

Four Areas of Focus for the United Methodist Church Faculty of Saint Paul School of Theology 2009

At the request of the Academic Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees, the faculty have developed an inventory of the way their research, courses and writing can contribute to the Four Areas of Focus for the United Methodist Church:

- 1) Developing Principled Christian Leaders for the Church and the World
- 2) New Places for New People and Renewing Existing Congregations
- 3) Engaging in Ministry with the Poor
- 4) Stamping Out Killer Diseases of Poverty by Improving Health Globally

Link to [Four Areas of Ministry Focus](#) on the United Methodist Web Site

James M. Brandt

Associate Professor of Historical Theology and Director of Contextual Education

- 1) Developing Principled Christian Leaders:

Research Interests:

Contextual education and ministry, mission of the church, ethics and ministry, 19th and 20th Century Protestant Theology.

Courses:

Preparing for Local Ministry (CTX 301-2)
Engaging Local Ministry (CTX 401-2)
Introduction to Christian Traditions II (HST 302)
Luther and Schleiermacher
19th Century Protestant Theology

Writings:

All Things New: Reform of Church and Society in Schleiermacher's Christian Ethics (Westminster, 2001)

“Schleiermacher” in *Encyclopedia of Protestantism* (Routledge, 2003)

“Theological Reflections,” in *Lectionary Homiletics* December 2003

Reflections on the lessons for each Sunday in December, 2003

“Theological Reflections,” in *Lectionary Homiletics*, May 2006

Reflections on the lessons for four Sundays after Easter in May, 2006

Articles in *New Westminster Dictionary of Church History*, “Enlightenment,” “Immanuel Kant,” “Gottfried Wilhelm Lessing,” “Wilhelm Dilthey,” “Atheism Controversy,” “Siegmond Jakob Baumgarten,” “Ferdinand Kattenbusch,” “Johann August Wilhelm Neander,” “Wilhelm Abraham Teller,” “Friedrich August Gottreu Tholuck,” “Julius August Ludwig Wegscheider” (Westminster John Knox Press: Louisville, forthcoming)

Translation of Friedrich Schleiermacher, *Christian Ethics* for Westminster John Knox Press Library of Christian Ethics series (Westminster, Louisville: 2009)

2) Congregational Development:

Research Interests:

Congregational studies, practical theology.

Courses:

Preparing for Local Ministry (CXT 301-2)

Engaging Local Ministry (CXT 401-2)

Writing:

“Schleiermacher’s Ecclesial Ethics: The Role of Community in the *Christliche Sittenlehre*,” in *Understanding Schleiermacher: From Translation to Interpretation, A Festschrift in Honor of Terrence Nelson Tice*, ed. Ruth Drucilla Richardson and Edwina Lawler (Lewiston, N.Y.: Edwin Mellen Press), 1998, pp. 409-20

“Schleiermacher’s Social Witness,” *Currents in Theology and Mission* (vol. 30, 2; April 2003), pp. 85-95

3) Ministry with the Poor:

Research Interests:

Poverty and violence in Guatemala, urban poverty, social issues in ministry.

Courses:

Guatemala Immersion, Preparing for Local Ministry (CXT 301-2)

Engaging Local Ministry (CXT 401-2)

Writings:

All Things New: Reform of Church and Society in Schleiermacher’s Christian Ethics. (Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press), 2001

“Schleiermacher’s Social Witness,” *Currents in Theology and Mission* (vol. 30, 2; April 2003), pp. 85-95

“Guatemalan Encounter,” producer for a 50-minute video on student immersion experience in Guatemala. Developed along with members of the 2003 Guatemala Immersion Class and Saving Grace Ministries of the Church of the Resurrection 2006

4.) Improving Health Globally:

Research Interests:

Urban poverty, contextual understandings of ministry.

Courses:

Guatemala Immersion

Writings:

All Things New: Reform of Church and Society in Schleiermacher’s Christian Ethics (Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press), 2001

“Schleiermacher’s Social Witness,” *Currents in Theology and Mission* (vol. 30, 2; April 2003), pp. 85-95

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