

CURRICULUM VITAE

Robert A. Muthiah

Associate Professor of Practical Theology
Haggard Graduate School of Theology
Azusa Pacific University
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EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

Ph.D. in Practical Theology

Ethics minor
2001-2005
Fuller Theological Seminary

M.Div.

1989-1991, 1997-1998
Northern Baptist Theological Seminary

B.A. Business administration major

Psychology minor
1984-1988
Taylor University

TEACHING INTERESTS

- Theology and practices of congregational leadership
- Missional ecclesiology
- Empowering the whole people of God
- Ministry in the postmodern context
- Christian spirituality

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Associate Professor of Practical Theology, Haggard Graduate School of Theology, Azusa Pacific University (2007 – present)
 - Director of Field Education
 - Kern Scholars Program Director
 - Classes:
 - Growing Healthy Churches
 - Missional Church
 - Transitions in Ministry
 - Pastoral Servant Leadership
 - Foundations for Ministry Life
 - Field Education
- Adjunct Associate Professor of Practical Theology, Fuller Theological Seminary (2005- 2007)
 - Classes:
 - Missional Church and Leadership
 - Empowering the People of God
 - Leadership and Diversity
 - Spirituality and Everyday Life

- Guest Lecturer
 - “The Trinitarian Shape of Congregational Leadership” – guest lecture for Transitions in Ministry/Dr. Kent Walkemeyer, Haggard Graduate School of Theology, Azusa Pacific University, 2007
 - “Don Browning’s Model of Practical Theology” – guest lecture for The Shape of Practical Theology (Ph.D. seminar), Fuller Theological Seminary, 2006
 - “John Howard Yoder and the Priesthood of All Believers” – guest lecture for Congregations as Learning Communities, Fuller Theological Seminary, 2005
 - “Free Church Ecclesiology” – guest lecture for Ecclesiology (Ph.D. seminar), Fuller Theological Seminary, 2005
 - “The Ministry of the Whole People of God” – guest lecture for Systematics III, Fuller Theological Seminary, 2004
 - “Free Church Ecclesiology” – guest lecture for Systematics III, Fuller Theological Seminary, 2003

- Teaching Assistant (2001-2005)
 - Adult Formation and Discipleship, Fuller Theological Seminary, Winter 2005
 - Spirituality and Everyday Life, Fuller Theological Seminary, Fall 2003
 - Foundations for Ministry I, II, and III: Congregational, Spiritual, and Missional Formation, Fuller Theological Seminary, 2001-2003

MINISTRY EXPERIENCE

- 2008 **Coordinating Elder**
Pasadena Mennonite Church, Pasadena, CA
- Employed in part-time pastoral role while interim pastor battled cancer
 - Supervised staff and interns, preached, planned events and preaching schedule, handled pastoral issues
- 1998-2001 **Lead Pastor**
Breckenridge Christian Ministries, Breckenridge, CO
(Non-denominational church)
- Preached, taught adult education classes, coordinated ministries, and performed other pastoral duties
- 1991-1997 **20s/30s Pastor**
Breckenridge Christian Ministries, Breckenridge, CO
(Non-denominational church)
- Taught weekly studies, facilitated small groups, developed programs
- 1988-1991 **Youth Worker**
First Baptist Church, Geneva, IL
- Discipled high schoolers, organized and led trips

DENOMINATIONAL AFFILIATION

Mennonite Church, U.S.A.

ORDINATION

Ordination credentials held by the Pacific Southwest Mennonite Conference of the Mennonite Church, U.S.A.

DISSERTATION

A Practical Theology of the Royal Priesthood: Trinitarian Ecclesiology, Institutions of Postmodernity, and Congregational Practices in Dialogue

What shape should the church take in the twenty-first century? And how does this theological question relate to the lived experiences of congregations? A deepened theology of the priesthood of all believers is essential for answering these questions. In this dissertation I develop a practical theology of the priesthood of all believers by bringing into dialogue a trinitarian ecclesiology, forces of postmodernity, and congregational practices. Elements of the discussion include ecumenical perspectives, Trinitarian correspondence, the gifts of the Spirit, the nature of ordination, social structures in postmodernity, the relevance of McIntyre's social practices for congregations, and forms of congregational leadership.

PUBLICATIONS AND CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

"Racism." In *Dictionary of Everyday Theology and Culture*. IVP (forthcoming).

"Peace." In *Dictionary of Everyday Theology and Culture*. IVP (forthcoming).

"The Free Church Tradition." In *The Global Dictionary of Theology*. InterVarsity Press (forthcoming 2008).

Double book review: *The Sky Is Falling: Leaders Lost in Transition* by Alan Roxburgh and *The Missional Leader: Equipping Your Church to Reach a Changing World* by Alan Roxburgh and Fred Romanuk. *The Journal of Religious Leadership* (Fall 2007. vol 6/2).

"Trinitarian Correspondence as a Means for Reflecting on Authoritarian Leadership in the Church." Paper presented at the Academy of Religious Leadership, 2005.

"A Pneumatological Radical Free Church View of Ordination." *One in Christ: A Catholic Ecumenical Review* 39, no. 4 (October, 2004): 76-85.

"Christian Practices, Congregational Leadership, and the Priesthood of All Believers." *The Journal of Religious Leadership* 2, no. 2 (Fall, 2003).

Articles in *The Semi*, the school newspaper of Fuller Seminary:

"Surviving Seminary Spiritually"

"A Unified Voice" (on a seminary's response to the war in Iraq)

“A Different Perspective on Hollywood and Christianity”

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND AFFILIATIONS

Academy of Religious Leadership
American Academy of Religion
The Anabaptist-Mennonite Scholars Network
The Gospel and Our Culture Network

ACADEMIC AWARDS

Full Fellowship (4 years)
Center for Advanced Theological Studies
School of Theology, *Fuller Theological Seminary*

Outstanding Student Award (based on academic performance)
Northern Baptist Theological Seminary

Summa Cum Laude
President of Chi Alpha Omega Academic Honors Society
Taylor University

CHURCH AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- Serve a monthly meal at a homeless transition center with others from our church
- Preach periodically in my church and in other venues
- Teach Sunday school – elementary and adult
- Participate in local events advocating for peace, justice, and the poor
- Served on our church’s Gifts Discernment Team which identifies and nominates people to fill leadership roles within the church
- Assist with congregation’s worship services through serving communion, anointing with oil, singing on the music team, and prayer
- District Elder, Pacific Southwest Mennonite Conference
- Additional extensive teaching in the congregational context

PERSONAL NARRATIVE

I am married to Lisa King Muthiah and we have three children—Samuel (12), Isabelle (10), and Ezra (5). Our children attend the public school where Lisa teaches. As a family we enjoy going on road trips to visit friends and family and to explore new places. We also love to go camping. My personal interests include cooking Indian curry, mountain biking, fly fishing, rock climbing, and following current events. I also like farmers’ markets, Little League baseball, and dinner parties.