

## Jon R. Kershner, Ph.D.

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### Education

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2008 - 2013	University of Birmingham (UK). Ph.D., Theology. Title: “‘The Government of Christ’: John Woolman's (1720-1772) Apocalyptic Theology” [Online: <a href="http://etheses.bham.ac.uk/4640/">http://etheses.bham.ac.uk/4640/</a> ]
2002-2005	Princeton Theological Seminary. M.Div.
1997-2001	George Fox University. B.A., Christian Ministries.

### Teaching Competencies

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Historical Theology; Systematic Theology; Church History; Spiritual Formation and Classics of Christian Devotion; Global Theology; Green Theology; Quaker Theology

### Research Competencies

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Apocalypticism; Quaker History and Theology; Global Christian Theology; Theology and Antislavery; Colonial mid-Atlantic North American Theology; Colonial and Early American Evangelical and Dissenting Theologies

### Academic Teaching

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June 2021–Current	eLearning Curriculum Development (contract) Orbis Education <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• I am developing a course on “Health and Healing in the Christian Tradition” to be used in an accelerated online learning degree program.</li></ul>
June 2020–Current	Faculty Fellow in the Humanities Pacific Lutheran University Tacoma, WA <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• I propose, develop, and design programming in religious continuing education.</li></ul>
2018–May 2020	Visiting Assistant Professor in Religion Pacific Lutheran University Tacoma, WA <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• I design and teach courses in American church history, social justice, apocalypticism, world religions, Christianity and slavery, and ecotheology</li></ul>

- 2016–Current      Lecturer in Christian History and Theology  
Pacific Lutheran University  
Tacoma, WA
- I designed and delivered courses in the History of Christianity and on theological motivations for social witness.
- 2019–Current      Ph.D. Supervisor  
Department of Theology and Religion  
University of Birmingham (UK)
- 2014–2021        Honorary Researcher  
Department of Politics, Philosophy, and Religion  
Lancaster University, UK
- I designed and delivered an online postgraduate module on Quakers, Peace and Witness.
- 2014–Current      Lecturer in Historical Theology  
Centre for Postgraduate Quaker Studies  
Woodbrooke Quaker Study Centre  
Birmingham, UK
- I design and facilitate seminars in antislavery thought and Quaker history.
- 2012–2016        Adjunct Professor of Systematic Theology, Online  
Barclay College  
Haviland, KS
- I designed and delivered online undergraduate modules in historical theology.
  - I designed and delivered an online graduate module on American Quaker history and theology.
- 2013–2015        Adjunct Professor of Theology, Online  
Earlham School of Religion, Earlham College  
Richmond, IN
- I designed and delivered online graduate modules on constructive theology and the history of Christian thought.

### **Academic Leadership and Service**

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- 2021–Current      The Elizabeth Ann Bogert Memorial Fund for the Study and Practice of  
Christian Mysticism
- 2017–Current      Editor, *Quaker Religious Thought*

2016–Current	Associate Editor, “Quaker Studies: Theology and Philosophy,” <i>Brill Research Perspectives</i> , Brill Publishing.
2016–2019	Executive Committee, Friends Association for Higher Education
2015–Current	International Advisory Panel, <i>Quaker Studies</i>
2015–2016	Associate Editor, <i>Quaker Religious Thought</i>
2014–2018	Co-Chair, History of Christianity & North American Religion, American Academy of Religion – Pacific Northwest Region
2014–2016	Program Committee, Friends Association for Higher Education
2013–2014	Nominating Committee, Friends Association for Higher Education
2013–2021	Co-Chair, Quaker Studies Group, American Academy of Religion
2013–2016	Advisory Committee, <i>Quaker Religious Thought</i>
2012–2013	Co-Chair and organizer of Quaker Studies Application to Group Status at the American Academy of Religion
2012	Quaker Studies Exploratory Session Organizer (American Academy of Religion)

### **Selected Publications**

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Editor, *Quakers and Mysticism: Comparative and Syncretic Approaches to Spirituality*, Palgrave Macmillan Press, 2019.

