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R. Robert Creech

Education

Ph.D., New Testament Studies

Baylor University, Waco, TX (1984)

Dissertation: "Christology and Conflict: A Comparative Study of Two Central Themes in the Johannine Literature and the Apocalypse"

M.Div. (with languages)

Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Ft. Worth, TX (1976)

Who's Who Among American Colleges and Universities (1976)

Riverside Memorial Seminary Scholarship

B.A. in Christianity and Sociology

Houston Baptist University, Houston, TX (1974)

Summa Cum Laude

Endowed Academic Scholar

George M. Verity Award, Armco Steel Corporation

Professional experience

Hubert H. and Gladys S. Raborn Professor of Pastoral Leadership Professor of Christian Ministry

Director of Pastoral Ministries

George W. Truett Theological Seminary, Baylor University, Waco, TX (2009-present)

Courses taught: Life & Work of the Pastor, Strategic Planning for Churches and Ministries, Leadership for Christian Ministry, Church Administration, and Introduction to Mentoring. Directs the mentorship program required of all M.Div. students.

Senior Pastor

University Baptist Church, Houston, TX (1987-2009)

A Baptist congregation affiliated with Union Baptist Association, the Baptist General Convention of Texas, the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, and the Southern Baptist Convention. UBC is a suburban congregation of approximately 3000 members located near the Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas (www.ubc.org).

Assistant Professor, Department of Christianity and Philosophy

Houston Baptist University, Houston, TX (1981-1987)

Courses taught: Old Testament Survey, New Testament Survey, Introductory Greek, Intermediate Greek, Life and Works of Paul, Medical Ethics, Research Methods, Senior Seminars, New Testament Criticism

Opal Goolsby Award for Outstanding Teaching, 1985

Adjunct Professor, Department of Christianity and Philosophy

Houston Baptist University, Houston, TX (1979-1981)

Old and New Testament Survey courses

Pastor

North Main Baptist Church, Houston, TX (1979-1981)

A Baptist congregation affiliated with the Union Baptist Association, the Baptist General Convention of Texas, and the Southern Baptist Convention. NMBC was a 70-year-old congregation in the inner city of Houston, Texas with approximately 300 members. It disbanded in the 1990s.

Papers

"A Hermeneutics of Natural Systems: Assumptions and Practice." Four plenary sessions presented to the Lombard Mennonite Peace Center's Advanced Clergy Seminar in January 2012.

"Congregations, Clergy, and Crisis: Sustainable Leadership in an Age of Regression, Part One and Part Two." Two plenary presentations to the 12th Annual National Gathering of Healthy Congregations, Nashville, TN (October 2010).

"The Phenomenological Language of Sin in Romans 7: Understanding Human Behavior as Reactivity and the Implications for Spiritual Formation" Presented at The Wisdom of the Ages Conference, Houston, TX (March 2009).

"Jesus and Differentiation of Self." Presented at Facts of Life Conference, Center for the Study of Natural Systems and the Family, Houston, TX (January 2000).

"Cana in Retrospect: Reading John 2:1-11 in Light of the Cross." Presented at Southwest Regional Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature in Dallas, TX (March 1987).

"Conflict and Christology in the EGO Sayings of Jesus in the Fourth Gospel and the Apocalypse." Presented at the annual meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature in Anaheim, CA (November 1985).

Books, Articles & Essays

"Clergy and Congregations in a Regressed Society" *Family Systems Forum* (13 (Spring 2011): 1-2, 9-12.

"Bowen Theory and a Pastoral Transition, " *Family Systems Forum* (Fall 2010, Vol. 12 No.3, pp. 1--2, 8-10).

"Jesus and Differentiation of Self." Chapter 15 in *The Cornerstone Concept: In Leadership, In Life* by Roberta M. Gilbert. Falls Church, VA: Leading Systems Press, 2008.

"The Essential Church" and "The Next Chapter." Essays in *The Dust Off Their Feet: Transitioning the Church to Conform to His Will – Then/Now*. Edited by Chris Seay. Thomas Nelson: Nashville, 2006.

The Leader's Journey: Accepting the Call to Personal and Congregational Transformation, with Jim Herrington and Trisha Taylor (Jossey-Bass, San

Francisco, 2003).

"Ordination in Acts and the Pastoral Epistles: A Response to Professor Sharon Dowd," for Baylor University Symposium on Ordination (2002), published in *Perspectives on Religious Studies* 30/3 (Summer 2003).

Articles on "Advocate," "Paraclete," and "Hour" in the *Holman's Layman's Bible Dictionary*, 1991.

"Most Excellent Narratee: The Significance of Theophilus in Luke-Acts" in *With Steadfast Purpose: Essays on Acts in Honor of Henry Jackson Flanders, Jr.* Edited by Naymond Keithley. Baylor University: Waco, TX, 1990.

**Other
Publications**

Uniform Lesson Series for Smith & Helwys Publishers, "Evidences of Jesus as Messiah" (January 2010).

Uniform Lesson Series for Smith & Helwys Publishers, "A New Community in Christ" (March 2007).

Uniform Lesson Series for Smith & Helwys Publishers, "Life in the Spirit," (March 2005).

Life & Work Series Commentary for *The Baptist Standard*, "The Gospel of John (2002-2003).

**Additional
professional
activities**

Baylor University's School of Social Work

Section editor (Healthy Congregations) of Baylor University School of Social Work's online journal, *Family & Community Studies*.

United Theological Seminary, Dayton, OH (2005-2007)

Mentor for Transformational Leadership Peer Group in the United Theological Seminary (Dayton, OH) Doctor of Ministry Program (2005-2007).

