

# Curriculum Vitae

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## Steve C. Stutz, D.Min

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### EDUCATION:

**D. Min Doctor of Ministry in Spiritual Direction & Formation, (May, 2013)** Houston Graduate School of Theology, Houston, TX, 77092

Specialization: Christian contemplative tradition

Dissertation Title: *Accompanying the Spiritual Pilgrim: First Steps in Spiritual Direction*

Dissertation Committee Chair: Dr. F.W. (Mike) Luedde

**M.Div. Master of Divinity (May, 1998)** Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, MO, 63090

Concentration: Systematic Theology

**B.S. Environmental Science (May, 1986)** Northeast Missouri State University, Kirksville, MO.

Concentrations: Ecology, Paleontology, Astronomy

### RESEARCH INTERESTS:

- Contemplation and meditation (East-West interface)
- Mind-body/energy healing
- Dreamwork
- Mystical theology and altered states of consciousness
- Cross cultural and ecumenical experiential theology
- Creation spirituality, Franciscan/Benedictine spirituality
- Enneagram, MBTI, personality/temperament and spirituality

### LANGUAGES:

- Fluent in English
- Professionally competent in Greek and Hebrew
- Learning Spanish
- Basic survival skills in German

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

**Lead Coach/Instructor, Forward Path Coaching, LaPorte, TX** January 2011--present

Developed extensive personal development materials for use by clients. Focus on helping clients to tap into their inner world, to gain a greater access to inspiration, intuition, and spiritual wisdom. Oriented toward quickly helping clients in getting unstuck, fulfilling untapped potential, resolving career progression and career change issues, work/life balance issues, removing fears and limiting beliefs.

Materials: *Eight Weeks to a New and Better Life* (prepared for Lee College, Baytown, TX)  
*A New Start for a New Person* (prepared for Bay Area Turning Point, Webster, TX)  
*Creating the Life You Love*  
*Peaceful Productivity*

**Faculty, Formation in Direction (F-in-D) Program, 2008- present**

Affiliated with the Episcopal Diocese of Texas, F-in-D has trained more than 200 people to be spiritual directors since 1997.

Courses Taught:

- Processing Grief & Loss in Spiritual Direction
- Incarnational Spirituality
- Role of Discernment in Spiritual Direction (Ignatian model)
- Operating a Spiritual Direction Practice

**Director, Oil of Heaven Ministries 2006-2010**

Affiliated with Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Pasadena, TX 77503

Parachurch organization designed to teach, model, and impart responsiveness to the Holy Spirit for life and ministry within mainline, denominational congregations (focus on Lutherans). Specialized courses developed to teach clients how to easily and naturally access the supernatural dimension of the Christian faith.

Courses Taught:

- Introduction to the Labyrinth
- Basics of Centering Prayer
- Lectio Divina
- Creation Spirituality Retreat
- Prayer and Temperament (MBTI) Workshop
- Introduction to Soaking Prayer
- Benedictine Spirituality For People Outside the Monastery
- Welcoming the Holy Spirit Retreat
- How to Hear God's Voice
- The Healing School
- Prophetic Ministry 101

**Pastor, St. Paul Lutheran (Big Spring, TX) and Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Pasadena, TX 1998- Oct 2010**

Prolific and creative in producing a weekly, 20-25 minute public address for a large and diverse audience for over 15 years. Able to connect current events with policy and vision statements to keep attention focused and progress toward goals. Counseled parishioners in dealing with diverse personal life issues. Comfortable dealing with "hot button" topics, such as: death, dying, sexuality, finances, life purpose, etc.

- Oversaw congregational property valued in excess of \$3M.
- Developed strategic plans and operating procedures to revitalize the congregation.
- Developed new product line (alternative worship service) to reach untapped market.
- Controlled expenditures within authorized budget. Supervised and developed employees.

- Oversaw implementation of new program to increase membership.
- Responsible for educational programs and spiritual growth opportunities for diverse population
- Provided pastoral care and spiritual support for congregation of more than 200 people. This included developing adult class materials, in addition to new member catechesis and youth confirmation instruction.

### **Special Teaching Assignments**

- Three weeks in Uganda (2009) teaching all clergy in the Archdiocese of Uganda
- Two weeks working with seminarians in Belize (2008)

### **Various Training Positions while in the U.S. Army, Oct 1986 – Sep 2000**

- G3 Operations/Training, 6025th GSU
- S3 Plans/Exercises, 130<sup>th</sup> Engr Bde
- S3 Training, 19<sup>th</sup> Engr Bn
- Commander, 38<sup>th</sup> Engr Company

### **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS:**

**Spiritual Directors International**-- a global learning community of people from many faiths and many nations who share a common passion and commitment to the art and contemplative practice of spiritual direction ([www.sdiworld.org](http://www.sdiworld.org)).

