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# FORWARD

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A PUBLICATION OF THE FOUNDATION FOR EVANGELISM

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## This issue:

FFE ANNOUNCES GRANT  
FOCUS AREAS

PASTOR FORMS DISCIPLES  
IN ESWATINI WHILE  
EARNING DOCTORATE

EVANGELISM PROFESSORS  
MAKE IMPACT BEYOND  
SEMINARY

DE SOUZA AND MOORE  
JOIN FOUNDATION  
TRUSTEES

YEAR-END GIVING  
CRUCIAL TO GRANT  
AVAILABILITY IN 2021

ONLINE EVENTS CONNECT  
PASTORS, LAITY



## Foundation Announces Grant Focus Areas

The Foundation has named three focus areas with the greatest potential to be a catalyst to equip disciples to share the Good News of Jesus Christ:

### Equipping the Local Church

Inviting and forming disciples in the local church relies on synergy between pastor and laity, which is why we've launched a series of cohorts to explore how best to involve both. Local churches can visit our online resource center for notices of upcoming classes and links to inspiring partners, or to download videos, podcasts, and group studies.

### Engaging the Laity

Every sponsored cohort, workshop and event will be developed with laity in mind. The nationally recognized Harry Denman Evangelism Awards are a key inspiration for engaging with and encouraging the laity to share the Good News.

### Raising Up Gospel Leaders

More than 35 years funding the E. Stanley Jones Professors of Evangelism grants and partnerships have connected the Foundation with a global network of Wesleyan evangelism experts. These are our partners as we expand to the greater Wesleyan family through seminaries and training programs that form church leaders with a Wesleyan understanding of evangelism and discipleship.

With this clarity of focus, the Foundation establishes new grant cycles, develops innovative partnerships, and connects the local church to tools to invite all people into life-transforming relationships with Jesus Christ.

## Foundation Board Welcomes Two New Trustees



### **Dr. Barbi Moore**

Barbi Moore serves as Director of Global Outreach at Bethany First Church of the Nazarene, coordinating the many aspects of the Eswatini (formerly Swaziland) Partnership.

She has a varied background in international and church relations including serving as a medical assistant and Vice-President of "I CARE" Ministries in Lakewood, Colo. Barbi served as Project Coordinator for Dr. Gary Morsch at Heart to Heart International for over 15 years, during which time her role was Program Manager, Senior Vice-President of International Programs, Chief Advancement Officer and Legacy Officer. In 2014, she was presented the Doctor of Humane Letters by Southern Nazarene University.

Rev. Allen Black, board chair, shared that, "Barbi's leadership experience with the Church of the Nazarene and passion for sharing the Good News through mission service strengthens the Foundation's efforts to provide Wesleyan evangelism resources to the pan-Methodist community."



### **Rev. Dr. L. Wesley de Souza**

The Rev. Dr. L. Wesley de Souza teaches in the areas of theology, leadership, mission and evangelism, spirituality, and church revitalization at Candler School of Theology at Emory University, where he has been a faculty member since 2005. He has served as the Director of the World Methodist Evangelism Institute since 2017.

He was instrumental in developing the new course *Religion, Culture, Society, and Mission in Latin America*, a real-time, long distance class between Candler and the school of theology at Methodist University of São Paulo, Brazil. He is also the coordinator of the Formation and Witness concentration as part of the Master of Divinity degree program, an instructor with the Course of Study School at Emory and is faculty advisor for the Candler Society for Multiracial Congregations and the Candler International Students Society.

De Souza has contributed to numerous books and scholarly publications and serves on the editorial advisory boards for *The Asbury Journal*, *Wesley and Methodist Studies Journal*, and *Caminhando* magazine.

"Wesley has been a valued peer to the E. Stanley Jones Professors of Evangelism for many years. Now we are most grateful that he has agreed to invest his time, expertise, and global connections as a trustee to help guide the Foundation as we strengthen our ability to provide resources across a broader Wesleyan landscape," said Jane Boatwright Wood, president.



Rev. Timothy T. Dlamini with wife, Grace

## Nazarene Pastor Forms Disciples in Eswatini While Earning Doctorate

The Foundation's board identified "Raising up Gospel Leaders" as one of its 3 focus areas in November. Recently a grant was given in the form of a Doctoral Fellowship for Rev. Timothy T. Dlamini, a pastor, leader, and teacher for the Church of the Nazarene in Eswatini (formerly Swaziland). We asked Rev. Dlamini to tell us a little about himself, his work, and what he hopes this grant will make possible.

Timothy T. Dlamini was born at Helehele in Eswatini to parents who were not Christians. He was enrolled at a Nazarene school at 9 years old so that he could learn to read and write, something his parents were not able to do.

"It was at Helehele Nazarene Primary School where I learned about the unconditional love of God (John 3:16). I was found by the Lord for a specific purpose when I was 12 years old. God wanted me to be His witness, first at home, and then wherever he was going to plant me," Rev. Dlamini said.

