminism and Christianity, American Religious History

### **Education**

**Baylor University, Waco, Texas**

Ph.D., Religion, 2001

Dissertation: *Preaching on the Plains, Methodist Women Preachers in Kansas, 1920-1956*

Concentration in historical studies with a specialization in American religious history

Teaching minor in History, Baylor University History Department

Languages: Reading knowledge German, Reading knowledge Greek

Tuition Fellowship, 1994-2001

**Asbury Theological Seminary, Wilmore, Kentucky**

M.A. Theological Studies, 1993

Theta Phi Honor Society member

John Wesley Fellowship, 1993; declined

Master's Thesis: *Evelyn Underhill's Concept of Christian Mysticism and Its Relation to Common Misrepresentations*

**Friends University, Wichita, Kansas**

B.A. Religion/Philosophy, 1989, High Academic Honors

Award for Academic Excellence and Contribution to the Religion Department

Honors Program, 1987-88

Who's Who Among College Students, 1988

Alpha Chi Honor Society member

### **Previous Positions**

**Professor, Religion, Humanities, & Interdisciplinary Studies, Texas Wesleyan University**  
2020-2022

**Nominated for Earl Brown Teaching and Scholarship Award, 2021**

**Associate Professor**, Religion, Humanities, & Interdisciplinary Studies, Texas Wesleyan University 2015-2020

**Tenured:** 2017

**Visiting Professor**, Religion, Humanities, & Interdisciplinary Studies, Texas Wesleyan University 2010-2015

**Assistant Professor**, Religious Studies Department, George Fox University 2003-2007

**Associate Professor**, Religious Studies Department, George Fox University 2007-2009

**Tenured:** March 2009

**Nominated for Undergraduate Teacher of the Year**, 2008

### **Books**

*Building Bridges: Letha Dawson Scanzoni and Friends* with Dr. Jann Aldredge-Clanton, Cascade Books, 2018.

*If Eve Only Knew: Freeing Yourself from Biblical Womanhood and Becoming All God Means for You to Be* with Dr. Melanie Springer Mock, Chalice Press, 2015. Chosen for the 2017 reading list, United Methodist Women.

*Preaching on the Plains: Methodist Women Preachers in Kansas, 1920-1956*, University Press of America, 2007.

### **Preaching**

**Northaven UMC, Dallas, TX, March 27, 2022**

**[Northaven UMC, Dallas, TX, July 11, 2021](#)**

**[St. Stephen UMC, Dallas, TX, January 16, 2022](#)**

### **Podcast**

Blessed Are the Feminists, **[Episode 36: A Conversation with Dr. Kendra Weddle](#)**, April 18, 2021.

### **Articles/Essays**

“Should Bibles be Banned?” *United Methodist News*, March 22, 2022.

“Walking in the Shadow,” *Red Letter Christians*, July 6, 2021.

“My Breast Cancer Revealed a Mothering God,” *Red Letter Christians*, May 3, 2021.

“Balancing Vigilance and Well-Being in an Age of Heightened Political Anxiety” *Sojourners*, July 24, 2019.

“When Daughters of Fathers Seek Justice” *The Christian Century* online, June 12, 2019.

“Faithful Friends: Biblical Wisdom for a lonely age,” 136, No. 3 (January 30, 2019): *The Christian Century*, 2019.

Articles for the *CEB Women’s Study Bible*: “Contentious Woman,” “Create Life,” “Anxiety,” “Birth Control,” “Standing up for Faithfulness,” “Violence,” “Jael,” “Tamar #1,” “Tamar #2,” “Tamar #3” (Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2016).

Foreword to *Lady Midrash: Poems Reclaiming the Voices of Biblical Women* by Elizabeth Mehl Greene, Wipf & Stock Publishers, Spring 2016.

“Prophets in Every Generation,” <https://ewwc.com/Conferences/2016-christian-feminism-today-gathering/>

“A Book I Like to Teach: Welcome to the Wisdom of the World and Its Meaning for You: Universal Spiritual Insights from Five Religious Traditions” by Joan Chittister, *The Christian Century* 132, no. 21 (October 14, 2015), 41.

“Man, What a Battle!: Facing the Problem of Language as a Feminist Theologian at a Conservative Christian University” in *Facing Challenges: Feminism in Christian Higher Education and Other Places*, edited by Allyson Jule and Bettina Tate Petersen, Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2015 (37-44).

“Faith Under Scrutiny: My Semester Teaching Saudis,” *The Christian Century* 131, no. 12 (June 11, 2014), 12-13.

“Teaching Religion with the Saudis,” Century Blogs, *The Christian Century* (September 24, 2013).

“How 9/11 Changed My Teaching,” *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* Online, September 10, 2011.

“An Empty Pew,” *Christian Feminism Today* 34, no. 2 (July-September 2010): 4-5.

