

PRISCILLA POPE-LEVISON

Curriculum Vitae

CONTACT INFORMATION

Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University
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EDUCATION

Ph.D. University of St. Andrews, Scotland

M.Div. Duke Divinity School

B.Mus. DePauw University

GRANTS AND AWARDS

- 2025 Lifetime Achievement Award Recipient, Wesleyan Theological Society
- 2023 Bell Scholar Award, Drew University
- 2022 Distinguished Service Award Recipient, General Commission for Archives and History (UMC)
- 2021-26 Thriving Congregations Grant (\$999,975) from Lilly Endowment Inc., co-Principal Investigator
- 2019-24 Strengthening Congregational Ministries with Youth Initiative Grant (\$999,731) from Lilly Endowment Inc., co-Principal Investigator
- 2018 Visiting Fellow, Oxford Brookes University
- 2016 Visiting Fellow, Manchester Wesley Research Centre
- 2015 Outstanding Faculty Member, Mortar Board, Seattle Pacific University
- 2010 Lilly Fellows Summer Seminar Co-Director, Title: Gender and Christianity

BOOKS

- 2025 *No Man's Land: The International Methodist Deaconess Movement, 1874-1918.* Wesleyan and Methodist Exploration Series. Cascade Books.

- 2020 *Models of Evangelism*. Baker Academic. Named Top Five Book of 2020 on Jesus Creed Blog and awarded Resource of the Year, 2020, in Theology and Biblical Studies by *Outreach* magazine. Translated as *Modelos de Evangelismo* (IEW, 2022).
- 2014 *Building the Old Time Religion: Women Evangelists in the Progressive Era*, NYU Press. Awarded the Smith/Wynkoop Book Award from the Wesleyan Theological Society and listed in *Choice* as an Outstanding Academic Title for 2014.
- 2012 *Sex, Gender, and Christianity*, co-edited with John R. Levison. Eugene, OR: Cascade Books.
- 2004 *Turn the Pulpit Loose: Two Centuries of American Women Evangelists*, Palgrave Macmillan.
- 1999 *Return to Babel: Global Perspectives on the Bible*, co-edited with John R. Levison. Westminster/John Knox Press.
- 1992 *Jesus in Global Contexts*, co-authored with John R. Levison. Westminster/John Knox Press.
- 1992 *Evangelization from a Liberation Perspective*, American University Studies, Series VII, Theology and Religion, Vol. 69. Peter Lang: 1991. Selected as one of Fifteen Outstanding Books for Mission Studies by *International Bulletin of Missionary Research* 16.

ARTICLES IN JOURNALS

- 2025 "Christian Connection Women as Biblical Interpreters in Antebellum America, 1820-1841," *Church History* (October 2025): 1-25, co-authored with John R. Levison.
- 2025 "Holiness in Black and White: Gender, Race, and Sanctification," *Wesleyan Theological Journal* 60:1 (Spring 2025): 7-19.
- 2025 "Sarah Grimké as Biblical Commentator," *Harvard Theological Review* 118:1 (January 2025): 134-58, co-authored with John R. Levison.
- 2021 "Male Advocates in the Early Decades of the Transatlantic Methodist Deaconess Movement," *Methodist History* 59: 4&5 (July & October 2021): 215-27.
- 2021 "Are Perfect Love & Sanctification Synonymous? Iva Durham Vennard's Reinterpretation of J.A. Wood's *Perfect Love*," *Wesleyan Theological Journal* 56:2 (Fall 2021): 121-36; reprinted in *The Wesleyan Theological Tradition: Past, Present and Future*, eds. Jason Vickers, Steve Hoskins, and Laura Dahl. Waco, TX: Baylor University Press, 2025: 163-78.
- 2020 "Expanding the Historiography of Methodist Settlement Work," *Methodist Review* 12 (2020): 169-90.

