

## **Holly Catterton Allen, PhD**

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**Adjunct Professor, Lipscomb University, Nashville, TN. June 1, 2022 to present.**

**Full Professor, Lipscomb University, Nashville, TN. Fall 2014 – Spring 2022. Retired 5-31-22**

### **Education**

PhD Talbot School of Theology, La Mirada, CA, 2002 (Christian Education).

Dissertation: *A Qualitative Study Exploring the Similarities and Differences of the Spirituality in Children in Intergenerational and Non-Intergenerational Christian Contexts*

Abilene Christian University (Abilene, Texas), graduate work in theology and Bible (1995-1997)

MA University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa, 1983 (Educational Psychology)

BA Harding University, Searcy, Arkansas (Education)

### **Books**

Allen, Holly Catterton, Lawton, Christine, & Seibel, Cory. (2023). *Intergenerational Christian Formation: Bringing the Whole Church Together in Ministry, Community, and Worship* (2nd edition). Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Academic.

Allen, Holly Catterton. (2021). *Forming Resilient Children: The Role of Spiritual Formation for Healthy Development*. InterVarsity Academic.

Allen, Holly Catterton. (Ed.). (2018). *InterGenerate: Transforming Churches through Intergenerational Ministry*. Abilene Christian University Press.

Allen, Holly Catterton, & Ross, Christine. L. (2012). *Intergenerational Christian Formation: Bringing the Whole Church Together in Ministry, Community, and Worship*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Academic.

Allen, Holly Catterton. (Ed.). (2008). *Nurturing Children's Spirituality: Christian Perspectives and Best Practices*. Eugene, OR: Cascade.

### **Forthcoming publications:**

“Spiritual Nurture of Children Dealing with Adversity.” Chapter in *A Child's Way*, Henry Zonio, editor, InterVarsity Press, forthcoming, 2026.

“Intergenerational Formation and Children's Spirituality in Dialogue with Jerome Berryman.” Festschrift for Jerome Berryman, *Journal of Childhood and Religion*, 2026.

*The Intergenerational Journey: Head, Heart, Hands*. Co-editor with Christina Embree. Abilene Christian University Press, forthcoming, 2027.

### **Publications**

“The Spiritual Benefits of Teaching/Learning Experiences in Intergenerational Settings.” Chapter in *Imagining All Generations: A Renewed Vision for an Intergenerational Church*, editor,

Wilson McCoy, ACU Press, June 2025.

- “Benefits, Challenges, and Recommendations for Intergenerational Ministry: Recent Findings from Congregational Research.” Chapter in *All Ages Becoming: Intergenerational Practice in the Formation of Being God's People*, editor Valerie Grissom. ACU Press, 2023.
- “Foreword.” In *Engage All Generations: A Strategic Toolkit for Creating Intergenerational Faith Communities*, edited by Cory Seibel. Abilene, TX: Abilene Christian University Press, 2021.
- “Intergenerational Ministry—A Forty-Year Perspective: 1980–2020,” with Jason Brian Santos. *Christian Education Journal*, December 2020, 17(1), 506–529.
- “Resilience, Trauma, and Children’s Spirituality” (with Lipscomb students Kaylee Frank and Megan Larry). Chapter in *Bridging Theory and Practice in Children’s Spirituality New Directions for Education, Ministry, and Discipleship*, edited by Mimi Larson and Robert Keeley. Zondervan, 2020.
- “Family Ministry.” Chapter in *Christian Education: A Guide to the Foundations of Ministry* (pp. 213–225), edited by Freddy Cardoza, Baker Academic, November, 2019.
- “Foreword.” In Benjamin Espinoza, James Estep, and Shirley Morgenthaler (Eds.), *Story, Formation, and Culture: From Theory to Practice in Ministry with Children* (pp. xi–xiv). Eugene, OR: Wipf & Stock/Pickwick, 2018.
- “Nurturing Spiritual Development in Children Whose Parents Are Incarcerated” (with Lipscomb students, Carly Brandvold, Alana Lauck, and Erin Trageser). Chapter in Benjamin Espinoza, James Estep, and Shirley Morgenthaler (Eds.), *Story, Formation, and Culture: From Theory to Practice in Ministry with Children* (pp. 170–183). Eugene, OR: Wipf & Stock/Pickwick 2018.
- “Introduction: Addressing the Two Intergenerational Questions.” Chapter in Holly C. Allen (Ed.), *InterGenerate: Transforming Churches through Intergenerational Ministry* (pp. 17–24). Abilene Christian University Press, 2018.
- “Welcoming Emerging Adults.” Chapter in Holly C. Allen (Ed.), *InterGenerate: Transforming Churches through Intergenerational Ministry* (pp. 185–194). Abilene Christian University Press, 2018.
- “Welcoming Children into Intergenerational Faith Communities.” Chapter in *Along the Way: Conversations about Children and Faith* (pp. 95–110), edited by Dana Kennamer Pemberton and Ron Bruner, Abilene Christian University Press, 2015.
- “Berryman, Jerome.” Entry in *Christian Educators of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century*. Online database, Talbot School of Theology.
- “Walking with Emerging Adults on Their Spiritual Journeys.” Chapter in Timothy Herrmann, Kirsten Tenhaken, Hannah Adderley, and Morgan Morris (Eds.), *A Faith for the Generations: How Collegiate Experience Impacts Faith* (Vol. 1, Association for Christians in Student Development Monograph Series; pp. 71–96), Abilene, TX: Abilene Christian University Press, 2015.
- Review of *Churchless: Understanding Today's Unchurched and How to Connect with Them* by George Barna and David Kinnaman (Tyndale Momentum, 2014) for *Christian Chronicle*, December, 2014.
- “Body and Spirit: The Role of Physical Movement in Children’s Spiritual Development” (with John Brown University students Robin Howerton, Will Chesher, and Hannah Brown). Chapter

- in La Verne Tolbert (Ed.), *Exploring and Engaging Spirituality for Today's Children: A Holistic Approach* (pp. 195–209). Eugene, OR: Wipf & Stock, 2014.
- “How Kids Grow Spiritually.” Chapter in Christine Yount Jones (Ed.), *Sunday School That Works! The Complete Guide to Maximize Your Children's Ministry Impact* (pp. 29–36). Loveland, CO: Group Publishing, 2014.
- Review of *Born Believers: The Science of Children's Religious Belief* by Justin Barrett (Free Press, 2012) in *Christian Scholar's Review*, CSR 42, no. 3 (Spring 2013).
- “Why Churches Tend to Separate the Generations,” with Christine Ross. *Journal of Discipleship and Family Ministry*, Spring 2013, 8–14.
- “The Benefits of Intergenerationality,” with Christine Ross. *Journal of Discipleship and Family Ministry*, Spring 2013, 16–23.
- “Childlike Faith: Are Kids Born with Belief?” Interview with Justin Barrett, author of *Born Believers: The Science of Children's Religious Belief* (Free Press, 2012). *Christianity Today*, June 2012, page 71. Also at: <http://christianitytoday.com/ct/2012/june/childlike-faith.html>
- Curriculum and Children's Ministry. Chapter in *Mapping Out Curriculum in Your Church: Cartography for Christian Pilgrims* (pp. 239–252), edited by James Estep, Roger White, and Karen Estep, Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman, 2012.
- Editor of mini-theme issue *Christian Education Journal* (NS 3) 9(1), Spring 2012 (Theme: Intergenerationality).
- “Bringing the Generations Back Together: Introduction to Intergenerationality,” in *Christian Education Journal* (NS 3) 9(1), Spring 2012, 101–104.
- How Parents Nurture the Spiritual Development of their Children: Insights from Recent Qualitative Research (with John Brown University students, Christa Adams, Kara Jenkins, & Jill Meek). Chapter in Kevin Lawson (Ed.), *Understanding Children's Spirituality: Theology, Research, and Practice* (pp. 197–222), Eugene, OR: Cascade, 2012.
- No Better Place: Fostering Intergenerational Christian Community. (2010). Chapter in R. Keeley (Ed.), *Shaped by God: 12 Essentials for Nurturing Faith in Children, Youth, and Adults* (pp. 109–125). Grand Rapids, MI: Faith Alive Christian Resources.
- Reversing Age Segregation: Why the Generations Should Be Together in Worship. (2009, June). *Building Church Leaders* (*Christianity Today Leadership* online). <http://www.buildingchurchleaders.com/downloads/practicalministryskills/intergenerationalministry>
- Including Children in Corporate Worship: Four Suggestions for Moving toward Age Integration. (2009, June). *Building Church Leaders* (*Christianity Today Leadership* online). <http://www.buildingchurchleaders.com/downloads/practicalministryskills/intergenerationalministry>
- Bringing the Generations Together: Support from Learning Theory. *Lifelong Faith: The Theory and Practice of Lifelong Faith Formation*, Spring 2009, pp. 3–11.
- The Spiritual Influence of Grandparents. *Christian Education Journal*. Fall, 2008, with John Brown University student, Heidi Oswald, pp. 346–362.
- Review of Robert Keeley's *Helping our Children Grow in Faith* (Baker, 2008). In *Christian Education Journal*, Fall, 2008, pp. 437–439.
- Exploring Children's Spirituality from a Christian Perspective. (2008). Chapter in H. C. Allen (Ed.), *Nurturing Children's Spirituality: Christian Perspectives and Best Practices* (pp. 5–20).

