

DUSTIN D. BENAC
Curriculum Vitae

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Website: www.dustindbenac.com

EDUCATION

Th.D., Duke University Divinity School, 2020

Expertise: Practical Theology; Sociology of Organizations; Leadership Theory; Christian higher education; Organizational Theory; Ecclesiology; Philanthropy and Fundraising; Religious Education; Qualitative Research Methods; Theological Interpretation of Scripture

Dissertation: “Adaptive Church: A Practical Theology of Adaptive Work in the Pacific Northwest”

Advisor: Professor Craig Dykstra

M.Div., Duke University Divinity School, 2015 (*summa cum laude*)

B.A., Theology, Whitworth University, 2010 (*summa cum laude*)

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

Baylor University, Waco, TX

Director and Co-founder, Program for the Future Church	2021 — Present
Visiting Assistant Professor of Practical Theology, George W. Truett Theological Seminary	2020 — 2022

University of Victoria, Victoria, BC

Visiting Research Fellow, Centre for Studies in Religion and Society	2021 — 2022
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Duke University, Durham, NC

Postdoctoral Associate, Duke Divinity School, The Everything Happens Project,	2020
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PUBLICATIONS

PEER REVIEWED BOOKS

1. *Adaptive Church: Collaboration and Community in a Changing World*. Waco, TX: Baylor University Press, 2022.

Reviews: [The Presbyterian Outlook](#), [Ecclesial Practices](#), [Ecclesial Futures](#)

Awards: *Englewood Review of Books* “Ten Theology Books to Watch For,” August 2022

EDITED BOOKS

2. *Crisis and Care: Meditations on Faith and Philanthropy*, edited by Dustin Benac and Erin Weber-Johnson. Eugene, OR: Cascade Books, 2021.

Reviews: [*The Presbyterian Outlook*](#), [*Living Church*](#), [*Practical Theology*](#)

Awards: *The Christian Century* “Best-Sellers” for fall 2021

PEER REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

3. Benac, Dustin, Juli Kalbaugh, Hannah Coe, Erin Moniz, Tatum Miller, “Bending the Light: A Methodological Structure for Collaborative Theological Inquiry,” *Ecclesial Futures* (forthcoming).
4. Benac, Dustin, “Theology for Crisis: Practical Theology and the Practice of Giving an Account,” *Practical Theology* (forthcoming).
DOI: 10.1080/1756073X.2023.2270816
5. Benac, Dustin, “A Pilgrim’s Performance: Practical Theology as Convening,” *International Journal of Practical Theology* (forthcoming).
DOI: 10.1515/ijpt-2022-0035
6. Benac, Dustin, and Steve Taylor, “Pandemic Spiritual Leadership: A Trans-national Study of Innovation and Spiritual Practices,” *Review of Religious Research*, 64 (2022), 883-905.
DOI: 10.1007/s13644-022-00521-1.
7. Benac, Dustin and Erin Weber-Johnson, “Ecclesial Imagination for Organizational Transformation: Hospice Care, Midwifery, and the Ordering of a Common Life,” *Practical Theology* 12.2 (2019): 158-174.
8. Benac, Dustin, “A Bonhoefferian Approach to Social Analysis: Life Together as *Communio*, Relation, and Possibility,” *The Bonhoeffer Legacy: An International Journal* 5.2 (2019): 63-82.
9. Benac, Dustin, “Opposability: Unearthing Christianity’s Opposable Inner Logic and its Capacity to Form Leaders for Adaptive Leadership in Contemporary Society,” *Journal of Religious Leadership* 15.1 (Spring 2016): 101-32.

10. Benac, Dustin, "A Seat at the Table: Affective Formation and United Methodist Higher Education," *Christian Higher Education* 14.3 (2015): 127-41.