- 2019 "Negotiating 'Andromania' and Other Disputed Borders in the Wesleyan Deaconess Movement," *Wesleyan Theological Journal* 54:1 (Spring 2019): 7-24.
- 2019 "Five Women in Ministry Articles Transcribed from *Tongues of Fire*," *Wesley and Methodist Studies* 11:1 (2019): 61-91.
- 2019 "Pioneers in American Women's Theological Education: Methodist Deaconess Training Schools," *Methodist Review* 10 (2019): 73-91.
- 2018 "Pentecost in the Churches: Women in the Pentecostal League of Prayer," *Wesley and Methodist Studies* 10:1 (2018): 46-65.
- 2016 "Mothering Not Governing: Maternalism in Late-Nineteenth Century Methodist Women's Organizations," *Methodist History*, LV: 1 & 2 (October 2016 & January 2017): 32-46. <http://archives.gcah.org/handle/10516/9864>
- 2011 "Emma Ray in Black and White: The Intersection of Race, Region, and Religion," *Pacific Northwest Quarterly* 102:3 (Summer 2011): 107-16.
- 2011 "Methodist Interracial Cooperation in the Progressive Era: Amanda Berry Smith and Emma Ray," *Methodist History* 49 (January 2011): 68-85. <http://archives.gcah.org/xmlui/handle/10516/1384>
- 2009 "Hospitality Amidst Hostility: An Exhortation to the Persecuted Church," *The Review of Faith and International Affairs* 7.1 (Spring, 2009): 39-45. <http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/15570274.2009.9523379>
- 2008 "A 'Thirty Year War' and More: Exposing Complexities in the Methodist Deaconess Movement," *Methodist History* 47:2 (January, 2009): 101-16. Winner of the Women's History Research Writing Award, General Commission of History and Archives, UMC, 2008. <http://archives.gcah.org/xmlui/handle/10516/221>
- 2000 "Evangelistic Preaching at the Beginning of the New Millennium," *Journal for Preachers* 23 (Pentecost 2000): 3-9, co-authored with John R. Levison; reprinted *Journal for the Academy of Evangelism in Theological Education* 19 (2003-04): 84-91.
- 1998 "Evangelism in the WCC, Part 3: The First Decade," *International Review of Mission* 87 (January 1998): 95-111.
- 1995 "Christ and Culture: Jesus in Africa," *The Bible Today*, 33 (May 1995): 164-169, co-authored with John R. Levison.
- 1995 "Christ and Culture: Jesus in Latin America," *The Bible Today* 32 (January 1995): 43-48, co-authored with John R. Levison.
- 1994 "Emergent Christologies in Latin America, Asia, and Africa," *Covenant Quarterly* 52 (1994): 29-47, co-authored with John R. Levison.
- 1994 "Towards an Ecumenical Christology for Asia," *Missiology* 22 (January 1994): 3-17, co-authored with John R. Levison.

- 1994 "Christ and Culture: Jesus in Asia," *The Bible Today* 32 (November 1994): 375-379, co-authored with John R. Levison. Reprinted in *Dei Verbum* 38 (1996): 14-15; Translation into Spanish, "Jesús en Asia;" translation into German, "Jesus in Asien;" and translation into French, "Jésus en Asie," *Dei Verbum* 38 (1996): 14-15.
- 1994 "Reading the Bible in Context," *The Bible Today* 32 (September 1994): 317-321, co-authored with John R. Levison.
- 1993 "Is Evangelization Liberation?" *United Theological Seminary Journal of Theology* (1993): 4-22; reprinted in *Theology & Corporate Conscience: Essays in Honor of Frederick Herzog*, ed. M. Douglas Meeks, Jürgen Moltmann, and Frederick Trost. Minneapolis: Kirk House, 1999: 257-73; reprinted in *Global Good News*, ed. Howard Snyder. Nashville: Abingdon, 2001: 160-75.
- 1992 "The Use of the New Testament in Third World Christologies," *Biblical Research: Journal of the Chicago Society of Biblical Research* 37 (1992): 32-46, co-authored with John R. Levison.
- 1992 "Evangelism in the WCC, Part II: From Vancouver to Canberra," *International Review of Mission* 81 (January 1992): 119-125.
- 1989 "Evangelism in the WCC from New Delhi to Vancouver," *Mid-Stream: An Ecumenical Journal* 28 (April 1989): 159-172. Reprinted in *International Review of Mission* 80 (April 1991): 231-243.
- 1988 "Comprehensive and Contextual: The Evangelism of Orlando Costas," *The Journal of the Academy of Evangelism in Theological Education* 4 (1988-1989): 4-14.

