

Brian C. Wilson
Curriculum Vitae

Address: Department of Comparative Religion
Western Michigan University
Kalamazoo, MI 49008

Phone: (269) 387-4361 (Office)
(269) 384-2061 (Home)
E-mail: wilsonb2@wmich.edu

Academic Positions at Western Michigan University

Assistant Professor (1996), Associate Professor (2000), Professor (2004)

Interim Director, American Studies Program, Fall 2000 to Summer 2001

Chair, Department of Comparative Religion, Summer 2001 to Fall 2007; Fall 2008 to Fall 2010

Interim Chair, Department of Philosophy, Summer 2003 to Summer 2005

Education and Degrees:

Stanford University, Medical Microbiology, B.S. with honors, June 1982

Instituto de Norte Indiana de Entrenimiento, Tegucigalpa, Honduras, Certificate in Spanish,
October 1983

Monterey Institute of International Studies, Hispanic Studies, M.A. with honors, September 1990

University of California, Santa Barbara, Religious Studies, M.A., December 1991; Ph.D.,
December 1996

Awards

2010 Faculty Fellow of the Lee Honors College, Western Michigan University

2011 Arts & Sciences Faculty Achievement Award in Professional and Community Service

Research and Publication

Publications

- | | | |
|---|--|--------------------------|
| 1992 "Bringing Tocqueville In: Remediating a Neglect in the Sociology of Religion" with Lisle Dalton, Phillip Hammond, Julie Ingersoll, David Machacek, Elisabeth Pullen, Roger Valdez | <i>Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion.</i> 31(4)
December 1992: 395-407. | Article |
| 1993 <i>Competing Visions of Paradise: The California Experience of 19th-Century American Sectarianism.</i>
John K. Simmons and Brian Wilson | Fithian Press,
Santa Barbara, CA | Book |
| 1996 "American Approaches to South Asian Spirituality," Brian Wilson and Cybelle Shattuck in <i>Dharma in the Golden State: South Asian Religious Traditions in California</i> by Cybelle Shattuck | Fithian Press,
Santa Barbara, CA | Book
Chapter |
| 1997 "Fray Pedro de Gante," "The <i>Doce Apóstolos</i> ," "Bishop Juan de Zumárraga" (1997) | <i>Encyclopedia of Mexico: History, Society and Culture</i>
Fitzroy Dearborn Publishers,
Chicago, IL | Encyclopedia
Articles |

1999 <i>Christianity</i>	Prentice Hall & Routledge New York and London	Book
1999 <i>Christianity</i> , Chinese edition of <i>Christianity</i> .	Owl Publishing House Taipei, Taiwan	Book Trans.
1999 <i>Cristianismo</i> , Portuguese edition of <i>Christianity</i> , translated by Pedro Elói Duarte	Edições 70 Lisbon, Portugal	Book Trans.
1999 <i>Christentum</i> , German edition of <i>Christianity</i> , translated by Ulrich Ruh	Herder Freiburg, Germany	Book Trans.
1999 <i>What is Religion? Origins, Definitions & Explanations.</i> Thomas Idinopulos and Brian Wilson (eds.)	Brill, Leiden	Edited Book
1999 "From the Lexical to the Polythetic: A Brief History of the Definition of Religion" (in <i>What is Religion?</i> above)		Book Chapter
1999 "Seventh-Day Adventism and 19th-Century American Sectarianism" in Michael Nassaney (ed.), <i>An Intensive Archaeological Survey of the James and Ellen G. White House Site (20CA118), Battle Creek, Michigan</i>	Department of Anthropology, Western Michigan University	Report Chapter
2001 "The Spirit of the Motor City: Three Hundred Years of Religious History in Detroit"	<i>Michigan Historical Review</i> 21:7 (Spring 2001): 1-32	Article
2001 <i>Cristianismo</i> , Spanish edition of <i>Christianity</i> , translated by Javier Delgado	Akal Madrid, Spain	Book Trans.
2001 <i>Reappraising Durkheim For the Study and Teaching of Religion Today</i> Thomas Idinopulos and Brian Wilson (eds.)	Brill Leiden, The Netherlands	Edited Book
2001 "Altars and Chalkstones: The Anomalous Case of Puritan Sacred Space in Light Of Durkheim's Theory of Ritual" (in <i>Reappraising Durkheim</i> above)		Book Chapter
2002 <i>The Pocket Idiot's Guide to Christianity</i>	Alpha Books Indianapolis, IN	Book
2003 "Religion in Michigan," "Father Charles Coughlin," "Gabriel Richard"	<i>Encyclopedia of the Midwest: Religion</i> , Peter W. Williams (ed.) Ohio State University Press, Columbus, OH	Encyclo- pedia Articles
2003 <i>Religion as a Human Capacity: A Festschrift in Honor of E. Thomas Lawson</i> , Timothy Light and Brian Wilson (eds.)	Brill Leiden, The Netherlands	Book
2003 "A Brief Intellectual Biography of E. Thomas Lawson" (in <i>Religion as a Human Capacity</i> above)		Book Chapter

