

## CURRICULUM VITAE

**Michael J. Svigel, PhD**  
**Chair and Professor of Theological Studies**  
**Director of PhD Studies**  
**Dallas Theological Seminary**  
 6118 Ridge Top Ln  
 Garland, TX 75043  
[msvigel@dts.edu](mailto:msvigel@dts.edu)

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**2007–Present**      **Dallas Theological Seminary**  
**3909 Swiss Avenue, Dallas, TX 75204**

**Chair and Professor of Theological Studies (Tenured)**

Full-time teaching responsibilities include Historical Theology and Systematic Theology core courses and electives (masters and doctoral level); service on various committees and subcommittees as required, counseling students, grading, and keeping student records; chairing Theological Studies department, scheduling courses, overseeing department faculty and staff, hiring new faculty, encouraging faculty development; maintaining standards for accreditation, designing new degree programs and courses, and contributing to personnel and program assessment; directing PhD Studies, conducting meetings, establishing and enforcing policies and procedures.

## Positions Held

|              |                                                       |
|--------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| 2025–Present | Director of PhD Studies                               |
| 2014–Present | Department Chair and Professor of Theological Studies |
| 2012–2015    | Associate Professor of Theological Studies            |
| 2007–2012    | Assistant Professor of Theological Studies            |

## Committee Responsibilities

Admissions Committee; Academic Affairs Committee; Ad Hoc Committee on Doctrinal Statement Revision; Ad Hoc Committee on Unity, Diversity, and Community; PhD Studies Committee

## Masters-Level Courses Taught

HT5101 The Church to the Modern Era  
HT5102 The Church in the Modern Era: Europe  
and North America  
HT5200 History of Doctrine  
HT5215 The Theology of the Early Church  
HT5217 The Apostolic Fathers  
HT5218 Early Christian Literature  
HT5225 Seminar in the History and Theology of  
the Middle Ages  
HT5245 Theology of Karl Barth  
ST5101 Theological Method and Bibliology  
ST5102 Trinitarianism

ST5103 Angelology, Anthropology, and  
Hamartiology  
ST5104 Soteriology  
ST5105 Sanctification and Ecclesiology  
ST5106 Eschatology  
ST5295 Systematic Theology Colloquium  
ST5530 Theology and Science Fiction

## PhD-Level Courses Taught

TS8106 Seminar on the History of Doctrine  
TS8107 Seminar on Theological Systems  
TS5205 Colloquium in Systematic Theology  
TS8210 Colloquium in Historical Theology  
PD8100 Research Methods

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (CONTINUED)**

**2004–2007                      Insight for Living Ministries**  
**PO Box 26900, Plano, TX 75206-9000**

**Staff Writer/Editor/Director of Creative Ministries**

Responsibilities included overseeing writing, editing, and publishing projects from idea to publication, supervising staff writers and editors, writing/editing Bible study workbooks to accompany trade books and radio broadcasts; planning/preparing educational materials for conferences; writing/editing newsletter articles and marketing materials. Publishing experience includes projects produced by Insight for Living as well as those published through Thomas Nelson.

**1999–2004                      Law Office of Allen R. Morris**  
**Dallas, TX 75206**

**Paralegal, Office Manager**

Responsibilities included drafting and revising legal pleadings and orders; composing correspondence; maintaining client files; communicating with clients, courts, attorneys, and insurance adjusters; assisting in trials; and serving as the personal assistant, secretary, legal assistant, and clerk for a solo legal practice.

## **MINISTRY EXPERIENCE**

**Member, Scofield Memorial Church (now Eastside Community Church), Dallas, Texas**  
**(1996–Present)**

AWANA volunteer leader (2015–2025)

Adult Sunday School Teacher, Scofield Memorial Church (2000–2012, 2014–2022)

Elder, Official Board Member, Scofield Memorial Church (2003–2005; 2008–2013; 2020–2022)

Children's Ministry director, Scofield Memorial Church (2011–2013)

**Conference and church speaker (2005–Present)**

**Visiting instructor, Wort des Lebens, Germany (2009–Present)**

**Tour instructor, Israel Tours, Reformation Tours (2007–Present)**

## **HONORS**

Senior Class Award for Faculty Excellence, Tenured, Dallas Theological Seminary (2016, 2022)