CHAPTERS IN BOOKS

- [2026] "'Her Distinctive Dress:' Uniforms, Costumes and Plain Dress of Holiness and Pentecostal Women in Public Religious Work," in *Spirited Sisters: Women in the Holiness and Pentecostal Traditions*, eds. Kimberly Ervin Alexander, Glen O'Brien, and James E. Pedlar. Studies in the Holiness and Pentecostal Movements. (University Park, PA: Penn State University Press.)
- [2026] "The Hermeneutics of Holiness and Pentecostal Rescue Work," in *Social Engagement in the Holiness and Pentecostal Traditions*, eds. David Bundy, Geordan Hammond and David Han (University Park, PA: Penn State University Press.)
- 2025 "The Role of Deaconess Training Schools for American Women Missionaries, 1885-1895," in *Methodist Mission at Home and Abroad: Proceedings of the European Methodist Historical Conference, 6-9 September 2023, Velletri, Italy*, eds. Judit Lakatos and Michael Wetzels, 105-19. Budapest: World Methodist Historical Society, European Section.

- 2022 "A Deaconess Blueprint for the Revival of Global Methodism," *Thy Grace Restore, Thy Work Revive: Revival, Reform, and Revolution in Global Methodism*, Essays from the 14th Oxford Institute of Methodist Theological Studies, ed. Sarah Lancaster (Nashville, TN: GBHEM Foundry Press, 2022): 57-82.
- 2019 "Mary Lee Cagle: Autobiography of an Evangelist Preacher," *Women of the South: The Progressive Era*, eds. Giselle Roberts and Melissa Walker. Columbia, SC: University of South Carolina Press, 2019: 59-91.
- 2016 "Single Vision, Separate Spheres: Iva Durham Vennard and the Methodist Episcopal Church," *The Radical Holiness Movement in the Christian Tradition*, eds. William Kostlevy and Wallace Thornton. Studies in World Christianity History Series. Lexington, KY: Emeth Press, 2016: 97-109.
- 2015 "Facing the Pedagogical Challenges of Christianity and Feminism in the College Classroom," *Facing Challenges: Feminism in Christian Higher Education and Other Places*, eds. Allyson Jule and Bettina Tate Pedersen. Newcastle Upon Tyne: Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2015: 73-88.
- 2012 "Separate Spheres and Gender Roles in American Christianity: A Century's Perspective," *Sex, Gender and Christianity*, eds. John R. Levison and Priscilla Pope-Levison. Eugene, OR: Cascade Books, 2012: 58-79.
- 2012 "Radical Holiness and Gender," *Holiness as a Liberal Art: Sanctification as the Mission of Higher Education*, ed. Daniel Castelo. Eugene, OR: Pickwick, 2012: 71-81.
- 1999 "Is a Holistic Evangelism Possible?" *Questions for the Twenty-First Century Church*, United Methodist and American Culture Series, Vol. 4, eds. Russell Richey, William Lawrence, and Dennis Campbell. Nashville: Abingdon, 1999: 38-44.
- 1995 "Global Perspectives on New Testament Interpretation," in *Hearing the New Testament: Strategies for Interpretation*, ed. J.B. Green. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1995: 329-348, co-authored with John R. Levison.
- 1994 "Evangelism in the WCC," in *New Directions in Mission & Evangelization 2: Theological Foundations*, eds. James A. Scherer and Stephen B. Bevans. Maryknoll: Orbis Books, 1994: 126-140. Reprinted and re-edited from articles in *International Review of Mission*.