2003 “What Does Jerusalem Have to Do With Amecameca: A Case Study of Colonial Mexican Sacred Space” (in <i>Religion as a Human Capacity</i> above)		Book Chapter
2004 “Religion in the Midwest” in <i>The Midwest</i> , Joseph Slade and Judith Lee (eds.)	Greenwood Publishing Westport, CT	Book Chapter
2006 <i>Comparative Religion: Perils and Possibilities</i> (ed. with Thomas A. Idinopulos and James C. Hanges)	Brill Leiden, The Netherlands	Edited Book
2007 <i>Die Fünf Weltreligionen: Geschichte, Lehren, Perspektiven</i> , B.K. Hawkins, B. Wilson, C. Shattuck, J. J. Elias, and D. Cohn-Sherbok	Hohe Frieberg	Book Trans.
2007 <i>Christianity</i> , Japanese edition of <i>Christianity</i>		Book Trans.
2008 <i>Yankees in Michigan (Discovering The Peoples of Michigan Series)</i>	Michigan State University Press, Lansing, MI	Book
2010 “Religion in the Great Lakes States” in <i>Encyclopedia of Religion in America</i> , Charles Lippy and Peter Williams (eds.)	CQ Press Washington, DC	Encyclopedia Article
2011 “Religion, Horror, and Monsters” in <i>Encyclopedia of Religion and Film</i> , Eric Mazur (ed.).	ABC-Clio Santa Barbara, CA	Encyclopedia Article
Forthcoming “Liberal Education and the Academic Study of Religion” www.rsonline.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1141&Itemid=1270	<i>Religious Studies News</i> May, 2012	Online Article
Forthcoming “Graduate Student Pedagogical Training as a Key Component of Stand-Alone MA Programs in Religious Studies” with Stephen G. Covell	<i>Religious Studies News</i>	Online Article
Research Projects in Progress		
<i>The Rise and Fall of the Temple of Health: Religion, Medicine, and the Battle Creek Sanitarium</i>		Projected Book
<i>The Heart of the Heartland: The Religious History of the Midwest</i>		Projected Book
Book Reviews		
1995 “Review of Fernando Cervantes' <i>The Devil in the New World: The Impact of Diabolism in New Spain</i> (UC Press)”	<i>Journal of Hispanic/Latino Theology</i> 2(4) May, 1995: 51-54.	
2004 “Review of John Burris' <i>Exhibiting Religion</i> .”	<i>Journal of the American Of Religion</i> 72:3 (Sept. 2004): 762-65.	
2007 “Review of Lynn Bridges, <i>The American Religious Experience: A Concise History</i> ”	<i>Journal of Church and State</i> 49:1 (Winter 2007): 149-51.	

2007 "Review of Elder John Sparks' *Raccoon John Smith: Frontier Kentucky's Most Famous Preacher*"

Indiana Magazine of History 103 (June, 2007): 203-204.

Forthcoming "Review of Constantine Nasr (ed.), *Roger Corman: Interviews*"

Journal of American Culture

Forthcoming "Review of *The Columbia Guide to Religion in American History*"

Journal of Church and State

Peer Reviewer

August, 1996: Book manuscript on Chicano religion for University of California Press.

