CURRICULUM VITAE

Bruce H. Lescher, Ph.D. 2/23

Senior Lecturer Emeritus in Spirituality

Jesuit School of Theology of Santa Clara University

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**Education.**

Degrees:

Ph.D. (Christian Spirituality), Graduate Theological Union, 1991.

M.A.S. (Master in Applied Spirituality), University of San Francisco, 1982.

M.A. (English), University of Michigan, 1973.

B.A. (English), University of Notre Dame, 1968.

**Work Experience.**

2015 –2020 – Adjunct faculty, Graduate Program in Pastoral Ministries, Santa Clara University. Subjects: Transition and Transformation, Faith Doing Justice, Ministry for Peace and Justice.

2017-2018 – Director of the Jesuit School of Theology Renewal Program.

2014-2017 – Senior Lecturer in Spirituality, Jesuit School of Theology of Santa Clara University. Subject: Transition and Transformation.

2007-2014 – Associate Academic Dean, Jesuit School of Theology of Santa Clara University; 2008 – 2014, Senior Lecturer in Spirituality. Subject: MTS Proseminar.

2012-2013 – Interim Director of Ministerial Formation, Jesuit School of Theology of Santa Clara University.

2007 – Summer school faculty, St. Michael’s College, Colchester, VT. Subject: Thomas Merton.

1998-2008 – Director of Sabbatical Programs, Lecturer in Spirituality, Jesuit School of Theology. Subjects: Transition and Transformation; Thomas Merton; Ministry and Spirituality; Introduction to Ignatian Spirituality.

2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2005– Summer school faculty, Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley, CA. Subject: Introduction to Spiritual Direction.

1999, 2005 - Summer school faculty, St. Michael's College, Colchester, VT. Subject: Introduction to Spiritual Direction.

1995-98 - Associate Professor of Spirituality, Catholic Theological Union, Chicago, IL. Subjects: Introduction to the Christian Spiritual Life; Significant Figures in Spirituality; Issues in Spiritual Formation; Introduction to Christian Prayer; Introduction to Spiritual Companionship; Core III (preparing D. Min. students for their thesis‑project); Foundations for the Study of Spirituality; Spirituality: Socioeconomic Dimensions; Contemporary Trends in Spirituality; Advanced Seminar in Spiritual Direction, History of Spirituality: Trent to Vatican II.

1997 ‑ Summer school faculty, St. Michael's College, Colchester, VT. Subject: American Catholic Spirituality: History and Trends.

1990‑95: Assistant Professor of Religious Studies, St. Edward's University, Austin, TX. Subjects: Introduction to Old Testament; Introduction to New Testament; Justice, Peace, and Liberation; Seminar on Thomas Merton; Spirituality and Everyday Life; Capstone Course (senior exit essay).

Areas of Specialization.

History of Christian spirituality, especially modern American Catholic spirituality.

**Areas of Competence.**

Spiritual formation, spiritual direction, Christian prayer, spirituality and social justice.

**Dissertation Topic.**

The Spiritual Life and Social Action in American Catholic Spirituality: William J. Kerby and Paul Hanly Furfey. Director: Sandra M. Schneiders, S.T.D.

**Honors.**

1988: Newhall Award from the Graduate Theological Union for teaching assistantship.

1987: Newhall Award from the Graduate Theological Union for research assistantship.

**Publications.**

“Spirituality in the English-Speaking World Since Vatican II: An Overview,” Mysterion 8 (2015): 140-152.

“Spiritual Direction in the Roman Catholic Tradition,” in John R. Mabry, ed., *Spiritual Guidance*

*Across Religions* (Woodstock, VT: Skylights Paths Publishing, 2014), 262-274.

“Thomas Merton (1915-68): New Seeds of Contemplation,” in Arthur Holder, ed., *Christian Spirituality: The Classics* (London and New York: Routledge, 2010), 353-364.

“What Next? The Value of Sabbatical,” *Church* (Winter 2007): 5-7.

*Exploring Christian Spirituality: Essays in Honor of Sandra M. Schneiders*. Co-editor with Elizabeth Liebert, SNJM. New York/Mahwah, NJ: Paulist Press, 2006.

“Diaknonia and the Diaconate,” entry for *The New Westminster Dictionary of Christian Spirituality*, Philip Sheldrake (Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2005), 241-243.

“The Truth That Makes Us Free,” *The Way* 43 (October 2004): 135-145.

Review of Wayne Teasdale, *A Monk in the World: Cultivating a Spiritual Life* (New World Library, 2002) in *Catholic Library World* 73 (December 2002), 122-123.

Review of Jonathan Star (ed.), *The Inner Treasure: An Introduction to the World’s Sacred and Mystical Writings* (Penguin Putnam, 1999) in *Catholic Library World* 72 (June 2002): 244.

Review of Paul Wilkes, *Beyond the Walls: Monastic Wisdom for Everyday Life* (Doubleday, 1999) in *Catholic Library World* 72 (June 2002): 246.