Senior Class Award for Faculty Excellence, Nontenured, Dallas Theological Seminary (2009)

## **EDUCATION**

**Dallas Theological Seminary, 3909 Swiss Avenue, Dallas, TX 75204**

**PhD in Theological Studies, 2008**

William M. Anderson Scholarship Award, Dallas Theological Seminary (2008)

### **Doctoral Seminars**

Reformation and Anabaptist Theology  
Historiography and Hermeneutics  
Theological Method  
Seventeenth Century Empiricism  
Modern Trinitarian Thought  
Twentieth Century Theology and Theologians  
American Evangelical Theology  
Late Nineteenth/Early Twentieth Century  
Evangelical Theology  
Ante-Nicene Antiochene Theology  
Second Century Trinitarianism

### **Comprehensive Exams**

Ignatius of Antioch  
Christology (historical and modern)  
Second Century (Gnosticism, Judaism,  
Christianity)  
Twentieth Century Evangelicalism

### **Dissertation**

“Second Century Incarnational Christology and  
Early Catholic Christianity”  
Committee: D. Jeffrey Bingham, Glenn R.  
Kreider, Clayton N. Jefford

**Dallas Theological Seminary, 3909 Swiss Avenue, Dallas, TX 75204**

**ThM in Academic Ministries—New Testament, 2001**

John F. Walvoord Award in Systematic Theology, 1999

Rollin Thomas Chafer Award in Apologetics, 1998

Thesis: “Christ as Ἡ Ἀρχὴ τῆς Κτίσεως τοῦ Θεοῦ in Revelation 3:14”

Committee: Daniel B. Wallace, Harold W. Hoehner

**Cairn University, 200 Manor Avenue, Langhorne, PA 19047**

**B.S. in Bible (Pre-Seminary Studies), 1996.**

Greek Exegesis Award

The American Bible Society 1996 Scholarly Achievement Award

President, Student Theological Society, 1996

Staff writer, *Scroll Magazine*

## **MEMBERSHIPS**

The Evangelical Theological Society (1999–)

The Society of Biblical Literature (2008–2015)

North American Patristic Society (2007–2020; 2026–)

## **PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL SKILLS**

### **Language Proficiency**

- German (fluent, conversational/reading/translation)
- Koine Greek (high proficiency, reading/translation)
- Biblical Hebrew (reading/translation)
- Modern French (reading/translation)
- Ecclesiastical Latin (translation)
- Moderate Experience in Modern Hebrew, Classical Greek, Syriac, Coptic, Gothic

### **Professional Skills**

- Highly skilled in research, writing, publishing, teaching, and speaking
- Published author of scholarly articles, popular works, and fiction
- Regular speaking to lay people on systematic and history theology

### **Professional Strengths and Leadership Style**

- Comfortable in academic and non-academic environments
- Skilled at balancing several demanding projects at once
- Both analytical and synthetic thinking
- Exhibiting grace in interpersonal relationships
- Experience in consensus-building leadership

### **Personal Profile**

Family: Wife: Stephanie (R.N.); adult children: Sophie, Lucas, and Nathan

Wife and children are dual citizens of Deutschland and United States

Interests: literature, film, scholarly and creative writing, humor

Hobbies: Biking, fishing, music composition, fiction writing, German folk dancing

## **TESTIMONY**

Though I was raised in a nominal Lutheran household with a basic understanding of Christianity, I rejected this tradition at an early age. In my teenage years I embraced a number of deceptive philosophies and practices to fill the void.

At the age of sixteen I became enamored with Scientology, believing that religion would be my key to happiness and success. My high school English teacher, Brian Dent (who was also a Baptist pastor), noticed me reading *Dianetics* by L. Ron Hubbard and cautiously offered to share with me “the other side of that.” However, I was hardened to his suggestion and went about my way deeper into Dianetics and Scientology.

Strangely enough, at a science fiction convention later that year I stumbled upon a book entitled *L. Ron Hubbard: Messiah or Madman?* I read the book in one weekend. Written by an ex-Scientologist and L. Ron Hubbard, Jr., the book exposed the hypocrisy, fraud, and deceit of the Church of Scientology. I felt like a child who had just been told there was no Santa Claus. My hope in that New Age religion had crumbled with nothing to replace it—except, of course, Brian Dent’s “old-fashioned” religion.