December, 1996: Article on Vivekananda for *Numen*

July, 1998: Article on baptismal behavior of Pennsylvania Presbyterians for *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*

September, 1998: Reader manuscript on theory and method in the academic study of religion for Wadsworth Press

September, 1999: Second review of manuscript on theory and method in the academic study of religion for Wadsworth Press

February, 2000: Textbook manuscript, *Religion and the Modern World*, for Routledge Press

February, 2000: Textbook proposal, *Understanding Religion in a Global Society*, for Wadsworth Press

June 23, 2000: Book proposal, *Max Müller*, for Routledge Press

July, 2001: Article on religion and the Depression in Ann Arbor, Michigan for *Michigan Historical Review*

February, 2002: Textbook manuscript, *Understanding Religion in A Global Society: An Interactive Introduction*, for Wadsworth Press

August, 2003: Article on religion and abortion in Russia for *The Journal of Applied Sociology*

September, 2003: Article on South American Catholic ethnomusicology for *Explorations in Media Ecology*

January, 2004: Book manuscript on contemporary reflections on the Gospels for University Press of America

March, 2005: Book manuscript, Khen Lampert, *Traditions of Compassion: From Religious Duty to Social Activism* for Palgrave Press

October, 2005: Book manuscript proposal, Martha Finch, *Corporeal Saints: Religion and the Body in Plymouth Colony* for Columbia University Press

December, 2008: Article on Comparative Theology for *Journal of the American Academy of Religion*

August, 2011: Book manuscript, *Tragedy, Trauma, and the Myth-Making Process* for Alta Mira Press.

August, 2011: Article on definitions of religion for *Religion*.

Grant Proposals Co-Authored

With Linda Borish (History), *Towards the Next Millennium: America's Diverse Religious Landscape in Historical Perspective*, USIA Summer Institute (1998, not funded).

With Katherine Joslin (American Studies) and John Saillant (English), *Rolling on the River: Waterways to Diversity in America*, Fulbright Summer Institute (funded for 1999-2001).

With Katherine Joslin (American Studies), *Rolling on the River: Waterways to Diversity in America*, Fulbright Summer Institute in Egypt (2002, not funded).

With Katherine Joslin (American Studies), *Home on the Range: Transformations of the America's West*, Fulbright American Studies Summer Institute on "American Civilization" (2003, not funded).

With Katherine Joslin, Thomas Bailey, Peter Blickle, Irma Lopez, *A Proposal for a Humanities Institute at Western Michigan University* (funded 2010).

With Amy DeRogatis (MSU) and Shreena Ghandi (Kalamazoo College), *E Pluribus Unum? Understanding the Challenges and Benefits of American Religious Pluralism*, Fulbright Summer Institute of American Religious Pluralism (2010, not funded).

Teaching

Teaching Areas

American Religious History; New Religious Movements; Religion in the Midwest; World Religions and Philosophies; Theory and Method in the Academic Study of Religion

Courses Taught at WMU

Religion 1000: Religions of the World
Religion 2000: Introduction to the Academic Study of Religion
Religion 3130: Religion in America
Religion 4500: Capstone Seminar in Religious Studies
Religion 5000: Alternative American Scriptures
Religion 6000: Classics in Theory and Method
Religion 6100: Contemporary Theory and Method
Religion 6150: Survey of Religions of the World and Pedagogy
Religion 6200: Advanced Seminar in Comparative Religion (Topics taught: American Sacred Space; Western Esotericism; Evolution, Creationism, and Intelligent Design; New England Theology)
Religion 7100: Independent Research (Topics taught: Introduction to Phenomenology; Ninian Smart's *World Philosophies*; Max Weber's *Studies in Comparative Religion*; Mircea Eliade's *History of Religious Ideas* [3 volumes]; Comparative Philosophy of Religion)

American Studies 4900: American Studies in a Global Comparative Context

Honors College 4900: The Island as Text: The Beaver Island Experience

WMU Lifelong Learning Academy: Ralph Waldo Emerson and *Nature*

Undergraduate Honors Thesis Committees

Member: Jenna Hildenbrand, "Seeking the Face of God: A Feminist Critique of Exclusively Male God Imagery" (Defended Winter 2000)
Chair: Joseph Sanok, "Psychological Approaches to Teaching Ethics at a Primary Level" (Defended Fall 2000)
Chair: Emily Joslin-Jeske, "Mythology and Popular Culture" (Defended Spring 2004)
Chair: James Bigari, "The Impact of Catholicism on the Political Attitudes of the Laity" (Defended Spring 2007)
Member: Halley Stevens, "Irish Immigration to Southwest Michigan: Why and Where" (Defended Summer I 2008)

Graduate Committees

M.A. Committees (Degree Completed)

