

**Rev. Aizaiah Gregory Yong, PhD**  
"He, Him, His"

**EDUCATION**

**Claremont School of Theology** (Claremont, CA)

Ph.D. Practical Theology: Spiritual & Intercultural Formation

Dissertation Title: "Living in the Compassionate Presence of Life: Spirituality & Care for Multi/racial Experience(s)"

Areas of comprehensive examinations & expertise: *(Intercultural) Pastoral Theology & Care, Critical (Mixed) Race Studies, Contemplative (Spirituality) Studies, Intercultural/faith Education*

**Northwest University** (Kirkland, WA)

Master of Arts in Theology and Culture (2015)

**Regent University** (Virginia Beach, VA)

Bachelor of Science in Organizational Leadership (2012)

**LANGUAGES**

English: Advanced Knowledge

Spanish: Intermediate Spanish speaker, Read and Write

Greek: Working knowledge

**ACADEMIC & PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

**Pacific School of Religion & Graduate Theological Union** (Berkeley, CA)

**2020-Present**

**Assistant Professor of Practical Theology & Pastoral Care**

**Graduate Theological Union** (Berkeley, CA)

**2019-2020**

**Visiting Scholar of Spirituality**

*Granted special designation and full privileges to the Graduate Theological Union and the University of California, Berkeley. Guest presenter and facilitator in graduate courses, trainings, and events: IDIS 3700 Effective Business Communications at Santa Clara University; Strengthening Democracy & Spirituality at Graduate Theological Union; Slowing Down, Settling In, and Spreading Out: A Mystical Approach to Pastoral Theology & Care at Pacific School of Religion*

**Claremont School of Theology** (Claremont, CA)

**Teaching Assistant** to Andy Dreitcer, PhD & Dean Sheryl Kujawa-Holbrook, PhD

**2018 – present**

Lectured in the following courses & assisted with syllabi design: *Formation and Spiritual Practices; Formation and Cultural Fluency*

**Research Assistant** to Frank Rogers, Jr., PhD

**2019 – present**

Performed research to advance programming related to contemplative spiritual practices and spiritually rooted social engagement, interfaith leadership, and designed innovative technologies, methods, and pedagogies for the Center for Engaged Compassion

**Project Manager: Seminarians of Color Resource Guide (sponsored by the Hispanic Summer Program)**

Researched, authored, and curated a resource guide tailored to CST seminarians of color at CST (in both Claremont, CA and Salem, OR locations).

**Northwest University, (Kirkland, WA)**

**Adjunct Instructor Faculty**

**2016-Present**

Undergraduate Courses Taught (**Taught in Both Hybrid & Online formats**):

- *THEO 1213 Introduction to Christian Thought*
- *BIBL 1103 Introduction to the Old Testament: History and Literature*
- *BIBL 3253 Corinthian Correspondence*
- *CMIN 3663 Church Ministry in Contemporary Society*

**Director of Student Services (Renton Campus)**

**2011 - 2013**

Supervised two professional staff: program coordinator and administrative assistant. Administered the full cycle of admissions process. Responsible to ensure student-learning outcomes were being met.

- Coordinated local and global service-learning projects
- Advised students toward associate of arts degree completion
- Marketed through promotion, website creation, and social media.
- Counseled through conflicts in residence life
- Developed a strategic plan and system for vocational exploration

**Apartment Life, (Anaheim, CA & Renton, WA)**

**2013-2015, 2016-2019**

**Community Director**

- Worked as a liaison between a non-profit organization and an apartment corporation as a community developer
- Planned, organized, and hosted weekly apartment events to foster harmony and community amidst cultural diversity of Arab refugee and undocumented immigrant Latin@ populations
- Recruited over 100 residents annually to volunteer and engage in the planning and implementation of events
- Created meaningful experiences through relational environments and deep sense of belonging

**New Life Church, (Renton, WA)**

**2011 - 2015**

**Pastor of Youth & Young Adult Formation**

- Oversaw ministry development from 100 to over 350 members
- Developed a small group ministry and implemented a mentorship system of: small group leaders, church members, and family personal relationships
- Performed funerals, weddings, and other religious functions

## **PUBLICATIONS**

“Mysticism, Compassion, and Multi/racial Liberation: A Spiritual Care Program Tending to Multiracial Experience(s)” *Religions, Special Issue on Racism and Religious Diversity in the United States*, 2020. Forthcoming.

“Critical Race Theory Meets Internal Family Systems: Toward a Compassion Spirituality for a Multireligious & Multiracial World” *Buddhist-Christian Studies*, Volume 39, November 2020. Forthcoming.

“Waiting for Salvation” *Journey Through Advent Disciples Seminary Foundation Devotional*, November 2019.

“I am More than Half” *Inheritance* (API Journal), Issue 65, November 2019.

Phan, Peter and Young-chan, Ro, Eds. *Raimon Panikkar: A Companion to His Life and Thought*. (James Clarke & Co., 2018), *Religious Studies Review*, Volume 45, Issue 3, September 2019.

Rah, Soong Chan and Vanderpol, Gary, *Return to Justice: Six Movements That Reignited our Evangelical Conscience*. (Brazos, 2016), *Religious Studies Review*, Volume 45, Issue 2, June 2010.

