LINDA A. MERCADANTE

B. ROBERT STRAKER PROFESSOR OF THEOLOGY

THE METHODIST THEOLOGICAL SCHOOL IN OHIO

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Professor of Theology in the B. Robert Straker Chair in Historical Theology, Methodist Theological School in Ohio [1987 - present]

Visiting Professor, Regent College, "Victims and Sinners", 2003

Visiting Professor, North West House of Theological Studies, Summer 2002

VISITING SCHOLAR IN MEDIA AND THEOLOGY, New College, University of Edinburgh, Scotland, 1999

Visiting Professor, Princeton Theological Seminary, 1991

Adjunct Professor, Trenton State College, 1987

Instructor, Regent College, 1984

AWARDS

Henry Luce III Fellowship in Theology, 2010-11: "Unfettered Belief, Untethered Practice: Thinking Theologically about 'Spiritual but not Religious'

American Academy of Religion and Luce Foundation, "Theologies of Religious Pluralism," Research Cohort II, 2010-11

Theological Research Grant, Association of Theological Schools, for "I'm Spiritual But Not Religious[SBNR]: Addressing the Current 'Cultured Despisers' of Religion," 2007-8. [Theological issues in cultural ethos]

Collaborative Project Grant, Louisville Inst., 1998-2002, "Hope Deferred: Theological Reflections on Reproductive Loss" [Focus on doctrinal issues raised by adoption, abortion, infertility, miscarriage, etc.]

Christian Faith and Life Sabbatical Grant, Louisville Institute, 1998-9 [Theological reflections on victimization and methodological reflections on narrative]

Teaching and Learning in Theological Education Grant, Association of Theological Schools, 1998-9

Research Award, Louisville Institute for the Study of Protestantism and American Culture, 1994-5 [theological examination of addiction recovery metaphor compared to doctrines of sin and grace]

Summer Stipend Award, Louisville Institute for the Study of Protestantism and American Culture, 1993-4

Younger Scholar Award, Association of Theological Schools, 1991-2

Theological Scholarship and Research Grant, Association of Theological Schools, 1991-2

Graduate Fellowships in Theology, PC(USA), 1983-6

Teaching Fellowships in Theology and History, Princeton Theological Seminary, 1981-4

FELLOWSHIPS AND CONSULTANCIES

Member, Center of Theological Inquiry, Princeton, New Jersey [1994-present]

International Consult, Media and Theology Project, THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH, New College, School of Divinity [2000-1]

Women in Academic Leadership, Association of Theological Schools, Fall 2001

Consultant, United States Department of Health and Human Services, National Institute of Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism of the National Institutes of Health. "Studying Spirituality in Alcoholism and Recovery" [1998]

Consultant on Teaching Theology, Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religion [1996-8]

Consultant, "The Church in the Culture," THE INSTITUTE FOR ECUMENICAL AND CULTURAL RESEARCH [1996]

Fellow, Institute for Ecumenical and Cultural Research, Collegeville, Minnesota [1992, 1998]

Consultant, Women Administrators and Faculty, United Methodist Church, Board of Higher Education, 1993

Mission Task Force, Presbyterian Women Faculty & Administrators in Theological Seminaries, 1987

Graduate Fellow in Theology, PC(USA) [1983-86]

COLLABORATIVE ACTIVITIES

Co-Chair, Religious Conversions Program Unit, American Academy of Religion, 2008-present

Oral History Project, Rutgers University and The New Jersey Historical Society, May 2007

Training Manual for Reproductive Loss Counselors and Ministers, Religious Coalition for Reproductive Rights, 2004-5

"HOPE DEFERRED: THEOLOGICAL REFLECTIONS ON REPRODUCTIVE LOSS": Women Theologians project, Louisville Institute, 1998-2002

WOMEN IN ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP, Association of Theological Schools, Fall 2001

FELLOW, Institute for Ecumenical and Cultural Research, Collegeville, Minnesota, 1992, 1998

SABBATICAL GRANT PROPOSAL AWARD COMMITTEE, Louisville Institute for the Study of Protestantism and American Culture, 1997

WABASH CENTER PROGRAM ON TEACHING IN THEOLOGY, 1996-9

WORKGROUP ON CONSTRUCTIVE THEOLOGY: Planning Committee, Book Contributor, 1991-present

MEMBER, Center of Theological Inquiry, 1995-6, 1997

LAY LIBERALISM CONSULTATION, LOUISVILLE INSTITUTE, MAY 1995

OFFICIAL READER, Samuel Robinson Scholarship Competition, PC(USA), 1984-87

ACADEMIC SERVICE

MTSO COMMITTEES: DOCTOR OF MINISTRY; Admissions and Student Aid [chair]; Faculty Personnel [chair]; Candidacy; Worship and Special Forums [chair]; Self-Study; Student Review; Academic Affairs; Joint Conference; Nominating Committee; Secretary to the Faculty; Center for Theology and Culture Planning Group; Campus Council Advisor; Academic Council; Matey Janata Award; multiple Search Committees [e.g., D.Min Director; Hebrew Bible, etc.].

MTSO CONVENER, Theology and Ethics Division, Methodist Theological School, 1988-9, 1993-4, 1996-7, 2000-1

MTSO Student Group Advisor: Interfaith Connections, 2008-9; Women Students, 1995-9

Workgroup on Constructive Theology, 1990-present Member, American Academy of Religion, 1986-present

Founding Co-Chair, Religious Conversion Program Unit, American Academy of Religion 2008-present

Founding Steering Committee, Society of Comparative Theology, 2010 - ongoing

Session Chair, American Italian Historical Association, 2004-5

TENURE REVIEWER, Princeton Theological Seminary, 1987-8; Bethel Seminary, 2003

CHAIR, Mission Task Force, Presbyterian Women Faculty/Administrators, Theological Seminaries, 1987.

REFERENCE LIBRARIAN, Speer Library, Princeton Seminary, 1985-6

STAFF MEMBER, Center for Women and Religion of the Graduate Theological Union, 1980.

ASSISTANT TO DEAN, New College Berkeley (CA), 1979-80.