- Eugene, OR: Cascade.
- Theological Perspectives on Children in the Church: Anabaptist Views. (2008). Chapter in H. C. Allen (Ed.), *Nurturing Children's Spirituality: Christian Perspectives and Best Practices* (pp. 110–126). Eugene, OR: Cascade.
- God Across the Generations: The Spiritual Influence of Grandparents (with John Brown University student Heidi Oschwald). (2008). Chapter in H. C. Allen (Ed.), *Nurturing Children's Spirituality: Christian Perspectives and Best Practice* (pp. 267–285). Cascade.
- Book Review Symposium. Symposium editor for *Two Views on Women in Ministry* (Rev. ed.) edited by James R. Beck (Zondervan, 2005) in *Christian Education Journal*, Fall 2006, pp. 319–333.
- Editor of mini-theme issue *Christian Education Journal*, (NS 3) 4(2), Fall 2007. Theme: Children's Spirituality and Nurture. "Guest Editorial: Introduction to the Mini-Theme: Children's Spirituality," in *Christian Education Journal* (NS 3) 4(2), Fall 2007, pp. 214–217.
- Nurturing Spirituality in our Children and Grandchildren. *Brown Bulletin*. Summer 2006, p. 15.
- Bringing the Generations Together: Support from Learning Theory. *Christian Education Journal*. Fall 2005, pp. 319–333.
- Review of *Postmodern Children's Ministry: Ministry to Children in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century* by Ivy Beckwith (Zondervan, 2004) in *Christian Education Journal*, Fall 2005, pp. 441–446.
- Nurturing Children's Spirituality in Intergenerational Christian Settings. Chapter in D. Ratcliff (Ed.), *Children's Spirituality: Christian Perspectives, Research, and Applications* (pp. 266–283). Eugene, OR: Wipf and Stock/Cascade Books, 2004.
- Families, Worship, and Children's Spirituality. *New Wineskins*. May 2004, pp. 30–33.
- Nurturing Children's Spirituality in Intergenerational Settings. *Lutheran Educational Journal*. Winter 2003, pp. 111–124.
- Integrating Healthy Childhood Development with Spiritual Development. In T. & E. McAlpine, *Child of Promise* (pp. 113–121). Monrovia, CA: World Vision, 2003.
- Exploring Children's Spirituality, paper presented at Salt and Light Conference, Biola University, April 27, 2002. Conference papers published by Biola University, Summer 2002.
- Review of *Exploring Children's Spiritual Formation: Foundational Issues*, edited by Shirley Morgenthaler (Pillars Press, 1999) in *Christian Education Journal* (Fall, 2000).
- Review of *Joining Children on the Spiritual Journey: Nurturing a Life of Faith* by Catherine Stonehouse (Baker Books, 1998) in *Christian Education Journal* (Fall, 2000).
- Review of *Spirit of the Child* by David Hay with Rebecca Nye (HarperCollins, 1998) in *Christian Education Journal* (Fall, 2000).
- The Wilderness Journey: Following the Cloud Together*, Children's Cell Curriculum & Children's Church Curriculum. 1998. TOUCH Outreach Ministries: Houston, TX.
- Review of *Theological Perspectives on Christian Formation: A Reader of Theology and Christian Education* by Jeff Astley et al. (Eerdmans, 1996) in *Christian Education Journal* (Spring, 1998).

## **Scheduled Presentations**

- “Intergenerational Ministry.” The Frank and Pauline Patterson Lectures, B. H. Carroll Theological Seminary at East Texas Baptist University, Marshall, Texas. April 27-28, 2026. Three lectures.
- “Intergenerational Christian Formation.” Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of North Carolina for the Helping Churches Thrive. Cohort workshop (online) with Andy Hale. May 4, 2026
- “Forming Resilient Children.” Northeast Church of Christ in Cincinnati, Ohio. Tentative: June 4-6 or June 25-27, 2026. Three interactive 90-minute sessions.

## **Presentations**

### ***Academic Presentations***

- “The Path to Spiritual Rootedness in Youth Development.” Nehemiah Conference. Atlanta, Georgia. November 12-14, 2025.
- “The Intergenerational Journey: Head, Heart, Hands,” Keynote address. InterGenerate Conference, Asbury Seminary, Wilmore, Kentucky. June 10-12, 2025.
- “Intergenerational Small Groups that are Spiritually Rich for *Everyone*.” Workshop. InterGenerate Conference, Asbury Seminary, Wilmore, Kentucky. June 10-12, 2025.
- “Intergenerational Teaching and Learning: Benefits, Challenges, and Recommendations from Recent Research.” Paper presentation. Part of session titled: “Imagining All Generations: A Renewed Vision for an Intergenerational Church.” Christian Scholars Conference, Abilene Christian University, Abilene, TX. June 5, 2025.
- “All Ages Becoming: Leading Intergenerational Small Groups,” Ridley Centre for Children & Youth Ministry Training Day, Ridley College, Parkville VIC 3052, Australia. March 15, 2025  
Online presentation
- Guest Lecturer over *Intergenerational Christian Formation*. Kevin Lawson’s doctoral course, “Contemporary Christian Education Theory.” November 7, 2024, Talbot School of Theology, La Mirada, CA. (via Zoom)
- Visiting Professor, Reformed Theological Seminary of Indonesia, Jakarta, Indonesia.  
Master’s course, one-week intensive, July 29-August 2, 2024.  
Course title: “The Future of the Church as the Family of God: Intergenerational Relationships and Discipleship.”
- “Nurturing Spiritual Development in Children.” Online course, Portland Seminary, Portland, OR. May 6-June 30, 2024.
- “Hopeful Directions in Ministry to Young People: Addressing Crises of Faith and Mental Health.” Response paper to Practical Theology Session Christian Scholars Conference. June 5, 2024.
- “Generational Fragmentation and the Intergenerational Response.” Christian Scholars Conference, Congregational Science Session, Lanier Theological Library, Houston, TX. June 7, 2024.