ARTICLES IN DICTIONARIES, ENCYCLOPEDIAS AND COMPANIONS

- [2026] "Feminist Theology," *T&T Clark Handbook to Modern Theology*
- 2024 "Before Modern Feminism: Protestant Women in the Twentieth Century," *Expanding Energy: The Dynamic Story of North American Christianity*, eds. Christopher H. Evans and Mark Lamport (Eugene, OR: Cascade Books, 2024) 104-14.

- 2013 “Holiness and Pentecostal Movements Within Methodism,” *The Ashgate Research Companion to World Methodism*, eds. Peter Forsaith, William Gibson, and Martin Wellings. London: Ashgate Publishing, 2013: 141-55.
- 2013 “Ecumenism,” *The Global Wesleyan Dictionary of Theology* (Kansas City, MO: Beacon Hill Press, 2013) 170-72.
- 2012 “Elizabeth Cady Stanton” and “Sojourner Truth,” *Handbook of Women Biblical Interpreters: A Historical and Biographical Guide*, eds. Marion Taylor and Agnes Choi (Grand Rapids: Bager Academic, 2012): 469-73 and 509-11.
- 2008 “Christology,” *Global Dictionary of Contextual Theology*, eds. William Dyrness and Veli-Matti Kähkönen. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity (2008): 175-185; co-authored with John R. Levison.
- 2008 *Westminster Dictionary of Women and Religion in America*, ed. Susan Hill Lindley and Eleanor J. Stebner, Westminster John Knox Press (2008); sixteen entries: Martha Moore Avery, Mary Lee Cagle, Emma Dryer, Julia Foote, Jarena Lee, Harriet Livermore, Aimee Semple McPherson, Ida Bell Robinson, Hannah Whitall Smith, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Helen Sunday, Sojourner Truth, Iva Durham Vennard, Alma Bridwell White, Maria Woodworth-Etter, and Uldine Utley.
- 2006 “Revivalism,” *Encyclopedia of Women and Religion in America*, Vol. 1, eds. Rosemary Skinner Keller and Rosemary Radford Ruether, Indianapolis: Indiana University Press, 2006: 416-24.
- 2001 “Iva Durham Vennard” and “Jennie Fowler Willing,” *Historical Dictionary of the Holiness Movement*, ed. William C. Kostlevy. Lanham, MD: Scarecrow, 2001: 261-62, 281-82; two entries: Iva Durham Vennard, Jennie Fowler Willing.

EDITORIAL POSITIONS

- 2022 - Co-Editor and Vice President: *Methodist Review: A Journal of Wesleyan and Methodist Studies*
- 2020 - Editorial Board Member, Wesley and Methodist Explorations Series. Cascade Books.
- 2012 - Editorial Board Member, Routledge Methodist Studies Series
- 2005-08 Editorial Board Member: *Teaching Theology and Religion*

PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS AND ACTIVITIES

- [2026] Keynote Presenter, Modern Religious History Seminar, Institute of Historical Research, London