JOURNALISM AND EDITORIAL EXPERIENCE

Creative Non-Fiction Writers, editorial consultant, Columbus, OH [2006-8]

Christian Family Magazine, editorial consultant, Columbus, OH [2006-7]

Special Correspondent, The Columbus Dispatch, "Faith and Values" column [2004-2007]

Network reviewer, RELIGIOUS STUDIES REVIEW [1995-2000]

Editorial board, SCOTTISH JOURNAL OF THEOLOGY [1995-98]

Manuscript reviewer: WESTMINSTER/JOHN KNOX PRESS, SUNY PRESS, EERDMANS PRESS, INTERVARSITY

PRESS, and others.

Peer Reviewer: Teaching Theology & Religion Journal

Copy Editor, CRUX, Vancouver, B.C. [1978-9]

Reporter, Staff-writer and Housing-Issues Columnist, The Daily Record, Morristown, N.J. [1971-4]

Staff- writer and Columnist, The Beacon, Pequannock, N.J. [1970-1]

JOURNALISM AWARDS

First Place, Public Service Journalism, N.J. Press Association, 1973.

Second Place, Features, N.J. Press Association, 1972

Environmental Award, The Beacon, 1971

SELECTED LIST OF PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS

❖ BLOOMFIELD AVENUE: A JEWISH-CATHOLIC JERSEY GIRL'S SPIRITUAL JOURNEY [Rowman & Littlefield, Cowley Imprint, 2006]

"Colorful and compelling!" Publishers' Weekly, Aug. 2006

VICTIMS AND SINNERS: SPIRITUAL ROOTS OF ADDICTION AND RECOVERY [Westminster/John Knox Press, 1996]

"In one of the most profound books written on the subject of addiction, Mercadante...thoughtfully compares addiction theories with the theology of sin....This is a thought-provoking work.." *Publishers Weekly*, Oct. 1996

"She teases out theological themes that make this process effective....[offering] some important and incisive contributions...to theologians and laypersons who wonder about this movement....Mercadante's thoughtful analysis...should be of enormous benefit to the churches." James Newton Poling, *The Journal of Religion*

"The worlds of theology and therapy often know each other mainly by caricaturing stereotype. This book, respectful of both worlds, may help correct those distortions. Mercadante is definitely the theologian rather than the addictionologist, but this book is balanced...wide-ranging, insightful and...profound." Ernest Kurtz, *Journal of Studies on Alcohol*, Nov. 1997

"What she advocates is moving away from the false dichotomy of an analysis of the human predicament as either a failure of will or a responsibility-free disease model....This is a landmark book for anyone in the addiction field especially those with a theological bent." **Abigrail Rian Evans, Interpretation, Aug. 1998**

"A thorough examination of the spiritual and theological assumptions of both addiction and recovery. The first assessment of this depth about recovery groups -- groups in which more than a million Americans participate." Forbes Book Club Choice: The Home Page for World's Business Leaders

"A serious, thoughtful, provocative, passionate and necessary theological corrective to the implicit theology of Twelve-Step programs." Charles E. Brown, Assoc. Prof. Pastoral Counseling, Union Theological Seminary in Virginia

"Here is a book which promises much, and fulfills almost all of it." **Bela Toth**, **Ph.D.**, **University Lecturer**, **Szentende**, **Rakoczi**, **Hungary**; *American Journal of Pastoral Counseling*

"Mercadante succeeds in bringing a much-needed objectivity and historical perspective to an emotionally charged subject." Carol LeMasters, *Sojourners Magazine 1997*

"This book provides a provocative historical and theological analysis of Alcoholics Anonymous and the twelve step paradigm of recovery. The author addresses the age old controversy of sin versus sickness....Her book will provide a new lens." Robert H. Albers, Prof. of Pastoral Theology, Luther Seminary

"Mercadante brings personal experience, pastoral concern, and theological expertise to this multifaceted...study of the relationship between Christian understandings of sin and...addiction, especially as these terms are understood – and misunderstood – by the church and by...today's 'recovery movement.'" **Ken Moody-Arndt**, *The Illuminator*

GENDER, DOCTRINE AND GOD: THE SHAKERS AND CONTEMPORARY THEOLOGY [Abingdon Press, 1990]

"The first comprehensive and systematic study of the Shaker doctrine of the dual, male-female God...demonstrates both the innovative aspects and the limitations of this nineteenth century experiment in inclusive God-imagery." Rosemary Radford Ruether, Garrett Evangelical

"We are all in debt to Linda Mercadante's book because it locates theological reflection about inclusive God-language within the social dynamics of a specific religious community. [It] skillfully traces connections between forces of language, doctrine and social structure, and thus provides new perspectives for...all theologians." Mark Kline Taylor, Princeton Theological Seminary

Other Reviews: Nadia Lahutsky, *Critical Review of Books in Religion, 341-3, 1992;* Mary Schweitzer, *Theological Studies*, Dec. 1991; Marjorie Procter-Smith, *Theology Today*, April 1992; Sonya A. Quitslund, *Journal of Ecumenical Studies*, Spring 1992; Karmen R.Berger, *Religious Studies Review*, April 1993; Amanda Porterfield, *Church History*, Sept. 1993; Diane Sasson, *Syzygy*, 2, 150-1, Win-Sp 1993.

FROM HIERARCHY TO EQUALITY: A COMPARISON OF PAST AND PRESENT INTERPRETATIONS OF 1 COR 11: 2-16 IN RELATION TO THE CHANGING STATUS OF WOMEN IN SOCIETY [Vancouver, B.C.: GMH Books, 1978]

"Mercadante puts her finger on the all-important matter of hermeneutics -- what causes us to perceive what we do in scripture? Her work should make us much more aware of how our culture informs (and sometimes determines) our exegesis, and should help us be a bit more cautious and humble in using scripture." Larry W. Hurtado, New College, Edinburgh

"The Center for Women and Religion receives frequent, sometimes anguished letters and calls about just what to do with biblical passages like this one. Anyone who has tried to answer such questions will welcome Linda Mercadante's thorough and readable answer." Mary Cross and Barbara Waugh, Directors, Center for Women and Religion, Graduate Theological Union, Univ. of California, Berkeley

"A helpful book...that ...summarize[s] the history of the interpretation of this particular passage, from the publication of John Calvin's commentary...to the present." Tom Shoemaker, Maricopa College, http://www.mc.maricopa.edu/~tomshoemaker/BTB.html

