

Nancy S. Wiens

EmergenceInitiatives.com

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Education, Certification & Training

- Trauma Healing, Thomas Hübl** **2020-22**
Individual, Ancestral, and Collective Healing training; focusing particularly on the nervous system, intersectional trauma, and strategic practices.
- Nat. Inst. For the Clinical Application of Behavior Medicine** **2017-19**
Courses: Trauma & Shame, Self-Compassion, Complex Trauma
- Nonviolent Communication Leaders Training, Bay Area NVC** **2008-13**
Leveraging Your Influence year-long program employs principles and practices of nonviolent communication in systemic settings. Bridging NVC inner skills and sensibilities to outer leadership responsibilities, e.g. professional, ecclesial, political, volunteer. Strong emphasis on collaboration and interdependency amid power differentials and privilege, especially race, class, orientation, and gender.
- Permaculture Design Certificate, Regenerative Design Institute & Permaculture Research Institute** **2010 & 2011**
Intensive education and hands-on training in permaculture ethics, principles, and practices with dozens of leading teachers in the field. Permaculture design mimics systems in nature to create resilient, thriving human-nature relationships.
- Graduate Theological Union & Center for Theology and the Natural Sciences, Berkeley, CA** **2007**
Ph. D. Interdisciplinary Studies: Christian Spirituality, Theology and Science, and Ritual Studies. Emphasis in Biblical and Ignatian Spiritualities.
Dissertation: "Discernment and Nature: Exploring their Relationship through Christian Spirituality and the Natural Sciences."
Committee members: Drs. Elizabeth Liebert, Robert Russell, William Stoeger
- San Francisco Theological Seminary, San Anselmo, CA** **1997**
Diploma in the Art of Spiritual Direction
- School of Lost Borders, Big Pine, CA** **1993 & 1994**
Wilderness Guide for Rites of Passage and Eco-Psychology
- Candler School of Theology, Emory University, Atlanta, GA** **1991**
M.Div., Magna Cum Laude
- University of Redlands, Redlands, CA** **1988**
B.A., Summa Cum Laude, Phi Beta Kappa
Psychology and Political Science, with Honors in International Relations

Academic Writing, Teaching Experience & Fellowships

Publications

“Why Are You So Hypocritical?” in *When Kids Ask Hard Questions: More Faith-Filled Responses for Tough Topics*, eds. Bromleigh McCleneghan and Karen Ware Jackson, Danvers, MA: Challice Press, 2021.

“Breath Prayer: An Ancient Spiritual Practice Connected with Science,” *Biologos*, July 1, 2019.

Book Review of H. Paul Santmire *Before Nature: A Christian Spirituality*, Minneapolis, MN: Fortress Press, 2014. In *Theology and Science* 13 (no. 3, August 2015): 373-75.

“Fasting as Deep Nourishment: Freedom from Consumption,” Presbyterian Hunger Program Post, November/December 2013.

“Practicing Christian Spiritual Discernment in Light of Natural Science” in *Spirit and Nature: The Study of Christian Spirituality in a Time of Ecological Urgency*, Princeton Theological Monograph Series, eds. Timothy Hessel-Robinson and Ray Maria McNamara, Eugene, OR: Wipf & Stock Publishers, 2011.

Instructor. Interfaith Chaplaincy Institute, Berkely, CA.

“Contemplative Self-Care: Mourning & Lament” in their Death & Dying Intensive. 2018.

Adjunct Faculty. Wake Forest University School of Divinity, Winston-Salem, NC.

“Wilderness Rites of Passage” in their Summer Intensive M.Div. “Thriving Nourishment” in their Food and Faith Concentration. “Spirituality of Money” in their Lily-funded program for financial literacy in ministry. 2014 – 2017.

Adjunct Spirituality Faculty. San Francisco Theological Seminary, San Anselmo, CA. Christian Spirituality Concentration: “*Lectio Divina*,” “Contemplative Listening,” “Clearness Committee,” “Contemplative Social Justice,” and “Living in Intentional Spiritual Community.” 2010 – 2013.

Adjunct Religion Professor. Dominican University of California, San Rafael, CA. “Spirit of the Earth” and “Philosophy of Religion.” Integrate intellectual analysis of texts with critical thinking and writing, community service, spiritual practices, and multi-media projects to help student’s engage with diverse learning models in their study of religion, spirituality, and philosophy. 2008 – 2010.

Faculty. Diploma in the Art of Spiritual Direction, San Francisco Theological Seminary, San Anselmo, CA. “Discernment and Nature” and “Systems and Structures and Spiritual Guidance.” Lecture and evaluate student papers; facillitate student practice groups. January 2001, 2003, 2005, 2010, 2011, 2012.

Adjunct Faculty. University of Redlands, Redlands, CA. “Rites of Passage: Sacred Quest.” Lecture, facilitate group discussion, guide wilderness fast, written evaluation of students, administer course. Interim term, 1996 – 2004.

Charles H. Townes Graduate Student Fellowship in Theology and Science. Center for Theology and Natural Sciences. Awarded to scholars based on their ability to do promising research on issues of theology and science, 2004-05.

Newhall Teaching Fellow. Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley, CA. “Discernment and Nature: Interdisciplinary Study of Christian Spiritual Discernment with Theology and Science.” With Elizabeth Liebert, Ph.D. and Robert J. Russell, Ph.D. Lecture, facilitate group discussion, coordinate course administration. Spring 2002.

