

# Vita of Rev. Dr. Patrick Oden

patrickoden@gmail.com

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

**2015-present** *Visiting Assistant Professor of Theology*, Fuller Theological Seminary  
**2019-present** *Director of Strategic Solutions* (PT), Fuller Leadership Platform, Fuller Theological Seminary  
**2019-present** *Ordained Minister in The Wesleyan Church* (Pacific Southwest District)  
**2018-present** *Assistant Pastor of Christian Formation* (volunteer), The River (Wesleyan Church), Sacramento, CA  
**Jan. 2014-Spring 2015** *Assistant Professor of Theology*, Azusa Pacific University (1.5-year contract)  
**2012-2013** *Adjunct Assistant Professor*, Azusa Pacific University (full-load teaching schedule)  
**2011-2014** *Adjunct Assistant Professor of Theology*, Fuller Theological Seminary, online  
**2011-2012** *Administrator-In-Training*, Department of Field Education, Fuller Theological Seminary  
**2008–2011** *Teaching Assistant*, Fuller Theological Seminary, Pasadena Campus  
Systematic Theology 2 and 3; World Religions. Grading; guest lectured 3-5 sessions per quarter.  
**2008-2010** *Teaching Assistant*, Fuller Theological Seminary, Individual Distance Learning  
Systematic Theology 1, 2, 3. Graded all assignments and was responsible for all student interaction.  
**2003-2008** *Independent Research*, Freelance Writing, Spiritual renewal, educational web design  
**2000-2003** *Pastoral Internship*, NewSong Church, San Dimas, CA

## EDUCATION:

**PhD, Fuller Theological Seminary**, June 2013

Systematic Theology with Dr. Veli-Matti Kärkkäinen.

**Dissertation:** “The Transformative Church: Substantiating New Models of Ecclesiality with the Holistic Theology of Jürgen Moltmann.” Focuses on the whole of Moltmann’s theology in conversation with new ecclesial movements. Defended April, 2013. Passed “With Distinction.” Published by Fortress Press.

**Minor:** Church History with Dr. James Bradley. Areas of research include John Wesley, early Methodism, early Quakers, early Baptists, Roger Williams, American Church History.

**Comprehensive Examination Topics:** Pneumatology, Ecclesiology, Theology of Wolfhart Pannenberg, Enlightenment Christianity 1650-1800 (focus Wesley, Quakers, and American Puritans).

**MDiv, Fuller Theological Seminary**, December 2002

**BA, Wheaton College**, May 1997

Double Major: History; Biblical and Theological Studies

## PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS:

### **Books (complete):**

***Hope for the Oppressor: Discovering Freedom through Transformative Community.***

Lanham, MD: Fortress Academic, 2019. Foreword written by Jürgen Moltmann.

***The Transformative Church: New Ecclesial Models and the Theology of Jürgen Moltmann.***

Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2015.

***How Long? A Trek Through the Wilderness.*** Newberg, OR: Barclay Press, 2011.

***It’s a Dance: Moving with Holy Spirit.*** Newberg, OR: Barclay Press, 2007. Foreword written by Alan Hirsch

### **Books (in development):**

***Spirit and Pop Culture: Finding Meaning in a Many-Storied World***

(in early stages of development, under contract with Lexington Press)

***Exploring the Work of God in a Diverse Church and a Pluralistic World: The Dialogic Evangelical Theology of Veli-Matti Kärkkäinen***, edited by Patrick Oden, Amos Yong, Peter Heltzel

(in early stages of development, under contract with Fortress Academic)

### **Articles and Essays:**

“Commentary 1 on Luke 21:5-19” and “Commentary 1 on Luke 23:33-43” in *Connections: A Lectionary Commentary for Preaching and Worship: Year C, Volume 3*. 490-492; 507-509. Louisville: WJK, 2019.

“A Pneumatology of Shalom,” Fuller Magazine, September 2017, 70-74.

“Theology and the ‘Emerging Church,’” Catalyst: Contemporary Evangelical Perspectives for United Methodist Seminarians. February, 2016. <http://www.catalystresources.org/theology-and-the-emerging-church/>

“Obedience is Better than Sacrifice: Atonement as the Re-Establishment of Trust,”  
*Wesleyan Theological Journal* 50, no. 1 (2015): 100-115.

“Liberating Holiness for the Oppressed and the Oppressors.” In *A Future for Holiness: Pentecostal Explorations*, edited by Lee Roy Martin, 205-224. Cleveland, TN: CPT Press, 2013.

“‘Let us not spend our time in trifling’: Susanna Wesley, a Mother to her Sons.” *Wesleyan Theological Journal* 48, no. 2 (2013): 112-125.

“Spirits in History.” In *Interdisciplinary and Religio-Cultural Discourses on a Spirit-Filled World: Loosing the Spirits*, edited by Veli-Matti Kärkkäinen, Kirsteen Kim, & Amos Yong, 71-84. New York: Palgrave MacMillan, 2013.