“Tenure Downturn,” *Christian Feminism Today* 33, no. 4 (Winter 2010): 1-2.

“A Surprising Enterprise,” *Teaching Theology and Religion*, The Wabash Center Journal (July 2009).

“M. Madeline Southard on Ecclesial Suffrage,” *Methodist History* 45, no. 1

(October 2006): 16-30.

"The Alien Among Us: Woman as Prophet," *Christian Feminism Today* 30, no. 1 (Spring 2006): 8-11.

"Honoring the Silence of God," *Alive Now* (May/June 2005): 14-18.

"From Kansas To the World: M. Madeline Southard, Activist and Pastor," *Methodist History* 43, no. 1 (October 2004): 33-44.

"Phoebe Palmer: Chosen, Tried, Triumphant (An Examination of Her Calling in Light of Current Research)," *Methodist History* 37, no. 1 (October 1998): 28-36.

### **Book Reviews**

*The Wife and The Female Persuasion* by Meg Wolitzer with Letha Dawson Scanzoni (eewc.com 2019).

*Into the Deep: An Unlikely Catholic Conversion* by Abigail Rine Favale (eewc.com, 2019).

*Christian Doctrines for Global Justice* edited by Jenn Dagggers and Grace Ji-Sun Kim (eewc.com, 2016).

*Enticed by Eden: How Western Culture Uses Confuses (and Sometimes) Abuses Adam and Eve* by Linda S. Shearing and Valerie H. Ziegler (eewc.com, 2013).

*What You Didn't Learn in Sunday School: Women Who Didn't Shut Up and Sit Down* by Shawna R. B. Attebury (eewc.com, 2013).

*Three Books on Giving Up Church: A Review Essay (The Resignation of Eve* by Jim Henderson, *Higher Ground* by Carolyn S. Briggs, and *Breaking Up with God* by Sarah Sentilles), *Christian Feminism Today* 36, Numbers 1 & 2 (May-August 2012): 7-8.

*God and the Atlantic: America, Europe, and the Religious Divide* by Thomas Albert Howard in *Christian Scholar's Review* XLI: no. 4 (Summer 2012).

*Reading Women: How the Great Books of Feminism Changed My Life* by Stephanie Staal, *Adanna: A Journal for Women, about Women*, no. 2 (2012): 15-16.

*A Strange Stirring: "The Feminine Mystique" and American Women at the Dawn of the 1960s* by Stephanie Coontz, *Christian Feminism Today* 35, no. 2 (July-September, 2011): 4-5.

*The Heartbeat of God: Finding the Sacred in the Middle of Everything* by Katharine Jefferts Schori and *Living into Hope: A Call to Spiritual Action for Such a Time as This* by Rev. Dr. Joan Brown Campbell, *Christian Feminism Today* 34, no. 4 (January-March 2011): 6-8.

*Do It Anyway: The New Generation of Activists* by Courtney E. Martin, *Christian Feminism Today* 34, no. 3 (October-December 2010): 7, 14.

*Putting Away Childish Things: A Tale of Modern Faith* by Marcus Borg, *The Progressive Christian*, 2010.

*Redeemed Bodies: Women Martyrs in Early Christianity* by Gail P. C. Streete, *Christian Scholar's Review* XXXIX: 2 (Winter 2010), 253-256.

*A People's History of Christianity: The Other Side of the Story* by Diana Butler Bass, *Christian Feminism Today* 33: 3 (October-December, 2009), 6-8.

*The Faith Club: A Muslim, A Christian, A Jew—Three Women Search for Understanding* by Ranya Idliby, Suzanne Oliver, and Priscilla Warner, *The Progressive Christian* 182, no. 5 (September/October 2008), 35.

*Liberating Tradition: Women's Identity and Vocation in Christian Perspective* by Kristina LaCelle-Peterson, *Christian Scholar's Review* 38, no. 1 (Fall 2008).

*Her Story: Women in Christian Tradition* by Barbara MacHaffie, *Christian Feminism Today* 31, No. 3 (October-December 2007): 7-8.

*Men and Women in the Church: Building Consensus on Christian Leadership* by Sarah Sumner, Barclay Press, Conversation Café, September 2007.

*Christianity for the Rest of Us: How the Neighborhood Church is Transforming the Faith* by Diana Butler Bass, *The Progressive Christian*, 181, no. 2 (March/April 2007): 40.

*Leaving Church: A Memoir of Faith* by Barbara Brown Taylor, *Christian Feminism Today*, 31, no. 1 (Spring 2007): 1-2.

*Living on the Boundaries: Evangelical Women, Feminism and the*

*Theological Academy* by Nicola Hoggard Creegan and Christine D. Pohl,  
*Christian Scholar's Review* 35, no. 4 (Summer 2006): 549-550.