PEER REVIEWED BOOK CHAPTERS

11. Benac, Dustin, "Fieldnotes for a Polarized Church: A Relational Paradigm for Collaborative Christian Leadership," in *Bridge-building Leadership in a Polarized World: Christian Perspectives on Leadership and Social Ethics*, vol. 8, edited by Jack Barentsen and Cees Tulp. Peters Press (forthcoming).
12. Benac, Dustin, "Neither Cross nor Catalyst: Institutions as a Container for Crisis," in *Crisis, fear and hope: An introduction into practical theological reflections*, IAPTC Conference Series, Vol. 2, edited by Annemie Dillen, Amy Casteel, Armin Kummer, and Jos De Kock, 149-157. 2023.
DOI: 10.25785/iapt.cs.v2i0.126.
13. Benac, Dustin, and Christopher James, "Missional Collaboration in North America's Global Cities: Boston, San Francisco, and the Rise of City-Wide Church Networks," in *Creative Collaborations: Case Studies of North American Missional Practices*, edited by Dana Roberts, Allison Kach-Yawngwe, and Morgan Crago. Oxford: Regnum Books, 2023.
14. Barensten, Jack, and Dustin Benac, "The Value and Impact of Servant Leadership Discourse in Religious Leadership," in *The Palgrave Handbook of Servant Leadership*, edited by Satinder Dhiman and Gary Roberts. Cham: Palgrave Macmillan, 2022.
DOI: https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-69802-7_27-1
15. Benac, Dustin, "The Craft of Theology and Qualitative Research," in *The Wiley-Blackwell Companion to Theology and Qualitative Research*, edited by Pete Ward and Knut Tveitereid. Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell, 2022.
16. Benac, Dustin, "Network-Based Christianity in the Pacific Northwest: Evolution of the Emerging Church or New Organizational Form?" in *The Emerging Church, Millennials, and Religion*, Vol. 2: Curation and Duration, edited by Terry Shoemaker, Xochitl Alvizo, and Rachel Schneider. Eugene, OR: Wipf & Stock, 2022.
17. Benac, Dustin, "A Time of Rustling: Ecclesial Ecologies on the Edge of Uncertainty," in *Crisis and Care: Meditations on Faith and Philanthropy*, edited by Dustin Benac and Erin Weber-Johnson. Eugene, OR: Cascade Books, 2021.

18. Benac, Dustin and Erin Weber-Johnson, "Faith and Philanthropy: Where Crisis and Care Converge," in *Crisis and Care: Meditations on Faith and Philanthropy*, edited by Dustin Benac and Erin Weber-Johnson. Eugene, OR: Cascade Books, 2021.
19. Benac, Dustin and Erin Weber-Johnson, "What Do These Stones Mean?" in *Crisis and Care: Meditations on Faith and Philanthropy*, edited by Dustin Benac and Erin Weber-Johnson. Eugene, OR: Cascade Books, 2021.

ESSAYS

20. Benac, Dustin, "[Christianity's shifting structure](#)," *The Presbyterian Outlook* (May 2, 2023).
21. Benac, Dustin. "[Bonhoeffer and the Structure of Belonging](#)," *The Presbyterian Outlook* (April 12, 2023).
22. Benac, Dustin, "[Crisis and Calling: Discipleship after Desolation](#)," *Practical Theology Hub* (October 27, 2022).
23. Benac, Dustin, "[How to Find Hope in an Ice Age](#)," *Sympara* (September 16, 2020).
24. Benac, Dustin, "[Theological Education for a New Age](#)," *The Presbyterian Outlook* (September 25, 2018).
25. Benac, Dustin and Erin Weber-Johnson, "[Organizational Imagination: The Practical Wisdom for Communities in Transition](#)," *The Presbyterian Outlook* (September 12, 2018).
26. Benac, Dustin, "Marilynne Robinson's [Home](#) and the Stories We Tell in Ordinary Time," *The Cresset* 80.1 (Michaelmas 2016): 4-8.

BOOK REVIEWS

27. Review of *The Rise of Network Christianity: How Independent Leaders are Changing the Religious Landscape* by Brad Christerson and Richard Flory, *International Bulletin of Mission Research* (2021).
28. When the World is Changing: A Roundtable Review of *Church Planting in Post-Christian Soil* by Christopher James, *How Change Comes to Your Church* by Patrick

Keifert and Wesley Granberg-Michaelson, and *First Expressions* by Steve Taylor, *Ecclesial Futures* 1.2 (2020): 117-23.

29. *Theology as Interdisciplinary Inquiry: Learning with and from the Natural and Human Sciences*, edited by Joshua Mauldin and Robin Lovin, *Journal of Interdisciplinary Studies* 30.1/2 (2018): 205-06.
30. *Augustine: Conversions to Confessions*, by Robin Lane Fox, *Christian Scholar's Review* 46.4 (Summer 2017), 412-14.
31. *Christian Practical Wisdom: What It Is, Why It Matters*, by Dorothy Bass, Kathleen Cahalan, Bonnie Miller-McLemore, James Nieman, and Christian Scharen, *Reading Religion* (September 17, 2016), <http://readingreligion.org/books/christian-practical-wisdom>.
32. *Journey Toward Justice*, by Nicholas Wolterstorff, *Wesleyan Theological Journal* (Spring 2016): 273-75.