- 2025 Keynote Presenter, Evangelical Studies Program Conference, Baylor University
- 2025 Woolsey Lecture, Houghton University
- 2023 Whipple-Lunn Evangelism Lectureship, Nazarene Theological Seminary, Kansas City, Missouri
- 2023 Frank Anthony Spina Lectureship on Christian Scripture, with John R. Levison, Seattle Pacific University
- 2023 Keynote lecture, European Methodist Historical Society, Velletri, Italy
- 2022 Keynote lecture, 2022 Wesleyan-Pentecostal Symposium, Tyndale University, Toronto
- 2021 Paper presentation, “Fallen Women, Fallen Church: The Social Engagement of Holiness and Pentecostal Rescue Home Work,” American Academy of Religion national meeting
- 2021 Keynote lectures, Australasian Wesleyan Research Centre annual meeting
- 2018 Keynote lecture, Oxford Institute for Methodist Theological Studies
- 2018 Keynote lectures, John Wesley Theological Institute
- 2018 Presidential Lecture, Wesleyan Theological Society annual meeting
- 2017 Paper presentation, “Pentecost in the Churches: Women in the Pentecostal League of Prayer,” American Academy of Religion national meeting
- 2017 Paper presentation, “Pentecost in the Churches: Women in the Pentecostal League of Prayer,” Wesleyan Theological Society annual meeting
- 2017-18 President, Wesleyan Theological Society
- 2016 Paper presentation, “Are Perfect Love and Sanctification Synonymous? Iva Durham Vennard’s Reinterpretation of J.A. Wood’s *Perfect Love*,” American Academy of Religion national meeting
- 2016-17 First Vice President, Wesleyan Theological Society
- 2016 Keynote Lectures, Wesleyan Historical Society, “Holiness in Black & White: Women, Race, and Sanctification” and “‘Her Distinctive Dress’: Uniforms, Costumes, and Plain Dress of 19th Century Protestant Women,” Point Loma Nazarene University
- 2015-16 Second Vice President, Wesleyan Theological Society
- 2015 Heritage Day Speaker, Tennessee Wesleyan College

- 2014-22 Methodist representative on the Methodist and Roman Catholic International Commission, sponsored by the World Methodist Council and the Holy See's Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity
- 2014 Paper presentation, "Pioneers in Women's Theological Training: Deaconess Training Schools," Office of Deaconess and Home Missioner and Understanding of Lay Order, Scarritt Bennett Center
- 2014 Respondent in panel session dedicated to *Building the Old Time Religion: Women Evangelists in the Progressive Era*, American Academy of Religion regional meeting, University of Calgary
- 2014-17 President, Historical Society of the United Methodist Church
- 2014 Respondent in panel session dedicated to *Building the Old Time Religion: Women Evangelists in the Progressive Era*, Wesleyan Theological Society, Northwest Nazarene University
- 2013-17 Board member, Historical Society of the United Methodist Church
- 2013 Paper presentation, "Fissures in Chicago Methodism in the Progressive Era: Three Mission Strategies," Thirteenth Oxford Institute for Methodist Theological Studies
- 2012 Walls Lecture, Seattle Pacific University, "Holiness in Black & White: Women, Race, and Sanctification"
- 2011 Paper presentation, "African American Women Evangelists and Interracial Cooperation," Berkshire Conference on the History of Women
- 2011 Plenary speaker, Gender Studies Institute, Trinity Western University, with John R. Levison
- 2011 Paper presentation, "Kansas City to Seattle: Emma Ray's Racial Uplift and Interracial Cooperation," Association for African American Historical Research and Preservation Biennial Conference, Seattle
- 2010 Plenary speaker, Wesleyan Heritage Conference, Asbury College
- 2010 Plenary speaker, Historical Society of The United Methodist Church and the Western Jurisdiction Commission on Archives and History, Seattle
- 2010 Co-director Lilly Fellows Summer Seminar, "Gender and Christianity," with John R. Levison
- 2010 Paper Presentation: "African American Women Evangelists and Interracial Cooperation," American Society of Church History national meeting
- 2009-15 Co-chair: Steering Committee, Wesleyan Studies Group, American Academy of Religion

