

CURRICULUM VITAE

Rev. James F. Lawrence, D.Min., Ph.D.
Berkeley, California

Education:

Ph.D., Graduate Theological Union, 2012. Dissertation title: “And Speaking of Something Else: Biblical Allegoresis, Swedenborg, and Tradition” (Arthur Holder, thesis coordinator)
D. Min., Graduate Theological Foundation, 1991
M.Div. equiv., Swedenborg School of Religion, 1984 (ordained, General Convention of Swedenborgian Churches, 1984)
Graduate Work, Brite Divinity School (Texas Christian University), 1980-1981
B.A. University of Texas at Austin (Economics), 1978

Work History:

2016-Present Dean, Center for Swedenborgian Studies
2001-2015 Dean, Swedenborgian House of Studies at Pacific School of Religion
2012-Present Faculty Associate, Spirituality, PSR
2001-2012 Lecturer Swedenborgian Studies and History of Christianity, PSR/GTU
1990-2001 Co-Pastor San Francisco Swedenborgian Church
1988-1990 Co-Pastor, Church of the New Jerusalem, Fryeburg, Maine
1986-1988 Assoc. Pastor, San Francisco Swedenborgian Church
1984-86 Pastor, Church of the Open Word, St. Louis
1989-2001 Executive Publisher, J. Appleseed & Co., General Convention
1984-1989 Editor, *The Messenger*, General Convention monthly periodical

Publications:

“Painter, Pastor: The Spiritual Arc in William Keith,” in *Foundations for Grand Things: Swedenborg and the Spiritual in Art*, ed. Devin Zuber (forthcoming Swedenborg Foundation Press).
“A World Apart: The American Antislavery Issue,” in *The Moment is Now*, ed. Anders Hallengren. West Chester, PA: Swedenborg Foundation Press, 2019.
“The Swedenborgian Church of North America,” profile article on the World Religions and Spirituality Project (Agu. 2019) Virginia Commonwealth University (<https://wrldrels.org/2019/04/03/swedenborgian-church-of-north-america/>)
“Foreword,” in *Contemplative Wicca: Reflections on Contemplative Practice for Pagans*, Teresa Chupp. London: Aeon Books, 2019.
“Correspondentia: A Neologism in Aquinas Attains Its Zenith in Swedenborg,” in *Correspondences: Journal for the Study of Esotericism*, v. 5, 2017.
Review of *Wisdom from Africa: Theological Reflections on the Confessions of St. Augustine* by Ronald Burris, in *Review and Expositor, International Baptist Journal* 114:3 (Nov. 2017), 620-21.
Principles in Play: Essays in Honor of George Dole, editor. Berkeley: Studia Swedenborgiana Press, 2010.

- “Telling the Old, Old Story Anew: George Dole’s Developmentalist Reading of the Bible,” in *Principles in Play: Essays in Honor of George Dole*. Berkeley: Studia Swedenborgiana Press, 2010.
- “Swedenborgian Spirituality,” in *The New Westminster Dictionary of Christian Spirituality*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2005.
- “Afterword: A Tribute to Wilson Van Dusen” in *The Presence of Other Worlds*, anniversary edition. West Chester, Penn.: Chrysalis Books, 2004.

Swedenborgianism: A Spiritual Journey. Newtonville, Mass.: J. Appleseed & Co., 2004.

“All in the Family: Reading a Swedenborgian Pluralism in the High Christology of John 14:1-7,” *Studia Swedenborgiana*, 2003, vol. 13, no. 1.

“An Extraordinary Season in Prayer: Warren Felt Evans’s Journey into ‘Scientific’ Swedenborgian Spiritual Practice,” *Studia Swedenborgiana*, 2002, 12:3.

[Introduction to the English edition] *Emanuel Swedenborg: The Development of His Thought*. Martin Lamm. (West Chester, Penn.: Swedenborg Foundation, 2000)

“Swedenborg’s Trail in the Coleridgean Landscape,” *Studia Swedenborgiana*, 1999, 11:2, 18-30.

[Introduction, 1997 translation] *The Last Judgment: In Retrospect*. Emanuel Swedenborg. (West Chester, Penn.: Swedenborg Foundation, 1997)

Testimony to the Invisible: Essays on Swedenborg, editor. (West Chester, Penn.: Swedenborg Foundation, 1995)

“Parables of Community in Europe: The Christian Mysticism of Steiner, Swedenborg, and the Brothers of Taize,” *Matrix: Explorations in Spirituality*, 1991, 2:2, 5-11.