BOOK ESSAYS

- "Anguish: Perspectives on Victimization," CONSTRUCTIVE THEOLOGY: A Contemporary Approach to Classical Themes, with CD-Rom, Serene Jones and Paul Lakeland, eds., Fortress Press 2005
- "Tasting the Bitter with the Sweet: The Spiritual Geography of Newark, New Jersey," SPIRIT IN THE CITIES, Katherine Tanner, ed.; Fortress Press, 2005
- "Infertility, Ecclesiology, and the Quest for Family," HOPE DEFERRED: THEOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVES ON REPRODUCTIVE LOSS, Nadine Pentz Franz and Mary Stimming, eds., Pilgrim, 2005

- "The Cosmic Christ in MidAmerica," Matthew Fox Festshrift, University of Creation Spirituality, 2000
- "Sin, Addiction and Freedom," RECONSTRUCTING CHRISTIAN THEOLOGY, eds. Rebecca Chopp and Mark Kline Taylor, Fortress Press, 1994

This article "achieve[s] an impressive clarity in [its] skillful and passionate 'intertwinement' of doctrine and problematic." **Douglas John Hall**, *Theology Today* Apr. 1996

- "Core Issues in Theological Debate," With Heart, Mind & Strength: The Best of Crux '79-89, Credo, 1990
- "Response to `Our Audience: Atheist or Alienated?", "Report on Galatians 3" (with Richard Hays), and "The Role of Women", in CONFLICT AND CONTEXT: HERMENEUTICS IN THE AMERICAS. Mark Lau Branson and C. Rene Padilla, eds., Eerdmans, 1986.

REFERENCE WORKS

- "Theology of Trauma," CAMBRIDGE DICTIONARY OF CHRISTIAN THEOLOGY, Cambridge University Press, (forthcoming 2011)
- "Religious and Theological Roots of Alcoholics Anonymous," Vol. 1, THE PRAEGER INTERNATIONAL COLLECTION ON ADDICTIONS, Praeger Perspectives on Abnormal Psych., 2009
- CHRISTIAN THEOLOGY: AN INTRODUCTION TO ITS TRADITIONS AND TASK, ELECTRONIC TEACHER, CD-ROM, FORTRESS PRESS 2002
- "Violence, Abuse, and Oppression," WOMEN'S BIBLE COMMENTARY, InterVarsity Press, 2001
- "Addiction", DICTIONARY OF FEMINIST THEOLOGIES, Westminster/John Knox Press, 1996
- "Calvin Green", AMERICAN NATIONAL BIOGRAPHY, Oxford University Press, 1994
- "Ann Lee", "The Shakers", DICTIONARY OF CHRISTIANITY IN AMERICA, Intervarsity Press, 1990.

JOURNAL ARTICLES

- "Italian-Immigrants and Religious Conversions," in *PASTORAL PSYCHOLOGY*, Spring 2010. SpringerScience+Business Media, LLC 2010 pdf
- "Helping Addicts Move Beyond the Spiritual Wading Pool: A New Approach to Religion and Spirituality in the Healing of Addictions," in *THE JOURNAL OF EXISTENTIAL PSYCHOLOGY + PSYCHOTHERAPY* Fall 2010 journal.existentialpsychology.org.
- "Life After L'Abri," THE CHRISTIAN CENTURY, Sept. 22, 2009 http://www.christiancentury.org/article.lasso?id=7825
- "My Conversion and Aspiration: A Comparative Case Study, Constantine Panunzio," *ITALIAN AMERICANA*, 26:2, Summer 2008.
- "Using Film to Teach Theology," THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION, Assoc. of Theological Schools, 42:2, 2007
- "Is Memoir Narcissistic or Evangelistic?: The Writing of *Bloomfield Avenue: A Jewish-Catholic Jersey Girl's Spiritual Journey,*" JOURNAL OF THEOLOGY, Summer 2006.
- "The Church and Addiction Recovery," CHRISTIAN NETWORKS JOURNAL, Summer 2005.
- "From Infertility to Spiritual Abundance," RELIGIOUS COALITION FOR REPRODUCTIVE CHOICE, Educational Series, 2005 http://www.rcrc.org/pdf/RCRC_EdSeries_Infertility.pdf
- "Are We All Immigrants?: Ethnicity, Guilt and Religion in *The Sopranos*," *JOURNAL OF THEOLOGY*, Summer 2004.
- "'Winners or Whiners?': Victims Caught Between Anguish and Grace," JOURNAL OF THEOLOGY, Summer 2003.

- "High Tech or High Touch: Will Technology Help or Hurt Our Teaching?" TEACHING THEOLOGY AND RELIGION, Wabash Institute 5:1, Jan. 2002, pp.56-58. http://www3.interscience.wiley.com/journal/118931785/abstract?CRETRY=1&SRETRY=0
- "The God Behind the Screen: *Pleasantville* and *The Truman Show,*" *THE JOURNAL OF RELIGION AND FILM,* Fall 2001, www.unomaha.edu/~wwwjrf/truman.htm; and in *JOURNAL OF THEOLOGY*, Spring 2000.
- "The Christ Figure in *Breaking the Waves,*" THE JOURNAL OF RELIGION AND FILM, 5:1, April 2001 www.unomaha.edu/~wwwirf/
- "Anguish: Unraveling Sin and Victimization," THE ANGLICAN THEOLOGICAL REVIEW, Sp. 2000.
- "Faith and Film: Teaching Theology Through Film," CONNECTIONS, Vol. 6, No.3, Fall 1999 "Fall Books: Working With Available Light," review essay, THE CHRISTIAN CENTURY, 11/99
- "The Religious Truce," THE CHRISTIAN CENTURY, Nov. 3, 1999, pp.1046-7
- "A Spirituality 'After'" THE ISTI SUN, Journal of the Interfaith Sexual Trauma Institute, Win. 1998-9 http://www.csbsju.edu/isti/ISTIArticles/after.html
- "Addiction: Close to Home," *THE CHRISTIAN CENTURY*, March 18-25, 1998 http://www.findarticles.com/p/articles/mi_m1058/is_n9_v115/ai_20460263
- "Reflection on the Conversion of Benjamin Chavis Muhammad" CHRISTIAN CENTURY, May 1997 http://www.findarticles.com/p/articles/mi_m1058/is_n19_v114/ai_19550309
- "Gender, Sin, and Addiction," JOURNAL OF MINISTRY IN ADDICTION & RECOVERY, Fall '96
- "Theological Commentary on the Lectionary", Four articles, LECTIONARY HOMILETICS, Win, '90.
- "Racism in the Women's Movement," JOURNAL OF FEMINIST STUDIES IN RELIGION, 4:1, 94-8, Sp.'89
- "Making the Wrong Connections," DAUGHTERS OF SARAH, March/April 1985, 14-15.
- "Report on Sixth Evangelical Women's Caucus," TSF Bulletin, Sept-Oct. 1984, 27-8
- "Women's Realities: A Theological View," TSF Bulletin, Sept-Oct. 1984, p.8-10
- "The Male-Female Debate: Can We Read the Bible Objectively?" CRUX, XV:2, June 1979
- "Core Issues in Theological Debate," CRUX, Dec. 1974, 7-11.