Lee, Barbara, *Tension in the Tank: Embracing Interfaith Mysticism without Leaving the Church* (Resource Publications, 2014), *Religious Studies Review*, Volume 42, Issue 3, September 2016.

### **ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS**

“Ceasing to be a Normal Person: A Panikkar Approach to Multiracial Experience(s)” Society for Asian Comparative Philosophy, San Francisco, CA (2020, Proposal Accepted)

“Exploring Self-Compassion in Multiracial Identity Development” American Academy of Religion Western Region, Claremont, CA (2020).

“Contemplative Liberation & the Limits of Race,” Annual Conference for the Association of Contemplative Mind in Higher Education, Amherst, MA (2019).

“Contemplation, Nonviolence, & the Multi/racial Body (CNAM): A Radical Compassion Practice Toward Healing Race Relations,” American Academy of Religion, San Diego, CA (2019).

“Contemplative Liberation for the Multiracial Body,” American Academy of Religion Western Region Conference, Phoenix, AZ (2019).

“Disarming Defensiveness: How to Recognize, Relax & Resist Being Oppressive in Social Justice Education,” NASPA: Spiritual, Secular, and Religious Identities. New Orleans, LA (2018).

“Interreligious Approaches, Psycho-spiritual Practices, & Nonviolent Methods of Racial Justice,” Parliament of World Religions. Toronto, Ontario, Canada. (2018).

“Critical Race Theory Meets Internal Family Systems: Toward a Compassion Spirituality for a Multireligious & Multiracial World,” Society of Christian-Buddhist Studies at American Academy of Religion, Denver, CO (2018).

“An Intersectional Dialogue on Race: Overcoming Fear with the Truth,” Seminar at Claremont School of Theology, Claremont, CA (2018).

“Racial Consciousness & Radical Compassion,” Race on Campus Conference, University of Redlands, Redlands, CA (2018).

“Leading Congregations in Conversations on Race: the power of compassion” Legacy Church Leadership Conference, Biola University, La Mirada, CA (2018).

“The White Evangelical Church & Missio Dei: Intercultural Dialogue, Friendship, & the Possibility of Reconciliation,” International Conference on Religion and Spirituality in Society, Berkeley, CA (2018).

“Building Interreligious Relationships through Intra-religious Dialogue: Toward Partnerships in Community Engagement,” International Conference on Religion and Spirituality in Society, London, UK (2017).

“An Intersession of Peace: A Multi-religious Invitation to Reconciliation & Restorative Justice,” American Academy of Religion Western Region Conference, Rosemead, CA (2017).

“Intercultural Compassion & Keys to Student Success,” Academic Success Center, Azusa Pacific University, Azusa, CA (2017).

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Religious Pluralism
- Nonviolence Studies
- Postcolonial & Liberation Pedagogies
- Intercultural Dialogue
- Intersectionality Studies
- Contemplative and Anti-Racist Leadership Studies

## ACADEMIC AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS

- Hispanic Theological Initiative Early Career Scholar (2020-2021)
- Search Inside Yourself Leadership Institute Scholarship Recipient (2019) \$1,250
- Contemplative Social Justice Scholar Award, Association for Contemplative Mind in Higher Education (2019) \$1,250
- William and Dorothy Fisher Teaching Award, Claremont School of Theology (2019) \$1,000
- Hispanic Theological Initiative Dissertation Scholar & Grant Recipient, Princeton Theological Seminary (2019) \$25,000
- Practicing Democracy Project Fellowship, Fetzer Institute/Spirituality & Practice (2019) \$13,000
- Mindfulness Leadership in Higher Education Graduate Scholar Award, New York University (2019) \$2,500
- William Gilbert & Florence Leonard Jones PhD Award, Higher Education & Leadership Ministry in The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) (2019) \$1,000
- Church Mutual Insurance Religious Scholar Award (2018) \$5,000
- Hispanic Theological Initiative Student Paper Award (2018) \$500
- American Academy of Religion Western Regional Conference Student Paper Award (2017) \$100
- Hispanic Scholarship Fund Graduate Student Scholar (2017) \$500
- Henry Ford Theological Education Professional Development Doctoral Cohort Scholar (2016) \$250
- Hershey Scholarship for the International Society of Contemplative Scholars (2016) \$250
- Hispanics & Theological Education Student Award, SMU Perkins School of Theology (2016) \$500

- Presidential Scholarship: Claremont School of Theology, Northwest University, & Regent University (2010-present)

**CERTIFICATIONS & PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS:**

- Certificate of Mindfulness Leadership, Search Inside Yourself Leadership Institute, 2019
- Candidate for Ordination, The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), 2019-Present
- Member, American Academy of Religion, 2017 – Present
- Member, Association for Contemplative Mind in Higher Education, 2019-Present
- Certificate of Engaged Compassion, Center for Engaged Compassion, 2018
- Certificate of Anti-racism Leadership, Stirfry Seminars & Consulting, 2016
- Diversity Ambassador, Azusa Pacific University, 2015
- Member, Religion in Society, 2015 – 2017
- Licensed Minister, Assemblies of God USA, 2011- Present
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