- “Spiritual Nurture of Children Dealing with Adversity.” Presented with Gabriella Brandner. Children’s Spirituality Summit, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, Deerfield, IL, May 22, 2024.
- “All Ages Becoming: Leading Intergenerational Small Groups.” Harbor. Pepperdine Lectures, Pepperdine University, Malibu, CA. May 1-2, 2024.
- “Intergenerational Christian Formation,” Special Guest, InterGenerate Canada, Toronto, CA, Saturday, May 28, 2024.
- Guest Speaker in a youth ministry course at Toccoa Falls College, Toccoa Falls, Georgia. Invited by Dr. Rich Griffith to speak as author of *Intergenerational Christian Formation* (IVP, 2023). March 25, 2024.
- “Cultivating Connections: Intentionally Linking the Generations for Life and Faith.” Children, Youth, and Family Ministers gathering, Lipscomb University, February 6, 2024.
- Guest Lecturer over my book *Forming Resilient Children*. Kevin Lawson’s doctoral course, Foundations and Research on Children's Spiritual Formation. December 13, 2023, Talbot School of Theology, La Mirada, CA. (via Zoom)
- Guest Lecturer. “Qualitative Research with Children.” Kevin Lawson’s doctoral course, Foundations and Research on Children's Spiritual Formation. November 10, 2023, Talbot School of Theology, La Mirada, CA. (via Zoom)
- “Encouraging Intergenerational Teaching and Learning: Three Key Rationales and Three Formative Approaches. Keynote address. Society for Professors of Christian Education annual conference. October 26-28, 2023, Westin O’Hare Hotel, Chicago, IL.
- “Bringing the Generations Together.” College of Bible and Ministry chapel, Lipscomb University, Nashville, TN. October 5, 2024.
- Visiting Professor. Harding School of Theology, Memphis, TN.  
Co-taught (with Harold Shank) one-week, in-person graduate course, October 9-13, 2023  
Title of course: “Christian Formation of Children.”
- “Connecting Children’s Spirituality and Resilience: Helping Children Cope when Life Falls Down.” Harding Centennial Lectureships, Harding University, Searcy, AR. September 25, 2023.
- “Intergenerational Teaching and Learning: Benefits, Challenges, and Recommendations from Recent Research.” InterGenerate Conference, Lipscomb University, Nashville, TN. June 13-15, 2023.
- “Benefits, Challenges, and Recommendations for Intergenerational Ministry: Findings from Recent Congregational Research.” Paper. Christian Scholars Conference, Lanier Theological Library and Learning Center, Houston, TX. June 6-9, 2023.
- “Ministerial Practice Refining Theology: Revising ‘Intergenerational Christian Formation.’” Christian Scholars Conference, Lanier Theological Library and Learning Center, Houston, TX. June 6-9, 2023.
- Guest Speaker in a Master of Divinity course, “Intergenerational Education and Ministry” at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School. Invited by Dr. Adam Mearse to speak on recent intergenerational research. April 21, 2023

- “Intergenerational Teaching and Learning: Benefits, Challenges, and Recommendations from Recent Research,” Paper presentation. Society for Professors of Christian Education 2022 Conference. Westin Gaslamp Quarter, San Diego, CA, October 20-22, 2022.
- “Helping Children Cope: Connecting Spirituality and Resilience.” Workshop at National Conference on Youth Ministries. Renaissance Concourse Atlanta Airport Hotel, Atlanta, GA. January 3-6, 2022.
- “Strategy for Intergenerational Ministries.” Keynote address for the Church Leadership Conference of the American Baptist Churches of Ohio. ABC Headquarters, Granville, OH. April 23, 2021.
- “Creating a Culture of Intergenerational Ministry.” All-day workshop for the American Baptist Churches of Ohio. First Baptist Church of Newark, Newark, OH. April 24, 2021.
- Guest speaker in doctoral course “Contemporary Christian Education Theory.” Talbot School of Theology. Invited by Dr. Kevin Lawson to speak on intergenerational ministry. November 9, 2021.
- “Adversity, Resilience, and Children’s Spirituality.” Workshop at Society for Professors of Christian Education 2021 Conference. Dallas/Fort Worth Airport Marriott. October 14-16, 2021.
- “Children’s Spirituality and Resilience.” Featured speaker, Child Discipleship Forum (Awana national gathering). Rolling Hills Community Church, Franklin, TN. September 17, 2021.
- Visiting Professor, Vancouver School of Theology, The University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC, Canada, Doctor of Ministry course, one-week intensive July 2021.  
Course title: “Pilgrims Together: Forging an Intergenerational Ecclesiology.”
- “Systematic Review of DMin and PhD Dissertations on Intergenerational Ministry, 2011-2021.” Paper Presentation. InterGenerate-Children’s Spirituality Summit Joint Gathering. Online. May 26, 2021.
- “Vision for Intergenerational Spiritual Formation with Children.” Part of a six-week course for International Network of Children’s Ministers (INCM) titled Foundation of Christian Spiritual Formation in Children. May 2021.
- “What’s Next in Intergenerational Ministry.” What’s Next Spiritual Leadership Virtual Conference, Lipscomb University, Nashville, Tennessee, August 22, 2020.
- “Engaging Scripture across the Generations.” Ridley College, Parkville, VIC, Australia. Ridley Centre for Children’s and Youth Ministry Training Day, June 19-20, 2020. [via Zoom]
- “Intergenerational Community for Adult Generations.” InterGenerate Australia. Sydney, Australia. June 16, 2020 [via Zoom]
- “Intergenerational Ministry.” Guest speaker for Mark Maddix’s graduate course, Congregational Education and Formation Class, School of Theology and Christian Ministry, Point Loma Nazarene University. June 12, 2020. [via Zoom]
- Keynote speaker. Intergenerational Resource Production Summit (Inaugural Summit), University of Mary Hardin-Baylor, Belton, TX. January 23–24, 2020. Titles of three addresses: “What is Intergenerational Worship?”; “Best Practices for Worship with All Generations”; and “Bringing Intergenerational Worship to Your Congregation.”

- “Children’s Ministry: Nurturing Children’s Relationships with Self, Others, and God.” Keynote address, Toronto Children’s Ministry Conference, Wycliff College, Toronto, Canada, November 2, 2019. Two workshops: “Helping Children Cope: Connecting Spirituality and Resilience” and “Embodied Spirituality: The Role of the Body in Children’s Spiritual Development.”
- “Bringing the Generations Back Together: Forging an Intergenerational Ecclesiology.” One-day teaching presentation for Andrews University new DMin program, held at Loma Linda University, Loma Linda, California, October 4, 2019.
- “Bringing the Generations Back Together: Forging an Intergenerational Ecclesiology.” All-day seminar, with Dr. Wilson McCoy. ACU Summit, Abilene, TX. September, 16, 2019.
- “Helping Children Cope: Connecting Spirituality and Resilience.” Summer Celebration, Lipscomb University, Nashville, TN. June 28, 2019.
- “Resilience, Trauma, and Children’s Spirituality.” Harbor, Pepperdine Lectures. May 1-2, 2019.
- “InterGenerate Forum: Children’s Spirituality.” Australia College of Ministries, Sydney, Australia. July 31, 2018. “InterGenerate Forum: Intergenerational Ministry.” Australia College of Ministries, Sydney, Australia. August 1, 2018. Sponsored by Uniting Church of Australia, Australia College of Ministries, Pulse, Baptist Churches, Salvation Army, and the Seventh Day Adventist Church.
- “Embracing Intergenerational Ministry: The Why and How.” Queens College, Melbourne, Australia. July 27, 2018. “Embracing Intergenerational Ministry: Bringing Change, Growing Practice.” The Center for Theology and Ministry, Parkville, Melbourne, Australia. July 28, 2018. Sponsored by the Uniting Church of Australia.
- “Resilience, Trauma, and Children’s Spirituality.” Flinders University and Adelaide College of Divinity Annual Theological Lecture. Adelaide, Australia. July 24, 2018.
- “Bringing the Generations Back Together: Becoming Intentionally Intergenerational in Outlook and Practice.” Celebration, Lipscomb University, July 2, 2018.
- “Trauma, Spirituality, and Resilience in Children.” Presented with Lipscomb students Kaylee Frank and Megan Larry. Children’s Spirituality Summit, Lipscomb University, Nashville, TN, June 28, 2018.
- “How do we engage the next generation without losing the current generation?” Keynote for Halifax Association of Canadian Atlantic Baptists fall conference. Halifax, Nova Scotia. October 20, 2018.
- “What does it look like to embrace intergenerational ministry on a Sunday morning?” Workshop for Halifax Association of Canadian Atlantic Baptists fall conference. Halifax, Nova Scotia. October 20, 2018.
- Visiting Professor, Acadia Divinity College, Wolfville, Nova Scotia, Canada  
 Doctor of Ministry course, one-week intensive, October 15-19, 2018  
 Course title: “Pilgrims Together: Building an Intergenerational Faith Community.”
- “Intergenerational Discipleship: All Generations Learning Together.” Joy Latham Keynote speaker for USA/Canada Leadership Conference, Church of the Nazarene, *One Team, One Mission, One Passion: Intentional Discipleship*, Cincinnati, Ohio. September 12, 2018.