Review of Thomas Hart, *Spiritual Quest: A Guide to the Changing Landscape* (Paulist Press, 1999) in *Catholic Library World* 72 (March 2002): 172.

“Catholicism and Postmodernity: Faithing Our Practice,” *The Way* 41 (July 2001): 246-256.

“Spiritual Direction: Stalking the Boundaries,” in Robert J. Wicks, ed., *Handbook of Spirituality for Ministers*, vol. 2 (New York: Paulist Press, 2000).

“Forming a People of the Spirit: What are They Saying About Spiritual Formation?” *New Theology Review* 11 (November 1998): 5-13.

Review of Fred R. Gustafson, *Dancing Between Two Worlds: Jung and the Native American Soul* (Paulist Press, 1997) in *Catholic Library World* 68 (June 1998): 37-38.

Review of Robert Wuthnow, *The Crisis in the Churches: Spiritual Malaise, Fiscal Woe* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1997) in *Horizons* 25 (Spring 1998): 122-123.

"American Catholic Spirituality," in Michael Glazier and Thomas J. Shelley, eds, *Dictionary of American Catholic History* (Collegeville, MN: Liturgical Press, 1997), 45-53.

Review of Lawrence S. Cunningham and Keith J. Egan, *Christian Spirituality: Themes from the*

*Tradition* (New York: Paulist Press, 1996) in *Catholic Library World* 68 (December 1997): 66.

Review of Michael Downey, *Understanding Christian Spirituality* (New York: Paulist Press, 1997) in *Catholic Library World* 68 (September 1997): 38.

Review of Joan Mueller, *Faithful Listening: Discernment in Everyday Life* (Kansas City, MO: Sheed & Ward, 1996) in *Catholic Library World* 67 (June 1997): 50.

"The Professionalization of Spiritual Direction: Promise and Peril," *Listening* 32 (Spring 1997): 81‑90.

"Paul Hanly Furfey: Insights from a Spiritual Pilgrimage," *Records of the American Catholic Historical Society of Philadelphia* 107 (Fall‑Winter 1996): 39‑63.

Review of James J. Bacik, *Spirituality in Transition* (Kansas City, MO: Sheed & Ward, 1996) in *Catholic Library World* 67 (December 1996): 36‑37.

Review of Dennis Tamburello, *Ordinary Mysticism* (New York: Paulist Press, 1996) in  *Catholic Library World* 67 (September 1996): 39.

"A Vocation of Love," in Michael Meister, ed., *The Declaration: Text and Contexts* (Landover, MD: Christian Brothers Publications, 1994), 152‑167.

"A Journal for the Journey," *Catholic Spirit* (Austin), January 1994, 4 and 6.

Review of David J. O'Brien, *Isaac Hecker: An American Catholic* (New York: Paulist Press, 1992) in *Christian Spirituality Bulletin* 1 (Fall 1993): 28‑29.

"Religious Brotherhood: A Prolegomenon," *CMSM Forum* 62 (Winter 1993): 8‑17. Reprinted as "A Prologue to Brotherhood," in Michael Meister, ed., *Blessed Ambiguity: Brothers in*

 *the Church* (Landover, MD: Christian Brother Publications, 1993), 11‑26.

"Who Got Healed in Gulf War?" *Catholic Spirit* (Austin), October 1991, 20.

"William J. Kerby: A Lost Voice in American Catholic Spirituality." *Records of the American Catholic Historical Society of Philadelphia* 102 (Spring 1991): 1‑16.

"Voices from the Edge," *Catholic Spirit* (Austin), May 1991, 17, and June 1991, 13.

"Brothers in the Church Today: Probing the Silence," *New Blackfriars* 71 (October 1990): 445‑455. Reprinted as "Les fréres dans l'Église d'aujourd'hui: un silence à questionner," *réseau* [Newsletter of the Dominicans' Province Saint‑Dominique, Québec] 3 (Mars

1991): 2‑7.

"Laybrothers: Questions Then, Questions Now," *Cistercian Studies* 23:1 (1988): 63‑85.

"Justice as Interpretation," *Review for Religious* 44 (1985): 899‑906.

"Religious Formation: Beyond the Healing Paradigm," *Review for Religious* 42 (1983): 853‑858.

"A Consultation on Christian Community," *Review for Religious* 40 1981): 918‑925.

"Toward a Spirituality of Liminality," *Review for Religious* 39 (1980): 725‑738.

"Chapin St. and the Meaning of Social Justice," *Notre Dame Magazine*, Apr 76.

"Technology and Religious Life," *Cross and Crown* 27 (1975): 51‑62.

"New Breed Christianity," *Cross and Crown* 21 (1969): 302‑310.

**Editorial Work.**

Editorial correspondent, *The Way* (Great Britain), 2002-2020.

Member, Editorial Board, *Reflective Practice: Journal of Supervision and Formation in Ministry*, 2006-2010.

# Memberships.

International Thomas Merton Society, Pax Christi (USA).