

Curriculum Vitae and Publications

Revd. Prof. John G. Flett

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I. Curriculum Vitae

Positions

- 2020/- Appointed außerplanmäßiger Professor of the Kirchliche Hochschule Wuppertal/Bethel
- 2020/- Co-Editor of the book series *Beiträge zur Missionswissenschaft / Interkulturellen Theologie Contributions to Mission Studies / Intercultural Theology*, LIT Verlag
- 2020/- Promotion to Professor, University of Divinity, Melbourne Australia
- 2020/- Contributing editor to the *International Bulletin of Missionary Research*
- 2019/2020 Researcher in Residence, Free University, Amsterdam, Netherlands
- 2018 Visiting Scholar, United Theological College, Bangalore, India
- 2017 Visiting Professor, Faculty of Orthodox Theology, Babeş-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca, Romania
- 2017 Faculty at the Global Institute of Theology of the World Communion of Reformed Churches (WCRC), and attended the WCRC General Council in Leipzig, Germany
- 2016/- Transfer of ordination to Uniting Church in Australia, Port Philip West Presbytery
- 2015 UCA representative at the Commission on World Mission and Evangelism (CWME) study on “Together Towards Life: Mission and Evangelism in Changing Landscapes” (TTL), Bangkok, Thailand
- 2015/- Associate Professor of Intercultural Theology and Missiology, Pilgrim Theological College, Melbourne, Australia
- 2015/- Co-director (Stellvertretender Institutsleiter) am Institut für Interkulturelle Theologie und Interreligiöse Studien, Wuppertal
- 2015/- Privatdozent, Missions- und Religionswissenschaft und Ökumenik der Kirchlichen Hochschule Wuppertal/Bethel, Wuppertal
- 2014/2015 Pfarrer auf Probe, Evangelische Kirche im Rheinland
- 2012/2015 Mitarbeiter am Institut für Interkulturelle Theologie und Interreligiöse Studien, Wuppertal
- 2011/2015 Wissenschaftlicher Hochschulassistent am Lehrstuhl für Missions- und Religionswissenschaft und Ökumenik der Kirchlichen Hochschule Wuppertal/Bethel

- 2009/2010 Assistant Professor of Mission Theology, Jang Shin Dae (Presbyterian University and Theological Seminary), Seoul, S. Korea.
- 2009 Ordained, Presbyterian Church of the USA (PCUSA), Shenango Presbytery, Pennsylvania
- 2008/2009 Interim Director of Professional Studies, Princeton Theological Seminary.
- 2007/2009 Adjunct Professor, Princeton Theological Seminary
- 2006/2009 Fellow of the Barth Translators Conference, Princeton Theological Seminary
- 2004/2007 International PhD Student Representative
- 2004/2007 Production Editor, *Koinonia Journal*
- 2001/2003 Developer and Project Manager for: www.newbigin.net. Awarded and managed £50,000 from the Council for World Mission.
- 1996/2003 Secretary, The DeepSight Trust.

Awards

- 2013 Travel Scholarship for Research Trip to the Democratic Republic of Congo, Vereinte Evangelische Mission
- 2010/2014 “Karl Immer Stipendium,” Kirchliche Hochschule Wuppertal/Bethel
- 2010 Evangelische Kirche in Deutschland Göthe Institut Fellowship, Göttingen
- 2003/2007 “Presidential Scholarship,” Princeton Theological Seminary
- 2003 “Overseas Research Scholarship” in relation to King’s College, London (declined)
- 1999/2001 “Merit Tuition” scholarship, Auckland University

Education

- 2010/2015 Habilitation in Missions- und Religionswissenschaft und Ökumenik, Kirchliche Hochschule Wuppertal/Bethel. Habilitationsschrift: “Apostolicity: Historical Continuity, Visible Witness, and Cross-Cultural Translation.”
- 2003/2007 PhD (summa cum laude) in Mission, Ecumenics and the History of Religion, Princeton Theological Seminary. Supervisors: Darrell Guder, Bruce McCormack, Daniel Migliore. Dissertation: “God is a Missionary God: *Missio Dei*, Karl Barth, and the Doctrine of the Trinity.”
- 1999/2001 MTheol (1st class honors), University of Auckland. Supervisor: Martin Sutherland. Thesis: “Centre, System or Margin? Karl Barth, George Lindbeck, and Stanley Hauerwas on the Church’s Public Character.”
- 1991/1994 BMin, Laidlaw College, Auckland, New Zealand

II. Publications

Monographs

- Joy: A Companion to Missiology*, Eugene, OR; Cascade, 2021. Under Contract.
- With Henning Wrogemann, *Questions of Context: Reading a Century of German Mission Theology*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2020.