- “Experiencing Five Ways to Learn Together Intergenerationally.” Workshop at the USA/Canada Leadership Conference, Church of the Nazarene, *One Team, One Mission, One Passion: Intentional Discipleship*, Cincinnati, Ohio. September 12, 2018.
- “Spirituality and Resilience in Children.” Nurture Conference, Lipscomb University, April 28, 2018.
- “InterGenerate: How Churches are Becoming More Intentionally Intergenerational.” Harbor: Pepperdine Lectures, Pepperdine University, Malibu, CA, May 2, 2018.
- “Walking with Emerging Adults on Their Spiritual Journeys.” InterGenerate Conference, Lipscomb University, Nashville, TN, June 27, 2017.
- “Intergenerational Christian Formation: Why Should We Bring the Generations Together?”; “Intergenerational Christian Formation: How can we bring the generations together? Five ways, Five stories.” Pepperdine Lectures, Pepperdine University, Malibu, CA, May 3–4, 2017.
- “Growing each other up into Christ: Spiritual Benefits of Intergenerational Christian Experiences for the Old, the Young, and Everyone in Between.” Nurture Conference, Lipscomb University, Nashville, TN, April 4, 2017.
- “Nurturing Spiritual Development in Children Whose Parents are Incarcerated.” Society for Professors of Christian Education conference, Orlando, FL, October 27–29, 2016.
- “Pilgrims Together: Building an Intergenerational Faith Community.” Latham Lecture (Keynote); and “Bringing the Generations Back Together: Nurturing Spiritual Formation across All Ages” (Workshop). TEACH Conference, Nazarene Theological Seminary, Cincinnati, Ohio, August 12–13, 2016.
- “Nurturing Spiritual Development in Children Whose Parents are Incarcerated.” With Lipscomb students Carly Brandvold, Alana Petit, and Erin Trageser. Children’s Spirituality Conference, Lipscomb University, Nashville, TN, June 13, 2016.
- “Welcoming Children into Intergenerational Faith Communities.” Pepperdine Lectures, Pepperdine University, Malibu, CA, May 4, 2016.
- “Intergenerational Christian Formation: Bringing the Generations Together for Ministry, Community, and Worship.” Nurture Conference, Lipscomb University, Nashville, TN, March 29, 2016.
- “Bringing the Generations Together for Spiritual Formation” Betenbough Home Lectures at Lubbock Christian Youth and Family Ministry Lecture, Lubbock Christian University, Lubbock, TX, November 5–6, 2015. Four sessions:
- “Why should we bring all the generations back together?”
  - “How can we bring all the generations back together?”
  - “How do cross-generational Christian experiences nurture spiritual growth in children and teens?”
  - “How do cross-generational Christian experiences nurture spiritual growth in emerging, young, middle, and older adults?”
- “Where Did the Children Go?” ACU Summit, Abilene Christian University, Abilene Texas, September 20–23, 2015.
- “Pilgrims Together: Walking with Children on the Spiritual Journey.” Celebration, Lipscomb University, Nashville, TN, July 2–3, 2015.

- “Reshaping the Church into an Intergenerational Body.” Paper presented as part of the generative session “Along the Way: A CSC Generative Conversation Becomes a Book.” Ron Bruner, Dana Pemberton, and Stephen Bonner were other presenters. Discussion built on forthcoming book from ACU Press *Along the Way: Conversations about Children and Faith* edited by Dana Kennamer Pemberton and Ron Bruner. Christian Scholars Conference, Abilene Christian University, Abilene, TX, June 3–5, 2015.
- “Children's Ministry: Moving from Education to Formation.” Pepperdine Bible Lectures, Pepperdine University, Malibu, CA, May 6, 2015.
- “Bringing the Generations Back Together: Why and How Cross-Generational Christian Experiences Nurture Spiritual Formation Across All Ages.” Elderlink, Atlanta, GA, March 20–21, 2015.
- “Walking with Children on the Spiritual Journey.” Nurture Conference, Lipscomb University, Nashville, TN, March 10, 2015.
- “Intergenerational Christian Formation.” William M. Green Distinguished Christian Scholar Lecture Program. Keynote. Pepperdine University, Malibu, CA, Oct 6, 2014.
- “Spirituality: Towards a Working Definition,” “Nurturing Spiritual Development,” and “Story and Its Place in Spirituality,” *Formatio* Conference, Lipscomb University, Nashville, TN, November 9–10, 2014.
- “Walking with Emerging Adults on Their Spiritual Journeys.” Higher Education Symposium: A Faith for the Generations. Taylor University, Upland, IN, October 15–16, 2014. Other keynotes: Christian Smith and Vern Bengston.
- “The Future of Intergenerational Christian Faith Formation: A National Symposium.” Avon Farm Hotel, Avon, CT, October 9–11, 2014. Five presentations: “The Intergenerational Call”; “Intergenerational Small Groups”; The Situative-Sociocultural Learning Perspective and Intergenerationality”; “Intergenerational Spiritual Disciplines”; “Creating an Intergenerational Culture.” Other presenters: John Roberto, Kathie Amidei, Jim Merhaut.
- “Intergenerational Spiritual Formation.” Abilene Christian University Summit, Abilene, TX, September 21–24, 2014.
- “Reimagining Spiritual Formation *Intergenerationally*” and “Sharing Stories across the Generations.” Faith Forward Conference, Nashville, TN, May 19–22, 2014.
- “A Unique Perspective: Re-thinking the Status of Children before God.” Pepperdine Lectures, Pepperdine University, Malibu, CA, April 30, 2014.
- “Intergenerational Christian Formation.” Keynote speaker (with John Westerhoff). The Dialogues, Intergenerational Faith Center, Oklahoma Christian University, Oklahoma City, April 1, 2014.
- “Intergenerational Christian Formation.” Balzer Lecture, September 12, 2013, John Brown University, Siloam Springs, AR.
- “Acts 2: Encouraging a Balanced Trinitarian Theology.” JBU Chapel, Sept 17, 2013.
- “Faith Communities as Wagon Trains: Everyone Together?”; “The Best of the Best: Intergenerational Small Groups”; “Sharing Stories Across the Generations”; “Pilgrims on a Journey—7 to 70 and Beyond.” KidMin Conference, Columbus, OH, October 11–14, 2013.
- “Nurturing Children Emotionally, Academically, and Spiritually” and “Disciplining Children in Love and Truth.” Presentations in Nicaragua, Aug 30–Sept 1, 2013 to parents of children who

- attend an inner-city school created by SIFE JBU grad Anna Villaneuva.
- “Intergenerational Christian Formation: *Why* Should We Bring the Generations Together?” and “Intergenerational Christian Formation: *How* Can We Bring the Generations Together: Five Ways, Five Stories.” Summer Celebration, Lipscomb University, June 29–July 2, 2013, Nashville, TN.
- “Entering God’s Story: Reframing How We Teach the Bible to Children.” Pepperdine Lectures, May 1, 2013, Pepperdine University, Malibu, CA.
- “Intergenerational Christian Formation: Practical Ways to Bring the Generations Together.” Pepperdine Lectures, May 2, 2013, Pepperdine University, Malibu, CA.
- “Intergenerational Youth Ministry: Oxymoron or the Future?” Keynote speaker for LC-MS Youth Ministry 2013 Symposium, January 6–8, 2013. Irvine, California.
- “Intergenerational Christian Formation: Bringing the Whole Church Together in Ministry, Community and Worship.” North American Professors of Christian Education (NAPCE), October 18–20, 2012, Dallas, Texas.
- “Nurturing Children Spiritually.” World Convention: 18<sup>th</sup> Global Gathering: Christian Churches, Churches of Christ, Disciples of Christ, July 25–29, 2012, Goiania, Brazil.
- “Embodied Spirituality: The Role of the Body in Children’s Spiritual Development.” Presented with JBU students Will Chesher & Elizabeth Leon. Children’s Spirituality Conference: Christian Perspectives, June 10–13, 2012, Concordia College, River Forest, Illinois.
- “Body and Spirit: The Role of the Body in Spiritual Formation,” Pepperdine Lectures, May 1–4, 2012, Pepperdine University, Malibu, CA.
- “Body and Spirit: The Role of Physical Movement in Children’s Spiritual Development,” North American Professors of Christian Education (NAPCE), Oct 20–22, 2011, Seattle Pacific, Seattle, Washington.
- “Intergenerational Spiritual Ecology: Learning Theory Support for Multigenerational Formative Benefits.” Christian Scholars Conference: The Path of Discovery: Science, Theology, and the Academy, June 16–18, 2011, Pepperdine University, Malibu, CA.
- “Body and Spirit: The Role of Physical Movement in Children’s Spiritual Development” with Robbie Howerton. 11<sup>th</sup> International Children’s Spirituality Conference, August 1–5, 2011, Union Presbyterian Seminary, Richmond, Virginia.
- “Bringing the Generations Together Again: Nurturing Intergenerational Christian Formation.” Pepperdine Lectures, May 3–6, 2011, Pepperdine University, Malibu, CA.
- “Rethinking Church: Renewing Christian Formation,” Panel. North American Professors of Christian Education conference, October 23, 2010, Louisville, KY.
- “Intergenerational Ministry” (Workshop) and “Intergenerational Worship” (Panel). LOGOS Live: Family Ministry that Brings Generations Together, October 8–9, 2010, First Presbyterian Church, San Antonio, TX.
- “Hebrews 3: Do Not Harden Your Hearts.” JBU Chapel Speaker, September 14, 2010.
- “How Churches, Parents, and Children Can Bless Each Other Spiritually.” Celebration, Lipscomb University, July 2–3, 2010, Nashville, TN.
- “Toward a Scriptural Understanding of Children’s Spirituality.” Paper for the session entitled “Constructive Proposals toward a Practical Theology of Children,” Christian Scholars