BOOK REVIEWS IN : REVIEWS IN THEOLOGY AND RELIGION; THE CHRISTIAN CENTURY; CROSS CURRENTS; CHURCH HISTORY; TRINITY SEMINARY JOURNAL; THEOLOGY TODAY; PRINCETON SEMINARY BULLETIN; RELIGIOUS STUDIES REVIEW; JOURNAL OF FEMINIST STUDIES IN RELIGION; CHURCH HISTORY; TSF BULLETIN: CRUX

FEATURED IN MEDIA

- "The Spiritual but not Religious Show" interview with host George Lewis, Mar. 1, 2011 http://www.ustream.tv/recorded/13033144
- "Spirituality or Religion?," Interview and Call-In, WOSU 820 AM, *All Sides with Ann Fisher*, Aug. 2010 http://www.wosu.org/allsides/?archive=1&date=08/12/2010
- "Minister Launches SBNR site: Interview," THE CHRISTIAN POST, April 2009, http://www.christianpost.com/article/20090430/minister-launches-spiritual-but-not-religious-movement/index.html#
- "Help Needed," THE'S POSTEROUS, Jan. 2009, http://thestarthrower.posterous.com/help-needed-2
- "Minister Studies Why Americans Are 'Spiritual but not Religious," THE CHRISTIAN POST, Oct. 2008, http://www.christianpost.com/article/20081022/minister-studies-why-americans-are-spiritual-but-not-religious/index.html#
- "To church or not to church: PC(USA) researcher studies the 'spiritual but not religious,'" Jerry Van Marter, PRESBYTERIAN NEWS SERVICE ONLINE, 10/08 http://www.pcusa.org/pcnews/2008/08779.htm

- "What Does it Mean to Say You're Spiritual but Not Religious", Interview with L.Mercadante. On OPEN LINE WITH FRED ANDERLE, WOSU [NPR affiliate] 6/08 http://www.wosu.org/radio/radio-open-line/?archive=1&date=06/10/2008
- "Minister Studies Why Americans are Spiritual but not Religious," ANGLICANS ABLAZE, 10/23/08 http://anglicansablaze.blogspot.com/search?q=mercadante
- "More Describe Selves as Spiritual, Not Religious," Front page story on Mercadante research project, in BOULDER DAILY CAMERA [BOULDER, CO]
 4/08 http://www.dailycamera.com/ci_13095951?IADID=Search-www.dailycamera.com-www.dailycamera.com#
 - "To Church or Not to Church," KRUSE KRONICLE,
 10/08 http://krusekronicle.typepad.com/kruse_kronicle/2008/10/to-church-or-not-to-church.html
- "What does 'Spiritual but not Religious' Mean?" NOVA SCOTIA SCOTT, Oct. 24,
 2008 http://www.novascotiascott.com/2008/10/24/what-does-spiritual-but-not-religious-really-mean/
- "To Church or Not to Church," JOHN MARK MINISTRIES, Oct. 2008 http://jmm.aaa.net.au/articles/21808.htm
- "Pelagian Theology Lives on in Science: Medical Model of Addictions Blames 'Religion'" Interview with Linda Mercadante. In VITAL THEOLOGY: HELPING PEOPLE THINK THEOLOGICALLY, 11/07, 4:4
- "Soul Survivors: Spirituality in Addiction and Recovery," Report on researchers, SOCIAL WORK TODAY, March/April 2006
- "Interview on Addiction & Spirituality Conference," SCIENCE AND THEOLOGY NEWS, 2005
- Faith and Values Columnist, The Columbus Dispatch
 - o "Going Through My Mother's Drawers," 4/08/04
 - o "Christians Should Heed the Victims Among Us," 4/15/05
 - o "Mother's Legacy Can't Be Found in Possessions," 4/4/05
 - o "God Wants Us to Treat Immigrants with Compassion and Patience," 12/20/05
 - And others
- Columnist, "Christmas Reflections," THIS WEEK, Suburban chain of newspapers, Dec. 2005
- "Is Addiction Sin?" *Interview, ADVENTIST REVIEW*, 2003 http://www.adventistreview.org/2003-1531/story1.html

SELECTED LIST OF SPEECHES AND SEMINARS

TO SCHOLARS AND PROFESSIONALS IN RELIGION

- > Trinity Theological Academy, Traverse City, MI, Four Lecture Series, "The Church and the Spiritual but not Religious Movement," June 25-30, 2010
- > Synod of the Covenant, PCUSA, "An Emerging Meta-Narrative," Toledo, Mar. 2010
- > AMERICAN ACADEMY OF RELIGION
 - "Themes in Religious Conversion," Respondent, Religious Conversion Consultation, Nov. 2010
 - "Religious Conversion and Immigration: Italian Americans as Case Study," Religious Conversion Consultation, Nov. 2008
 - "Ethnicity and/as Religion: The Sopranos [Just When You Can't Go Home Again, It's Finally OK to be from New Jersey]," Religion and Popular Culture Group, Nov. 2001

