

Matthew H. Russell

Education

Doctor of Philosophy, 2010
Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas
Human Development and Family Studies
Dissertation: “Women’s Counter Narratives of Redemption”

Master of Divinity, 1998
Fuller Theological Seminary, Pasadena, California

Bachelor of Science, 1991
Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas
Human Development and Family Studies

Awards

- 2010-2012 Outstanding Dissertation Award, Texas Tech University Social Science
- 2011-2013 Christian Recovery International Research Fellowship (\$100,000/year)
- 2008-2010 Caul Fund Research Fellowship (\$20,000/year)

Professional Experience

Senior Associate Pastor, St. Paul’s United Methodist Church, Houston, Texas (2014 – Present)

Executive Director, Project CURATE (Center for Urban Reconciliation and Theological Education), Houston Texas (2014- Present)

Associate Director of Fuller Institute for Recovery Ministry, Pasadena California (2016)

Assistant Professor of Theology, Fuller Theological Seminary, Pasadena, California (2014 – 2016)

Research Fellow in Theology and Christian Community Development, Duke University School of Divinity, Houston Initiative (2013 – 2014)

Adjunct Assistant Professor of Theology, Fuller Theological Seminary, Pasadena, California (2011 – 2014)

Visiting Scholar and Post-Doctoral Fellowship, Psychology and Religion Research Group, Faculty of Divinity, Cambridge University, Cambridge, England (2011 – 2013)

Pastoral Staff, Saint Edward King and Martyr, Cambridge, England (2011 – 2013)

Pioneer Strategic Design Team, Westcott House, Cambridge Theological Federation, Cambridge, England (2011 – 2013)

Tutor, Faculty of Divinity (Wesley College, Ridley College, and Westcott College, Cambridge University, Cambridge, England (2011 – 2013)

Senior Consultant, National Association of Christian Recovery (2011 – Present)

Senior Research Fellow, Christian Recovery International (2010 – Present)

Associate Director, Collegiate Replication Project and Engagement, Center for the Study of Addiction and Recovery, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas (2009 – 2011)

Collegiate Recovery Community Staff, Texas Tech University Liaison to the Lubbock County Drug Court, and Research Associate, Center for the Study of Addiction and Recovery, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas (2007 – 2009)

Associate Pastor, Chapelwood United Methodist Church, Houston, Texas (1997 – 2007)

Pastor, Mercy Street, Ministry of Chapelwood United Methodist Church, Houston, Texas (1998 – 2007)

Publications

Russell, M.H. (2017) Belonging, Recovery and Community. Catalyst Journal (Manuscript submitted for publication).

Russell, M.H. (2016). Redeeming narratives in Christian community. In R.R. Manning (Ed.), *Faithful enrichment of psychology, theology and religion: Essays at the interface of psychology, theology, and religion*. Ashgate Science and Religion Series. London: Taylor & Francis.

Russell, M.H., Cleveland, H.H, Wiebe, R.P. (2010). Facilitating identity development in collegiate recovery: An Eriksonian perspective. In H.H. Cleveland, K.S. Harris, & R.P. Wiebe (Eds.), *Substance abuse recovery in college: Community supported abstinence* (pp. 23-35). New York: Springer.

Bell, N.J., Kerksiek, K.A., Kanitkar, K., Watson, W., Das, A., Kostina-Ritchey, E., Russell, M.H., & Harris, K. (2009). University students in recovery: Implications of different types of recovery identities, and common challenges. *Alcohol Treatment Quarterly*, 27, 426-41.

Bell, N.J., Kanitkar, K., Kerksiek, K.A., Watson, W., Das, A., Kostina-Ritchey, E., Russell, M.H., & Harris, K. (2009). "It has made college possible for me": Feedback on the impact of a university-based center for students in recovery. *Journal of American College Health*, 57, 650-58.

Russell, M.H., with A. Ward. (2009) Can your church handle the truth? *Leadership*, 30 (2), 42-46. Second place, "General Article: Long," Evangelical Press Association 2009

Russell, M.H. (2007). How a Jewish drunk challenged my idea of church. *STEPS magazine*. <http://www.nacronline.com/misc-articles/how-a-jewish-drunk-challenged-my-idea-of-the-church-toward-an-ecclesiology-of-recovery>

Sample Conferences/Workshops

Project CURATE Symposium: Recovering the Missional Imagination of the Church with Joel Goza. November 19, 2016. Organizer/Moderator.