I called Brian Dent at home and told him I found a book that would probably change my life. When I told him what happened, he invited me to his home after school the next evening and there he shared the gospel of Jesus Christ with me—that God would accept me based on Christ’s work alone, by grace through faith, that I didn’t need to do good works, follow a ritual, or earn His favor. That spring evening of 1990, I accepted the Lord Jesus as my Savior. Had Brian shared the gospel with me one week earlier or

one week later, I do not believe I would have accepted that message, but in His sovereignty, God worked all things together for good (Rom 8:28).

That summer I began growing steadily in my new faith. I was baptized with a number of friends with whom I had the opportunity to share Christ. We joined Old Scenic Community Church of Little Fork, Minnesota, and served the Lord in that setting. By my first year of Junior College, however, I felt a call to train for full-time Christian ministry. I transferred to Philadelphia Biblical University (now Cairn University), met my wife, Stephanie, was married, and then attended Dallas Theological Seminary.

All along the way since my conversion to Christ, my faith has grown—sometimes rapidly, usually through trial and struggle. But throughout the journey He has been exceedingly faithful, and I trust He will continue to work in me as I seek to serve Him.

## **PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**

### **Authored/Co-Authored Books (in order of publication year)**

*Heir of the Forgotten Realm*. Baker Trittin Press, 2006.

*Heroes and Heretics: Solving the Modern Mystery of the Ancient Church*. IFL Publishing House, 2006.

*RetroChristianity: Reclaiming the Forgotten Faith*. Crossway, 2012.

*Exploring Christian Theology*, vol. 3, *The Church, Spiritual Growth, and the End Times*. Ed. Nathan D. Holsteen and Michael J. Svigel. Bethany House, 2014.

*Exploring Christian Theology*, vol. 1, *Revelation, Scripture, and the Triune God*. Ed. Nathan D. Holsteen and Michael J. Svigel. Bethany House, 2014.

*Exploring Christian Theology*, vol. 2, *Creation, Fall, and Salvation*. Ed. Nathan D. Holsteen and Michael J. Svigel. Bethany House, 2015.

*The Center and the Source: Second Century Incarnational Christology and Early Catholic Christianity*. Gorgias, 2016.

*A Practical Primer on Theological Method: Table Manners for Discussing God, His Works, and His Ways*. With Glenn R. Kreider. Zondervan, 2019.

*Töpia: A Novel*. Svigel: 2020.

*Heir of the Forgotten Realm*, new ed. Legends and Legacies Adventure Series 1. Svigel: 2020

*Addis and the Secret City*. Legends and Legacies Adventure Series 2. Svigel: 2020.

*Urban Legends of Church History: 40 Common Misconceptions*. With John Adair. B & H Academic, 2020.

*Introdução Prática ao Método Teológico*. With Glenn R. Kreider. Chamada, 2021. [Portuguese translation of *A Practical Primer on Theological Method*.]

*Lendas Urbanas da História da Igreja*. With John Adair. Chamada, 2022. [Portuguese translation of *Urban Legends of Church History*.]

*The Altheist: A Novella*. Svigel, 2023.

*Eligy: Sequel to Töpia* (2024)

*The Shepherd of Hermas: A New Translation and Commentary*. With Caroline Buie. The Apostolic Fathers Commentary Series. Cascade, 2023.

*Exploring Christian Scripture*. Ed. Glenn R. Kreider, Michael J. Svigel, and Mark M. Yarbrough. B&H Academic, 2024.

*“Let the Wise Hear!”: Devotions for Thriving in Theological Studies*. Svigel: 2024.

*The Altheist 2.0: A Novella*. Svigel, 2024.

*The Fathers on the Future: A 2nd-Century Eschatology for the 21st-Century Church*. Hendrickson, 2024.

*Töpia*. Chamada, 2024. [Portuguese translation of *Töpia*.]

*O Que os Pais da Igreja Falaram Sobre o Futuro*. Chamada, 2025. [Portuguese translation of *Fathers on the Future*.]

*Essentials of Christian Theology: Foundations of the Christian Faith*. Ed. Nathan D. Holsteen and Michael J. Svigel. Bethany House, 2025.