- "Panel: Television as Religion and Religion as Television," Religion, Film, and Visual Culture Group, and Religion, Culture and Communication, Nov. 2001
- "Religious Viewers' Interpretations of Breaking the Waves: Redemptive or Retrograde?" Religion, Film, and Visual Culture Group; Nov. 1999
- "A Unique Shaker Identity and Its Relation to a Counter-Cultural and Gender-Inclusive View of God", 4/91, Midwest, North American Religions section
- Chair, Annual meetings, History of Christianity, Chair, 1991-89.
- "Popular Piety in Cross-Chronological Perspective", 1990, Annual meeting, History of Christianity, Resp.,
- "The Journey to Shakerism and the Journey Within It", 1988, Annual meeting, History of Christianity Section
- "Hands to Work and Hearts to God", 1988, Annual meeting, Film Section
- "Prophetic Dimensions of Shaker Divine Imagery", 1988, Midwest, Religion and American Culture Section
- "Shakers and Gender," American Religions Section, Mid-Atlantic, 1985
- Response to Bishop John Shelby Spong, MTSO, Nov. 2008
- "Research Report on Spirituality Ethos [SBNR]", General Ccl, Presby.Ch. (USA), Louisville, KY, 8/08
- "Christian Theology Buddhist Theology," Naropa University, Senior Seminar, 3/08
- "Theological Aspects of Addiction and Recovery," Report to Bishops of the North Central Juris., 9/07
- "Theology in Memoir Writing," Center of Theological Inquiry, Princeton, 10/07
- "Victimization and Christology," Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, 11/07
- "LIVED RELIGION SERIES: CHRISTOLOGY AND COOKING," WORKGROUP ON CONSTRUCTIVE THEOLOGY, 4/07
- "Using Film to Help Seekers," The Schooler Institute on Preaching, MTSO, Spring 2005
- *Film and the Religious Imagination," St. John's School of Theology, Collegeville, MN, Oct. 2002.
- ➤ "Faith and Film," THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON MEDIA, RELIGION AND CULTURE, UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH, July 1999
- "Sin, Victimisation and Responsibility," NEW COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH, May 1999
- "Anguish: Theological Perspectives," ECUMENICAL INSTITUTE, St. John's University, Dec. 1998
- *Spiritual and Theological Perspectives on Addiction," Danielsen Institute, Boston University, 5/88
- Panelist with Benjamin Chavis Muhammad, *Trinity Lutheran Seminary*, April 1997
- "Anguish and Anxiety," CENTER OF THEOLOGICAL INQUIRY, Member Presentation, July 1997
- "Spiritual but not Religious: Theological Challenge," Workgroup on Constructive Theology, May 1997
- "Sin and Addiction," Center of Theological Inquiry, Members Presentation, Princeton, NJ 1/95
- "The Central Role of Faith in the Recovery Process", Addiction SYMPOSIUM, Keynote, MTSO, 9/22/95
- "Victims and Sinners in an Age of Addiction." CHARIS ECUMENICAL INSTITUTE, 10/11/94, Moorhead, MN
- ➤ "The Theological Influence of the Recovery Movement," GREAT PLAINS INSTITUTE OF THEOLOGY, May 2-3, 1994, Richardton, North Dakota
- Annual Lecture, "From Sin to Addiction: Changing Metaphors, Changing Meanings," MTSO, April 1993
- "Addiction and Oppression in an Alien Land: Spiritual, Self, Social," Alumni/ae Days, MTSO, April 1993
- ➤ "Sin and Addiction", ECUMENICAL INSTITUTE, ST. JOHN'S UNIVERSITY, May, 1992
- ➤ "Gender, Sin, and Addiction," Keynote, BOARD OF GLOBAL MINISTRIES, UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, Conference: Theology and Addiction: A Tapestry of Ministry in Action, 9/91. Excerpted in Response, Sp'92.
- "Is 'Addiction' the New Metaphor for Sin?: Some Theological Dimensions of a Cultural Movement," Ecumenical Institute, *St. John's University*, May 1992

- *Sin and Addiction: Theological Problems," Workgroup on Constructive Theology, June 1991
- * "Addiction and Sin," M.A./A.D.A.M. Forum, MTSO, March 1990
- ➤ "Gender, Doctrine, and God," Scioto Valley Clergywomen conference, Oct. 1990
- ➤ "Gender Imagery for God," COLUMBUS CLUSTER FACULTY WOMEN, Winter 1988
- Faith, Politics, and Fundamentalism," PRINCETON THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, 10/88.
- "Contemporary Theology," Scioto Valley Clergywomen, Fall 1988
- "Faith, Spirituality and Religion: A Comparative View," PRINCETON THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, 11/87
- ➤ "How Should We Use Gender When We Speak About God?" *MTSO*, Inaugural Address, 1987
- Plenary Address, Seventh Evangelical Women's Caucus International, 1986.

TO PROFESSIONAL GROUPS AND SCHOLARS IN OTHER FIELDS

- Missouri State Mental Health Dept., Spring Training Institute, "A Circle of Healing," SuperSession and "Spirituality of Addiction and Recovery" Healthy and Unhealthy," Concurrent Session, May 2010
- Theological Roots of Addiction and Recovery," Kansas Wesleyan, Intro. to Addiction Theory," 10/08
- "Spirituality [SBNR] Interviews Research Report," University of Colorado, Boulder, 3/08
- "Women Matter," Princeton University Women Faculty/Staff, Dean of Religious Life, 4/08
- ➤ "Just a Protest of 'Local Reactionary Whites'?: Kawaida Towers and Newark, NJ", Rutgers
 University Institute on Ethnicity, Culture and Experience & the New Jersey Historical Society,
 conference "Long Hot Summer in Retrospect, II", 10/07
- "Helping Addicts Move Beyond the Spiritual Wading Pool: A New Approach to Religion and Spirituality in the Healing of Addictions," The Meaning Conference, Vancouver, B.C., INTERNATIONAL NETWORK OF EXISTENTIAL PSYCHOLOGISTS, 7/06
- WHAT GOOD CAN COME OUT OF NEWARK?: SACRED PLACE AND THE HBO SERIES 'THE SOPRANOS,'"