Teaching Assistantships. “Wisdom Literature and Deuterocanonical Books.” For John Endres, Ph.D., Jesuit School of Theology at Berkeley, CA. Spring 2000.

“Spiritual Life and Leadership: Social Discernment Cycle, Contemplative Listening, *Lectio Divina*, Clearness Committee.” For Elizabeth Liebert, Ph.D., San Francisco Theological Seminary, San Anselmo, CA. September 1996 – May 1998.

“Systematic Theology.” For Rebecca Chopp, Ph.D. and Don Saliers, Ph.D., Candler School of Theology, Emory University, Atlanta, GA. Fall 1990.

Ministry and Pastoral Experience Ordained: Presbyterian Church (USA), 1991

Spiritual Director & Supervisor. Individual and group direction, Ignatian Exercises (19th Annotation), Shalem Small Group Direction, spiritual formation, retreat leadership. Individual and group Supervision of spiritual directors. Youth Ministry and Spirituality Project, San Francisco Theological Seminary, Youth Specialties, Companions on the Inner Way Retreats, New College Berkeley, numerous churches. 1995 – present.

Organizational Development Consultant. Contemplative Social Justice and Structural Mindfulness for Collaboration. Reformation of organizational structures that guide an institution’s mission, utilizing Nonviolent Communication, the Liturgy for Discernment, the Social Discernment Cycle—mindfulness and contemplative processes for organizational visioning and systemic reform. 2004 – present.

Wilderness Guide for Rites of Passage & Eco-Psychology. Lead groups of people in intensive discernment in nature experiences, including four days and nights of solitude, fasting, and exposure to nature. Ecological and economic justice at the intersection of vocation. 1996 – present.

Resilient Families Mentor. Two-year intensive parenting program, based in contemplation, to build resilience in collaborative family systems. Integration of neuroscience, discernment, permaculture, Nonviolent Communication, EFT Tapping, holistic finances, and socially responsible business practices. 2015 – present.

Director and Co-Founder. Center for Nature and Christian Spirituality, Marin and Sonoma Counties, CA. 11-month apprenticeship to empower 20 to mid-30 year olds to contribute to a thriving, just, and regenerative world by embodying their unique callings. With Apprentices: Mentor, lead professor for graduate courses, wilderness guide, and vocations director. As Administrator: Finance, fund raising, H.R., strategic planning, staff management, and marketing. 2010 – 2013.

Youth Ministry and Spirituality Project Consultant. Lilly Endowment & San Francisco Theological Seminary, San Anselmo, CA. Visioning for two multi-million dollar grants and service on the Advisory Council. 1997 – 2003.

Denominational Responsibilities. Presbytery of the Redwoods, CA. Justice for Women, Peacemaking, Spiritual Nurture, and Indigenous Revitalization.

- San Rafael First Presbyterian Church, CA. Parish Associate. 2000 – 2011, present.
- Sleepy Hollow Presbyterian Church, San Anselmo, CA. Parish Associate. 1995 – 1999.

Associate Pastor. Presbyterian Church of Novato, Novato, CA. Celebrate sacraments, preach, Christian Education (all ages), Ecumenical Youth Ministries, Deacons, Stephen's Ministry, Mission and Peacemaking, Women's Spirituality Group, Girls' Assertiveness training, annual series of Lenten fasts and Eucharist. 1991– 1994.

Other Work Experience

Non-Profit Consulting. Opening the World, business plan writing. 2018 – 2020.

Grant Writing. Funding for Emotional Freedom Technique Tapping for youth and young adults-at-risk. Kauai Sacred Day Walk and Young Adult Leadership Development in the context of Ecological Sustainability and Social Justice. Funded Organizations: San Rafael Presbyterian Church, ReSource for Christian Spirituality, Westminster Woods Camp and Conference Center, San Francisco Theological Seminary. 2010 – 2020.

Gifts for Guns Coordinator. Marin County. Envision program for Marin. Recruit and administer staff of 20 volunteers. Interface with Sheriff's Department officials, local businesses, faith communities, and media. Coordinate raising \$3,500 to buy back approximately 300 guns. January – June 1996.

Admissions Representative. University of Redlands, Redlands, CA. Recruit students for the liberal arts and pre-professional College of Arts and Sciences. Present at private and public high schools and college fairs. Conduct in-depth applicant and family interviews. Process and recommend applications based on University admission standards. Counsel families regarding financial aid. September 1994 – June 1996.

Ecological Issues Coordinator. Candler School of Theology, Emory University, Atlanta, GA. Raise awareness concerning ecologically-sound lifestyles, implement change in institutional policies and community patterns regarding resources and communication media, coordinate broad-based recycling, encourage theological dialogue and worship focused on ecological issues. September 1990 – May 1991.

Carter Presidential Center Graduate Intern. Human Rights Department, Atlanta, GA. Research reports of human rights violations in the national and international community. Prepare reports and make recommendations for President Carter's action. Initiate the development of ecologically sustainable practices for the Center's operations. Fall 1989.

Habitat for Humanity Project Director. Riverside, CA. Direct administrative operations: raise funds, coordinate volunteers, network with faith communities, businesses, builders, regional and national Habitat offices, and city government. Lead Board of Directors to establish the position of full-time project director and build first Habitat home in California. Summer 1989.

Professional Organizations and Memberships

Phi Beta Kappa
Society for the Study of Christian Spirituality
Center for Theology and the Natural Sciences
Spiritual Directors International
Wilderness Guides Council
Presbytery of the Redwoods