- Conference: Faith, Scholarship, & the Arts, June 5, 2010, Lipscomb University, Nashville, TN.
- “Lord, Have Mercy.” JBU Chapel presentation. January 21, 2010.
- “The Good, The Bad, and the Ugly: What Makes a Syllabus Great.” Address to JBU faculty, “Teaching Tuesday,” April 27, 2010.
- “Theological Education as Spiritual Formation.” Panel Participant. Christian Scholars Conference, June 29, 2009, Lipscomb University, Nashville, TN.
- “The Story of our Theological Connections: From Anabaptists to Evangelicals.” Paper and panel session entitled for the “The Stone-Campbell Restoration Movement Children: Connecting Our Narrative with Other Narratives,” Christian Scholars Conference, June 29, 2009, Lipscomb University, Nashville, TN.
- “How Parents Nurture the Spiritual Development of Their Children: Insights from Recent Qualitative Research.” With Christa Adams, Kara Jenkins, and Jill Williams. Children’s Spirituality Conference: Christian Perspectives, June 14–17, 2009, Concordia University, River Forest, IL.
- “Three Great Ways to Nurture Children’s Spiritual Development.” Women Walking with God, April 25, 2009, Wichita, KS.
- “Who are you, LORD? Joining Children on the Spirituality Journey.” Presentation to JBU faculty as part of requirement for promotion to Full Professor, Faculty Meeting, April 15, 2009
- “Nurturing Children’s Spiritual Development.” Together in Christ: World Convention, Nashville, TN, July 30–31, 2008.
- “Nurturing Children’s Spirituality in Intergenerational Settings.” For Mission Alive (a church-planting organization), Dallas, TX, June 11, 2008.
- “Holy Listening.” Keynote speaker for Quest, Oklahoma Christian University, Oklahoma City, OK, May 31, 2008.
- “Nurturing Children’s Spirituality.” Breakout Session, Quest. Oklahoma Christian University, Oklahoma City, OK, May 31, 2008
- “Three Great Ways to Nurture Children’s Spirituality,” and “Children’s Spirituality: Christian Perspectives and Best Practices.” April 30–May 1, 2008, Pepperdine Lectures, Pepperdine University, Malibu, CA.
- “Lord, Have Mercy.” Chapel speaker, February 28, 2008, Rochester College, Rochester Hills, MI.
- “What are the Spiritual Needs of Children?”; “Sharing the Wonder of the Christian Master Story”; “Bringing the Generations Back Together.” July 5–7, 2007. Lipscomb University, Nashville Celebration, Nashville, TN.
- “Nurturing Children’s Spirituality in Intergenerational Settings.” May 9, 2007. For Mission Alive (a church-planting organization), Dallas, TX.
- “Are Children Innocent? Four Views on Children and the Kingdom of God.” May 3, 2007, Pepperdine Lectures. Pepperdine University, Malibu, CA.
- “Nurturing Children’s Spirituality in Intergenerational Settings.” October 25, 2006. For Mission Alive (a church-planting organization), Dallas, TX.
- “Theological Perspectives on Children in the Church: Anabaptist Perspective.” October 20, 2006. NAPCE Conference, Denver, CO.

- “Defining Children’s Spirituality from a Christian Perspective.” June 4, 2006. Opening presentation at Children’s Spirituality Conference: Christian Perspectives, Concordia University, River Forest, IL.
- “Theological Perspectives on Children in the Church: Anabaptist/Believers Church.” June 5, 2006. Children’s Spirituality Conference: Christian Perspectives, Concordia University, River Forest, IL.
- “God Across the Generations: The Spiritual Influence of Grandparents.” June 6, 2006. Presented with Heidi Oswald. Children’s Spirituality Conference: Christian Perspectives, Concordia University, River Forest, IL.
- “Adults and Children Together: Best Practices for Small Groups.” March 17–18, 2006. Northwest Church Planting Workshop. Cascade College, Portland, Oregon.
- “Five Great Ways to Nurture Children’s Spiritual Development.” March 17–18, 2006. Northwest Church Planting Workshop. Cascade College, Portland, Oregon.
- “Nurturing Children’s Spirituality in Intergenerational Settings.” October 17, 2005. For Mission Alive (a church-planting organization), Dallas, Texas.
- “The Whole Church Taking the Whole Gospel to the Whole World: The Lausanne Conference in Thailand.” Pepperdine University, Malibu, CA, May 6, 2005
- “Bringing the Generations Together: How an Intergenerational Approach Can Bless Your Ministry.” National Campus Ministries Seminar, Morgantown, WV, July 30, 2004.
- “Nurturing Children’s Spirituality in Intergenerational Settings.” Pepperdine University, Malibu, CA, May 5, 2004.
- “Theological Traditions and Children's Spirituality: The Anabaptist Perspective." Paper presented at the Children's Spirituality Conference: Christian Perspectives, Chicago, June 8–11, 2003.
- “Nurturing Children’s Spirituality in Intergenerational and Non-Intergenerational Christian Contexts." Paper presented at the Children’s Spirituality Conference: Christian Perspectives, Chicago, June 8–11, 2003.
- “Children’s Spirituality Research Methods: Interviews and Adult Retrospective Studies.” Panel presentation with Don Ratcliff, Karen Crozier, Donna Habernicht, Wendy Haight, Dana Hood, Gary Newton, and Eileen Starr. Children’s Spirituality Conference: Christian Perspectives, Chicago, June 8–11, 2003.
- "Children and Spirituality." Paper presented at the Korean-American Ministers of Education (KAME) Conference, Bethel Korean Church, Irvine, CA, February 22, 2003.
- "Children and Spirituality" and "Adults and Children Together." Papers presented at the Christian Education Conference, Galveston, TX, January 19–22, 2003.
- "Exploring Children’s Spirituality." Paper presented at ACSI Annual Teachers’ Convention, Anaheim, CA, November 25–26, 2002.
- "Exploring Children’s Spirituality: New Research." Research paper presented at North American Professors of Christian Education Conference (NAPCE), San Diego, October 24–26, 2002.
- "Research with Children." Panel presentation with Catherine Stonehouse and Shirley Morgenthaler, North American Professors of Christian Education Conference (NAPCE), San Diego, October 24–26, 2002.

- "Exploring Children's Spirituality." Paper presented at Salt and Light Conference, Biola University, April 27, 2002.
- "Spiritual Awareness in Children." Research paper presented at North American Professors of Christian Education Conference (NAPCE), Toronto, Canada, October 26–28, 2000.
- "Pilot Study on Children's Spirituality." Research presented as part of Don Ratcliff's session, First International Conference on Children's Spirituality, University College Chichester, West Sussex, UK, July 9–12, 2000.
- Don't Ask, Don't Tell: Sexual Addiction and Seminary Students—*What Can Theological Institutions Do?* Paper presented at a pre-session of the North American Professors of Christian Education Conference (NAPCE), San Diego, CA, October 27, 1999.
- "Intergenerational Cells." Two-day seminar sponsored by TOUCH Outreach Ministries for pastors of cell-based churches; presented three times, Jul. 29–31 in Detroit, MI, Aug. 6-7 in Virginia Beach, VA, and Aug. 13–14, 1997 in Kansas City, MO.
- "How to Help Wounded Sheep (and Shepherds)." Four-day seminar (co-taught with Leonard Allen and Yancy Smith), Eastern European mission teams, Budapest, Hungary, July, 1997.
- "Empowering Children." Keynote conference presentation, "Experiencing the Cell-Based Church," Abilene, TX, July 31–August 4, 1996.
- "Spiritual Warfare: The Believer's Temporary Struggle against the World, the Flesh, and the Devil." Four-day seminar (co-taught with Leonard Allen) for Eastern European mission teams, Varna, Bulgaria, July 1996.