“John Woolman and Delaware Indians: Envisioning Cross-Cultural Peace in a Time of Conflict,” in *The Quaker World*, Routledge Press, Forthcoming.

“Introduction: Quaker Engagements with Mysticism,” in *Quakers and Mysticism: Comparative and Syncretic Approaches to Spirituality*, Palgrave Macmillan Press, 2019.

“John Woolman’s Christological Model of Discernment,” in *Quakers and Mysticism: Comparative and Syncretic Approaches to Spirituality*, Palgrave Macmillan Press, 2019.

*John Woolman and the Government of Christ: A Colonial Quaker’s Vision for the British Atlantic World*, Oxford University Press, 2018.

*"To Renew the Covenant": Religious Themes in Eighteenth Century Quaker Abolitionism*, Brill Publishers, 2018.

"Woolman and Wilderness: A Quaker Sacramental Ecology" in *Quakers, Creation Care and Sustainability*, eds. Cherice Bock and Stephen Potthoff, Friends Association for Higher Education, 2019.

"Quaker Studies in Critical Perspective," *Bulletin for the Study of Religion*, 48:1-2, November 2019, 26-35.

"An Apocalypse by any other Name: John Woolman in Apocalyptic Context," *Quaker Religious Thought*, 132, March 2019, 31-36.

"Anthony Benezet's (1713-1784) Revolutionary Rhetoric: Slavery and Sentimentalism in Quaker Political Remonstrance," *Quaker Religious Thought*, 130, March 2018, 5-15.

"Evangelical Quakerism and Global Christianity," *The Cambridge Companion to Quakerism* eds. Pink Dandelion, Stephen Angell, Cambridge University Press, 2018.

with C. Wess Daniels, and Robynne Rogers Healey, *Quaker Studies: An Overview, the Current State of the Field*. Brill Publishers, 2018.

"The Theological Thought of Early Friends," *Quaker Religious Thought*, 128, March 2017, pp. 5-11.

"'Diminish not a Word': The Prophetic Voice of John Woolman," *Quakers and Literature*, Friends Association for Higher Education, 2016, pp. 11-26.

"'Come out of Babylon, my People': John Woolman's (1720-1772) Antislavery Theology and the trans-Atlantic Economy," in *Quakers and their Allies in the Abolitionist Cause, 1754-1808*, eds. Susan Kozel and Maurice Jackson, Routledge Press, 2015, pp. 85-97.

"Mysticism and Revelation in John Woolman's Theology," *Quaker Religious Thought*, 125, October 2015, pp. 34-42.

"'A More Lively Feeling': The Correspondence and Integration of Mystical and Spatial Dynamics in John Woolman's Travels," *Quaker Studies*, 20, September 2015, pp. 103-116.

with Hayley Glaholt, "The Religious Society of Friends," *Encyclopedia of the Bible and its Reception*, volume 9, eds. Dale Allison, Jr. et al, De Gruyter Publishers, 2014.

"Evaluating the new Oxford Handbook of Quaker Studies," *Quaker Religious Thought*, 122, April 2014, pp. 43-50.

"The York Manuscript: John Woolman's Final Writings," *Quaker History*, 102, Fall 2013, pp. 28-51.

"The Valiant Sixty-First? John Woolman's (1720-1772) Apocalyptic Eschatology and the Restoration of the Lamb's War," *Quaker Studies*, September 2013, pp. 23-49.

“A Leader with few Followers: Maurice Creasey and his Theological Vision for the Future of Quakerism,” *Quaker Religious Thought*, 120, June 2013, pp. 35-46.

“The (Com)Motion of Love: Theological Formation in John Woolman's Itinerant Ministry,” *Quaker Religious Thought*, 116-117, December 2011, pp. 23-36.

“When Bad Things Happen to Good People,” *Spirit Rising*, Quaker's United in Publishing, 2010, pp. 186-190.