 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON RELIGION, LITERATURE AND CULTURE, UNIV. OF STIRLING, SCOTLAND, OCT. 2006
- * Addiction & Spirituality," Faith Partners, Malone College, Fall 2006
- "Spiritual Roots of Addiction and Recovery;" and "Spirituality and Victimization," Addiction Training Institute, West Virginia University School of Medicine. June 2005
- *Spiritual Roots of Addiction & Recovery" Keynote; "Theological & Religious Roots of AA," March 10-12, 2005, *Indiana State Univ.*, *Landsbaum Center for Health Education*,
- *As We Sow, So Shall we Reap: The Training of Clergy and Treatment Providers," at *The National Center of Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University*, Sept. 21, 2005
- "Varieties of Religious Experience," Co-Chair, American Italian Historical Assoc., 10/05
- ➤ "My Conversion and Aspiration: Comparative Case Studies of Italian American Protestants II", American Italian Historical Association, 10/05
- "WHEN TERRORISM COMES HOME," OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY, TEACH-IN, 9/20/01
- "An Immigrant's Narrative," American Italian Historical Association, Los Angeles, Ca, spring 2004
- *Faith and Law: Religious and Ethical Dimensions of Zealous Advocacy," OHIO STATE BAR ASSOCIATION, CLE INSTITUTE, Nov. 1999
- "America as Apocalypse: The Shakers' Millennial Beliefs and Female Imagery," UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY, CULTURAL STUDIES PROGRAM, October 1999
- **Keynote**, "Addiction and Theology," The Danielsen Institute, *Boston Univ.*, May 1-2, 1998
- *Anguish: A New Theological Concept," The Ecumenical Institute, St. John's Univ. 10/98
- "Victims & Sinners," DENISON UNIVERSITY, March 1998
- "Anguish Distinguishing between Sin and Victimization," Wabash Consultation on Theology, 1998
- "Theological Reflections on the Addiction Recovery Model," ASHLAND UNIVERSITY, March 1998
- "Using Film in the Teaching of Theology," Wabash Consultation on Teaching and Learning, July 1998
- "World Religions," Continuing Education Seminar, Princeton Theological Seminary, Fall 1988

Keynote, MENNONITE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES SYMP. 1984. [TSF Bulletin, Sept./Oct. 1984, 8-10.]

SELECTED LIST OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- Theologian-In-Residence, First United Methodist Church, Boulder, CO, 2008-2010
- Volunteer, Festival Latino, Columbus, OH 2009
- Mayor's Prayer Breakfast, Worthington, OH 2009
- Liturgist, People of Faith Health-Care Rally, Columbus, OH, Fall 2009
- Trustee, Colonial Hills Civic Association, 2000-2009
- Interfaith Task Force, Mershon Center Peace Chair Initiative, 2008-present
- Liturgist, Ohio Hispanic Coalition, 2008-present
- Member, Interfaith Association of Central Ohio 2008-present
- Consultant, Special Program on Substance Abuse and Related Violence, Clergy Education Advisory Team, Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church, 2008
- Adult Education Committee, Columbus Mennonite Church, Columbus, Ohio 2007-8
- Religion and Life Forum Clergy-in-Residence, Bay View Association, Bay View, Michigan, Summer 2008
- Election Day Poll Watcher, 2006-7
- Treasurer, Mas for Judge Committee, 2007
- Member, "We Believe", Religious professionals, 2006-8
- Ordained, Ministry of Word and Sacrament, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), 1987-present
- Member, Scioto Valley Presbytery, 1987-present
- PC(USA) Liaison for seminarians and inquirers, 1987-present
- Consultant, Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice, 2005
- Member, Women Administrators and Faculty, United Methodist Church, Board of Higher Education, 1993
- Leadership Worthington, 2001-present
- Participant, Ohio Interpreters Guild Conference, Oct. 2005
- Volunteer Naturalist, Columbus Metro Parks, 1995-6
- Women Faculty and Administrators of the PCUSA Team, Chicago, Nov. 1988
- Elder, Hopewell Presbyterian Church, Hopewell, N.J., 1984-87
- Board Member, Interfaith State Task Force on Religion, New Jersey National Organization of Women, 1983-4

SELECTED LIST OF RETREATS, SERMONS, EDUCATION, AND WORKSHOPS

- "Spirituality and Addiction Recovery," First United Methodist, Boulder, CO, 10/17/10
- "Getting in Touch with the Spirit: Spiritual Memoir Writing," First United Methodist, Boulder, CO, 10/7-21/10
- "Unfettered Belief, Untethered Practice: The Spiritual but not Religious Movement," First United Methodist Boulder, CO, 10/4/10
- "Theological Perspectives on Trauma and Victimization," First United Methodist, Boulder, CO, 9/19/10
- ➤ Guest Theologian and Preacher, First Congregational Church, Nantucket, MA, 6/24-27/10
- ➤ Ohio Campus Ministries Association, "Youth, Spirituality and Belief," May 2010
- "Spirituality vs. Religion?", Worthington Presbyterian Church, May 23, 2010
- "Theology and Context: Spiritual but not Religious?" Seminar, Broad St. Presbyterian Church, April 2010