Directed research for the following Doctor of Ministry Projects for United Theological Seminary (Dayton, OH):

Matthew Burton, "Casting the Vision: An Equipping Ministry Launch for a Gift-based Lay Ministry" (2007)

Connie Wilson, "Developing a Process to Introduce Spiritual Formation as a Pathway for Transformation" (2007)

Elizabeth Wourms, "Equipping Congregational Leaders to Live Their Biblical Call from Ephesians 4:11-16 by Facilitating Growth in Self-Awareness" (2007).

Chris Hardy, "Knowledge to Embodiment: The Role of a Skills-training Process in Developing Equipping Leaders" (2007).

Houston Graduate School of Theology (Houston, TX) (2003-2008)

Designed and taught the Pastoral Leadership Track in the Doctor of Ministry program at Houston Graduate School of Theology (2003-

2004).

Adjunct Professor (M.Div.), Houston Graduate School of Theology (2003-2004): The Gospel of John (Fall 2003), The Acts of the Apostles (Spring 2004)

Field Supervisor for Doctor of Ministry Projects at Houston Graduate School of Theology:

Franklin Moore, "Leadership Training for Licensed Ministers: Equipping Licensed Ministers at Cypress Creek Christian Church, Spring, TX, For Effective Leadership Development" (2006)

Dennis Young, "Community Churching: An Authentic Way to Reach the Lost and Disconnected" (2006).

Taught units on The Teaching Ministry of the Church in D.Min. Intensive weeks for both English (2003, 2008) and Korean programs (2008).

Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary (1996-2004)

Adjunct Professor (M.Div.), Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, 1996 (Hebrews), 1997 (Revelation), 2000 (1 Peter, Greek)

Field Supervisor for the following Doctor of Ministry Projects for Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary:

Raymond McHenry, "Equipping Members Within the Gulf Meadows Baptist Church to Minister More Effectively to Those Affected by Chronic Illness" (1994)

Bruce Peterson, "Leading a Church to Develop a Philosophy and Plan of Ministry to Community College Students" (1994)

Joseph Carbonaro, "Enabling Church Members to Evaluate the Moral Content of Feature Films" (1997)

Dale Smith, "Equipping Teams to Cultivate Witnessing Relationships and Launch a Seeker Small Group Pilot Project in a Postmodern Context" (2004)

Houston Baptist University (1987-1990)

Adjunct Professor teaching Old & New Testament Survey Courses

Center for the Study of Natural Systems and the Family (2005-2008)

Developed *Defining Leaders* program to provide training for clergy in the principles and application of Bowen Family Systems Theory. (www.csnsf.org)

American Jewish Committee, Baptist-Jewish Dialogue, Rothko Chapel, Houston, TX (2001)

Union Baptist Association (1998-1999)

Participated in development and implementation of *Young Leaders* program (later renamed *Leader's Edge*) to provide training for pastoral leaders in the Houston area.

International Mission Experiences

Taught one-week pastors' conference at the University Baptist Church in Mbarara, Uganda in 2002, 2003, and 2005 for approximately 50 Ugandan pastors.

Taught triennial all-Asia meeting of Cooperative Baptist Fellowship missionaries in Chiang Mai, Thailand in 2005.

Worked in medical clinics in Oaxaca, Mexico (2008) and Mbarara, Uganda (2005)

Exploratory mission trip to Addis Ababa, Ethiopia (1999) to determine theological education needs.

Evangelism trips to Campinas, Brazil (1979) and Recife, Brazil (1988).

Interim Pastoral Experience

Second Baptist Church, Pasadena, TX

Second Baptist Church, Rosenberg, TX

Kingsland Baptist Church, Katy, TX

University Baptist Church, Houston, TX

First Baptist Church, Sugar Land, TX

First Baptist Church, McKinney TX

Volunteer experience

Non-Profit Boards

Current Boards

The Aurora Network, Dallas, TX

Previous Boards

The Leader's Edge, Houston, TX

Samaritan Center for Counseling and Education, Houston, TX

Faithful Fathering Initiative of Texas, Houston, TX

SemiNEXT, Houston, TX (www.seminext.org)

Right@Home, Houston, TX (www.rightathomemoms.org)

Bay Area Turning Point, Houston, TX
(www.bayareaturningpoint.org)

Institute for Sustainable Peace, Houston, TX
(www.2peace.org)

Denominational Service

Moderator-elect, Moderator, Past Moderator Union Baptist Association (2003-2005)

Board Member, *The Baptist Standard*, Dallas, TX

Vice-Chairman, Theological Education Committee, Baptist General Convention of Texas (1997-1999)

Chairman, Theological Education Committee, Baptist General

Convention of Texas (1999-2001)

Member of Executive Board, Baptist General Convention of Texas (1994)

Trustee, Houston Baptist University (1990-1994)

Further Training

Rice University, Houston, TX (1985-1987)

Post-graduate courses in New Testament studies under Dr. Otto Betz, University of Tübingen and Dr. Werner Kelber of Rice University.

L.E.A.D. Consultants (1990-1994)

Neuro-Linguistic Programming Masters Certification training with Dr. Gene Rooney.

Bowen Family Systems Theory (1998-2008)

Studies at the Center for the Study of Natural Systems and the Family (Houston, TX) and at the Georgetown Family Center (Washington, D.C.) in Bowen Family Systems Theory.

Completed four years in *Defining Leader's* program (Houston TX)

Memberships

Society of Biblical Literature, National Association of Church Business Administrators, Association of Theological Field Educators, Association of Ministry Guidance Professionals, Alban Institute, Healthy Congregations

**Educational
Travel**

Brazil, United Kingdom, Uganda, South Africa, Ethiopia, Egypt, Thailand, Mexico, Israel, Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, and Greece.