Nicole Allen	Thesis (Fall, '04)	Chair
Paula Aylward	Exam (Summer, '11)	Member

Bill Bjorling	Exam (Fall, '97)	Member
Peter Boylan	Thesis (Fall, '99)	Member
Joseph Byle	Thesis (Fall, '09)	Chair
Steven Chamberlin	Thesis (Fall, '02)	Member
Elmer Cox	Thesis (Fall, '03)	Chair
Irene Dao	Exam (Fall, '00)	Member
Brandon Dean	Thesis (Fall, '09)	Chair
Amy Deboer	Thesis (Summer, '08)	Member
Christine Drewel	Thesis (Summer, '99)	Chair
Tim Ehrhardt (History)	Thesis (Spring, '02)	Member
Michelle Fether	Exam (Spring, '03)	Chair
Sarah Gillum	Exam (Winter, '99)	Member
Rebekka Hoffman	Thesis (Spring, '04)	Chair
Walter Jensen	Thesis (Winter, '03)	Member
Judith Krane-Calvert	Exam (Spring, '11)	Member
Brent Krohn	Thesis (Summer, '09)	Member
Randi Jo McLeod	Thesis (Summer, '08)	Member
Johnson McDowell	Thesis (Spring, '01)	Member
Megan Macdonald	Thesis (Spring, '01)	Chair
David Mead	Exam (Summer, '08)	Member
Richelle Mead	Thesis (Fall, '01)	Member
Richard Meldrum	Exam (Spring, '99)	Member
Jason Messana	Thesis (Summer, '02)	Member
Etsuko Mita	Thesis (Summer, '99)	Member
Joel Mort	Thesis (Summer, '03)	Member
Dieu-Thien Nguyen	Exam (Fall, '00)	Member
Jennifer Ralston	Thesis (Spring, '99)	Member
Kayle Rice	Exam (Summer, '97)	Member
Amy Slagle	Thesis (Winter, '00)	Chair
Hamid Slimi	Exam (Fall, '97)	Member
Yumi Takahashi	Thesis (Summer, '01)	Member
David Tarrien	Exam (Spring, '00)	Member
Todd Tremlin	Thesis (Spring, '01)	Member
Kimberly Yeager	Exam (Fall, '97)	Member
D. J. Van Slyke	Thesis (Summer II, '06)	Member
Federico Velez	Exam (Spring, '05)	Member
David Waara	Thesis (Fall, '98)	Member
Chadd Webb	Exam (Summer, '08)	Chair
Shannon Wiese	Exam (Spring, '12)	Chair
Kelly Wilcox (History)	Exam (Summer I, '03)	Member

WMU Ph.D. Committee Memberships (Degree Completed)

Michael Ciletti (History)	Exam (Fall, '07)	Member
Rob Galler (History)	Exam (Fall, '97) & Dissertation (Fall, '00)	Member
Paul George	Exam (Spring, '03) & Dissertation (Fall, '04)	Chair
Rebekka Mehl	Exam (Fall, '07) & Dissertation (Summer, '11)	Chair
Clifford Jones (History)	Exam (Fall, '99) & Dissertation (Spring, '00)	Member
D. Jason Slone	Exam (Fall, '01) & Dissertation (Spring, '02)	Member
Todd Tremlin	Exam (Fall, '03) & Dissertation (Fall, '04)	Member
Mark Veldt (History)	Dissertation (Summer, '07)	Member
Rajka Zaninovic	Exam (Summer, '01) and Dissertation (Fall '06)	Member

Ph.D. Committee Memberships (outside WMU)

Sritidhar Biswas	Dissertation (Spring 2005)	Member
Jadavpur University, Calcutta, India		

University Service

Department of Comparative Religion

Director of Graduate Studies, Comparative Religion, 1998-2001; 2008-2009
Organizer, "March to the Millennium" Lecture Series, Fall 1999
Search Committee Member, Position in Christianity, Fall 2000

Department Chair, Summer 2001-Fall 2007; Fall 2008-Fall 2010

Additional service as Chair:

Undergraduate Advisor, Comparative Religion, 2001-2005
Search Committee Chair, Position in African-American Religions, Fall 2001
Search Committee Member, Position in Japanese Religions, Fall 2001
Hired replacement office associate, Summer 2002
Front office reorganization, August 2002
Search Committee Member, Position in Christianity, Fall 2002
Organized visit of Distinguished Alumnus, E. Linenthal, Fall 2002
Prepared Departmental History for Western's Centennial Celebration Publication, 2003
Search Committee Member, Position in Christianity, Fall 2003 (search cancelled)
Organized visit of Distinguished Alumnus, Edward Gaskin, Fall 2003
Search Committee Member, Position in Christianity, Fall 2003
Author, Comparative Religion Assessment Program, Fall 2003
Search Committee Member, Position in Chinese Religions, Fall 2004
Organized visit of Distinguished Alumnus, Robert McCauley, Fall 2004
Author, Comparative Religion Compact Plan, Fall 2004
Organized visit of Phi Beta Kappa Lecturer, Bernard McGinn, Fall 2005
Search Committee Member, Position in Chinese Religions, Fall 2007
Organized visit of Distinguished Alumnus, Daniel Pellegrum, Fall 2008
Author, Comparative Religion Compact Plan, Fall 2008
Search Committee Chair, Position in Islam, Fall 2008
Organized visit of Distinguished Alumna, Rebecca Lyman, Fall 2009
Coordinator, Comparative Religion Program Review for HLC, Fall 2009

Member, Tenure and Promotion Committee, Fall 2009

Chair, Tenure and Promotion Committee, Fall 2010

Facilitator, Department of Comparative Religion Film Series, *Cabeza de Vaca*, March 10, 2011

Chair, Tenure and Promotion Committee, Fall 2011

Chair, Search Committee, Position in Religion, Spirituality, and Health, Spring 2012

Program in American Studies

American Studies Steering Committee, 1997-2004

Participated in the drafting of the proposal for the American Studies Program, Western Michigan University, Fall 1998

Designed Curriculum for Capstone Seminar in American Studies, AMS 490: American Studies in a Global Comparative Context, Summer, Fall 1998

Interim Director of American Studies, 2000 to 2001

Organized American Studies Speakers Series, Winter 2000

Search Committee Member, Interdisciplinary Position in American Studies, Winter 2001

Academic Co-Director, USIA Summer Institute in American Studies, Summer 1999; Summer 2000; Summer 2001

Department of Philosophy

Interim Chair, 2003-2005

Search Committee Chair, Outside Chair Search, Fall 2004 (search cancelled)

Search Committee Member, Position in Bioethics, Fall 2004
Author, Philosophy Assessment Program, Fall 2004
Author, Philosophy Compact Plan, Fall 2004

University Service

Graduate College Dissertation Fellowship Committee, Spring 1999
Instructor, University-Wide Graduate Assistant Training Workshop, Fall 1999, Fall 2001, Fall 2002, Fall 2003, Fall 2004
Undergraduate Studies Council (presidential appointee), Spring 2000-Fall 2006.
Vice Chair, USC, Fall 2002-Fall 2003
Medallion Competition Evaluator, Spring 2003, Spring 2004
Chair, General Education Review Taskforce (GERT), Summer 2005-January 2006
Member, General Education Policy and Assessment Committee (GEPAC), Summer 2006-Fall 2007
Chair, Arts and Sciences Promotion Committee, 2009-present.

Outside Program Reviewer

Chair, Outside Review Team, Hunter College Religion Program, April 26-27, 2007

Professional Societies and Conference Administration

Member of the American Academy of Religion (since 1989), the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion (since 1990), the American Historical Association (since 1995); American Society for Church History (since 2009); Michigan Academy of Arts and Sciences (since 2011).

Conference Administration: American Academy of Religion, Midwest Region
Section Chair (Theory and Method), 1997-2002
Vice President and Program Chair, 1999-2000
President, 2001-2003

Steering Committee Member: Wach Symposium, American Academy of Religion, 1999-2000

Conferences on Academic Administration Attended

“New Intellectual and Institutional Frameworks” (Sponsored by the AAC&U), March 26-28, 1998, Chicago, IL

“The Entrepreneurial Chair: Building and Managing Your Department in an Era of Shrinking Resources and Increasing Demands” (By invitation, sponsored by the American Academy of Religion), June 19-21, 2003, Georgetown University, Washington, D.C.

“Assessment Workshop,” (Sponsored by the Higher Learning Commission), February 8-9, 2006, Lisle, IL

“Performance Task Institute: CLA Training,” May 15-16, 2012, Kalamazoo, MI

Public Presentations and Conferences

March 18, 1992, “Notes on the Relationship Between Religion and Public Opinion in Tocqueville's *Democracy in America*,” Western Coast American Academy of Religion Conference, Santa Clara University.

March 25, 1994, “The New World's Jerusalems: Mythical Geographies and Sacred Space in the New World,” American Academy of Religion Conference, Santa Clara University.

April 7, 1995, “The New World's Jerusalems: The Mythical Geographies of Dissent in New Spain and New England,” Pew Fellows Conference, New Haven, CN.