“An Emerging Pneumatology: Jürgen Moltmann and the Emerging Church in Conversation.” *Journal of Pentecostal Theology* 18, no. 2 (2009): 263-284

**In development:**

“Moltmann, Jürgen.” In *Dictionary of Christian Apologists and Their Critics*. Wiley-Blackwell, 2020.  
Submitted and Accepted

“Pneumatology of Jürgen Moltmann.” In *T&T Clark Encyclopedia of Christian Theology*. T&T Clark, 2021.  
Submitted and Accepted

**Presentations:**

“Which Commons, Whose Colors, What Goods? A (Perpetually) Foreign Witness in the Public Theological Wilderness,” Evangelical Theological Society, Denver, 2018

“The Transformative Church: Thoughtful Action and Active Thinking,”  
Common Day of Learning, Azusa Pacific University, February 2015.

“Obedience is Better than Sacrifice: Atonement as the Re-Establishment of Trust,”  
Wesleyan Theological Society, Northwest Nazarene University, March 2014

“Liberating Holiness for the Oppressed and the Oppressors,”  
Society of Pentecostal Studies, Seattle Pacific University, March 2013.

“Holiness in the Theology of Wolfhart Pannenberg,”  
Wesleyan Theological Society, Seattle Pacific University, March, 2013.

“Whither the Spirit? A Proposal for a Pneumatological Historiography,”  
Conference on Faith and History, George Fox University, October 9, 2010.

“Constructing an Emerging Theology,”  
Society of Pentecostal Studies, North Central University, March 4, 2010

“An Emerging Pneumatology: Jürgen Moltmann and the Emerging Church in Conversation,”  
Society of Pentecostal Studies, Duke University, March 14, 2008.

**Fuller Courses taught 2011-present**

- Consistently rank among the top 10% on student evaluations
  - Multiple Modalities including classroom, fully online (Moodle/Canvas), and hybrid varieties at Sacramento, Menlo Park, Pasadena, Phoenix, and Seattle campuses
- Fall 2011-Spring 2015: ST511 Intro to Theological Studies; ST501 Systematic Theology 1; ST502 ST2  
Summer 2015 to present: HT500 Early Church History  
HT501 Trinitarian Theology  
HT502 Medieval/Reformation Church History  
HT503 Revelation, Anthropology, Soteriology, Ecclesiology  
HT504 Modern Theology in Global Perspective and Eschatology  
IS501 Practices of Worship  
IS502 Practices of Community  
TH515 Wesleyan Theology  
TH550 World Religions in Christian Perspective  
TH559 Theologies of the Holy Spirit

**APU Courses Taught 2012-2015:**

Classroom:

THEO 303 *Theology and the Christian Life*

Fall 12 (3 sections); SP 13 (2 sections); SU 13; FA 13 (2 sections); SP 14; FA 14; SP 15; SU 15

THEO352 *Church History Beginnings to 1517*, FA 13

THEO354 *Church History 1517 to present*, SP 14

THEO363 *Contemporary Christian Theology*, SP 14; FA 14 (2 sections); SP 15

THEO410/411 *Systematic Theology 1 and 2*, FA 14, SP 15.

Online (Sakai):

THEO303 *Theology and the Christian Life*, SP 13; FA 13

THEO352 *Church History to 1517*, SU 13

THEO363 *Contemporary Christian Theology*, SP 14, SP 15

#### PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

**July 2016**, Participated in “Science for Seminaries” Retreat host by AAAS. Timberline, Oregon. The purpose was to facilitate integrating science topics and discussions into seminary courses.

**2016-2019** Participated in quarterly Teaching and Learning discussion groups related to new faculty, IS course development, and faculty development

#### ACADEMIC HONORS:

CATS Fellowship, Full Tuition, Center for Advanced Theological Studies, Fuller Theological Seminary

2008-2009, 2009-2010, 2010-2011, 2011-2012, 2012-2013

#### PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS:

American Academy of Religion; Wesleyan Theological Society; Society of Pentecostal Studies; Conference of Faith and History; Evangelical Theological Society

#### RECENT SERVICE TO CHURCH AND SCHOOL

**July 2019-present** Ordained Minister in The Wesleyan Church

**April 2018-June 2019** Licensed Minister in The Wesleyan Church (Pacific Southwest District).

**January, 2017-April 2018** Elder at The River Church (affiliation: Wesleyan Church), Sacramento

**May 2016 – Present** Preaching every 4-6 weeks at The River Church, Sacramento, California

**July 2018 to Present**

- Began leading the church in a year of reading through the Bible, providing written posts about each week’s readings.
- Began leading an ongoing weekly men’s group discussion about the life, theology, and writings of Paul the Apostle.

**2020 to Present** Enrolled in Church Planting Certificate, Fuller Leadership Platform

**2010-2014** Preached monthly at Pasadena First Church of the Nazarene Saturday Service

**June, 2016** Sacramento Campus Commencement, gave invocation and charge to students

**June, 2016** Menlo Park Campus Commencement, delivered benediction

**Sept, 2016-June 2017**, participating in Fuller “Teaching and Learning” pedagogy discussion group

**February 2, 2017** Presented “Discerning the Holy Spirit” at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Sacramento

**April-June, 2017** Taught 8 week class “Theology and the Christian Life: A Study of the Apostle’s Creed” for the Center for Biblical Study, an organization affiliated with the Episcopal Church dedicated to lay education