Project CURATE Symposium: The Religion of Consumerism with Adam Clark. October, 15, 2016. Organizer/Moderator.

Project CURATE Symposium: Reading the Bible Among the Damned with Bob Ekblad. May 21, 2017. Organizer/Moderator.

Project CURATE Symposium: A Very Good Gospel for the City, with Lisa Sharon Harper. April 16, 2016. Organizer/Moderator.

Reimagining Incarceration and Reentry: A Community Approach. July, 2016. Conference Organizer.

Faith related practices in prisons: Growing trust in a climate of fear. Invited presentation. Addiction, religion and social relationships. (September 2012). Whitemoor Prison, Cambridgeshire, England.

Integrative Complexities: understanding the other in sectarian environments. (November 2012). Grant from the Scottish Government to hold meetings between leaders of Protestant and Catholic leaders. Edinburgh.

National Collegiate Recovery Conference: Recovery and Relapse Prevention, 2010-2011. Conference Organizer.

Consultation, World Christian Revitalization Movement, Asbury Theological Seminary, 2009.

Sample Presentations

The Disorienting and Prophetic work of Improbable Friendships. Thurber Lecture, American Church in Paris, January 2017.

The Christian Imagination and Practices of Solidarity. Cambridge Theological Federation, Cambridge University, January 2017.

Counter Narratives of Redemption. National Association of Christian Recovery, July 2016.

Trauma Women and Redemption. Summer Institute of Recovery, July 2015.

Truth, Reconciliation and Improbable Friendships. Westcott House, January, 2015.

Ecclesial solidarity with prisoners and their families post-release. Duke University Divinity School, October 2013.

How recovery can save the world (and not just your ass): Lessons from St. Patrick. Keynote, National Association of Collegiate Recovery Conference, April 2013.

Innovation that leads to transformation in the local congregation. Cambridge Theological Federation, Michaelmas Term, 2012.

Faith dreams and signs: an exploration of the religious and mythical significance of dreams. Cambridge University, Festival of Ideas, October 2012

Pioneer training in fresh expressions. Cambridge Theological Federation, Pioneer Training Track, Michaelmas 2011.

Counter narratives of redemption. Seminar Presentation, Psychology and Religion Research Group, Faculty of Divinity, University of Cambridge, October 2011.

Integrative leadership: Strong in broken places. Plenary Speaker, Leadership Network, National Christian Recovery Conference, February 2010.

Women and counter narratives of transformation from trauma. Keynote, Sam Shoemaker Lecture Series, Fuller Theological Seminary, October 2010

Towards a theology of descent. Yale Divinity School, April 2009.

The descending church. Leadership Network Conference, 2009.

Lessons in leadership and program design. Texas Conference of The United Methodist Church, 2005.

Sample Consultations

Innovation, Reconciliation and Ministry. The Texas Annual Conference. January 2015.

Mentoring Experience, Program Evaluation, M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust, 2011.

Executive Board Vision Realignment, Open Door Mission, 2011.

Team Reorganization and Enhancement, College of Human Science Executive Committee, Texas Tech University, 2009.

Creating community outreach and partnerships, Faith Bridge United Methodist Church, Houston, Texas, 2008.

Church reorganization and visioning, Corner Stone United Methodist Church, Watertown, South Dakota, 2007.

Annual consultation with Doctor of Ministry students, Beeson Institute, Asbury Theological Seminary: Leadership and Program Development, 2001-2007.

Academic/Professional Service

Advisory Council, School of Theology, Fuller Theological Seminary, 2010-2012

Board Member, National Association of Christian Recovery, 2010-present

Consultation, Laity Leadership Institute, 2011-2012

Founding Board Chair, National Foundation for Collegiate Recovery, 2010-2011

Lubbock Commission on Homelessness, 2011

Board Member, Lubbock County Drug Court, 2009-2011

Clergy Committee: The Metropolitan Organization, Houston, 2005-2010

Membership/Affiliations

Elder in full connection, The United Methodist Church, Texas Conference

The Taos Institute, Associate

Teaching Experience

Reconciliation, Race and Privilege
Contextual Theology
Human Development in Context

Psychology and Religion
Psychology, Dependency, and Theology
Addictive Disorders
Theology and Development
Systemic Treatment of Addictive Disorders