- Named in the IMBR Ten Outstanding Books in Mission Studies, Intercultural Theology and World Christianity for 2020

Apostolicity: The Ecumenical Question in World Christian Perspective. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2016.

- Named in the IMBR Ten Outstanding Books in Mission Studies, World Christianity, and Intercultural Theology of 2016

The Witness of God: The Trinity, Missio Dei, Karl Barth, and the Nature of Christian Community. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2010.

Edited works

With Dorottya Nagy, *T&T Clark Handbook to Intercultural Theology and Mission Studies* London: T&T Clark, 2022. Under Contract

For I was hungry...': Congregations and Church Agencies in Relationship Melbourne, VIC: Uniting Academic Press, 2021. Forthcoming

With David W. Congdon, *Converting Witness: Theology for a Pilgrim People* Minneapolis, MN: Lexington Books-Fortress Academic, 2019.

- Named in the IMBR Ten Outstanding Books in Mission Studies, World Christianity, and Intercultural Theology of 2019

Collision Crossroads: The Intersection of Modern Western Culture with the Christian Gospel. Auckland: The DeepSight Trust, 1998.

Research Articles

“Creation and Mission,” in *The T&T Clark Handbook to the Doctrine of Creation*, edited by Jason Goroncy, London: T&T Clark, 2021. Forthcoming

“Mission and Election,” in *The T&T Clark Handbook to Election*, edited by Edwin Chr. van Driel, London: T&T Clark, 2021. Forthcoming

“Natural Theology and the Different Bodies of the Christian Gospel.” *Melanesian Journal of Theology* 36 (2021). Forthcoming

“History, Resurrected Jesus Christ and the Living Spirit.” *Melanesian Journal of Theology* 36 (2021). Forthcoming

“Multiculturalism as Theology and Policy: The Challenges and Future Possibilities.” In *Theological and Hermeneutical Explorations from Australia: Horizons of Contextuality*, edited by Jione Havea, 55-68. Lanham: Lexington Books/Fortress Academic, 2020.

With David W. Congdon, “Darrell L. Guder: A Life of Continuing Conversion,” in *Converting Witness: Theology for a Pilgrim People*, edited by John G. Flett, and David W. Congdon. Minneapolis, MN: Lexington Books-Fortress Academic, 2019.

“Method in Mission Studies: Comparing World Christianity and Intercultural Theology.” *Theologische Literaturzeitung* 143 (2018): 717-31.

“Prayer and Missionary Movement Beyond the Self.” *Spiritus* 18 (2018): 246-59.

“Versammlung, Auferbauung und Sendung der christlichen Gemeinde: Die Ekklesiologie in Karl Barths Versöhnungslehre,” in *Karl Barth als Lehrer der Versöhnung (1950–1968)*:

- Vertiefung – Öffnung – Hoffnung*, edited by Michael Trowitzsch, Michael Beintker, and Georg Plasger, 117–37. Zürich: TVZ, 2016.
- “Contextualisation and Human Rights Law: A Future Area of Contest?,” in *Living in the Family of Jesus: Critical Contextualization in the Melanesia and Beyond*, edited by William Kenny Longgar, and Tim Meadowcroft, 371–94. Auckland: Archer Press, 2016.
- “What Does it Mean for a Congregation to be a Hermeneutic?,” in *The Gospel and Pluralism Today: Reassessing Lesslie Newbigin in the 21st Century*, edited by Scott Sunquist and Amos Yong, Downers Grove, IL: IVP, 2015.
- “A Theology of *Missio Dei*.” *Theology in Scotland* 21, no. 1 (2014): 69–78.
- “Justification *contra* Mission: The Isolation of Justification in the History of Reconciliation.” *Zeitschrift für Dialektische Theologie* Supplement Series 6 (2014): 58-80.
- “Who is Jesus Christ?: The Necessary Missionary Form of the Confession of the Trinity,” in *Theology in Missionary Perspective: Lesslie Newbigin’s Legacy*, edited by Mark T. B. Laing, and Paul Weston, 260-76. Oregon, WA: Pickwick Publications, 2012.
- Bishop J. E. Lesslie Newbigin and the Missionary Challenge to Doctrinal ‘Identity’,” in *Reformierte Theologie weltweit: Zwölf Profile aus dem 20. Jahrhundert*, edited by Marco Hofheinz and Matthias Zeindler, 150-69. Zürich: TVZ, 2012.
- “Failure in Intercultural Hermeneutics: A Case Study,” in *Theologie in Freiheit und Verbindlichkeit: Profile der Kirchlichen Hochschule Wuppertal / Bethel*, edited by Henning Wrogemann, 225-42. Neukirchener Verlag: Neukirchen-Vluyn, 2012.
- “Jesus Christ is...the Gentiles are Fellow Heirs of the Promise’ (Eph. 3:1-6): Toward a Christological Rationale for a Living History of Cross-Cultural Community.” In *Glauben leben – vielfältig, international, interkulturell Migrationsgemeinden und deutsche Gemeinden auf dem Weg*, 11-22. Hannover: Haus kirchlicher Dienste der Evangelisch-lutherischen Landeskirche Hannovers, 2012.
- “The Resurrection from the Dead as the Declaration of God’s Eternal Being and the Christian Community’s Eschatological Reality.” *Princeton Seminary Bulletin* 31 (2010): 7-26.
- “The Bastard in the Royal Family: Wither Mission?” *Princeton Theological Review* 16, no.1 (2010): 17-30.
- “A Critical Response to ‘Fullness of Life: Search for a New Vision of Ecumenical Mission Thinking and Practice in the 21st Century,’ by Jooseop Keum,” in *Centenary of the 1910 Edinburgh World Missionary Conference: Retrospect and Prospect of Mission and Evangelism*, edited by Kook-Il Han, 188-93. Seoul: PCTS, 2009.
- “Communion as Propaganda: Reinhard Hütter and the Missionary Witness of the ‘Church as Public’,” *Scottish Journal of Theology* 62, no.4 (2009): 457-76.
- “*Missio Dei*: A Trinitarian Envisioning of a non-Trinitarian theme,” *Missiology* 37, no.1 (2009): 6-17.
- “In the Name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit: A Critical Reflection on the Trinitarian Theologies of Religion of S. Mark Heim and Gavin D’Costa,” *International Journal of Systematic Theology* 10, no. 1 (2008): 73-90.
- “Yocum’s ‘Ecclesial Mediation in Karl Barth’,” *Zeitschrift für Dialektische Theologie* 20, no. 1 (2005): 147-51.

“From Jerusalem to Oxford: Mission as the Foundation and Goal of Ecumenical Social Thought,” *International Bulletin of Missionary Research* 27, no. 1 (2003): 17-22.

“Alasdair Macintyre’s Tradition-Constituted Enquiry in Polanyian Perspective,” *Tradition and Discovery: The Polanyi Society Periodical* 24, no. 2 (1999): 6-21.

“Unpacking Gospel & Culture,” in *Collision Crossroads: The Intersection of Modern Western Culture with the Christian Gospel*, edited by J. Flett, 8-14. Auckland: The DeepSight Trust, 1998.

Academic Translation

Lienemann-Perrin, Christine. “European Christianity Put to the Test: Observations Concerning the Use of the Term “Christendom” in the Study of World Christianity.” In *Converting Witness: Theology for a Pilgrim People*, edited by John G. Flett, and David W. Congdon, 59–80. Minneapolis, MN: Lexington Books-Fortress Academic, 2019.

Busch, Eberhard. “The Sending of the Whole Christian Church: Reflections after Karl Barth.” In *Converting Witness: Theology for a Pilgrim People*, edited by John G. Flett, and David W. Congdon, 45–58. Minneapolis, MN: Lexington Books-Fortress Academic, 2019.

With David MacLachlan, “Conversation with Methodist Preachers (5.16.1961),” in *Barth in Conversation: Volume 1, 1959-1962*, edited by Eberhard Busch, Karlfried Froehlich, Darrell L. Guder, and David C. Chao, 116–41. Westminster John Knox Press, 2017.

Sauter, Gerhard. “Argue Theologically With One Another: Karl Barth’s Argument with Emil Brunner.” In *Theology as Conversation: The Significance of Dialogue in Historical and Contemporary Theology: A Festschrift for Daniel L. Migliore*, edited by Bruce McCormack, and Kimlyn J. Bender, 30-47. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2009.

Non-academic Articles

“Differentiation, The Secularised Church and Mission.” *Zadok Perspectives* 135 (2017): 14–15.

“Hope and Joy.” *Crosslight* 289 (2018): 18.

“Uniting, Horizons, and the Surprising Future.” *Crosslight* 282 (2017): 22.

“Political Populism and Theological Discourse.” *Crosslight* 273 (2017): 17.

“House Pet Jesus: A Christmas Story.” *Crosslight* 272 (2016): 15.

“Mission as World Christianity and Intercultural Theology.” *Crosslight* 268 (2016): 23.

“The Relationship of Congregations and Agencies.” *Crosslight* 265 (2016): 16.

“Together Towards Life.” *Crosslight* 260 (2015): 18.