## **Encyclopedia Entries**

“M. Madeline Southard (1877-1967).” In *Biographical History of Women Biblical Interpreters*, Marion Taylor, ed., Baker Academic, forthcoming.

“Susannah Wesley.” In *The Encyclopedia of Christian Literature*, George Thomas Kurian and James D. Smith III, eds., The Scarecrow Press, Inc., November 2009.

“Barbara Brown Taylor.” In *The Encyclopedia of Christian Literature*, George Thomas Kurian and James D. Smith III, eds., The Scarecrow Press, November 2009.

“Sr. Joan Chittister.” In *The Encyclopedia of Christian Literature*, George Thomas Kurian and James D. Smith III, eds., The Scarecrow Press, November 2009.

## **Blogs**

Ain’t I a Woman at <http://deconstructingchristianimages.blogspot.com> (no longer available)

FemFaith with Dr. Melanie Spring Mock and Letha Dawson Scanzoni at <https://eewc.com/category/femfaith/>

## **Grants received**

Sam Taylor, 2015, 2017, 2018: research/writing related to Letha Dawson Scanzoni

George Fox University summer research grant, 2005 research/writing related to M. Madeline Southard

United Methodist Women’s History research grant, 2005 research/writing related to M. Madeline Southard

## **Professional Presentations**

“Religion and the Public Sphere” through the Lens of Contemplative Practice, Panel Discussion, American Academy of Religion, Southwest Region, Irving, Texas, March 5, 2022.

“One-Hundred Years in the Making: Working for Ecclesial Suffrage, M. Madeline Southard and Letha Dawson Scanzoni,” American Academy of Religion, Southwest Region, Irving, Texas, March 9, 2019.

“One-Hundred Years in the Making: Working for Ecclesial Suffrage, M. Madeline Southard and Letha Dawson Scanzoni,” Mitchell-Reed Lecture, Texas Wesleyan University, February 12, 2019.

Plenary Address, "Building Bridges: Letha Dawson Scanzoni and Friends," with Dr. Jann Aldredge-Clanton, EEWC Gathering, St. Louis, MO, July 2018

Workshop: "If Eve Only Knew: Finding Hope in the Midst of Change," with Dr. Melanie Springer Mock, 2016, EEWC Gathering, Indianapolis, IN, June 2016.

"If Eve Only Knew: Deconstructing Evangelical Pop Culture," with Dr. Melanie Springer Mock, Southwest Popular/American Culture Association 2016 Conference, Albuquerque, NM, February 12, 2016.

"Reclaiming the Divine Feminine for our Work of Compassion, Justice, Peace, and Sustainability," Panel Discussion, Parliament of World Religions, Salt Lake City, UT, October 15, 2015

"Reclaiming the Divine Feminine for our Work of Compassion, Justice, Peace, and Sustainability," Panel Discussion, Episcopal Church Center of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT, October 17, 2015.

Plenary Address: "Building and Sustaining Communities Open to Christ-Sophia's Liberating Movement" with Dr. Melanie Springer Mock, 2014 EEWC Gathering, St. Louis, MO, June 2014

Plenary Address: "Ain't I a Woman" with Dr. Melanie Springer Mock, 2012 EEWC Gathering, Indianapolis, IN, June 2012

"Blogging for God: Women and *Christianity Today*, *The Christian Century*, and *Sojourners*," Southwest Texas American Pop Culture Conference, Albuquerque, NM, 2012

"Channeling the Inklings: Creating a Successful Writing Group," in collaboration with Drs. Melanie Springer Mock and Edward Higgins, and Polly Peterson, Christianity and Literature Conference, George Fox University, April 17-18, 2009

"Channeling the Inklings: Creating a Successful Writing Group," in collaboration with Drs. Melanie Springer Mock and Edward Higgins, and Polly Peterson, Distinguished Faculty Lecture Series, George Fox University, March 3, 2009

"Man, What a Battle: The Reality of the Problem of Language," Coalition of Christian Colleges and Universities Conversations Toward Wholeness Conference, San Diego, CA, 2008

"Can Jesus Save Us?: Mother Teresa and Jesus Camp," Southwest Texas Pop Culture Conference, Albuquerque, NM, 2008

"M. Madeline Southard: From the Plains to the Pulpit," George Fox University Faculty Forum, Spring 2007

"The Alien Among Us: Woman as Prophet," Western Region, Christianity and Literature, Malibu, CA, 2006

"The Alien Among Us: Woman as Prophet," Pacific Northwest Region, American Academy of Religion, Spokane, WA, 2006

"M. Madeline Southard on Ecclesial Suffrage," Pacific Northwest Region, American Academy of Religion, Seattle, WA, 2005