February 10, 1995, "Mormons and Christian Scientists in California History," California Studies Conference, Long Beach, CA.

August 11, 1996, "What Does Jerusalem Have to do with Amecameca?: A Case Study of Colonial Mexican Sacred Space," American Historical Association, Pacific Coast Branch Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA.

January 19, 1996, "America's Growing Religious Diversity," People's Church (Unitarian) Forum, Kalamazoo, MI.

April 25, 1997, "The Sacred into the Profane: The Construction of Sacred Space in the Colonial Americas," The Future of Religion Conference, Inter-University Centre, Dubrovnik, Croatia.

November 20, 1997, "Cults' or 'New Religious Movements?'" People's Church (Unitarian/Universalist) Forum, Kalamazoo, MI.

May 5, 1998, "Seventh-Day Adventism and 19th-Century American Sectarianism," 1998 Field School in Historical Anthropology, Anthropology Department, WMU, Kalamazoo, MI.

November 8, 1998, "Whatever Happened to the Religious Right?" People's Church (Unitarian/Universalist) Forum, Kalamazoo, MI.

November 21, 1998, "Wach Symposium Response," American Academy of Religion Conference, Orlando, FL.

June 29, 1999, "Religious Diversity on a Colonial Shore," USIA Summer Institute in American Studies for University Educators, Kalamazoo, MI.

July 8, 1999, "Seventh-Day Adventism in Battle Creek," USIA Summer Institute in American Studies for University Educators, Kalamazoo, MI.

July 12, 1999, "Introduction to Mormonism," USIA Summer Institute in American Studies for University Educators, Kalamazoo, MI.

September 24, 1999, "A World Religion in Our Own Backyard: The Historical Archaeology of Seventh-Day Adventism in Battle Creek" with Michael Nassaney, joint presentation for WMU Emerging Scholars in American Studies Lecture Series and March to the Millennium Lecture Series, WMU, Kalamazoo, MI.

January 30, 2000, "Religion and the World Wide Web." People's Church (Unitarian/Universalist) Forum, Kalamazoo, MI.

May 21, 2000, "Religion and the World Wide Web." First Presbyterian Church Forum, Three Rivers, MI.

July 5, 2000, "Religious Diversity in the American Colonies," Fulbright Summer Institute in American Studies, Kalamazoo, MI.

July 17, 2000, "Mormon Migration," Fulbright Summer Institute in American Studies, Kalamazoo, MI.

October 22, 2000, "Do the Harry Potter Books Cast an Evil Spell," People's Church (Unitarian/Universalist) Forum, Kalamazoo, MI.

March 21, 2001, "Religion and Sexuality," lecture and discussion with Sexual Health Peer Educators of WMU Sindecuse Health Center, Christine Zimmer, Director.

July 5, 2001, "Religious Diversity in the American Colonies," Fulbright Summer Institute in American Studies, Kalamazoo, MI.

July 17, 2001, "Mormon Migration," Fulbright Summer Institute in American Studies, Kalamazoo, MI.

October 14, 2001, "Rethinking Michigan's Religious History," People's Church (Unitarian/Universalist) Forum, Kalamazoo, MI.

December 1, 2002, "What Does 9/11 Say About Western Culture?" People's Church (Unitarian/Universalist) Forum, Kalamazoo, MI.

December 14, 2003, "Bush, Biblical Prophecy, and American Foreign Policy," People's Church (Unitarian/Universalist) Forum, Kalamazoo, MI.

October 31, 2004, "The United States: A Protestant Country No More?" People's Church (Unitarian/Universalist) Forum, Kalamazoo, MI.

November 14, 2004, "Fundamentalism and the *Left Behind* Series," St. Michael's Episcopal Church, Battle Creek, MI.

January 23, 2005, "Religion and Film," Portage Unitarian/Universalist Church, Portage, MI.

April 24, 2005, "The United States: A Protestant Country No More?" First Congregational Church, Kalamazoo, MI.

September 8, 2005, "Religion and Films," KUULS (WMU Unitarian Student Organization).

September 15, 2005, "America Whys: Why They Came," Learning Out Loud Series, Portage Library, Portage, MI.

October 2, 2005, "Conservative Christianity: What's the Attraction?" People's Church (Unitarian/Universalist) Forum, Kalamazoo, MI.

April 24, 2005, "Conservative Christianity: What's the Attraction?" First Congregational Church, Kalamazoo, MI.