After committing himself to God, knowing his sins were forgiven, God put a burden and passion in his heart, and he began praying for his parents, then his eight siblings.

"I know that God answers prayers: my mother was the first one to accept Jesus as her Lord and Savior. She was followed by my brother Daniel and then my brother Jonathan and then my father. Eventually, seven of my siblings gave and surrendered their lives to Jesus. Currently, 3 of my brothers are ordained Elders in the Church of the Nazarene. To God be the glory!"

Rev. Dlamini said he felt called into the ministry in 1974 at a morning service of the Helehele Church of the Nazarene. He felt God at work in his life like never before, feeling unspeakable

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joy and peace. He went on to enroll at Southern Africa Nazarene University where he received his Bachelor's Degree in Theology. He then pastored the Nhlanguano Church of the Nazarene for three years, after which he completed his Master's in Religion at Southern Nazarene University in the United States. He has been a lecturer at Southern Africa Nazarene University (SANU), and served as pastor and District Superintendent for the Eswatini East Nazarene District as well as interim District Superintendent for the Sunrise Nazarene District.

Feeling a call to help in developing and educating all who are called to serve the Lord, Rev. Dlamini enrolled at Africa Nazarene University in Nairobi, Kenya, for a Ph.D. in Religion.

"I love God wholeheartedly. I am not ashamed of the gospel for to me it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone who believes (Romans 1:16)."

"My dream, in the near future, is not only to continue teaching at the undergraduate level but also to teach at the graduate level. Therefore, the scholarship will enable me to finish my studies and continue to impact the lives, hearts, and minds of men and women who are called to serve the Lord in his vineyard. Interestingly enough, the fellowship will help me so that I help others who will also help others to make Christ-like disciples in the nations. My vision is to establish a scholarship fund for theological students at SANU because that is a pressing need at the moment."

When asked what difficulties he sees for people to enter into life-transforming relationship with Jesus Christ, he gave these thoughts:

**Self-centeredness** – This is one of the greatest barriers to helping people enter a life of transforming relationship with Jesus Christ. We need the religion of the heart first and foremost to help people enter a life of transforming relationship with Jesus Christ. We cannot give what we do not have.

**Partial commitment** - As a church, we need to be totally committed to serving God with all our resources- time, money, talents, and possessions.

**Individualism** - We can help by being communal. We need to be a community of believers and demonstrate that practically. Jesus said, "PEOPLE WILL KNOW THAT YOU ARE MY DISCIPLES IF YOU HAVE LOVE FOR ONE ANOTHER" (John 13: 35).

The doctoral fellowships offered by The Foundation for Evangelism are for scholars who have a heart for sharing the Gospel story and make the commitment to equip other leaders to do likewise by joining the faculty of a Wesleyan-tradition university of theology. Rev. Dlamini is the first Fellow that the Foundation has funded outside the United States, and the first attending a Church of the Nazarene-related university.

“ ...the fellowship will help me so that I help others who will also help others to make Christ-like disciples in the nations.”

*-Rev. Timothy Dlamini*

# Evangelism Professors Make Impact Beyond the Seminary

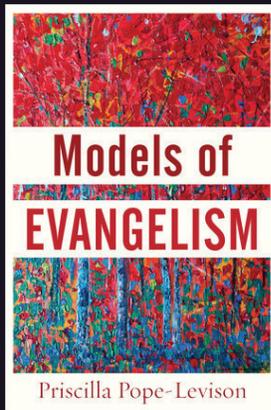
The E. Stanley Jones Professors of Evangelism, and their peer Evangelism Professors in other Wesleyan-tradition seminaries, are not your average institutional educators. Since 1984, these professors have been training leaders on how to articulate the Good News of Jesus Christ and help others to share their faith story in seminaries, universities, licensing schools, course of study, conference, regional, and local church venues.



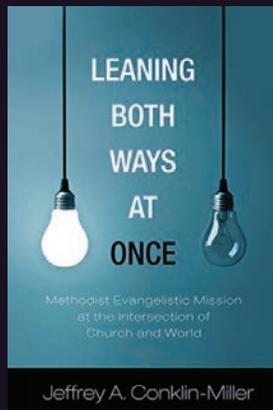
During the recent gathering of Evangelism Professors online, originally scheduled to be in-person and coincide with the American Academy of Religion in Boston this year, professors shared resources and detailed experiences where their impact has crossed the spectrum of local church leadership development. This group has developed an amazing variety of published curriculum, online courses, and books to help engage the local church in reimagining evangelism for their local context.

While scattered around the United States, Russia, and Germany, these experts are a collegial group that draw upon and support one another in their research, teaching and work. The conversation was packed with ideas and resources that we will share with you. Check in frequently to read inspirational storeis, download podcasts, and link to the newest Wesleyan evangelism resources.