*The Altheist 3.0: A Novella*. Svigel, 2025.  
*Explorando a Teologia Cristã: Revelação, Escritura e Trindade*. Ed. Nathan D. Holsteen and Michael J. Svigel. Chamada, 2025. [Portuguese translation of *Exploring Christian Theology*, vol. 1]  
*Explorando a Teologia Cristã: Criação, Queda e Salvação*. Ed. Nathan D. Holsteen and Michael J. Svigel. Chamada, 2025. [Portuguese translation of *Exploring Christian Theology*, vol. 2]  
*Explorando a Teologia Cristã: Igreja, Santificação e Escatologia*. Ed. Nathan D. Holsteen and Michael J. Svigel. Chamada, 2025. [Portuguese translation of *Exploring Christian Theology*, vol. 3]  
*Auf der Klippe: eine Novelle*. Svigel and Frick, 2025. [German translation of *The Altheist: a novel*]  
*The Story of the Future: What to Believe about the End Times...and Why*. Hendrickson, 2027  
 [forthcoming]

### **Authored/Co-Authored Chapters (in order of publication year)**

*Insight's Bible Handbook*. IFL Publishing House, 2007. Chapter 2, “Bible Wannabes’: True and False Scriptures”; chapter 6, “The Noisy Silent Years: The Times between the Testaments”; chapter 7, “Fathers and Reformers: Carrying on the Biblical Tradition”; chapter 9, “This We Believe: Basic Doctrines for Biblical Discernment.”  
*Insight's Archaeology Handbook*. IFL Publishing House, 2008. Chapter 11, “Ascending the Hill of the Lord: Exploring the Temple Mount”; chapter 12, “He Suffered under Pontius Pilate’: The Caesarean Inscription.”  
 “The First Century Two-Ways Catechesis as the Background of Hebrews 6.1–6.” With Matthew D. Larsen. In *The Didache: A Missing Piece of the Puzzle in Early Christianity*. Ed. Jonathan A. Draper and Clayton N. Jefford. SBL, 2014.  
 “The History of Dispensationalism in Seven Eras.” In *Dispensationalism and the History of Redemption: A Developing and Diverse Tradition*. Ed. D. Jeffrey Bingham and Glenn R. Kreider. Moody, 2015.  
 “What Child Is This? A Forgotten Argument for the Pretribulation Rapture.” In *Evidence for the Rapture: A Biblical Case for Pretribulationism*. Ed. John F. Hart. Moody, 2015.  
 “The Roman Empire in the Era of the Apostolic Fathers.” In *The Cambridge Companion to the Apostolic Fathers*. Ed. Michael F. Bird and Scott D. Harrower. Cambridge University Press, 2021.  
 “Sabellians/Sabellianism.” In *The Brill Encyclopedia of Early Christianity Online*. Ed. David G. Hunter, Paul J. J. van Geest, and Bert Jan Lietaert Peerbolte. Brill, 2022. [print edition forthcoming]  
 “Modalism.” In *The Brill Encyclopedia of Early Christianity Online*. Ed. David G. Hunter, Paul J. J. van Geest, and Bert Jan Lietaert Peerbolte. Brill, 2022. [print edition forthcoming]  
 “The Second Century in the Fourth: Eusebius and the Codification of Christian History.” In *A Handbook to Second-Century Christianity*. Ed. Michael F. Bird and Scott Harrower. Baylor University Press, 2025.

### **Scholarly Articles in Print (in order of publication year)**

“The Apocalypse of John and the Rapture of the Church: A Reevaluation.” *Trinity Journal* 22 (2001): 23–74.  
 “The Phantom Heresy: Did the Council of Ephesus (431) Condemn Chiliasm?” *Trinity Journal* 24 (2003): 105–112.  
 “Christ as *Arche* in Revelation 3:14—Source, Ruler, or Beginning?” *Bibliotheca Sacra* 161 (April–June 2004): 215–231.  
 “The Center of Ignatius of Antioch’s Catholic Christianity.” *Studia Patristica* 45 (Peeters, 2010): 367–371.  
 “Extreme Makeover: Heaven and Earth Edition—Will God Annihilate the World and Re-Create it *Ex Nihilo*?” *Bibliotheca Sacra* 171 (October–December 2014): 401–417.  
 “‘What Child Is This?’: Darby’s Early Exegetical Argument for the Pretribulation Rapture of the Church.” *Trinity Journal* 35 (2014): 225–251.