**Houston Coaches**--Houston Coaches is the local chapter of the International Coach Federation, the largest non-profit worldwide association of professional business and personal coaches. With more than 13,000 members in over 80 countries, and over 150 chapters in 42 countries, the ICF's core purpose is to advance the art, science and practice of professional coaching. ([www.houstoncoaches.com](http://www.houstoncoaches.com))

**Association for Integrative Psychology**-- a non-profit organization founded in 2005 to promote awareness and acceptance of complementary, alternative, and integrative approaches to human behavior as viable ways to facilitate change. ([www.aiponline.org](http://www.aiponline.org))

**The Labyrinth Society**-- an international organization whose mission is to support all those who create, maintain and use labyrinths, and to serve the global community by providing education, networking and opportunities to experience transformation. ([www.labyrinthociety.org](http://www.labyrinthociety.org))

**International Enneagram Association**--international association of members committed to furthering the theory and applications of the Enneagram, providing opportunities for developing greater excellence in the use of the Enneagram, education in theory and application of the Enneagram, engagement with an international community of shared interest and diversified approach.

### **CERTIFICATIONS:**

**Certificate in Spiritual Direction**, Houston Graduate School of Theology, Houston, TX (2013)

**Neurolinguistic Programming (Practioner Level)**, The Empowerment Partnership, Hilo, HI (2013)

**Emotional Freedom Techniques Level 1**, Austin, TX (2012)

**Life Coach Certification**, Life Coach Institute of Orange County, CA (2010)

**Basic Certification, International Association for Theophostic Ministry**, Pasadena, TX (2006)  
Basic certification for theophostic prayer counseling as developed by Dr. Ed Smith

**Certificate in Spiritual Direction**, Formation in Direction Program, the Episcopal Diocese of Texas (2006)

**Certified Instructor** “How to Hear God’s Voice,” Communion with God Ministries, Cheektowaga, NY (2006) Basic certification to teach the live seminar on how to hear God’s voice as developed by Dr. Mark Virkler

**Licensed Pastoral Counselor**, The Therapon Institute, Spring, TX (2003)  
Non-medical, faith-based, paraprofessional, ministry counseling

**Licensed Marriage and Family Counselor**, The Therapon Institute, Spring, TX (2003)  
Non-medical, faith-based, paraprofessional, ministry counseling

## **PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS:**

### **Popular Audience**

“Healing and the Eucharist.” Accepted for publication in Fall/Winter 2013 of *Sharing*—magazine of the International Order of St. Luke the Physician ([www.orderofstluke.org](http://www.orderofstluke.org)).

“Dreamwork and Spiritual Growth.” October 2006. A sectional taught as part of a 48 hr. spirituality retreat for LCMS fulltime church workers in the Texas District.

“Can You Hear Me Knocking?” May 2006. A series of devotions for opening and closing sessions of the TX District LCMS Theological Convocation in Ft. Worth, TX. Topic was on how to hear/discern the voice of God in the midst of everyday life.

“Pray As You Can, Not As You Can’t.” Texas Messenger. LCMS, September 2005. How to get started in reading and praying the Scriptures in the ancient method of Lectio Divina

“Beginning An Intentional Spiritual Life.” Texas Messenger. LCMS, March 2005. If you want to have a spiritual life, you have to concentrate on doing something about it. It doesn't just happen. This was an encouragement, with some suggestions, about how to get started.

“Need Space and Silence? Try Retreat.” Texas Messenger. LCMS, December 2003. An article encouraging people to try a time of spiritual retreat.

“Accepting the Embrace of God.” March 2003. A sectional on the ancient practice of lectio divina/listening prayer given to the Professional Church Workers Conference, TX District LCMS in Dallas, TX

### **Scholarly Articles**

Essay of Reflections and Interaction with Glen G. Scorgie’s *A Little Guide to Christian Spirituality* (Sep, 2012)

Is The Local Congregation Relevant? Interacting with Angela Reed's *Quest for Spiritual Community: Reclaiming Spiritual Guidance in Contemporary Congregations* (Jun, 2012)

Distinctions Between Psychotherapy and Spiritual Direction In *Care of Mind, Care of Spirit* By Dr. Gerald May (Oct, 2011)