“The Swedenborgian Church: An Exoteric Journey of an Esoteric Teaching,” *Gnosis: A Journal of the Western Inner Traditions*, 1989, 12 (summer), 55-61.

Emanuel Swedenborg: Continuing Vision, associate editor and contributor. (New York: Swedenborg Foundation, 1988)

Graduate Courses Taught:

“The History of Christian Life and Thought” (co-taught with Randi Walker)

“Introduction to Christian Theology and History” (co-taught with Fumitaka Matsuoka)

“Theology and Ethics in Christian History” (co-taught with Michael Mendiola and Fumitaka Matsuoka)

“Christology and Pluralism”

“Swedenborg’s *True Christianity*”

“Christian Spirituality through a Swedenborgian Lens”

“Introduction to Swedenborgian Thought”

“Swedenborgian Church History, Polity, and Practice”

“Western Esoteric Traditions”

“Senior Integrative Seminar”

“Swedenborg in History”

“Constructive Swedenborgian Theology”

“Sport, Spirituality and Culture”

“Spirituality of Protestant Mysticism”

“Spiritual Disciplines for Leadership”

“Teaching Protestant Spiritual Disciplines”

“Sports, Spirituality, and Culture”

“Apocalypse Then and Now”

“Spiritual Formation for Leadership”

“Introduction to Comparative Mysticism”

Public Lectures:

“Over the Rainbow” (Convention sermon at annual denominational assembly, Lees, Fla., June 1996)

- “Burning Hearts: Swedenborg and the Inner Sense Tradition”
(Swedenborg Library, Chicago, June 2006)
- “‘Let There Be Light’: The Future of Teaching Biblical Spirituality” (paper presented at *Teaching the Spirit Conference* in honor of Sandra Schneiders, Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley, November 2006)
- “Kabbalah, Swedenborg, and the Divine Text” (public lecture
Stonehouse Bookstore, Seattle, March 2007)
- “A Spiritual Universe: Swedenborg and the Infinite Bible”
(Keynote lecture, 150th anniversary lecture, Church of the Holy City, Wilmington, Del., May 2007)
- “In the Space of Six Days: Swedenborg’s Alternative to Creationism and Atheism” (Urbana University, Inaugural Heritage Lecture, November 2008)
- “From Things Heard and Seen in the World: New Perspectives on Swedenborg” (Keynote lecture at annual meeting of Swedenborg Foundation, May 2009)
- “Translating Swedenborg Forward” (Colloquium on Future of the New Church, Philadelphia, October 2010)
- “Book of Revelation: End of the Bible and End of the World?”
(Glencairn Museum, Philadelphia, September 2011)
- “Spirit in Architecture” (American Academy of Religion tour trip to San Francisco Swedenborgian Church, November 2011)
- “Religion and Spirit in Two San Francisco Scots: William Keith and John Muir” (St. Andrew Society of San Francisco, March 2012)
- “The Hitchhiker’s Guide to *Correspondentia*” (Mini-course at annual convention of the Swedenborgian Church of North America, Boston, July 2012)
- “Neo-Cartesian and Hermetic Fusion in Swedenborg’s ‘Science of Correspondences’” (Paper presented at conference on “Esotericism, Religion, and Culture,” UC Davis, July 2012)
- “Ecology, Economy, and Environmentalism in Dialog with Swedenborg’s Theology” (Conference Lecture and Workshop,

annual meeting of Pacific Coast Association of Swedenborgian Churches, October 2012)

“Swedenborg’s Book of the Dead” (Presentation to International Association for Near-Death Studies, East Bay, March 2013)

“Apocalypse Above: Swedenborg’s Unpredictable Reading of the Book of Revelation’s Predictions” (Annual Swedenborg Lecture, Urbana University, March 2014)

“Slavery in the American Context: Wadstrom, Swedenborgians, and an Abolitionist Myth” (International 2015 Carl Bernhard Wadstrom Conference on Human Rights (co-sponsored by University of Lund and Swedenborg Society) in London June 2-4, 2015)

“Painter, Pastor: The Spiritual Arc in William Keith” (Swedenborg and the Arts Conference at Bryn Athyn College, PA, June 2017)

Professional Societies:

American Society of Church History

The Society for the Study of Christian Spirituality

The European Society for the Study of Western Esotericism

Association for the Study of Esotericism