### **Podcasts**

- "Practical Suggestions for Intergenerational Congregational Ministry," Hazelip Exchange. Scheduled October 14, 2025.
- "Surprising Principles for Teaching Adult Learners." Podcast with John Mark Hicks, Hazelip Exchange. Scheduled December 3, 2024.
- CBM Podcast Recording. Podcast with Olivia Jacques and Evan Richardson, for Lipscomb's College of Bible and Ministry, November 11, 2024.
- "Intergenerational Christian Formation." Podcast with B. T. Irwin, *The Christian Chronicle*. November 18, 2024.
- "The Benefits of Intergenerational Christian Formation" with Ann Michel, Leading Ideas Talks podcast, Lewis Center for church Leadership of Wesley Theological Seminary, Washington, DC, April 10, 2024
- "Connecting the Generations, Blessing Grandchildren, and Promoting Resilience." Legacy Grandparenting podcast. Legacy Coalition, a ministry to and for grandparents. February 19, 2024.
- "What role does faith play in resilience?" The Child in Our Midst podcast, Center for Faith and Children, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, January 29, 2024.
- "A Case for Intergenerational Ministry" with Preston Sprinkle, Theology in the Raw. June 12,

2023. Podcast. <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/theology-in-the-raw/id1601730634?i=1000616605043>

- “How Your Church Can Help Children Be Spiritually Resilient.” Podcast. The Stetzer ChurchLeaders Podcast. January 23, 2023.
- “Forming Resilient Children.” Interview with Bryan From and Aubrey Sampson, Common Ground, March 14, 2022. Podcast.
- “Forming Resilient Children.” Interview with Dave Csinos, Faith Forward. February 4, 2022. <https://soundcloud.com/faith-forward> Podcast.
- “Developmental Relationships, Elementary Families, & Spiritual Development.” Interview online with Gene Roehlkepartain, Search Institute, Minneapolis, MN. January 3, 2022. Podcast.
- “Forming Resilient Children.” Radio interview with Roger Marsh. “Bottom Line,” KBRT and KCBC. December 20, 2021. Podcast.
- “Forming Resilient Children.” Interview with Christopher Harris. *The Wise Idea Podcast*. November 19, 2021. Podcast.
- “Forming Resilient Children.” Interview with Andy Hale. Cooperative Baptist Fellowship Podcast. November 17, 2021. Podcast.
- “Children’s Spirituality and Resilience.” Kingdom Builders Podcast. Interview with Matthew Walker. October 22, 2021. Podcast.
- “Resilience and Children’s Spirituality.” Kidz at Heart Podcast. Interview with Gordon West and Adam Ormord. October 1, 2021.
- “Resilience, Adversity, and Children’s Spirituality.” Morning Lift devotional video. Introduction by Scott Sager. Lipscomb University. September 22, 2021.
- “Raising Resilient Children.” God’s Story. With Brent Siddall and Rev. Ian Reid. New Zealand. Recorded September 9, 2021. Podcast.
- “Resilient Children.” Podcast with Hope Unabridged, Good Life Broadcasting, Lake Mary, FL. Interviewed by Angie Elkins. August 25, 2021. Podcast.
- “Berryman’s Understanding of Children’s Existential Concerns: The Awareness of Death, the Need for Meaning, the Threat to their Freedom, and Being Alone.” Interview for 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration for Jerome Berryman’s book, *Godly Play: A Way of Religious Education*. Interviewed by Heather Ingersoll, Director of The Godly Play Foundation, August 9, 2021.
- “Resilience and Children’s Spirituality.” Podcast for “The Stream” (by The Digital Community). Interviewed by Jonny and Kayla Craig, August 6, 2021. Podcast.
- “Intergenerational Ministry.” Christian Educator Weekly Podcast, with Dr. Andy Braams. April 1, 2021.
- “Intergenerational Community for Adult Generations.” Podcast for Equipping Leadership for Mission, Uniting Church of Australia, Melbourne, AUS. Video-recorded via Zoom, July 15, 2020.

### ***Church-Based Presentations***

- “Connecting Children’s Spirituality and Resilience.” Calvary Baptist Church, Louisville, Kentucky. Workshop. October 18, 2025.
- “Joining Children on the Spiritual Journey.” Sunday School class for parents and grandparents. Central Church of Christ, Amarillo, TX. May 18, 2025.
- Open forum for children’s ministry staff. After-church gathering. Central Church of Christ, Amarillo, TX. May 18, 2025.
- “Thriving Congregations Are Intergenerational.” For Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of North Carolina: Helping Churches Thrive. Online workshop. Contact: Andy Hale and Amy Gallaher. April 28, 2025.
- “Intergenerational Spiritual Formation.” Area-Wide Women's Day, Church of Christ Unity Group, Kansas City area. Scheduled for March 29, 2025.
- “Walking with Children on the Spiritual Journey.” Whole Heart Family Ministries (homeschool moms). Oak Hill Assembly of God. October 22, 2024.
- “Children’s Spirituality and Intergenerationality.” Workshop for church leaders around Jakarta, Indonesia after the week-long graduate course. Saturday, August 3, 2024.
- “Pilgrims Together: Walking with Children on the Spiritual Journey.” Workshop for parents. Hendersonville Church of Christ, Hendersonville, TN. March 26, 2023.
- “Helping Children Cope: Connecting Spirituality and Resilience.” Teacher training workshop for the West Texas, Eastern New Mexico, and Southwestern Oklahoma. Green Lawn Church of Christ, Lubbock, Texas. October 1, 2022.
- “Helping Children Cope: Connecting Spirituality and Resilience.” Fernandina Beach Church of Christ, Fernandina Beach, Florida, November 17, 2019.
- Leadership workshop: “Exploring Intergenerational Ministry.” Congregational workshop: “Faith at the Table.” Spring Garden Baptist Church, Toronto, Canada, November 1, 2019.
- “Helping Children Cope: Connecting Spirituality and Resilience in Children of the Incarcerated.” 46th Prison Ministry Workshop, Hillsboro Church of Christ, Nashville, TN. June 13, 2019.
- “Advent: Waiting and Hoping.” Presentation at Harpeth Hills Church of Christ. Adult Sunday school for whole church. Sunday, December 2, 2018.
- “Walking with your Children and Grandchildren on their Spiritual Journey.” Inaburra Christian School, Bangor, Australia. August 1, 2018. Sponsored by Uniting Church of Australia, Australia College of Ministries, Pulse, Baptist Churches, Salvation Army, and the Seventh Day Adventist Church.
- “One Generation: Many Ages.” Seminar for the Uniting Church, Adelaide, Australia. July 25, 2018. Sponsored by the Uniting Church of Australia, Uniting College, and the InterGen Team.
- “Cultivating Connections: Intentionally Linking the Generations for Life and Faith.” Seminar for consortium of churches (Baptist, Anglican, Salvation Army, Presbyterian). Wellington, New Zealand. July 21, 2018.
- “Cultivating Connections: Intentionally Linking the Generations for Life and Faith.” Seminar for consortium of churches (Baptist, Anglican, Salvation Army, Presbyterian). Auckland, New Zealand. July 20, 2018.
- “Intergenerational Spiritual Formation and Aging Well.” Keynote, Aging Well Ministry Fair.