September 3, 2006, "Comparative Religion and Liberal Education," Portage Unitarian/Universalist Church, Portage, MI.

May 14, 2007, "James Jesse Strang and the Strangite Mormons on Beaver Island," lectures for Lee Honors College Summer Course, "The Island as Text," Beaver Island, MI.

June 8, 2007, Keynote Speaker for Inauguration of Sambodh Center for Human Excellence, Kalamazoo, MI.

March 17, 2008, "The Battle for Battle Creek: Religious Conflict in a 19th-Century Midwestern Town," invited lecture, Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies, University of Tennessee, Chattanooga.

April 21, 2009, "Yankees in Michigan," Kalamazoo Historical Society, Portage, Michigan.

September 18, 2009, "The Battle for Battle Creek: Religious Conflict in a 19th-Century Midwestern Town," invited lecture, Department of Religious Studies, Michigan State University, Lansing, MI.

August 31, 2010, "Spiritual Healing in the United States," invited lecture, Lee Honors College, Western Michigan University.

October 17, 2010, "Transcending Blah, Blah, Blah: Strategies for Inter-religious Dialogue," invited lecture, Sambodh Center for Human Excellence, Kalamazoo, MI.

February 19, 2011, "Transcending Blah, Blah, Blah: Strategies for Inter-religious Dialogue," People's Church (Unitarian/Universalist) Forum, Kalamazoo, MI.

February 24, 2011, "KJV in the USA: The Social and Cultural Impact of the King James Bible in America," invited lecture, Department of Comparative Religion Research Workshop Series.

March 13, 2011, "KJV in the USA: The Social and Cultural Impact of the King James Bible in America," invited lecture, Hatcher Library, University of Michigan.

April 8, 2011, "The Battle for Battle Creek: Sectarian Competition in the Yankee West," American Society for Church History Spring Meeting, Grand Rapids, MI.

September 30, 2011, "The Rise and Fall of the Temple of Health: Science, Medicine, and the Battle Creek Sanitarium," Western Michigan University Medical Humanities Conference, Kalamazoo, MI.

November 16 & 17, 2011 "Towards Tolerance: Religious Pluralism in America," Real Talk Diversity Series, WMU Multicultural Center, Kalamazoo, MI.

January 23, 2011, "The Rise and Fall of the Temple of Health: Religion, Medicine, and the Battle Creek Sanitarium," WMU History Department Lecture Series, Kalamazoo, MI.

March 2, 2012, "The Rise and Fall of the Temple of Health: Religion, Medicine, and the Battle Creek Sanitarium," Michigan Academy of Arts and Sciences, Alma, MI

March 21, 2012, "The Rise and Fall of the Temple of Health: Religion, Medicine, and the Battle Creek Sanitarium," WMU Medical Humanities Workgroup, Kalamazoo, MI

May 5, 2012, "The Rise and Fall of the Temple of Health: Religion, Medicine, and the Battle Creek Sanitarium," Corresponding Motions: Religions and Religion in 19th-century America, University of California, Santa Barbara, CA

Interviews

July 11, 1995, "The Religious Significance of Water and Ponce de León's Quest for the Fountain of Youth," interview for "Ponce de León's Search for the Fountain of Youth," a documentary in A&E's *Ancient Mysteries* television series (Aired 10/13/95).

May 24, 1997, "North Side Churches Flourish," by Wade Thomson, *Kalamazoo Gazette*.

June 1, 1997, "Area's Religious Community Growing and Diversifying," by Dave Person, *Kalamazoo Gazette*.

December 23, 1997, "When Holidays Collide: Celebrations This Year Feature Greater Diversity with Convergence of Hanukkah, Christmas, Kwanzaa and Ramadan," by Julie Mack, *Kalamazoo Gazette*.

May 13, 1999, "Mythical, Philosophical and Religious Elements Draw Fans to 'Star Wars'," radio interview with Mark Schwerin, WMUK, Kalamazoo, MI.

December 23, 1999, "The Coming of the New Millennium," radio interview with Mark Schwerin, WMUK, Kalamazoo, MI.

October 28, 2000, "Origins of Halloween," radio interview with Mark Schwerin, WMUK, Kalamazoo, MI.

November 11, 2000, "Church as Lifestyle: It's Trend," by Dave Person, *Kalamazoo Gazette*.

April 1, 2001, "Religion's Changing Face," by Chris Meehan, *Kalamazoo Gazette*.