Review: “Matthew Avery Sutton’s *American Apocalypse*” Centre for the Critical Study of Apocalyptic and Millenarian Movements, June 17, 2021, <https://censamm.org/blog/kershner-american-apocalypse>.

Review: “Ignacio Gallup-Diaz’s and Geoffrey Plank’s *Quakers and Native Americans*” *Quaker Studies*, 24:2, 2019, pp. 344-346.

Review: “Andrew Murphy’s *William Penn, a Life*” *Quaker Religious Thought*, 133, 2019, pp. 42-47.

Review: “Marcus Rediker’s *The Fearless Benjamin Lay: The Quaker Dwarf Who Became the First Revolutionary Abolitionist* and Gary Nash’s *Warner Mifflin: Unflinching Quaker Abolitionist*,” *Quaker Studies*, 23:1, 2018, pp. 144-148.

Review: “Holy Nation: The Transatlantic Quaker Ministry in an Age of Revolution,” au. Sarah Crabtree, *Church History: Studies in Christianity and Culture*, 86:1, 2017, pp. 233-235.

Review: “Quakers & Abolition,” eds. Brycchan Carey and Geoffrey Plank, *Quaker Studies*, 22:1, 2017, pp. 127-129.

Review: “Trade, Land, Power: The Struggle for Eastern North America,” au. Daniel K. Richter, *Quaker Studies*, 20:1, September 2015 pp. 149-152.

Review: “On Records: Delaware Indians, Colonists, and the Media of History and Memory,” au. Andrew Newman, *Quaker Studies*, 19:2, March 2015 pp. 319-322.

Review: “John Woolman's Path to the Peaceable Kingdom: A Quaker in the British Empire,” au. Geoffrey Plank, *Quaker Studies*, 19:1, September 2014 pp. 184-186.

Review: “The Call to Authenticity: A Handbook of Hope for the Church,” au. Irv Brendlinger, *Wesleyan Theological Journal*, 2013.

Review: “The Oxford Handbook of Eschatology,” ed. Jerry Walls, *Quaker Studies*, 16:2, April 2012 pp. 229-231.

Review: “Quaker Constitutionalism and the Political Thought of John Dickinson,” au. Jane Calvert, *Quaker Studies*, 16:1, September 2011 pp. 138-140.

## Conference Papers and Presentations

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“The Case of Contingent Faculty in Higher Education,” Quaker Historians and Archivists Conference, Online, June 24, 2021.

“An Apocalypse by any other Name: John Woolman in Theological Context,” Quaker Theological Discussion Group, Denver, CO, November, 2018.

“Anthony Benezet’s (1713-1784) Revolutionary Rhetoric: Slavery and Sentimentality in Quaker Political Remonstrance,” Quaker Theological Discussion Group, Boston, MA, November, 2017.

“The Theology of the Second Period of Quakerism,” Quaker Theological Discussion Group, San Antonio, TX, November 2016.

Conference Speaker, Spiritual Emphasis Week, “On Earth as it is in Heaven: John Woolman’s (1720-1772) Realizing Eschatology” Barclay College, Haviland, KS, April 2016.

Plenary Speaker, Friends Association for Higher Education “‘Diminish not a Word:’ The Prophetic Voice of John Woolman,” Newberg, OR, June 2015.

with Deborah Shaw, Guilford College, and Michael Heller, Roanoke College, “Are we Initiating College Students into a Quaker Way of Learning?” Friends Association for Higher Education, Newberg, OR, June 2015.

Guest Lecture, “Eighteenth Century Antislavery Theology,” Guilford College, Greensboro, NC, March 24, 2015.

Guest Lecture, “Liberationist Christologies,” Earlham School of Religion, Earlham College, Richmond, IN March 12, 2015.

“John Woolman, Mysticism, and Revelation,” Quaker Theological Discussion Group, San Diego, CA, November 2014.