“The First Impressions of an Outsider.” *Crosslight* 255 (2015): 15.

“Why We Care about the Jesus Seminar.” *Stimulus* 6 (1998): 4–5.

“The Workaday World and its Implications for Lay-theology.” *Stimulus* 8 (2000): 8–10.

Reviews

- “A Review of “The Mission of the Church: Five Views in Conversation”.” *International Bulletin of Mission Research* 41, no. 1 (2017): 88–89.
- “A Review of William R. Burrows, et al., (eds.) ‘Understanding World Christianity: The Vision and Work of Andrew F. Walls’.” *Mission Studies* 30, no. 1 (2013): 109–10.
- “A Review of Kim, Sebastian C. H. Kim’s, ‘Theology in the Public Sphere: Public Theology as a Catalyst for Open Debate’.” *International Bulletin of Missionary Research* 37, no. 3 (2013): 186.
- “A Review of Martin Reppenhausen’s ‘Auf dem Weg zu einer missionalen Kirche: Die Diskussion um eine “Missional Church” in den USA’.” *International Review of Mission* 102, no. 2 (2013): 270–74.
- “A Review of Mark Noll’s ‘The New Shape of World Christianity: How American Experience Reflects Global Faith’.” *Scottish Journal of Theology* 65, no. 4 (2012): 495-6.
- “A Review of Elmer John Theissen’s ‘The Ethics of Evangelism: A Philosophical Defense of Proselytizing and Persuasion’.” *Missiology* 40, no. 1 (2012): 97.
- “A Review of Paul Barnett’s ‘Paul: Missionary of Jesus: After Jesus, vol. 2’.” *Theology Today* 66, no. 3 (2009): 385-6.
- “A Review of David F. Ford (ed.) ‘The Modern Theologians: An Introduction to Christian Theology Since 1918 (3rd ed.)’,” *International Journal of Systematic Theology* 8, no. 3 (2006): 329-31.
- “A Review of Graham Ward’s ‘Cultural Transformation and Religious Practice’,” *Missiology* 34, no. 4 (2006): 536-7.
- “A Review of Veli-Matti Kärkkäinen’s ‘Trinity and Religious Pluralism’,” *International Journal of Systematic Theology* 8, no. 1 (2006): 112-5.
- “A Review of John C. McDowell and Mike Higton (eds.) ‘Conversing with Barth’,” *International Journal of Systematic Theology* 8, no. 1 (2006): 115-18.
- “A Review of Samuel Escobar’s ‘Changing Tides’,” *Koinonia Journal* 17 (2005): 127-32.
- “A Review of Daniel Migliore’s ‘Faith Seeking Understanding: An Introduction to Christian Theology (2nd ed.)’,” *International Journal of Systematic Theology* 7, no. 3 (2005): 322-4.
- “A Review of Henrique Pinto’s ‘Foucault, Christianity and Interfaith Dialogue’,” *International Journal of Systematic Theology* 7, no. 3 (2005): 337-9.
- “A Review of Adam Hood’s ‘Baillie, Oman and Macmurray: Experience and Religious Belief’,” *International Journal of Systematic Theology* 7, no. 2 (2005): 104-6.
- “A Review of Colin Gunton’s ‘Act and Being’,” *International Journal of Systematic Theology* 6, no. 1 (2004): 79-82.
- “A Review of Marjorie Reeve’s ‘Christian Thinking and Social Order: Conviction Politics from the 1930’s to the Present Day’,” *Tradition and Discovery: The Polanyi Society Periodical* 25, no. 3 (1998): 32-3.

III. Lectures

“Diaspora and Reconciliation,” Bi-annual conference of The Council on Overseas Korean Churches for Education & Ministry, Han Bit, Melbourne, February 18, 2020.

“How Do We Theologise Our Pre-Christian Heritages? A Problem of Time and Embodiment,” Theology and Ethics Seminar, Divinity School, University of Edinburgh, January 29, 2020.

Keynote lectures at the Melanesian Association of Theological Schools annual conference on *Natural Theology*, Christian Leaders Training College, Mt Hagen, PNG, July 2-4, 2019: “I. What is the Problem for which Natural Theology Seems a Solution?”; “II. Natural Theology and Intercultural Violence: A Case Study of the 1930s German Missionary Approach to Natural Theology”; “III. History, Resurrected Jesus Christ and the Living Spirit.”

“Prayer and the Missionary Movement Beyond the Self,” *Pray Without Ceasing: Perspectives in Spirituality Studies*, University of Zurich, June 26-29, 2017.