- “*Didache* as a Practical Enchiridion for Early Church Plants,” *Bibliotheca Sacra* 174 (January–March 2017): 77–94.
- “Can an Ecclesiology Be Biblical and Not Apostolic?” *Bibliotheca Sacra* 175 (January–March 2019): 62–80.
- “Trinitarianism in *Didache*, *Barnabas*, and the *Shepherd*: Sketchy, Scant, or Scandalous?” *Perichoresis* 17.1 (2019): 23–40.
- “The Passing of the Prophets in the Apostolic Fathers.” *Bibliotheca Sacra* 176 (October–December 2019): 458–475.

### **Professional Papers Presented (in order of presentation year)**

- “A Reexamination of Revelation 13 in the Light of Jewish Eschatological Expectations” A Paper Presented to the Southwest Region of the Evangelical Theological Society, 1999.
- “The Apocalypse of John and the Rapture of the Church: A Reevaluation.” A Paper Presented to the Southwest Region of the Evangelical Theological Society, 2000.
- “P<sup>46</sup> as the Earliest Witness of 1 Thessalonians 2:13-16.” A Paper Presented to the Southwest Region of the Evangelical Theological Society, 2002.
- “Christ as *Arche* in Revelation 3:14—Source, Ruler, or Beginning?” A Paper Presented to the Southwest Region of the Evangelical Theological Society, 2003.
- “Coffee as a Means of Grace: A Sip of Theological Humor.” A Paper Presented to the Southwest Region of the Evangelical Theological Society, 2003.
- “‘Power in Unity, Diversity in Rank’: Subordination and the Trinity in the Early Fathers.” A Paper Presented to the Evangelical Theological Society, 2004.
- “‘You Got to Know When to Hold ‘Em’: Trumping the Bauer Thesis.” A Paper Presented to the Evangelical Theological Society, 2005.
- “The Center of Ignatius of Antioch’s Catholic Christianity.” A Paper Presented to the Fifteenth International Conference on Patristic Studies, Oxford, 2007.
- “Saving Hermas: Reclaiming the Christology of the Shepherd.” A Paper Presented to the Southwest Region of the Evangelical Theological Society, 2008.
- “The Incarnational Christological Narrative as the Mark of Early Catholic Self-Identity.” A Paper Presented to the Seminar on the Development of Early Catholic Christianity, Dallas, 2008.
- “The First Century Two Ways Catechesis as the Background of Hebrews 6.1–6.” With Matthew D. Larsen. A Paper Presented to the Society of Biblical Literature, 2010.
- “Falling Away or Falling Aside? The First Century Two Ways Catechesis as the Background of Hebrews 6.1–6.” A Paper Presented to the Southwest Region of the Evangelical Theological Society, 2011.
- “Extreme Makeover: Heaven and Earth Edition—Will God Annihilate the World and Re-Create It *Ex Nihilo*?” A Paper Presented to the Evangelical Theological Society, 2012.
- “Can an Ecclesiology Be Biblical if It’s Not Apostolic?: Historical Problems in Evangelical Ecclesiological Method.” A Paper Presented to the Evangelical Theological Society, 2014.
- “A First Century DIY Manual? *Didache* as a Practical Enchiridion for Early Church Plants.” A Paper Presented to the Evangelical Theological Society, 2015.
- “Trinitarianism in *Didache*, *Barnabas*, and the *Shepherd*: Sketchy, Scant, or Scandalous?” A Paper Presented to the Evangelical Theological Society, 2016.
- “The Holy Spirit in the Apostolic Fathers: Lingerin Challenges to the Orthodox Faith.” A Paper Presented to the Evangelical Theological Society, 2018.
- “A Second Chance for Hermas: Eschatological Opportunities for Repentance in *Shepherd of Hermas*.” A Paper Presented to the Evangelical Theological Society, 2020.
- “Who Sat on the Thrones in Revelation 20:4? Ἐκάθισαν and Its Implications.” With Alan E. Kurschner. A Paper Presented to the Evangelical Theological Society, 2021.