PROFESSIONAL PUBLICATIONS

33. Benac, Dustin, "[Possibility amid Uncertainty: A Moment of Renovating Virtue](#)," *Bearings Online* (February 27, 2023).
34. Benac, Dustin, "[In the Pacific Northwest, Christian institutions have to adapt to an era where church isn't a given](#)," *Faith & Leadership* (November 15, 2022).
35. Benac, Dustin, Mark Elsdon, and Erin Weber-Johnson, "[Where to Start: A Guide for Faith Leaders on Shifting Ground](#)," *Insights* (September 2022).
Award: Top Ten Stories of 2022 (#4)
36. Benac, Dustin, "[Three Ways Collaborative Partnerships Can Sustain Mission and Ministry](#)," *The Better Samaritan Blog* on the *Christianity Today* Blog Forum (July 6, 2022).
37. Benac, Dustin and Steve Taylor, "[Pandemic restrictions can push our church practices to become more local](#)," *Faith & Leadership* (February 8, 2022).
38. Benac, Dustin and Erin Weber-Johnson, "[Philanthropic Imagination: The Space Between Crisis and Care](#)," *Insights* (July 2021).

39. Benac, Dustin, "[Local Wisdom for a Time of Change](#)," *The Lived Religion in a Digital Age Project at Saint Louis University* (July 2020).
40. Benac, Dustin, "[It's Always Better to Fish Together \(and Other Leadership Lessons from the River\)](#)," *Faith & Leadership* (April 2017).
41. Benac, Dustin, "[Andrew Forrest: 'Every Dying Church in America Has a Community Garden'](#)," *Faith & Leadership* (April 2017).
42. Benac, Dustin, "[Paul-Gordon Chandler: Peacebuilding through the Arts](#)," *Faith & Leadership* (March 2016).
43. Benac, Dustin, "[Performing in the Circus: Resources to Help Leaders \(and Followers\) Play Their Part with Excellence](#)," *Seedbed Blog* (August 2015).
44. Benac, Dustin, "[Revelation's City Without a Temple, a New Vision for Institutions](#)," *Faith & Leadership* (September 2013).
45. Benac, Dustin, "[From Columbine to the State Capitol: How the school shooting still shapes Kevin Parker's civic service](#)," *Christianity Today: This is Our City* (September 2013).

REPORTS AND TOOLS

Robert, Dana, Benac, Dustin, Cardoza, Orland, Carlos, Carlson, Britta, Gregory, William, Kach, Allison, Laxton, Josh, and Scott, David, "Missional Collaborations, 2021: A Report from North America," in [A Hundred Years of Cooperation: The Impact of the International Missionary Council 1921-2021](#), edited by Risto Jukko. Geneva: World Council of Churches, 2022.

Benac, Dustin, Mark Elsdon, and Erin Weber-Johnson, "[Where to Start: A Guide to Faith Leaders on Shifting Ground](#)," September 2022.

PUBLICATIONS UNDER REVIEW OR IN PROGRESS

Books:

Benac, Dustin, Erin Weber-Johnson, and Glen Bell, eds., *The Air We Breathe: Meditations on Belonging* (under contract: Cascade).

Benac, Dustin, *Beyond Leading Alone: How Collaborative Leadership Can Change Your Church and the World* (proposal and first two chapters complete).

Benac, Dustin, and Eric Barreto. *Belonging: A Theological Primer* (in progress).

Peer-reviewed:

Hagley, Scott, Dorte Kappelgaard, Dustin Benac, and Scot Sherman, “Faithful Innovation” *Ecclesial Futures* (in progress).

Taylor, Steve, and Dustin Benac, “Enforced Innovation: Leadership amid Constraints” (in progress).

EDITORIAL EXPERIENCE

Associate Editor and Editor-In-Waiting, *Practical Theology*

Advisory Board, *Theophron*

INVITED SPEECHES & PRESENTATIONS

PROFESSIONAL

1. “Join or Die: A Film Screening and Panel Discussion about Robert Putnam’s Work,” Baylor University, Waco, TX, November 15, 2023 (invited).
2. “Bending the Light: Piloting Future Forms for Theological Education through Collaborative Research” (with Juli Kalbaugh), Pathways for Tomorrow Coordination Program, Indianapolis, IN, November 6-9, 2023.
3. “Faith of our Futures: Institutions, Individualism, and the Possibility of Life Together,” Faith of our Futures, October 19, 2024.
4. “Rendering an Adaptive Church: Order, Collaboration, and Leadership on the Edge,” Public Lecture for Baylor Sociology Department, Waco, TX, October 6, 2023.
5. “Beyond Leading Alone: Collaborative Leadership for a Shared Ecclesial Future,” International Consultation on Ecclesial Futures, San Francisco, CA, July 17-21, 2023.
6. “Theology and Qualitative Research: A Q&A about the Craft of Qualitative Research.” In Material Religion at Hispanic Study Program. June 21, 2023.
7. “Leading Structures of Belonging: A Relational Paradigm for Collaborative Christian Leadership,” Academy of Religious Leadership, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, Philadelphia, PA, April 27-29, 2023.
8. “Beyond Leading Alone: Leadership for the Future Church,” Baylor University Department of Religion (undergraduate), Waco, TX, April 5, 2023.