- "M. Madeline Southard on Ecclesial Suffrage," American Society of Church History, Savannah, Georgia, 2005
- "M. Madeline Southard: Activist and Pastor from the Plains," (revised and expanded), Pacific Northwest Region, American Academy of Religion, Vancouver, B.C., 2004
- "M. Madeline Southard: Activist and Pastor from the Plains," American Society of Church History, Boston, Massachusetts, 2001. Collaborated with Cynthia Cornell Novak (Pepperdine University) and Fran Grace (University of Redlands) to propose and design the session: M. Madeline Southard: From the Kansas Plains to International Pulpit
- "M. Madeline Southard: Activist and Pastor from the Plains," Southwest Region, American Academy of Religion, Dallas, Texas, 2001
- "Promise Keepers: A New Phenomenon?" American Men's Studies Association, National Meeting, Youngstown, Ohio, 1998
- "Promise Keepers: A New Phenomenon?" Southwest Region, American Academy of Religion, Dallas, Texas, 1997
- "Phoebe Palmer: An Examination of Her Calling in Light of Current Research," Southwest Region, American Academy of Religion, Dallas, Texas, 1996

### **University and Other Speaking Engagements**

- "M. Madeline Southard: An Ecclesial Activist before Her Time," forthcoming November 12, 2021, Southwestern College, Winfield, Kansas, class presentation.
- Building Bridges* Virtual Presentation with Dr. Jann Aldredge-Clanton, WATER (Women's Alliance for Theology, Ethics, and Ritual), December 9, 2020.
- Building Bridges: Letha Dawson Scanzoni and Friends* with Dr. Jann Aldredge-Clanton, Christian Care Center, Mesquite, TX, April 20, 2020.
- Book Reading: *Building Bridges: Letha Dawson Scanzoni and Friends* with Dr. Jann Aldredge-Clanton, Book Woman, September 28, 2019, Austin, Texas.
- "Letha Dawson Scanzoni" with Dr. Jann Aldredge-Clanton, Northaven United Methodist Church, August 18, 2019.
- "Building Bridges with the Bible" with Dr. Jann Aldredge-Clanton, Dallas Progressive Christians, April 25, 2019.
- "Building Bridges of Justice" with Dr. Jann Aldredge-Clanton: Northaven United Methodist Church, March 24, 2019.
- "A Woman Transformed," Retreat for Spirit of Unity Church of Christ, Irving, Texas, March 2, 2019.
- "Building Bridges for Such a Time as This" with Dr. Jann Aldredge-Clanton: Wilshire Baptist Church, Dallas, Texas, February 23, 2019.
- "Divine Feminine Images," with Dr. Jann Aldredge-Clanton: Wesley Foundation, University of Texas, Austin, Texas, February 1, 2019.

“Building Bridges in Such a Time as This” with Dr. Jann Aldredge-Clanton: Lake Shore Baptist Church, Waco, Texas, January 30, 2019.

“Feminist Hermeneutics” with Dr. Jann Aldredge-Clanton, Baylor University, January 30, 2019.

“A Christmas Message through the Eyes of Jesus’s Mom,” Christmas Eve Sermon, Minneola United Methodist Church, Minneola, Kansas, December 24, 2018.

*If Eve Only Knew: Challenging Christian Pop Culture*,” University of North Texas, April 10, 2018.

“*If Eve Only Knew*,” United Methodist Women, Chapelwood UMC, Houston, Texas, February 6, 2018

“*If Eve Only Knew: Challenging Christian Pop Culture and Seeking Justice for Women*,” Dallas Progressive Christians, February 23, 2017.

“*Preaching On the Plains: M. Madeline Southard*,” Southwestern College, Winfield, Kansas, October 24-26, 2016.

Theologian-in-Residence with Dr. Rev. Jann Aldredge-Clanton, Boulder United Methodist Church, September 5-17, 2016.

*If Eve Only Knew* with Dr. Melanie Springer Mock, George Fox University, Multiple class sessions, April 18-20, 2016.

*If Eve Only Knew* with Dr. Melanie Spring Mock, Tigard United Methodist Church, April 20, 2016.

*If Eve Only Knew: Bible Study Series*, Grapevine United Methodist Church (February-March 2016).

*If Eve Only Knew: Mitchell-Reed Community of Learners*, Texas Wesleyan University, November 17, 2015.

*If Eve Only Knew: Bible Study Series*, Keller United Methodist Church (October-November, 2015).

*If Eve Only Knew* and *She Lives*: Joint Book Signing event with Dr. Jann Aldredge-Clanton at Barnes and Noble, North Park, Dallas (November 21, 2015).

*Farming, Feminism, and Faith: Reflections on Christian Feminism*. Sponsored by the Women’s Studies Program, University of Central Missouri, November 12, 2013.

*Ain’t I a Woman* with Dr. Melanie Springer Mock. Spring 2013: George Fox University, April 16-17, 2013; Seattle Pacific University, May 14, 2013.