“Was the Author of the ‘Epistle of Barnabas’ a Chiliast? (It’s Complicated).” A Paper Presented to the Evangelical Theological Society, 2022.

“Irenaeus and the Assumption of the Church.” A Paper Presented to the Evangelical Theological Society, 2024.

### **Credited Contract Editing/Collaborative Writing Projects**

*Taking a Stand: A Reformation in Christian Living Workbook*. IFL Publishing House, 2004.

*The Grace Awakening Workbook*. W Publishing, 2004. Chapters 5, 7, 9–13.

*Creating a Legacy Workbook*. IFL Publishing House, 2004.

*Living on the Ragged Edge Workbook*. W Publishing, 2005.

*So, You Want to Be Like Christ? Workbook*. W Publishing, 2005.

*Hope Again Workbook*. IFL Publishing House, 2005.

*The Way of Truth in a World of Fiction: Beyond The Da Vinci Code Workbook*. IFL Publishing House, 2006.

*Revelation—Unveiling the End, Act I: The Heavenly Stage*. IFL Publishing House, 2006.

*Revelation—Unveiling the End, Act II: The Earthly Drama*. IFL Publishing House, 2006.

*Revelation—Unveiling the End, Act III: The Final Curtain*. IFL Publishing House, 2006.

*Hand Me Another Brick Bible Companion*. W Publishing, 2006.

*A Life Well-Lived Bible Companion*. Thomas Nelson, 2007.

*Practical Christian Living*. IFL Publishing House, 2008.

Swindoll, Charles R. *James and 1 & 2 Peter*. Swindoll’s New Testament Insights. Zondervan, 2010.

Swindoll, Charles R. *Revelation*. Swindoll’s New Testament Insights. Zondervan, 2011.

Swindoll, Charles R. *Galatians, Ephesians*. Swindoll’s New Testament Insights. Zondervan, 2012.

*Life of Abraham Bible Companion*. IFL Publishing House, 2014.

Swindoll, Charles R. *Insights on Revelation*. Swindoll’s Living Insights New Testament Commentary. Tyndale House, 2014.

Swindoll, Charles R. *Insights on James, 1 & 2 Peter*. Swindoll’s Living Insights New Testament Commentary. Tyndale House, 2014.

Swindoll, Charles R. *Insights on Galatians, Ephesians*. Swindoll’s Living Insights New Testament Commentary. Tyndale House, 2015.

Swindoll, Charles R. *Insights on 1 & 2 Thessalonians*. Swindoll’s Living Insights New Testament Commentary. Tyndale House, 2016.

Swindoll, Charles R. *Insights on Mark*. Swindoll’s Living Insights New Testament Commentary. Tyndale House, 2016.

Swindoll, Charles R. *Insights on Luke*. Swindoll’s Living Insights New Testament Commentary. Tyndale House, 2017.

Swindoll, Charles R. *Insights on 1 & 2 Corinthians*. Swindoll’s Living Insights New Testament Commentary. Tyndale House, 2017.

Swindoll, Charles R. *Insights on Hebrews*. Swindoll’s Living Insights New Testament Commentary. Tyndale House, 2017.

Swindoll, Charles R. *Insights on Philippians, Colossians, Philemon*. Swindoll’s Living Insights New Testament Commentary. Tyndale House, 2017.

Swindoll, Charles R. *Life Is 10% What Happens to You and 90% How You React: Cultivating Inner Strength and Embracing Hope When Life is Not What You Expected*. Thomas Nelson, 2017.

Swindoll, Charles R. *Insights on 1, 2, & 3 John, Jude*. Swindoll’s Living Insights New Testament Commentary. Tyndale House, 2018.

Swindoll, Charles R. *Insights on Matthew 1—15*. Swindoll’s Living Insights New Testament Commentary. Tyndale House, 2020.

Swindoll, Charles R. *Insights on Matthew 16—28*. Swindoll's Living Insights New Testament Commentary. Tyndale House, 2020.

Swindoll, Charles R. *Clinging to Hope: What Scripture Says about Weathering Times of Trouble, Chaos, and Calamity*. Tyndale House, 2022.

**Numerous additional popular articles published in both print and electronic formats, including devotionals, brief essays, and interviews.**