9. "Fundraising in Higher Education: The Craft of Grant Seeking and Development," Planning, Budgets, and HR in Higher Ed (M.A in Higher Ed seminar), Baylor University, March 27, 2023.
10. "The Crisis of Belonging: Collaborative Research and the Question of this Generation," Ecclesiology & Ethnography North America, Princeton, NJ, March 24-26, 2023.
11. "Is There a Future for the Church in North America?: Fieldnotes from the Center to the Edge of Christendom," Southwest Commission on Religious Studies/American Academy of Religious Southwest Region Annual Meeting, Dallas, TX, March 4-6, 2023.
12. "Is There a Future for the Church?: Fieldnotes from the Center to the Edge of Christendom," Centre for Studies of Religion and Society, University of Victoria, Victoria, BC, January 31, 2023.
13. "Pioneering Practices for an Adaptive Church," Church Mission Society, London, UK, January 18, 2023.
14. "A Religious Journey Panel," Baylor University Chapel, Waco, TX, October 31, 2022.
15. "The Structure of Collaborative Partnership: Relational Wisdom in a Crisis Weary World," Together at the Table: Hunger and Poverty Summit, The Baylor Collaborative on Hunger and Poverty, Waco, TX, October 11-13, 2022.
16. "The Power of Local Partnership: Six Practices to Lead Change Right Where You Are," No Need Among You Conference, Texas Christian Community Development Network, Waco, TX, October 5-7, 2022.
17. Keynote: "Theology for an Adaptive Church: Ecclesial Ecologies as Site and Source for Theological Inquiry," for Ecclesiology and Ethnography Conference, Durham, England, September 16-18, 2022.
18. "Adaptive Church: The Practice of Holy Experimentation," Changing Church Webinar Series, Center for Healthy Churches, September 8, 2022.
19. "The Craft of Writing a Journal Article," British and Irish Association of Practical Theology (BIAPT) Annual Meeting, July 11, 2022.

20. "Leading in Times of Crisis," The Discover Conference, Waco, TX, June 25, 2022.
21. "Going Far Together: The Conditions for Collaborative Mission," American Society of Missiology, Notre Dame, IN, June 18, 2022.
22. "Leading System in a Shifting Ecclesial Ecology," Baylor University Department of Religion, Waco, TX, March 24, 2022.
23. "Leadership as Being With: Practical Wisdom for Collaborative Christian Leadership," Evangelische Theologische Faculteit, Institute of Leadership and Social Ethics Conference, Leuven, Belgium, October 8, 2021.
24. "Collaborative Partnerships as a Way of Life," University of Victoria, Centre for Studies in Religion & Society, Victoria, BC, October 7, 2021.
25. "'We're Better Together': Ecclesial Ecologies as Site and Source for Theological Inquiry," Ecclesiology and Ethnography Conference, Durham, United Kingdom, September 21-23, 2021 (canceled due to COVID-19).
26. "Fieldnotes for the Future Church: Collaborative Leadership," Truett Faculty Colloquium, Baylor University, September 16, 2021.
27. "Crisis, Community, and Creativity: Ecclesial Entrepreneurship in a Shifting Ecclesial Ecology," British and Irish Association of Practical Theology, July 12-15, 2021.
28. "Institutions and Social Transformation: Studying Religious Organizations in a Time of Crisis," International Society for the Sociology of Religion Conference, July 12-15, 2021.
29. "Crisis and Connection: Ecclesial-Organizational Adaptation on the Periphery of Christendom," International Academy of Practical Theology (IAPT) Annual Conference, Leuven, Belgium, July 8-10, 2021.
30. "Crisis and Care: Meditations on Faith and Philanthropy Webinar," The CEEP Network, July 13, 2021.
31. "Crisis and Care: Meditations on Faith and Philanthropy Book Launch," Church of Heavenly Rest, July 12, 2021.