- 2009 Paper Presentations: “African American Women Evangelists and Interracial Cooperation” and “Hospitality Amidst Hostility: An Exhortation to the Persecuted Church,” American Academy of Religion national meeting
- 2009 Marie NeSmith Fowler Lectureship, Samford University
- 2008 Selection Committee Member: Summer Stipend Grants, Louisville Institute
- 2008 McCown Symposium, Roberts Wesleyan University and Northeastern Seminary
- 2008 Principal Organizer: “Feminisms and Religions: Countering Mutual Silence,” Collaborative Symposium sponsored by Puget Sound Women’s Studies programs
- 2007-09 Workshop Leader: “Teaching the Introductory Course in Theology or Religion,” sponsored by The Wabash Center, American Academy of Religion national and regional meetings
- 2007 Paper Presentation: “Racial Crossovers in the Progressive Era: Amanda Berry Smith and Emma Ray,” Twelfth Oxford Institute for Methodist Theological Studies
- 2007 Keynote Lecture: Windows on the World Series, Eastern University
- 2007 Keynote Lecture: Justice for Women Working Group, National Council of Churches, Washington, DC
- 2006-09 Co-Chair: History of Christianity/North American Religions Section; Pacific Northwest Region, American Academy of Religion
- 2006 Paper Presentation: “Turn the Pulpit Loose: Two Centuries of American Women Evangelists,” Pacific Northwest Region, American Academy of Religion
- 2006 Paper Presentation: “Hospitality Amidst Hostility: An Exhortation to the Persecuted Church,” Global Leadership Forum, Seattle Pacific University
- 2005 Paper Presentation: “Turn the Pulpit Loose: Two Centuries of American Women Evangelists,” Church Leaders Forum, Seattle Pacific University
- 2003 Consultant: Women’s Studies Program, Point Loma Nazarene University
- 2002 Paper Presentation: “Taking It To The Streets: The Gospel Cars of Aimee Semple McPherson and Martha Moore Avery,” American Academy of Religion national meeting
- 2002 Paper Presentation: “Lucy Rider Meyer Myopia: Adjusting Our Vision of the Deaconess Movement,” Pacific Northwest Region meeting, American Academy of Religion
- 2001 Paper Presentation: “The Deaconess Disorder: Lucy Rider Meyer and Iva Durham Vennard” Consultation on “The Significance of Wesleyan Thought for the 21st Century,” Asbury College

- 2000 Keynote Lecture: "From Rio to Rocky Mount: Jesus in Global Contexts," Staley Distinguished Christian Lecture, North Carolina Wesleyan College, with John R. Levison
- 1999 Paper Presentation: "Making America Catholic: Divergent Strategies of Martha Moore Avery and Archbishop William O'Connell," American Academy of Religion national meeting
- 1998 Keynote Lecture: "From Greensboro to Ghana: Jesus in Global Contexts," Jean Fortner Ward Lecture, Greensboro College, with John R. Levison
- 1997 Paper Presentation: "Single Vision, Separate Spheres: Iva Durham Vennard and the Methodist Episcopal Church," Tenth Oxford Institute for Methodist Theological Studies
- 1996 Paper Presentation: "Evangelistic Tensions in North America," Paris Conference of the Ecclesiology Working Group; Missiology of Western Culture Project
- 1993-98 Co-chair: Steering Committee, Evangelical Theology Group, American Academy of Religion
- 1992 Keynote lecture: "Is Evangelization Liberation?" for "The Gospel as Global Good News," United Theological Seminary, Dayton
- 1991 Paper Presentation: "Chicken Wiki Wiki and Cucumbers Naomi: Towards a Feminist Christology," *Ex Auditu* Conference, Chicago, co-presented with John R. Levison
- 1990 Paper Presentation: "The Convergence of Religions and Poverty in Asian Christian Theology," American Academy of Religion national meeting, co-presented with John R. Levison
- 1989 Paper Presentation: "Roman Catholic Documents on Evangelization: A Temporal or a Spiritual Endeavor?" Central States Region, American Academy of Religion

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

- 2021- Research Professor of Practical Theology, Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University
- 2015-21 Associate Dean for External Programs and Professor of Ministerial Studies, Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University
- 2007-15 Affiliate Faculty, Gender, Women & Sexuality Studies, University of Washington
- 2001-15 Professor of Theology and Assistant Director of Women's Studies, Seattle Pacific University

1994-01 Assistant Professor of the Practice of Evangelism, The Divinity School,
Duke University

1989-93 Assistant Professor of Contextual Theology and College Chaplain, North
Park University