Co-organiser and presenter, *Karl Barth’s Pneumatology and the Global Pentecostal Movement*, 2016 Annual Karl Barth Conference, Princeton Theological Seminary, June 9-22.

“Apostolicity and Conversion,” *International Association of Mission Studies Quadrennial Conference*, Presbyterian University and Theological Seminary, Seoul, 12-15 August 2016.

“What Does It Mean for a Congregation to Be a Hermeneutic?” *Still Pluralist: 25th Anniversary of J. E. Lesslie Newbigin’s The Gospel in a Pluralist Society*, Fuller Theological Seminary, 13-15 November, 2014.

“Versammlung, Auferbauung und Sendung der christlichen Gemeinde – Die Ekklesiologie in Karl Barths Versöhnungslehre,” *Karl Barth als Lehrer der Versöhnung (1950 – 1968): Vertiefung – Öffnung – Hoffnung*, Internationales Symposium in der Johannes a Lasco Bibliothek, Emden, 1-4 May, 2014.

“The Theology of *missio Dei*,” *Day-conference on Mission and Church*, Divinity School, University of Edinburgh, 10 May, 2013.

“The ‘Moratorium on Missions’ and Baptism, Eucharistic and Ministry: A Comparison,” *South African Mission Society Congress*, Stellenbosch University, 12-15 March, 2013.

“World and Church in ‘World Christianity’,” *‘Kirche’ und ‘Welt’: Innertheologische Umbauten im Verhältnis von Religion und Politik in internationalen Kontexten*, Bochum Universität, 3-5 December, 2012.

“Justification *contra* Mission: The Isolation of Justification in the History of Reconciliation,” *6th Princeton-Kampen Barth Consultation*, 2-5 September, 2012.

Arbeitsgruppen Leitung, 43 Internationale Karl Barth Tagung: *Mission Impossible: Kirche Mission, Pluralität der Religionen nach Karl Barth*, Leuenberg, Schweiz, 16-19 July, 2012.

“‘Jesus Christ is...the Gentiles are Fellow Heirs of the Promise’ (Eph. 3:1-6): Toward a Christological Rationale for a Living History of Cross-Cultural Community,” *Glauben leben – vielfältig, international, interkulturell, Migrationsgemeinden und deutsche Gemeinden auf dem Weg*, Evangelische Akademie Loccum, 1-3 March, 2012

“Bishop Lesslie Newbigin and the Missionary Question of Reformed Identity,” *Reformierte Identität in globalen Kontexten. Theologische Porträts aus dem 20. Jahrhundert*, Bern Universität, 4 April, 2011.

“How Mission Got Left Out of Systematic Theology and How to Put It Back,” 44th International Ecumenical Seminar 2010: *Mission and Ecumenism in the Global Village: 100 Years after the Conference of Edinburgh*, Ecumenical Institute Strasbourg, July, 2010.

“‘I am the Resurrection and the Life’ (John 11:25): The Resurrection from the Dead as the Declaration of God’s Eternal Being and the Christian Community’s Eschatological Reality,” *The Church is as Such A Missionary Church’: Barth as a ‘Missional’ Theologian*. Princeton Theological Seminary, 20-23 June, 2010.

“*Missio Dei*: A Trinitarian Envisioning of a non-Trinitarian Theme,” *Envisioning Apostolic Theology: As the Father Sends...*, American Society of Missiology Annual Conference, Techny, 20-22 June, 2008.

“The Living God and the Reconciled Life: On the Absence of ‘*creatura verbi divini*’ from Social Trinitarian Ecclesiologies,” 17th Annual Theology Conference: *Rediscovering the Trinity: Classic Doctrine and Contemporary Ministry*, Wheaton College, 10-12 April, 2008.

IV. Professional Service

2019-2020 Academic supervisor for RASP Project: “Justice Tempered: How the Finance Sector’s Captivity to Capitalist Ethics Violates Workers’ Ethical Integrity and Silences Their Claims for Justice”

2020/- Member of the UCA Victoria/Tasmania Synod Intercultural Forum

2018/- Research Coordinator, Pilgrim Theological College, Melbourne, Australia

2018/- Board Member, The Christian Research Association, Melbourne, Australia

2015-2016 Member of the UD Indigenous Engagement Advisory Group

2016-2018 Member of the UD Research Grants Committee

Reviewer for:

- Brill
- Colloquium
- International Bulletin of Missionary Research
- International Journal of Systematic Theology
- Mission Studies
- Missionalia
- Pro Ecclesia

V. Professional Memberships

International Association of Mission Studies (IAMS)

Australian Association of Mission Studies (AAMAS)

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Missionswissenschaft (DGMW)

Wissenschaftlichen Gesellschaft für Theologie (WGTh)