32. "What Do These Stones Mean?" Villanova University, Center for Church Management, July 7, 2021.
33. "Digital Community as Myth or Panacea: Research on Digital Ecologies," Preaching and Culture: Engaging Societal Shifts in North America (Ph.D. Seminar), Baylor University, March 3, 2021.
34. "Organizational Ecology and the Study of Ecclesial Ecologies," The Sociology of Religious Organizations (Ph.D. Seminar), Baylor University, February 4, 2021.
35. "The Evolution of Pastoral and Ecclesial Imagination: Ecclesial Ecology as Place and Prism for Adaptive Work," American Academy of Religion (AAR) Annual Meeting: Practical Theology Session, Boston, MA, November 21-24, 2020.
36. Moderator, "Accountability as a Theological Virtue," American Academy of Religion (AAR) Annual Meeting: Ethics Session, Boston, MA, November 21-24, 2020.
37. "Practical Theology and a Theology of Money," Duke Divinity School Course of Study: Theology of Money from a Wesleyan Perspective, Duke University Divinity School, September 1, 2020.
38. "Reimagining Church: Ecclesial-Organizational Adaptation on the Periphery of Christendom," 22nd Quinquennial World Congress of the International Association for the History of Religions (IAHR), Dunedin, New Zealand, August 23-29, 2020 (canceled due to COVID-19).
39. "Adaptive Church: A Practical Theology of Ecclesial Adaptation in the Pacific Northwest," Princeton Theological Seminary Graduate Student Conference, Princeton, NJ, March 27-28, 2020 (canceled due to COVID-19).
40. "Reimagining Church: Fields, Networks, and Ecclesial Ecologies in the Pacific Northwest," Duke Network Analysis Center (DNAC), Durham, NC, January 13, 2020.
41. "Network-Based Christianity in the Pacific Northwest: Evolution of the Emerging Church or New Organizational Form?" American Academy of Religion (AAR) Annual Meeting: The Emerging Church, Millennials, and Religion Session, San Diego, CA, November 23-26, 2019.

42. "Life Together as *Communio*, Relation, and Possibility: A Bonhoefferian Alternative to Hauerwasian and Bourdieusian Approaches to Social Analysis," American Academy of Religion (AAR) Annual Meeting: Bonhoeffer and Social Analysis Session, Denver, CO, November 17-20, 2018.
43. "The Promise of Organizational Theory for the Study of Religion and Religious Organizations," American Academy of Religion (AAR) Annual Meeting: Sociology of Religion Session, Denver, CO, November 17-20, 2018.
44. "Other Duties as Assigned: The Craft of Fundraising for Research and Higher Education," American Academy of Religion (AAR) Annual Meeting: Student Lounge Roundtable Series, Denver, CO, November 17-20, 2018.
45. "Seeing the Field: Ecclesial Educational Institutions in the Pacific Northwest as an Organizational Field and Site for Adaptive Work," American Academy of Religion (AAR) Pacific Northwest Annual Meeting: History of Christianity and North American Religion Session, Tacoma, WA, May 11-13, 2018.
46. "Thinking Institutionally as a Christian Practice," American Academy of Religion (AAR) Annual Meeting: Practical Theology Session, San Antonio, TX, November 19-22, 2016.
47. "Playing the Grant Roulette: When and How to Play the Grant-Game in Higher Education," American Academy of Religion (AAR) Annual Meeting: Student Lounge Roundtable Series, San Antonio, TX, November 19-22, 2016.
48. "Affective Formation and United Methodist Higher Education," Wesleyan Theological Society Annual Meeting, Mount Vernon Nazarene University, Mount Vernon, OH, March 6-7, 2015.
49. "Dollars and Cents: Making Sense of Funding Education and Academic Research," American Academy of Religion (AAR) Student Lounge Roundtable Series, San Diego, CA, November 24, 2014.
50. "Opposability: Unearthing Christianity's Opposable Inner Logic and its Capacity to Form Leaders for the Contemporary World," Christian Scholars' Conference, Lipscomb University, Nashville, TN, June 6, 2014.

COMMUNITY

51. "Belonging: An Invitation to Community," Calvary Baptist Church, Waco, TX, April 19, 2023.
52. "Pulled by Hope: Innovation and Imagination for a Changing Church," South Main Baptist Church Summer Seminar, Houston, TX, August 7, 2022.
53. "Practical Theology Guild: Publishing Workshop" (with Nigel Rooms), McMaster Divinity College, Hamilton, Ontario, May 31, 2022.
54. "Crisis and Calling," Truett Theological Seminary Chapel, Waco, TX, November 30, 2021.
55. "Digital Media and Discipleship: The Promise and Limits of Technology in a New Media Age," Duke University Chapel, Adult Form, May 23, 2021.
56. "Christian Leadership for a Post-Pandemic World: Tales from Fieldwork in the Pacific Northwest," Duke University Chapel, Adult Forum, April 18, 2021.
57. "Nimble Networks and Community Transformation: From Antioch to #CovidChurch," First Baptist Church Boerne Adult Sunday School, August 9 and 16, 2020.
58. "Ordinary Ground in Mark 9:2-9," Duke Divinity School Summer Course of Study, Durham, NC, July 24, 2019.