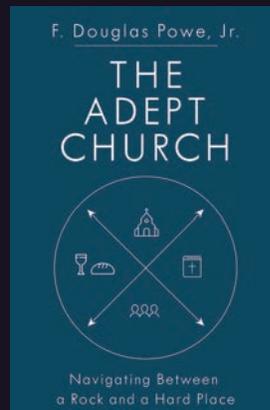
## Evangelism Professor Recent Publications



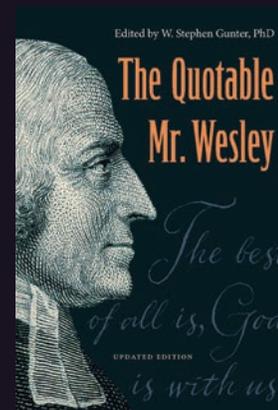
Priscilla Pope-Levison



Jeffrey Conklin-Miller



F. Douglas Powe, Jr.



Stephen Gunter  
(retired)



## Year-End Giving Crucial to Grant Availability in 2021

This year has certainly taught us that we have much to be grateful for. Because of the prayers and gifts of our faithful supporters, we were able to honor and pay all of the grants promised in 2020. GOD BE PRAISED!

As this year draws to a close, we have set a goal to raise at least \$50,000 by December 31. This money will be used to equip local congregations to share their faith and invite others to know Jesus just like the stories you've read in this edition of FORWARD. The gifts we receive in this calendar year help determine the grants that we can give in 2021. These are just a few of the grants that are planned, but we can't do it without the gifts of our friends who know how life-transforming sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ is.

### Give a Gift in Honor of a Leader, Friend, or Loved One

Honor someone who has helped you in your faith journey with an honor or memorial gift. Use the envelope enclosed with a note including the honoree's name and address, or give online at [FoundationForEvangelism.org](https://FoundationForEvangelism.org). For honor or memorial gifts **received by Jan. 31, 2021** we will send a personalized holiday card to the honoree or family to tell them of your generosity.

### A Few of the Grants Planned for 2021

**Thriving Local Church Cohort** planned in Texas

**Denman Doctoral Fellows** in the U.S.A. and Eswatini

**E-Word Web Series** and Group Guide Development

**Translation of Evangelism Resources** to Spanish, French, and Portuguese

**Online Evangelism Course scholarships** for local church teams

# Online Events Connect Pastors and Laity

Many organizations found themselves shifting to online meetings and training at the beginning of this year. The Foundation for Evangelism's model has, for many years, embraced training through accessible, online venues. That's why we were positioned in 2020 to offer three online training opportunities. We partnered with a local church and a seminary for two of those trainings.

With over 4,000 participants, the United Methodist Church of the Resurrection's Leadership Institute was a unique opportunity for pastors and laity to interact. We invited Denman Fellow, Rev. Dr. Alma Tinoco Ruiz, at Duke Divinity School to share her work on "Being Present: Evangelism and Social Trauma." This timely topic drew upon the writings and teachings of Saint Romero from El Salvador. A participant shared, "One of the things I love about [her] imagery is that I can't always carry or understand the burdens of those around me, but I can help carry it, I can help row. I love hearing Romero's perspective and Ruiz's connections!"

Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary partnered with us to bring their students along with those from Claremont School of Theology together with four church leadership teams for a six-week interactive experience. At the conclusion, the church leaders had a plan to bring their learning back to the local congregation, and seminary students had a better idea of what working in the local church is like. The spring course is now open for registration at [FoundationForEvangelism.org/evangelism-non-evangelists](https://FoundationForEvangelism.org/evangelism-non-evangelists).

In November, the Foundation also invited three Wesleyan-tradition evangelism experts to speak on select topics in a web series. Over 55 individuals registered, and the recordings are now available on our website at [FoundationForEvangelism.org/webinar](https://FoundationForEvangelism.org/webinar).

We know that for the people of God to live out the Gospel it requires the synergy of a vibrant, engaged lay congregation in ministry with pastors. That's why we will continue to find ways to partner for online events to equip the local church and engage the ministry of the laity.

**Evangelism for Non-Evangelists**  
A 6-week online course to develop authentic, contextually-appropriate, holistic practices of evangelism

**Dr. Mark Teasdale**  
E. Stanley Jones Professor of Evangelism  
Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary

**Dr. Heather H. Lear**  
Research & Teaching Fellow  
The Foundation for Evangelism

Made possible by a grant from **The FOUNDATION for EVANGELISM** In partnership with **Garrett**

The six-week Evangelism for Non-Evangelists Course brings seminary students and local church leadership together.

Whova  
Church of the Resurrection Leadership Institute  
Sep 23 - 25, 2020

MAIN NAVIGATION → Displaying agenda in the event's time zone (2:49 PM CST) Switch to local time zone

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Rev. Dr. Alma Tinoco Ruiz led a workshop at this year's online Leadership Institute at the United Methodist Church of the Resurrection.



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