- Overbrook Presbyterian Church, "Understanding the 'Spiritual but not Religious,' Feb. 7, 2010
- ➤ **Keynote Speaker, Ohio Ministries Convocation**, "Understanding this New Movement," "The Church's Response," Jan. 2010
- First Community Church Staff Retreat," Camp Akita, Logan, OH Oct. 2009
- > "Welcoming the SBNRs," Seminar, First Community Church, Columbus, Oct. 2009
- "Helping Presbyterians Understand the SBNR Movement," First Presbyterian, Boulder, CO, 6/09
- "Learning from the SBNRs," Retreat, First United Methodist, Boulder, CO June 2009
- ➤ "A Non-Violent Atonement," 2 Part Bible Study, Mennonite National Conference, July 2009
- "Writing Your Spiritual Memoir," Writer's Bloc at Thurbur House, Columbus, March 2009
- *Reaching the 'Spiritual but not Religious,'" Interfaith Series, Worthington United Methodist, March 2009
- ➤ "Death and Resurrection," Sermon, Columbus Mennonite Church, Jan. 2009
- "The Impact of Faith on Loss," The Hope Center HomeReach Hospice, Ohio Health, March 2009
- "Talking with the 'Spiritual but not Religious,' Series, St.Mark's Episcopal, Upper Arlington, OH 1/09
- Sermon, "Frozen or Chosen?" Columbus Mennonite Church, Jan. 2009
- "Speaking to SBNR Seekers," Series, Indianola Presbyterian Church, Columbus, 11/08
- "Workshop on Small Church Growth: Reaching the SBNR Seekers," Kansas Conf. of Ministers, 10/08
- "Understanding and Reaching the 'Spiritual But Not Religious," Trinity United Methodist, Salina, KS, 10/08
- > Sermon, "Frozen Dead Guy Days and Life After Death," First United Methodist, Boulder, CO March 2008
- "Writing as a Spiritual Discipline" Retreat, Light on the Hill Retreat Center, Van Ettan, New York, 9/08
- > Sermon: "Your Life's Meaning is in Your Story," Bay View, Michigan, 8/08
- "How to Seek God When There's No Clear Path," Bay View Association, Michigan, 8/08
- "How to Learn from Other's Journeys," Bay View Association, Michigan, 8/08
- "How to Find Help at the Movies: Seekers and the Big Questions," Bay View Association, MI, 8/08
- "The Heel," Antioch Writers Workshop, July 2008
- "Viewing and Discussion of Angel-A: Theology in a Film," Intern'l Film Series, Bay View Assoc. 8/08
- "How to Map Your Spiritual Journey: Looking Within, Sharing with Others, Finding God's Grace," Religion and Life Forum, Bay View Association, 8/08
- > "Meet the Authors: Literature Responding to a Changing World" Erdman Center, Princeton, 6/08
- "What Can We Learn from the Spiritual but not Religious?" First United Methodist, Boulder, CO, 4/08
- How to Map Your Spiritual Journey and Find Grace," Retreat at First United Methodist, Boulder, CO, 4/08
- > Learning from Others' Spiritual Memoirs," Adult Education, First United Church, Boulder, CO, 3/08
- "Sermon: "Death and Resurrection," First United Methodist Church, Boulder, CO, 3/08
- "Mixed Faith Backgrounds," Adult Education, First United Methodist Church, Boulder, CO, 2/08
- Finding the Grace on My Journey: Spiritual Memoir," Columbus Mennonite Church Seminar, 2/08
- > Seminar on "Faith and Film," First United Church, Boulder, CO, May 2008
- > Sermon, "Why Do We Work?" Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, Dec. 2007
- "Finding Grace through Writing," Retreat, Covenant Presbyterian Church, Upper Arlington, OH, 4/29/07
- "WHY DO WE GO TO THE MOVIES?" 4 PART SERIES, SIXTH STAR, SHIPBOARD EDUCATION, MARCH 2007
- *BLOOMFIELD AVENUE," SUN. MORNING FORUM, ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL, FEB. 11, 2007
- *Urban Space as Sacred Space: Newark & The Sopranos," St. Mark's Episcopal, Cols., Feb. 2007
- "BLOOMFIELD AVENUE," COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CH., APRIL 22, 2007
- Figrowing Up Jewish-Catholic," Sons of Italy Columbus Chapter, June 2007
- "Spiritual Memoir Workshop," Light on the Hill Retreat Center, April 2007
- "Introduction to Spiritual Memoir, 2 part series" St. John's Episcopal, Worthington, OH, March 2007
- Worship Leader, Alum Days, Regent College, Vancouver, B.C., July 2007
- "Religious Language and Politics," Delaware County Democratic Club, March 2006
- "Little Jewish Girls Don't Wear Crosses," St. John's Episcopal Church, Worthington, Oh, Fe. 5-26, 2006

- > Sermon, "Why Work?" Columbus Mennonite Church, March 2006
- *Spiritual Memoir: Advent Retreat," Degrees of Freedom Retreat Center, Nov. 2006
- "History of Religion and Politics in America," Series, Covenant Presbyterian Church, Sept. 2006
- Sermon, "God is in Your Story," New Creation Metropolitan Community Church, Columbus, Oct.. 2006
- Finding Grace through Life Writing," Degrees of Freedom Retreat Center, Nov. 2006
- * "Religious Language in Politics," Upper Arlington Progressive Action Club, Summer 2006
- * "Religious Language in Politics," First Presbyterian Church, Delaware, OH, Jan. 2006
- "Why Do We Go to the Movies?" 4 part Series, Sixth Star, Shipboard Education, March 2005
- "Jesus at the Movies," St. John's Episcopal Church, Worthington, OH, April 17, 2005
- "Writing Your Spiritual Autobiography," Kirkridge Retreat Center, June 2005.
- ➤ "Jesus and Film," Delaware Presbyterian Church, March 6-13, 2005
- Little Jewish Girls Don't Wear Crosses," First Unitarian Universalist, Columbus, OH Feb. 2005
- *What about 'The Passion of the Christ'?" St. John's Episcopal, Worthington, OH, Winter 2005
- * "Jesus at the Movies," First Presbyterian, Delaware, OH, Fall 2004
- "Christ Figures in Film," St. John's Episcopal, Worthington, OH, Fall 2004
- **Sermon**, "Finding the Meaning in Your Life," North Unitarian Universalist, Oct. 18, 2003
- "Spiritual Autobiography and the Quest for Meaning," North Unitarian Universalist, Powell, OH 8-11/03
- Sermon "Our Stories Will Save Us," North Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, August 17, 2003
- "Victims & Sinners in an Age of Addiction," West Point Grey Baptist, Vancouver, B.C., July 13, 2003
- "Jesus and Christ Figures in Film," First Presbyterian Church, Delaware, OH, Nov. 3, 2002
- *Introduction to Spiritual Autobiography," Yoga Center for Wholeness, Sept. 2002, Worthington
- *Spiritual Narrative of a Mixed Family," Covenant Presbyterian, Mar. 3, 2002
- "Beckoned by the Spirit to the Church of the Future," Annual event, UCC & Disciples of Christ, 3/3/01
- > Theological Anthropology: Sex, Gender and Sexual Orientation," First Presbyterian, Delaware, 11/00
- "Media Domination: What Response?" Ecumenical Clergy Retreat, Toledo, OH Fall 2000
- "Christ Among the Unnoticed," Lenten Series, First Presbyterian, Westerville, OH, April 9, 2000
- Sermon, "Going Beyond Kin Altruism," St. Paul United Methodist, Dayton, Ohio Oct. 22, 2000
- "THEOLOGICAL REFLECTIONS ON THE ADDICTION-RECOVERY MODEL," Ashland Univ. 3/26/98
- KEYNOTE "THEOLOGY MATTERS IN PRACTICE -- SIN, ADDICTION, AND THE CHURCH," LENTEN SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY, FIRST PRESBYTERIAN, FORT LAUDERDALE, March 8, 1995
- Preacher and Worship Leader, Mytholmyroyd *Methodist* Church, Scotland, March. 1999
- Preacher, Kylsyth *Methodist* Church, Scotland, Spring 1999
- Worship Leader, St. Andrew's Methodist Church, Glasgow, Scotland, March 1999
- Worship Leader, Mayfield Salisbury Church, Church of Scotland, Edinburgh, Scotland May 1999
- Adult Education Leader, Central College Presbyterian Church, Fall 1996
- "History and Theology of United Methodism," Central College Presbyterian Church, Aug. 1996
- Retreat and Worship Leader, Worthington Presbyterian Retreat; Geneva Hills, 2/96
- "If Everything is an Addiction, What is a Sin?" Marysville U.M. Church, 4/94
- "Christian Theology and the Addiction Recovery Movement," North Broadway U.M. Church, Oct. 1993
- "Gender, Theology, and Addiction," St. Paul's U.M. Church, Vacaville, CA, Nov. 1993
- Sermon, "Sometimes Your World Turns Upside Down," Old Stone Presbyterian Church, Aug. 1993
- Cluster Day Coordinator, Trinity, PCJ and MTSO Consortium, Spring 1993
- "The Church in an Alien Land," Alumni/ae Days, MTSO, April 1993