- Twickenham Church of Christ, Huntsville, Alabama. November 4, 2017.
- “Intergenerational Spiritual Formation.” Tintern Church of Christ, Vineland, Ontario, Canada. October 13–14, 2017.
- “Spiritual Formation and Intergenerational Small Groups.” Acklen Avenue Church of Christ. Nashville, TN. August 13, 2017.
- “Pilgrims Together: How to walk with your children on their spiritual journey; Helping your children enter into the Master Story; Five Guilt-free Doable Ways to Nurture your Children Spiritually.” Fairfax Church of Christ, Fairfax, VA, October 15–16, 2016.
- “Walking with Children on the Spiritual Journey,” “Children’s Literature and Children’s Spirituality,” “The Role of Story in Children’s Spiritual Formation,” and “Godly Play.” Colleside Church of Christ, Cookeville, TN, February 13–14, 2016.
- “Walking with Children on the Spiritual Journey,” “The Role of Story in Children’s Spiritual Formation,” and “Five Guilt-Free Doable Ways to Nurture Children’s Spirituality.” Ethos Church, Nashville, TN, January 30, 2016.
- “Despise Not One of These Little Ones” (Matthew 18:10). Woodmont Hills Family of God, Nashville, TN. December 20, 2015.
- “Pilgrims Together: Walking with Children on the Spiritual Journey.” Donelson Church of Christ, Adult Bible classes, September 13, 2015.
- “Intergenerational Christian Formation: Pilgrims Together.” Donelson Church of Christ, Interview with Russ King (pulpit minister) during sermon time, September 13, 2015.
- Walking with Children on the Spiritual Journey.” Woodmont Hills Family of God, VBS parent class, July 8–9, 2015.
- “Growing Closer . . . Together.” Harpeth Hills Church of Christ, Nashville, TN. Seven Sunday morning adult class sessions, Summer 2015.
- “Walking with Children on the Spiritual Journey.” Nashua Church of Christ, Nashua, New Hampshire, April 11–12, 2015.
- “Intergenerational Spiritual Formation for Families,” five-week series for Southside Church of Christ, Rogers, AR, Wednesday evening series for parents, February 26–April 2, 2014.
- “Spiritual Benefits of Intergenerational Christian Experiences,” and “Implementing Intergenerational Small Groups.” February 27–28, 2008, Rochester Church of Christ, Rochester Hills, MI.
- “What are the Spiritual Needs of Children?”; “Five Ways to Nurture Spiritual Development in Children”; “Bringing the Generations Back Together.” July 28–29, 2007, Donelson Church of Christ, Nashville, TN.
- “Christian Education vs. Christian Formation” and “Three Ways to Nurture Children’s Spirituality.” June 17, 2006. Otter Creek Church of Christ, Nashville, TN.
- “Seven Ways to Nurture Children’s Spiritual Development.” November 13, 2005. Dayspring Church of Christ, Edmund, Oklahoma.
- “Erikson and Spiritual Growth.” November 6, 2005. Dayspring Church of Christ, Edmund, Oklahoma.
- “Children and Spirituality” and “Adults and Children Together.” Alameda Church of Christ, Norman, OK, October 4–5, 2003.

“Caring for Wounded Sheep (and Shepherds).” Weekend seminar for small group leaders, Creekside Christian Fellowship, Irvine, California, March 26–28, 1999.

“Children in Intergenerational Small Groups.” One-day seminar for small group leaders and parents, Preston Road Church of Christ, Dallas, Texas, November 8, 1998.

“Children in Intergenerational Cells.” One-day seminar for Bible teachers, Northside Church of Christ, Santa Anna, CA, June 16, 1997.

“Children in Home Cell Groups.” One-day seminar for Bible teachers, Golf Course Road Church of Christ, Midland, TX, April 19, 1997.

### **Professional Organizations and Positions**

Lipscomb University Kids Ministry Advisory Council, 2025-2026

Member, Advisory Committee for the Center for the Theology of Childhood for the Godly Play Foundation. April 2023 to present.

Founder, InterGenerate, a national organization that convenes an international conference every other year: Chair, 2016 – 2021.

InterGenerate Conference convened most recently June 10-12, 2025 at Asbury Seminary in Wilmore, KY. The InterGenerate Conference also convened June 2023 at Lipscomb University in Nashville, TN, with participants from Australia, Scotland, Hong Kong, and Canada as well as from about 25 states. In 2021, InterGenerate convened as a joint, online gathering with the Children’s Spirituality Summit, May 24-26, 2021, with 964 participants, 16 nations, and over 40 denominations. Previously convened June 2017 and May 2019 at Lipscomb University, Nashville, TN. InterGenerate continues under the leadership of Dr. Valerie Grissom.

President of the Board, Society for Children’s Spirituality: Christian Perspectives, 2015 – 2021; director of the biennial Children’s Spirituality Summit.\* Convened as a joint, online gathering with InterGenerate, May 24-26, 2021. Previously Lipscomb University, June 27 – 29, 2018 and June 12 – 14, 2016, Lipscomb University, Nashville, TN.\*\*

- President, 2015–2021
- Board member since 2004
- Co-director of the 2006 conference
- Treasurer 2006–2015
- Program committee, 2009 – 2015

\* Previously known as Children’s Spirituality Conference. \*\*CSS continues under the leadership of Dr. Magdalene Larson, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, Deerfield, IL.

External reviewer for 10-year review of Wheaton’s Department of Christian Formation and Ministry program, March 4-6, 2020.

Board Member, GenOn Ministries (national organization that promotes a form of mid-week intergenerational gathering called Logos and offers curricula for family devotionals) 2012–2017.

NAPCE Core Curriculum Task Force, 2012–2014 (North American Professors of Christian Education, Board Member, 2006–2010; now known as Society of Professors in Christian Education [SPCE])

DMin Advisor, Amy Yu, ACTS Seminaries of Trinity Western University, 2021-2022

DMin Reader, Christine Embree, Wesley Seminary, 2021-2022

Master's Thesis committee member, Cen Jiao, 2018-2020

DMin Advisor, Laren McCormack, Lipscomb DMin program, 2016–2018; 2021-2022.

DMin Advisor, Wilson McCoy III, Hazelip School of Theology, Lipscomb University, 2015–2016.

EdD “Examiner,” Winnie Chan, doctoral student, AGST Alliance (Asia Graduate School of Theology), Singapore.

Editorial Advisory Board Member, *Christian Education Journal*, 2006–2007; current peer reviewer. Most recently reviewed articles on worldview characteristics of concrete operational children, intergenerational Sunday schools, the spiritual influence of grandparents, and a theology of accommodation as support for intergenerational Christian experiences.

Doctoral Committee for Debby Carter, Union Institute and University, 2008–2012

### **Honors and Awards**

Keynote address: “The Intergenerational Journey: Head, Heart, Hands.” InterGenerate Conference, Asbury Seminary, Wilmore, Kentucky. June 10-12, 2025.

Keynote address: “Encouraging Intergenerational Teaching and Learning: Three Key Rationales and Three Formative Approaches. Society for Professors of Christian Education annual conference. October 26-28, 2023, Westin O’Hare Hotel, Chicago, IL.

Children’s Ministry Award. Inaugural award conferred by National Conference on Youth Ministries, now changed to National Children’s and Youth Ministries Conference. Awarded January 6, 2022. Renaissance Concourse Atlanta Airport Hotel, Atlanta, GA.

Scholar-in-Residence Sabbatical, Spring 2021. One Scholar-in-Residence Sabbatical awarded per year to a faculty member, Lipscomb University.

“Children’s Spirituality.” Keynote address, Toronto Children’s Ministry Conference, Wycliff College, Toronto, Canada, November 2, 2019.

Faculty Summer Grant, Lipscomb University. Summer 2017. Purpose: to produce a book manuscript from the InterGenerate Conference held June 25–27, 2017. Book published in 2018: *InterGenerate: Transforming Churches through Intergenerational Ministry* (Abilene Christian University Press).

Joy Latham Lecture in Early Childhood Ministry. Keynote Speaker. Lecture title: “Intergenerational Discipleship: All Ages Learning Together.” Church of the Nazarene national TEACH conference, Cincinnati, Ohio, September 12, 2018.

Joy Latham Lecture in Early Childhood Ministry. Keynote Speaker. Lecture title: “Pilgrims Together: Building an Intergenerational Faith Community.” Church of the Nazarene national TEACH conference, Cincinnati, Ohio, August 13, 2016.

Betenbough Home Lectures Keynote Speaker. Lecture title: “Bringing the Generations Together for Spiritual Formation.” Lubbock Christian Youth and Family Ministry Lecture, Lubbock Christian University, Lubbock, TX, November 5 – 6, 2015.