“‘Way back in the Wilderness’: John Woolman (1720-1772) in the Wild,” Christian Spirituality Group, American Academy of Religion, Baltimore, Maryland, November 2013.

“Evaluating the new Oxford Handbook of Quaker Studies,” Quaker Studies Exploratory Session, American Academy of Religion, Baltimore, Maryland, November 2013.

“Reading John Woolman and Helping Students Imagine Higher Education as Something More,” Friends Association of Higher Education, Canton, Ohio, June 2013.

“‘To meditate awhile on this subject:’ John Woolman’s (1720-1772) Reading of Anthony Benezet’s (1713-1784) *A Caution and Warning to Great Britain*,” The Atlantic World of Anthony Benezet, Paris, France, May 2013.

“Quaker Antislaveries: The Philosophical and Theological Differences of John Woolman (1720-

1772) and Anthony Benezet (1713-1784),” American Academy of Religion, Pacific Northwest Region, Seattle, Washington, May 2013.

“In ‘the world,’ but not of it: Spiritual and Ethical Perfection in John Woolman's Eschatology,” American Academy of Religion, Chicago, November 2012.

“‘Perfect and Compleat [*sic*] in the Will of God:’ John Woolman's (1720-1772) View of Entire Sanctification,” Quaker Studies Research Association, Birmingham, UK, July 2012.

“‘A More Lively Feeling:’ The Correspondence and Integration of Mystical and Spatial Dynamics in John Woolman's Travels,” Borders and Crossings/Seuils at Traverses: An International and Multidisciplinary Conference on Travel Writing, Woodbrooke Quaker Study Centre, Birmingham, UK, July 2, 2012.

“Were John Woolman's 1770 Pleurisy Visions Apocalyptic Experiences?” Center for Postgraduate Quaker Studies, University of Birmingham, UK, June 14, 2012.

“‘The Government of Christ:’ A Colonial North American vision of Isaiah's Peaceable Kingdom,” American Academy of Religion, Pacific Northwest Region, Portland, OR, May 2012.

“‘The Lamb's War’ or the ‘Peaceable Government of Christ’? John Woolman (1720-1772) and Quaker Apocalypses,” American Academy of Religion, San Francisco, November 2011.

“Getting to ‘the Government of Christ’: Methodology and Sources for John Woolman's (1720-1772) Apocalyptic Theology,” Center for Postgraduate Quaker Studies, University of Birmingham, UK, June 30, 2011.

“‘His Word was in my Heart:’ John Woolman's Prophetic Self-Identification,” American Academy of Religion, Pacific Northwest Region, Spokane, Washington, May 2011.

“The Valiant Sixty-First? John Woolman's (1720-1772) Theology and the Restoration of the Lamb's War,” Quaker Studies and Research Association, Birmingham, UK, July 2010.

“Methods and Findings,” Quaker Research Summer School, University of Birmingham, UK, June 2010.

“‘A Good Degree of Resignation:’ ‘Natural Inclination,’ ‘the World,’ and Spirituality in John Woolman's Ethics,” American Academy of Religion, Pacific Northwest Region, Victoria, Canada, May 2010.

“The (Com)Motion of Love: Theological and Moral Formation in John Woolman's Itinerant Ministry,” American Society for Eighteenth Century Studies Annual Conference, Albuquerque, NM, March 2010.

## Adult Christian Education

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- 2009-2018            Minister  
McKinley Hill Friends Church  
Tacoma, WA
- July 20-22, 2018    Lecture Series  
“John Woolman and the Apocalypse of the Heart”  
Woodbrooke Quaker Studies Centre  
Birmingham, UK
- April-June 2015     Lecture Series  
“The Theology of John Woolman: One Quaker’s Vision of a World Remade”  
North Seattle Friends Church  
Seattle, WA
- April 11, 2015       John Woolman Memorial Annual Lecture  
“John Woolman, Anthony Benezet and Diversity in Eighteenth Century  
Antislavery Views”  
Mt. Holly, NJ
- April-May 2014      Lecture Series  
“The John Woolman I Never Knew”  
Scholar in Residence  
Center for Christian Studies, Reedwood Friends Church  
Portland, OR
- April-May 2014      Lecture Series  
“Pietism, the Lamb’s War, and Global Christianity: Theologies of Christian  
Renewal”  
Scholar in Residence  
Center for Christian Studies, Reedwood Friends Church  
Portland, OR
- December 1, 2013    Guest Lecture  
“John Woolman's Apocalypticism,”  
North Seattle Friends Church  
Seattle, WA
- January 2013         “Way of the Spirit: Contemplative Study in Community,” speaker.