MEDIA & INTERVIEWS

- ["Baylor's Truett Seminary Michael W. Stroope and Dustin D. Benac Receive Grant to Support Ecclesial Entrepreneurship Program,"](#) Baylor University, June 16, 2023.
- ["Adaptive Church: A Conversation with Dustin Benac,"](#) Ministry Architects Podcast, April 13, 2023.
- ["Adaptive Church: Dustin Benac on Collaborative Christian Communities,"](#) Currents in Religion podcast, February 3, 2023.
- ["Program for the Future Church,"](#) *The Cord*, February 1, 2023.
- ["Truett program helps churches prepare for the future,"](#) *Baptist Standard*, January 9, 2023.

[“The Program for the Future Church Part 2 with Dr. Dustin Benac,”](#) Pro Ecclesia podcast, November 29, 2022.

[“The Program for the Future Church with Dr. Dustin Benac,”](#) Pro Ecclesia podcast, November 22, 2022.

[“Adaptive Church: A Conversation with Dustin Benac,”](#) The Ministry Collaborative podcast, August 10, 2022.

[“Innovating Church Series Launch,”](#) World Methodist Evangelism podcast, February 28, 2022.

[“Truett Seminary receives \\$1 million for Future Church Project,”](#) *Waco Tribune-Herald*, December 19, 2021.

[“Baylor University Receives \\$1 million Grant from Lilly Endowment to Help Truett Seminary Launch ‘Future Church Project’,”](#) Baylor University, December 15, 2021.

[“Truett Seminary’s ‘Program for the Future Church’ to Address Modern Issues in a Changing World,”](#) Baylor University, October 18, 2021.

[“Dr. Dustin Benac—with Saiyyidah,”](#) Centre for Belonging and Understanding podcast, September 29, 2021.

[“Challenges and Opportunities for the Future of Theological Education: An Interview with L. Gregory Jones,”](#) Wesley Fellows Podcast, June 21, 2021.

[“Connecting Communities in Times of Transition and Uncertainty \(Part 2\),”](#) Rogue Ministry podcast, August 12, 2020.

[“Connecting Communities in Times of Transition and Uncertainty \(Part 1\),”](#) Rogue Ministry podcast, July 22, 2020.

[“Afraid to preach and teach about money in your congregation? Don’t be.”](#) *Faith & Leadership*, October 19, 2020.

AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS (SELECT)

AWARDS

Church Management Case Study Award, Center for Church Management, Villanova University	2022
Visiting Research Fellow, Centre for Studies in Religion and Society, University of Victoria	2021—2022

Louisville Institute Postdoctoral Fellowship	2020—2022
Duke Sanford School of Public Policy, Center for the Study of Philanthropy and Voluntarism Dissertation Support Fellowship	2019—2020
Saint Louis University Lived Religion in a Digital Age Research Fellowship	2019—2020
Duke Divinity School Th.D. Fellowship	2015—2020
John Wesley Fellowship	2015—2020
Duke Provost Graduate Student Fellowship	2017—2018
John Hope Franklin Humanities Institute Ph.D. Lab Fellow	2017—2018
Dempster Graduate Fellowship	2015—2016
Outstanding Theology Student, Whitworth University	2011
Whitworth Laureate Society (Honors Society)	2007, 2008, 2009, 2010

SCHOLARSHIPS

ESTARL Scholarship Recipient	2012—2018
Irene S. Wischer Foundation Scholarship Recipient	2012—2015
Generations Leaders Among Us Scholarship Recipient	2012
Duke Divinity Stange Full-Tuition Scholarship Recipient	2012—2015
Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarship Recipient	2007—2010
Whitworth University Mind and Heart Scholarship Recipient	2007—2010