An Account of the Development and Implementation of Small Group Ministries in a Typical LCMS Congregation (Apr, 2011)

Significant Insights from *Christ's Basic Bodies* by Ralph Neighbour, Jr. and *Measuring God's Small Group River* by William A. Beckham (Jan, 2011)

Interpreting the "Lost Parables" of Luke 15 and Matthew 18:12-13 (Aug, 2010)

A Non-Standard Rhetorical Analysis of Isaiah 66:18-24 (Jul, 2010)

Jesus—Mosaic Teacher of the Law (Jul, 2010)

## Electronic Media

### E-books:

*An Exploration of Race, Culture, and Ministry in the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod* (November 17, 2012) Amazon ASIN: B00A990WI2.

*The Role of Discernment in Missional Church Development* (October 2, 2012) Amazon ASIN: B009KWG60C

### Blog Articles (archived at [www.stevestutz.com](http://www.stevestutz.com)) with original posting date:

- If I'm Just a Beginner At Prayer, is Spiritual Direction For ME? (05/23/2013)
- Let Your Fingers Do The Walking! (Using a Labyrinth From Your Easy Chair!) (05/07/2013)
- A Review of Parker Palmer's *Let Your Life Speak: Listening for the Voice of Vocation* (04/22/2013)
- Summary and Reflections on Richard Rohr's Video "How Spiritual Direction Contributes to Peace" (04/02/2013)
- A Review of David Keirse's *Please Understand Me 2* (03/26/2013)
- An Open Letter to Clergy: I Wish Someone Had Told Me This When I Was Ordained (03/18/2013)
- The Relationship of Discipleship to Christian Spirituality as addressed by Dallas Willard in *The Great Omission* (02/25/2013)
- Reflections on The Role of Silence as a Spiritual Practice (02/21/2013)
- A Critical Review of Samir Selmanovic's *It's Really All About God: Reflections of a Muslim Atheist Jewish Christian* (02/13/2013)

- Using Gerald May's *The Dark Night of the Soul* in Understanding and Working Through Spiritual Darkness (02/06/2013)
- On Using Henri Nouwen's *The Inner Voice of Love: A Journey Through Anguish to Freedom* to Process Grief, Loss, and Coping with Death (01/21/2013)
- A Step by Step Method to Explore the Meaning of Dreams (01/14/2013)
- Reflections on "Working with Darkness in Spiritual Direction" by Kevin Culligan (01/07/2013)
- A Review of Karen Armstrong's *The Case for God* (12/27/2012)
- A Review of M. Robert Mulholland's *Invitation to a Journey* (12/20/2012)
- A Review of Marcus J. Borg's *The God We Never Knew* (12/10/2012)
- A Review of Thomas Merton's *New Seeds of Contemplation* (12/03/2012)
- Does God Still Communicate Through Dreams and Visions Today? (11/26/2012)
- Spiritual Gifts--Use Them or Lose Them! (11/19/2012)
- Should We Ask Church Elders to Anoint the Sick and Pray for Healing? (11/13/2012)
- A Review of Eugene Peterson's *The Contemplative Pastor* (11/11/2012)
- Does God Still Do Healing Miracles in Mainline Congregations? (11/10/2012)

### **Trainings, Conferences, and Workshops Facilitated**

- **Catch the Wind of the Spirit**—Chesapeake Community of Hope, Chesapeake, VA (Oct, 2011)
- **Holy Spirit Weekend**—Christ the King Lutheran Church, Kingwood, TX (Sep, 2010)
- **Holy Spirit Weekend**—Victory Lutheran Church, Medicine Hat, Alberta, Canada (Oct, 2009)
- **Healing Workshop** —Calvary Lutheran Church, Richland Hills, TX (March, 2009)
- **Healing Workshop** —St. John Lutheran Church, Lake Charles, LA (Feb, 2009)
- **Holy Spirit Weekend**—St. Paul Lutheran Church, Big Spring, TX (Dec, 2008)
- **Come, Holy Spirit! Pentecost Conference**—Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Pasadena, TX (May, 2008)
- **Day of Healing Prayer**—Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Houston, TX (Apr, 2008)
- **Healing Workshop** – Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Arlington, TX (March, 2008)

### **SERVICE ACTIVITIES:**

LCMS TX District Prayer & Spirituality Committee	1998-2011
Board of Directors, Kaiserhof Retreat Center	2002-2010
Board of Directors, Alpha Houston	2007-2009
Faculty, Formation in Direction Program	2008-present
Docent, Battleship TEXAS	2012-present