- "Addiction and Theology," St. Cloud U.M. Church, St. Cloud, MN, Feb. 1992
- Retreat Leader, Church Professionals Retreat of the Presbytery of Scioto Valley, PC(USA), Nov. 3-5, 1991
- Retreat Leader, Bloomington District Ministers, *United Methodist* South Indiana Conference, 4/22-23/91
- "Sin, Addiction and Freedom," M.A./ADAM Forum, MTSO, March 1991
- "The Trinity: A Model for Community," Fall Continuing Education Workshop, MTSO, Sept. 1990
- Advent Series, North Broadway U.M. Church, Nov. 1990
- Speaker, "Gender, Doctrine, and God", Scioto Valley clergywomen, Oct. 1990.
- Sermon, "Grace Unexpected Blessing," Old Stone Presbyterian Church, Delaware, OH, April 1990
- New Members Class, Liberty Presbyterian Church, Oct. 1989
- "Alcoholism: Sin or Sickness?", M.A./ADAM Forum, MTSO, March 27, 1989
- Retreat leader, "Calm in the Whirlwind", Broad St. *Presbyterian*, Overbrook *Presbyterian*, and Female Employees of *Methesco*, Geneva Hills conference center, June, 1989.
- **Keynote speaker**, "The Theology of Stewardship", Broad Street *Presby*, Columbus, Ohio, Fall 1988.
- Leader, "Seminar on Contemporary Theology", Scioto Valley Clergywomen, Fall 1988.
- Retreat Leader, "This Pilgrim's Journey: A Women's Spirituality Retreat", Geneva Hills, OH, Feb. 2-3, 1988.
- *The Shakers God-Imagery," North Broadway U.M. Church, Jan. 1988
- Sermon, "The Sacrifice of Praise," First Presbyterian Church, Delaware, OH April 1988
- **Shalom**, *interdenominational* clergywomen support group, 1987-8.

READINGS AND DISCUSSION OF

BLOOMFIELD AVENUE: A JEWISH-CATHOLIC JERSEY GIRL'S SPIRITUAL JOURNEY

Bay View Association, Petosky, MI Aug. 2008

First United Methodist Church, Boulder, CO, Feb. 2008

Newark Public Library, Newark, NJ, Oct. 2007 http://www.npl.org/Pages/ProgramsExhibits/Programs/Bloomfield.html

Center of Theological Inquiry, Princeton, NJ, Oct. 2007

St. John's Catholic Church, Sons of Italy Columbus Lodge, Columbus, June 2007

Broad St. Presbyterian Church, Columbus, May 2007

Upper Arlington Public Library, Sundays with Authors, May 2007

Covenant Presbyterian Church, Upper Arlington, April 2007

St. Mark's Episcopal Church 4 part series, Upper Arlington, February 2007

Barnes & Noble Easton, February 2007

St. John's Episcopal Church 4 part series, Worthington, OH, Jan. 2006

North Unitarian-Universalist Church (in mss.), Lewis Center, 2004

Worthington Presbyterian (in mss.), 2003

First Presbyterian, Delaware (in mss.), 2002

North Broadway United Methodist (in mss.), Columbus, 2000

ECUMENICAL AND CROSS-CULTURAL PROJECTS

- o Peace Chair Initiative, Ecumenical Faith Task Force, Ohio State University
- o Adelante, Ohio Hispanic Democratic Caucus, 2005-present

- o Ohio Hispanic Coalition, Events Volunteer, 2005-present
- Consultant, "The Church in the Culture," Ecumenical Institute, Collegeville, MN, August 1996
- o Section Leader, "Ecumenism Among Us" Conference, Ecumenical Institute, Collegeville, MN, June 1994
- Native American project, Lac Ste. Anne, Alberta, Canada; Assoc. Theological Schools, Summer 1990.
- "Context and Hermeneutics in the Americas," Latin American Theological Fraternity and Theological Students Fellowship, Tlayacapan, Mexico, November 1983.

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Princeton Theological Seminary, Princeton, N.J. 1986 [Theology/History of Doctrine]

Dissertation: "The Influence of Gender Imagery for God: A Case Study in Theology and Narrative Using the Shaker Father-Mother God Metaphor."

Doctoral studies, **Graduate Theological Union**, Berkeley, CA, [Theology, Cultural Anthropology, Hermeneutics] M.C.S. **Regent College**, Vancouver, B.C. [Biblical Studies]

Thesis: "From Hierarchy to Equality: A Comparison of Past and Present Interpretations of 1 Cor 11:2-16 in Relation to the Changing Status of Women in Society."

B.A. American University, Washington, D.C.

CONTACT INFORMATION

The Methodist Theological School 3081 Columbus Pike Delaware, Ohio 43015 lmercadante@mtso.edu

740-362-3442 (school office) 614-848-3455 (home office) 14-638-4031 (cell)

Website: www.healthybeliefs.org