May 5, 2001, "Spiritual Struggle: Woman Loses Job at Preschool Over Refusal to Leave Church," by Chris Meehan, *Kalamazoo Gazette*.

May 20, 2001, "Diverse Faiths Peacefully Co-Existing," by Chris Meehan, *Kalamazoo Gazette*.

November 3, 2001, "Debate Over Proposals is Healthy Sign," by Chris Meehan, *Kalamazoo Gazette*.

November 29, 2001, "Church Attendance After Sept. 11," radio interview with Dave Jaconette, WKZO, Kalamazoo, MI.

December 1, 2001, "Church Attendance Returning to Near-normal Levels Here," by Chris Meehan, *Kalamazoo Gazette*.

March 23, 2002, "Living Waters: Easter Brings Season of Initiation for Christians," by Chris Meehan, *Kalamazoo Gazette*.

Winter, 2002, "Shedding Light: When Religion and Politics Collide," by Marie Lee, *WMU: The Western Michigan University Magazine*.

July 1, 2002, "The Bible and the Apocalypse: Why More Americans Are Reading and Talking About the End of the World," by Nancy Gibbs, *Time*.

July 12, 2002, "Unintentional Pioneer: Gay Pastor 'Saddened' by Church of the Brethren's Vote that Could Revoke His Ordination," by Chris Meehan, *Kalamazoo Gazette*.

September 22, 2002, "Shifting Spirituality: Clear-cut Rules on Modern Life Help Fuel Fundamentalist Boom," by Chris Meehan, *Kalamazoo Gazette*.

October 25, 2002, "Origins of Halloween Customs," radio interview with Rob Bakien, Michigan Radio Network.

March 14, 2003, "Mormon Polygamy and the Elizabeth Smart Case," radio interview by Laura Lehman, WKZO, Kalamazoo, MI.

March 27, 2003, "What's Your Philosophy on Teaching, and Does it Matter?" by Gabriella Montell, *The Chronicle of Higher Education Career Network*.

May 31, 2003, "Presidential Piety: Office Forces Heads of State to Take Religious Stances, Experts Say" by Chris Meehan, *Kalamazoo Gazette*.

September 6, 2003, "'Political Issues in a Holy Place': At Dome of the Rock Wave of Jewish Tourism Makes Tensions Rise," by Chris Meehan, *Kalamazoo Gazette*.

September 8, 2003, "Otsego Schools Ban Commencement Prayers," by Mark Albert, WWMT Channel Three, Kalamazoo, MI.

October 25, 2003, "Lens Yields Insights to Church's Growth: Hobbyist Chronicles Denomination's Evolution Through Its Architecture," by Chris Meehan, *Kalamazoo Gazette*.

November 13, 2003, "Controversy Over Gay Bishop," radio interview with Mark Schwerin, WMUK, Kalamazoo, MI.

April 10, 2004, "In a Way, Michigan is Next to Heaven, Survey Concludes," David Crumm and Shawn Windsor, *Detroit Free Press*.

April 11, 2004, "Could This Be Heaven?," Kathleen Lavey, *Lansing State Journal*.

June 6, 2004, "Mormons Lionize Reputed Multiple Killer," Travis Reed, *Associated Press*.

April 4, 2005, ""Area Catholics Mourn, Look Ahead with Hope," Chris Meehan, *Kalamazoo Gazette*.

April 17, 2005, "Cardinals Unlikely to Support Big Changes," Chris Meehan, *Kalamazoo Gazette*.

April 20, 2005, "Pope Pledges to Unify All Christians," Chris Meehan, *Kalamazoo Gazette*.

May 28, 2005, "Call of the Wild: Woman's Experiences Become Muse for Writing an Anthology of Religions on the Edge," Chris Meehan, *Kalamazoo Gazette*.

June 5, 2006, "For Girl Turning 6, 6-6-06 is Just Another Birthday," Chris Meehan, *Kalamazoo Gazette*.

May 13, 2007, "Diversity of Religion," Chris Meehan, *Kalamazoo Gazette*.

March 29, 2008, "Tendency to Avoid Faith Affiliation Here Reflects Trend Across Nation," Lee A. Dean, *Kalamazoo Gazette*.

May 21, 2010, "Megachurches," Ranji Signha, WWMT Newschannel 3.

September 9, 2010, "History of Religions also a History of Violence," David Moore, WGVU National Public Radio.

December 11, 2011, "'The Nones'—The Fastest Growing Religious Demographic," WMU News Service.