



NAZARENE
THEOLOGICAL
SEMINARY

Dr. Elaine Heath

Visiting Chair of Evangelism



Throughout my adult life I have wanted to integrate theoretical work with practical ministry. Thus my work is interdisciplinary, weaving together the study of Scripture, theology, and Christian spirituality in ways that help the church to reach beyond its walls and into the community. I am especially interested in helping the church become a vessel of God's healing, transforming love in local neighborhoods. Our world is rapidly changing, and now more than ever we need to equip ordinary Christians to be an extraordinary blessing wherever they have influence—at work, school, in the neighborhood where they live, and activities of everyday life.

We also need to “take church to the people,” forming small faith communities in many places. Much of my research and on the ground experimental work has focused on developing new micro-communities of faith including missional house churches, residential intentional communities, and repurposing church property so that it becomes a resource for community development. I care deeply about the church's call to find Jesus among “the least of these.” I'm an ordained elder in the United Methodist Church and served in pastoral ministry prior to academic ministry. I live with my husband at Spring Forest, an intentional Christian Community and farm in rural North Carolina.

Oakland University: BA in English
Ashland Theological Seminary: Master of Divinity
Duquesne University: PhD in Systematic Theology

Potential Workshop/Seminar Topics:

Preventing and Healing Sexual Abuse and Domestic Violence:

Pastoral Theology and Practice

Five Means of Grace: Experiencing God's Love the Wesleyan Way

Contemplative Spirituality in the Wesleyan Traditions

Leadership During Culture Shift

(Vision, best practices, and the realities of systems change)

Trauma Informed Leadership for a Missional Church

(Leading while informed and attuned to trauma experienced in our polarized society)

The New Holiness Movement: Missional Communities, New Monasticism, and the Missio Dei

Evangelism in Post-Christendom Contexts

Interested in having Dr. Heath present a workshop or seminar at your event?

Please contact us at nmcpherson@nts.edu or 816.268.5402