



Web Address: <http://wesley.nnu.edu/wts>

**WESLEYAN THEOLOGICAL SOCIETY 49TH ANNUAL MEETING TO BE HELD
MARCH 7-8, 2014:**

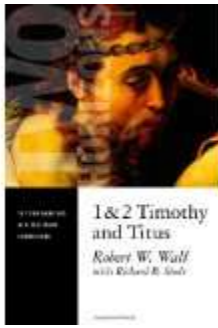
**CONFERENCE THEME IS “ATONEMENT IN THE WESLEYAN TRADITION”
WITH PLENARY SPEAKERS BENWITHERINGTON III, RANDY MADDOX, AND
JASON VICKERS;**

**WALL, WATSON, BORGER TO BE CONFERRED SOCIETY AWARDS;
WTS PLANNING 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION.**

The 49th annual meeting of the Wesleyan Theological Society will be held March 7-8, 2014 at Northwest Nazarene University, Nampa, Idaho. The theme for the meeting is “Atonement in the Wesleyan Tradition.” Along with a variety of sessions on the conference theme, two plenary addresses will be offered by distinguished scholars Ben Witherington III (Amos Professor of New Testament for Doctoral Studies, Asbury Theological Seminary) and Randy Maddox (William Kellon Quick Professor of Wesleyan and Methodist Studies, Duke University). Jason Vickers (Associate Professor of Theology and Wesleyan Studies, United Theological Seminary) will provide the presidential address.

Additional meeting information, including a link to the registration site, is available at the society website: <http://wesley.nnu.edu/wts>. In addition, the Wesleyan Philosophical Society and NNU’s Wesley Conference will meet during the day on March 6.

During the meeting, a number of prestigious awards will be given to scholars and pastors to acknowledge their achievements and contributions to Wesleyan theology.



The *2014 Smith/Wynkoop Book Award* goes to Robert W. Wall (with Richard B. Steele), *1 and 2 Timothy and Titus*, a commentary published by William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company in its Two Horizons New Testament Commentary series. The commentary series seeks to bridge the existing gap between biblical studies and systematic theology. Wall's work

faithfully fulfills the mission of the larger series to "offer exegesis of the New Testament texts in close conversation with theological concerns." The work also includes Richard Steele's three historical case studies (after each of the three Pastoral Epistles) that pick up on a major theme or issue that Wall has identified in his textual analysis. Combined, this publication offers a wonderful contribution to biblical studies, systematic theology, historical studies, the Wesleyan tradition, and ultimately the Church in ways that bring different disciplines into conversation with one another.

The *2014 WTS Dissertation of the Year* goes to Kevin M. Watson for his dissertation, *The Early Methodist Band Meeting: Its Origin, Development, and Significance* (Southern Methodist University). This dissertation examines the origin, development, and significance of one of the most important small groups in early Methodism, the band meeting, which was a small group of approximately [five to seven people grouped according to gender and marital status focused on confession of sin in order to grow in holiness](#). The first part of this study considers the background of the band meeting and the role that it played in John Wesley's conception of Christian formation. It is argued that John Wesley synthesized important aspects of Anglican and Pietistic influence in his conception of the band meeting. The second part of the study uses multiple unpublished primary source accounts of early Methodists' experiences of band meetings to sketch the reception of Wesley's conception of the band meeting in popular Methodist practice.

The recipient of the *2014 Pastor-Preacher-Scholar Award* is Stephen Borger. Borger has pastored for over thirty-nine years in Illinois, Colorado, and Idaho. For the past twelve years he has served as the Superintendent of the Church of the Nazarene Intermountain District. He has also served the Church of the Nazarene as a member of the District Advisory Board on three districts, the NNU Board of Trustees, Nazarene Theological Seminary Board of Trustees, District Superintendents Advisory Committee, Denominational Budget Allocation Committee, and various other assignments. He has taught as an adjunct faculty of

Nazarene Bible College and Northwest Nazarene University. His undergraduate work at Olivet Nazarene University was in Business Administration and, upon graduation, his wife Carol and he moved to Kansas City where he completed the M.Div. degree at Nazarene Theological Seminary. Borger also holds the D.Min. degree from NTS. At his ordination in 1979, presided by William Greathouse, the Bible was opened on the altar to the verse that best defines his life pathway: “God gave his grace to me, the least of all God’s people, to preach the good news about the immeasurable riches of Christ to the Gentiles” (Ephesians 3:8).

Stephen and his wife Carol live on a little six-acre horse ranch south of Nampa.

Wesleyan Theological Society Planning 50th Anniversary Celebration

Plans are underway to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Wesleyan Theological Society at its 2015 Meeting at Mount Vernon Nazarene University in Mount Vernon, Ohio. The 50th anniversary commemoration will include a special session at the yearly meeting and feature an anniversary magazine and DVD recounting the society’s accomplishments during the last five decades. The magazine and DVD will be provided free of charge to all members of the society.

Interviews for the 50th anniversary and filming for the DVD will be held at the society’s 2014 meeting at Northwest Nazarene University, Nampa, Idaho. “We believe that the 50th Anniversary Celebration will be an excellent way to honor the achievements of the WTS and its members over the last half-century,” said Steve Hoskins, Professor of Church History at Trevecca Nazarene University, who is helping to plan the commemoration. “We hope to interview a good number of people during the two days in Nampa who can provide us with memories from the society’s earliest days until the present.”

Anyone interested in the plans for the 50th Anniversary, especially those who would like to contribute photographs, programs, or other artifacts from past meetings for the event, can contact either Steve Hoskins at shoskins@trevecca.edu or Brent Peterson at bdpeterson@nnu.edu.

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2/25/14