PERSONAL GRANTS RECEIVED: \$1,211,490

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1. Benac, Dustin, “Capacity Building for the Program for the Future Church,” Carson-Myre Charitable Foundation: granted July 2023 \$30,000
 2. Benac, Dustin, “Mental Health and the Future of the Church,” InTrust Matching grant to Truett Seminary: granted July 2023 \$7,500 (PI)
 3. Benac, Dustin, and Mike Stroope, “Baylor Ecclesial Entrepreneurship Project,” Princeton Theological Seminary Teaching Spiritual Entrepreneurship Subgrant: granted February 2023 \$49,995(Co-PI)
 4. Benac, Dustin, Eric Barretto, Angela Gorrell, Christian Peele, Patrick Reyes, and Erin Weber-Johnson, “The Belonging Project” The Presbyterian Foundation: granted October 2022 \$3,000
 5. Benac, Dustin, Erin Weber-Johnson, and Mark Elsdon, “Shifting Ground Toolkit: How to Reimagine Resources” Lake Institute Shifting Ground Initiative: granted March 2022 \$9,995
 6. Benac, Dustin, and Angela Gorrell, “The Future Church Project” Lilly Endowment: Pathways to Tomorrow Initiative: granted December 2021 \$1,000,000(PI)

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| 7. | Benac, Dustin. "Networks, Higher Education, and Social Imaginaries"
Information Initiative @ Duke Data Expeditions: granted July 2018 | \$1,500 |
| 8. | Grigoni, M., Dubie, E., Benac, D., Jobe, S., and Juskus, R.,
"Theology, Religion & Qualitative Methods Network"
Duke University Interdisciplinary Studies: grant granted March 2018 | \$5,000 |
| 9. | Benac, Dustin. Innovation grant
Leadership Education at Duke Divinity School: granted August 2017 | \$5,000 |
| 10. | Benac, Dustin. Research grant
The M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust, granted August 2017. | \$2,000 |
| 11. | Benac, Dustin. Graduate Student Training Enhancement Grant
Duke University Interdisciplinary Studies: granted April 2017 | \$1,500 |
| 12. | Benac, Dustin. Education grant
General Board of Higher Education and Ministry: granted April 2016 | \$3,000 |
| 13. | Benac, Dustin. Travel grant
Middle East Travel Seminar: granted March 2014 | \$6,000 |
| 14. | Benac, Dustin. Education grant
The Fant Foundation: granted April 2012 | \$15,000 |
| 15. | Benac, Dustin. Education grant
The Seay Foundation: granted April 2007 | \$52,000 |

GRANT WRITING EXPERIENCE: \$593,994

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| 16. | Benac, D., Still T. "Capacity Building for the Program for the Future
Church"
Carson-Myer Foundation: granted March 2022 | \$50,000 |
| 17. | Benac, D., Still, T., Burk, J. "Discernment for a New Day: Strategic
Assessment for Expanding Mission"
Lilly Endowment: Pathways to Tomorrow Initiative: granted April 2021. | \$49,994 |
| 18. | Benac, D., Riak, A. Duke Center for Reconciliation | \$3,000/\$3,000 matching |

The United Methodist Church General Board of Church and Society Peace with Justice Grant Program: granted April 2016.

19. Riak, A., Benac, D., Lalam, M. Duke Center for Reconciliation \$36,000
Cornerstone Trust: granted June 2015.

20. Benac, D., Olson-Getty, D., Riak, A. \$2,500/\$2,500 matching
Duke Center for Reconciliation
The United Methodist Church General Board of Church and Society Peace with Justice Grant Program: granted March 2014.

21. Benac, C., and Benac, D. Personal Grant for Casey Benac. \$15,000
The Seay Foundation: granted January 2014.

22. Benac, D., Davelaar, K., Riak, A. Research Award for \$2,000/\$2,000 matching
Chris Rice of the Duke Center for Reconciliation.
Josiah Charles Trent Memorial Foundation Endowment Fund: granted November 2013.

23. Benac, Dustin. Hill Country Daily Bread Ministries Capital Campaign \$2,000
Cecilia Young Willard Helping Fund: granted September 2013.

24. Benac, Dustin. Hill Country Daily Bread Ministries \$1,000
The Dixie Starnes Wenger Foundation: granted October 2012.

25. Benac, Dustin. Hill Country Daily Bread Ministries \$5,000
The CarMax Foundation: granted July 2012.

26. Cantu, S., Benac, D., Hill Country Daily Bread Ministries \$50,000
The Harvey E. Najim Family Foundation: granted April 2012.