Mt. Angel, Oregon

June 2012 “John Woolman and the Inward Divine Voice,” co-facilitator and speaker, Woodbrooke Quaker Studies Centre, Birmingham, UK.

March 2011 “Roots of Contemplation, Roots of Action: A Quaker Study Retreat,” co-facilitator and speaker, Mt. Angel, Oregon.

2005-2008 Pastor  
Olympic View Friends Church  
Tacoma, WA

### **Church Board Leadership**

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2017-2018 Assistant Clerk, Sierra-Cascade Yearly Meeting of Friends  
2015-2017 Faith and Practice Revision Committee; Northwest Yearly Meeting of Friends Churches  
2009-2012 Pendle Hill Board; Education and Outreach Committee, Recording Clerk and Associate Clerk  
2008-2011 Board of Elders; North Seattle Friends Church

### **Ecumenical Peace Work**

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January 2009 Delegate to “Heeding God's Call,” a gathering of the historic peace churches in Philadelphia, PA.  
November 2007 Completed training: “Mediation Skills Training Institute for Church Leaders.” Lombard Mennonite Peace Center.

### **Instructional Training**

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Teaching Writing 101: Bootcamp  
Thursday, May 31, 2018  
Pacific Lutheran University

WRIT 101 Assessment Workshop  
Friday, June 1, 2018  
Pacific Lutheran University

Instructional Design: Adult Learners  
LinkedIn Learning Certificate  
2021

eLearning Essentials: Instructional Design  
LinkedIn Learning Certificate  
2021

Instructional Design: Needs Analysis  
LinkedIn Learning Certificate  
2021

Implementing Safeguarding in the International Aid Sector  
The Open University  
2021

Introduction to Safeguarding in the International Aid Sector  
The Open University  
2021

Instructional Design Essentials: Models of ID  
LinkedIn Learning Certificate  
2021

eLearning Essentials: Instructional Design  
LinkedIn Learning Certificate  
2021

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### **Media Appearances/Interviews**

Kershner, Jon R. Interview with Tony Abraham. *Generocity.org. Online Social Impact News Source* [<http://generocity.org/philly/2016/01/06/quakers-social-enterprise/>]. Online. December 23, 2015.

Kershner, Jon R. Interview with Cristina Ochoa. *Quaker Religious Thought: A Conversation with Dr. Jon R. Kershner* [<https://www.atla.com/blog/quaker-religious-thought-dr-jon-r-kershner/>]

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### **Awards and Grants**

American Academy of Religion Conference Travel Grant, 2016

Award Holder, Clarence and Lilly Picket Endowment for Quaker Leadership, 2012

The Lyman Fund, 2012

“Hassidism, Continental Pietism and Religious Awakening,” 5<sup>th</sup> Jerusalem Summer School in Jewish Studies and Comparative Religion, Hebrew University, Jerusalem Israel, June 2010

Elizabeth Bogert Memorial Scholarship for Studies in Christian Mysticism, 2010

Award Holder, The David Adshead Award for Quaker Studies, 2009

George Fox University, Summa Cum Laude, 2001

George Fox University, Outstanding Religion Student, 2001

George Fox University, Barnabas Servant Leadership Award, 2000

Phi Alpha Theta National History Honor Society, 1998-2001

Alpha Chi National Honor Society, 1997-2001