William M. Green Distinguished Christian Scholar Lecture Program. Lecture title:  
“Intergenerational Christian Formation,” Pepperdine University, Malibu, CA, Oct 6, 2014.  
J. Vernon McGee Chair in Biblical Studies, Fall 2012 – Spring 2014 [four course releases over the  
two years; generous annual travel and research budget; competitive award process]  
Balzer Lecturer, Lecture title: “Intergenerational Christian Formation,” John Brown University,  
Siloam Springs, AR, September 12, 2013.  
Distinguished Christian Service Award, conferred by Pepperdine University, May 2, 2013  
Mini-grant for travel and research, Summer 2013  
JBU Shipps Scholar Grant, 2011-2012 [internal grant; competitive award process]  
Kopio Award; a Christian service award conferred by Lipscomb University, July 3, 2010  
Mini-grant for travel and research, Summer 2010  
JBU Teacher of the Year Award, 2009 [Actual title: Faculty Excellence Award]  
Mini-grant for travel and research, Summer 2009  
Promotion: Full Professor, Spring 2009, at John Brown University  
Sabbatical, Fall 2009, John Brown University  
JBU Shipps Scholar Grant, 2005–2006

### **Courses Taught**

Visiting Professor, Reformed Theological Seminary of Indonesia, Jakarta, Indonesia.  
Master’s course, one-week intensive, July 29-August 2, 2024.  
Course title: “The Future of the Church as the Family of God: Intergenerational Relationships  
and Discipleship.”

Adjunct Professor, Portland Seminary, Portland, OR.  
Online graduate course, May 6-June 30, 2024, one meeting a week.  
Course title: “Nurturing Spiritual Development in Children.”

Invited Professor, Harding School of Theology, Memphis, TN.  
Graduate course, week-long intensive course on campus, October 9-13, 2023  
Course title: “Christian Formation of Children.”  
Co-taught with Dr. Harold Shank.

Adjunct Professor, Lipscomb University, Fall 2022 – Spring 2025  
Courses:  
- Family Ministry  
- Nurturing Spiritual Development in Children

Full Professor, Lipscomb University, Nashville, TN. Fall 2014 to 2022 (retired May, 2022).  
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences  
- Early Childhood Development  
- Middle Childhood Development  
- Nurturing Spiritual Development in Children  
- Principles of Effective Parenting

- Adolescent Development and Emerging Adulthood

College of Bible and Ministry

- Family Ministry
- Educating Children and Youth in the Church
- Children's Ministry
- Nurturing Spiritual Development in Children

Visiting Professor, Vancouver School of Theology, The University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC, Canada

Doctor of Ministry course, one-week intensive July 13 – 17, 2021 [online]

Course title: "Pilgrims Together: Forging an Intergenerational Ecclesiology"

Visiting Professor, Acadia Divinity College, Wolfville, Nova Scotia, Canada

Doctor of Ministry course, one-week intensive, October 15-19, 2018

Course title: "Pilgrims Together: Building an Intergenerational Faith Community"

Full Professor, John Brown University, Siloam Springs, AR. Director of Child and Family Studies Program. Fall 2009 through Spring 2014.

- Creating Holistic Curriculum for Children in Crisis
- Nurturing Spiritual Development in Children
- Critical Concerns with Children
- Introduction to Family Science
- Ministering with Families Across the Life Span
- Senior Seminar (senior capstone course for Child and Family Studies majors)

Visiting Professor, Lipscomb University, Nashville, AR.

Graduate course: Nurturing Children's Spirituality, Summer 2009

Associate Professor, John Brown University, Director of Children and Family Ministries Program, Fall 2003–2009:

Undergraduate Courses:

- Creating Curriculum for Children in Christian Settings
- Nurturing Spiritual Development in Children
- Foundations and Practice of Children's Ministry
- Foundations and Practice of Adult and Family Ministry
- Old Testament Survey
- Senior Seminar (senior capstone course for Children and Family Ministry majors)

Graduate Courses

- Spiritual Formation and Family Ministry
- Nurturing Children's Spirituality (JBU/Kanakuk MA program)

Assistant Professor, Biola University, Education Department, Spring 2003.

Courses:

- Christian Philosophy of Education, senior-level integration seminar
- Elementary Reading/Language Arts

Adjunct Professor, Biola University, Talbot School of Theology.

Courses:

- Exploring Children's Spirituality, January Interterm, 2003 (graduate course cross-listed in education, masters, and doctoral level C. E.

- Foundations of Teaching Ministry (undergraduate course in C. E.), Spring 2003

Adjunct Professor, Biola University, Education Department. Courses taught:

- Christian Philosophy of Education, senior-level integration seminar, 2000–2002.
- Elementary Reading/Language Arts, 2001–2002

Visiting Professor, Research Institute of Christian Education, Hong Kong, July 22–August 2, 2002. Course taught:

- Exploring Children's Spirituality

Adjunct Professor, College of Biblical Studies, Abilene Christian University, Spring 1997, Spring 1998. Course taught:

- History and Philosophy of Christian Education - Completely redesigned and restructured this graduate C.E. course toward a more learner-based approach, also adding a theological component.

Full-time Instructor, Education Department, ACU, 1993–1995. Courses taught:

- Assessment and Correction of Reading Problems—completely redesigned and restructured this course from teacher-based to learner-based; moved course from university setting to school-based setting; involved students in authentic assessment and tutoring
- Methods of Teaching Developmental Reading
- Perspectives in American Education

Part-time Instructor, Education Department, Abilene Christian University (ACU), 1987–93 and 1995–1998. Courses taught:

- Improving Comprehension and Study Skills
- Developing College Level Reading Skills
- Methods of Teaching Developmental Reading
- Educational Foundations and Multicultural Perspectives
- Assessment and Correction of Reading Problems
- Supervision of Students Teachers

Research Assistant, Center for Educational Experimentation, Development, and Evaluation, University of Iowa, 1981–82. Developed testing materials and presented materials to public school systems in Chicago, Atlanta, and New Orleans.

Teaching Assistant, University of Iowa (supervised graduate students as they tutored children in a reading clinic), 1979–80.

### **International teaching and other international opportunities:**

- Ridley Centre for Children and Youth, Australia. “All Ages Becoming: Leading Intergenerational Small Groups.” Workshop. Ridley Centre for Children & Youth Ministry Training Day, Ridley College, Parkville VIC 3052, Australia. March 15, 2025. Online presentation.
- Visiting Professor, Reformed Theological Seminary of Indonesia, Jakarta, Indonesia. Master’s course, one-week intensive, July 29-August 2, 2024. Course title: “The Future of the Church as the Family of God: Intergenerational Relationships and Discipleship.” “Children’s Spirituality and Intergenerationality.” Workshop for church leaders around

- Jakarta, Indonesia after the week-long graduate course. Saturday, August 3, 2024.
- Canada: Visiting Professor, Vancouver School of Theology, The University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC, Canada. Doctor of Ministry course, one-week intensive July 13-17, 2021 [online]. Course title: “Pilgrims Together: Forging an Intergenerational Ecclesiology.”
  - Canada: Keynote address, Toronto Children’s Ministry Conference, Wycliff College, Toronto, Canada, November 2, 2019. “Children’s Ministry: Nurturing Children’s Relationships with Self, Others, and God.” Two workshops: “Helping Children Cope: Connecting Spirituality and Resilience” and “Embodied Spirituality: The Role of the Body in Children’s Spiritual Development.”
  - Canada: Visiting Professor, Acadia Divinity College, Wolfville, Nova Scotia. Doctor of Ministry course, one-week intensive, October 15-19, 2018.
  - Australia and New Zealand: two weeks of teaching in churches and schools on intergenerational ministry and children’s spirituality, July 20-August 1, 2018. (See list of presentations earlier in vita)
  - Canada: “Intergenerational Spiritual Formation.” Tintern Church of Christ, Vineland, Ontario. October 13–14, 2017.
  - Chinandega, Nicaragua: Taught and ministered to children and their parents in impoverished inner-city school, September 2013.
  - Goiania, Brazil: “Nurturing Children Spiritually.” World Convention: 18<sup>th</sup> Global Gathering: Christian Churches, Churches of Christ, Disciples of Christ, July 25–29, 2012.
  - Pattaya, Thailand: Delegate to the 2004 Forum for World Evangelization, October, 2004, Lausanne Conference
  - Hong Kong: Teaching a course on Children's Spirituality, July 2002
  - Chichester, England: International Conference on Children's Spirituality, July 2000
  - Budapest, Hungary: Teaching missionaries, July 1997
  - Turkey and Bulgaria: Teaching missionaries, July 1996
  - Budapest, Hungary: Teaching missionaries, March 1995
  - Kenya: Nairobi and Meru, visiting missionaries, 1991
  - Vienna, Austria: August 1990–January 1991
  - Japan: Two-week tour visiting churches, March 1989