27. Speck, D., Arteaga, D., Fernandez, M., Speck, T., Benac, D. \$350,000
“Community-Centered Healthy Marriage and Relationship Grants.”
Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families: granted October 2011

28. Speck, D and Benac, D. “Let’s Move! in Indian Country” \$20,000
Native American Programs—Improving the Well-Being of Children Supplemental Grant: granted June 2011

GRANT MANAGEMENT

Benac, Dustin (Project Director). “The Future Church Project,” The Lilly Endowment, Inc.,: granted December 2021	\$1,000,000
Benac, Dustin (Project Director). “Discernment for a New Day: Strategic Assessment for Expanding Mission,” The Lilly Endowment, Inc.,: granted April 2021.	\$49,994
Benac, Dustin (Coordinator). “Competitive Training Grants Program Proposal—American College of Emergency Physicians.” <i>Department of Homeland Security</i> : granted October 2005—September 2011 coordinated April 2011—September 2011.	\$1,154,223

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Baylor University (undergraduate)

Christian Heritage (REL 1350)	Fall 2023
Christian Social Innovation (PPS 4303)	Spring 2022

George W. Truett Theology Seminary, Baylor University

Models and Practices of Social Innovation (WOCW 7379)	Spring 2024
Integrative Capstone Thesis or Project (THEO 7V99)	Spring 2024
Integrative Seminar, Online (PRTH 7391)	Summer 2023
Integrative Seminar (PRTH 7391)	Spring 2023
Integrative Capstone Thesis or Project (THEO 7V99)	Spring 2023
Preaching throughout the Christian Tradition (PRCH 7389)	Spring 2023
Faith, Philanthropy, and Fundraising (LEAD 7V21)	Summer 2022
Christian Social Innovation (LEAD 7V21)	Spring 2022
Leadership for Ministry (LEAD 7301)	Fall 2021
Leading in the Kingdom (DMIN 7330)	Fall 2021
Leadership for Ministry (LEAD 7301)	Spring 2021
Leading in the Kingdom (DMIN 7330)	Spring 2021

Duke Divinity School

Instructor: Digital Rule of Life (PARISH 790)	Fall 2020
Instructor: Theology in the Contemporary Church (WCOS 522)	Fall 2019
Instructor: Theology in the Contemporary Church (SCOS 522)	Summer 2019
Preceptor: American Christianity (AMXTIAN 756)	Spring 2019
Preceptor: Early and Medieval Christianity (CHURHST 750)	Fall 2018
Preceptor: Christian Theology (XTIANTHE 755)	Fall 2017
Co-Instructor: Forming Disciples in the Wesleyan Tradition (PARISH 770)	Spring 2017
Preceptor: Christian Theology (XTIANTH 755)	Fall 2016

Duke University

Teaching Assistant: Freshman Pre-Orientation to Research in the Humanities (P-Search) with Dr. Phil Stern

Summer 2018

ADVISING EXPERIENCE

George W. Truett Theology Seminary, Baylor University

Cameron Supak (D.Min. Academic Supervisor, in progress)

Matt Stob (D.Min. Academic Supervisor, in progress)

Ryan Chandler (D.Min. Academic Supervisor, in progress)

Baylor University

Eric Amouzou (Ph.D. in Church Music, Comprehensive Exam Committee)

CERTIFICATIONS, SERVICE, AND MEMBERSHIPS

Duke Th.D. Colloquium in Reflective and Faithful Teaching (CRAFT)

Wabash Center Teaching Seminar for Doctoral Students

ICPSR “Qualitative Research Methods” at the University of North Carolina’s Odum Institute

The Collegeville Institute’s “Writing Theology for the General Reader” writing workshop

Leadership Education A Convocation of Christian Leaders

Racial Equity Institute (REI) Phase 1 Training

Duke Summer Institute for Reconciliation

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

International Consultation on Ecclesial Futures (ICEF) Member-Designate

American Academy of Religion (AAR)

The British and Irish Association of Practical Theology (BIAPT)

International Academy of Practical Theology (IAPT)

International Society for the Sociology of Religion (ISSR)

TECHNICAL SKILLS AND PROFICIENCY

NVivo Qualitative Research Software

Tableau Data Visualization Software

Gephi Network Visualizations Software

LANGUAGE SKILLS AND PROFICIENCY

Academic German: Graduate level reading and translation

Academic French: Graduate level reading and translation

Koine Greek: Intermediate reading and exegesis

Biblical Hebrew: Introductory reading and exegesis

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Book Proposal Review: *Routledge: Religion and Anthropology*

BIAPT Publishable Article Prize Review Committee

Baylor's Truett Theological Seminary—Committee on Diversity and Belonging

Baylor's Truett Theological Seminary—Committee on Grants Strategy and Public Scholarship

Baylor's Truett Theological Seminary—Truett Alumni Committee

Peer Review: *Christian Higher Education, Ritual and Liturgy Studies, Practical Theology, Review of Religious Research*

Baylor University, Christian Collaborative for Social Innovation—Finalist Assessment Team

Duke Divinity School—Strategic Planning Committee

Duke Divinity School—Duke Graduate Conference in Theology Planning Committee

Duke Divinity School—Admissions Committee

Duke Divinity School—Center for Reconciliation Student Formation Discernment Process