WILLIAM C. DAVIS

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Education:

Ph.D., Philosophy 1992, University of Notre Dame, South Bend, IN.
Dissertation: "Thomas Reid's Moral Epistemology and Moral Sense Theory"
M.A., Religion 1986, Westminster Theological Seminary, Escondido, CA.
B.A., Philosophy 1982, Covenant College, Lookout Mountain, GA.

Current Appointments:

Professor of Philosophy, Covenant College, Lookout Mountain, GA Adjunct Professor of Philosophy, Reformed Theological Seminary, Atlanta, GA, Houston, TX, and Washington, D.C.

Publications:

- "Medical Technology: A Blessing Not to Be Idolized: A Review Article," review of Gilbert Meilaender's *Bioethics: A Primer for Christians* in *Ordained Servant* (June 2021).
- "Honoring and Protecting our Seniors," in *TableTalk* (May 2021).
- "The Importance of Biblical Anthropology: A Review Article," review of O. Carter Snead's *What It Means to Be Human*" in *Ordained Servant* (April 2021).
- "Review of McDermid, *The Rise and Fall of Scottish Common Sense Realism*" in *British Journal for the History of Philosophy*, published online January 10, 2019; DOI:10.1080/09608788.2018.1553772.
- Departing in Peace: Biblical Decision-Making at the End of Life (Presbyterian & Reformed, 2017).
- "Review of Copenhaver & Burris *Thomas Reid on mind, knowledge, and value*" in *British Journal for the History of Philosophy*, published online May 16, 2016; DOI: 10.1080/09608788.2016.1176898.
- "Calvin's Legacy in Philosophy," in *Calvin and Culture: Exploring a Worldview*, edited by David Hall and Marvin Padgett, (Presbyterian & Reformed Publishing, 2010).
- "Thomas Reid on Moral Disagreement," in *Thomas Reid's Ethics*, edited by Sabine Roeser (Palgrave Macmillan, 2010).
- "Frame in the Context of Recent Apologetics," *Speaking the Truth in Love: the Theology of John Frame*, edited by John J. Hughes, (Presbyterian & Reformed Publishing, 2009).
- "Reid's Tradition of Inquiry: A Grateful Response to Cuneo," *The Journal of Scottish Philosophy* (forthcoming).

- Thomas Reid's Ethics: moral epistemology on legal foundations (Bristol, UK: Thoemmes Continuum, 2006).
- "Extreme Makeover: Moral Education and the Encounter with Aslan," in *The Chronicles of Narnia and Philosophy*, edited by Bassham and Walls (Open Court, 2005).
- "Contra Hart: Christian Scholars Should not Throw in the Towel," in *The Christian Scholars Review*, vol. XXXIV:2, Winter 2005, pp. 187-200.
- "Choosing to Die: Death and Immortality in Middle-earth," in *The Lord of the Rings & Philosophy*, edited by Bronson and Bassham (Open Court, 2003).
- "Why Open Theism is Flourishing Now," in *Beyond the Bounds*, edited by Piper, Taylor, and Helseth (Crossway Books, 2003).
- "A Critical Look at Consequentialism," in *Metaethics, Normative Ethics, and Applied Ethics:* Contemporary and Historical Readings, edited by Feiser (Wadsworth, 1999).
- "God's Sovereign Knowledge of the Future," Modern Reformation, Sept.-Oct., 1999.
- "Theistic Arguments," in Reason for the Hope Within, edited by Murray (Eerdmans, 1998).
- "Thomas Reid," in *The Encyclopedia of Empiricism*, edited by Barbanell (Greenwood Press, 1997).
- "Review of Ronald M. Green's *Kierkegaard and Kant: The Hidden Debt*," *Religious Studies*, vol. 30 (1994).
- "Kierkegaard on the Transformation of the Individual in Conversion," *Religious Studies*, vol. 28 (1992), pp. 145-163.
- "Civil Disobedience and Abortion Protests: The Case for Amending Criminal Trespass Statutes," *Notre Dame Journal of Law, Ethics & Public Policy*, vol. 5, no. 4 (1991), with Paul R. Davis, J.D.

Presentations:

Professional

- "What Counts as an Ethics Problem (and thus and Ethics Consult)?," presented to the Ethics Committee at CHI-Memorial Hospital-Chattanooga, August 3, 2022.
- "CHI-Memorial's Values: Principles, Virtues, and Aspirations," presented to the Ethics Committee at CHI-Memorial Hospital-Chattanooga, April 6, 2022.
- "The Ethical Obligations of Fiduciaries," presented to the PCA Retirement, Benefits, and Investments agency, October 15, 2021.
- "The Common Good and the COVID-19 Vaccine," presented to the Ethics Committee at CHI Memorial Hospital-Chattanooga, October 6, 2021.
- "Issues in the Care of the Seriously Ill and Dying: Part V of the *Ethical & Religious Directives of the American Bishops*," presented to the Ethics Committee at CHI Memorial Hospital-Chattanooga, July 7, 2021.
- "COVID-19 Vaccine Mandates: Coerced Consent for Medical Treatment and Public Policy," presented to the Georgia Philosophical Society meeting, March 26, 2021.
- "Biblical Decision-Making at the End of Life," webinar recorded for Westminster Theological Seminary (forthcoming).
- "Discovering A Biblical Framework for Decision-Making Near the End of Life," Parts 1 and 2, *Discipleship Over Lunch* podcasts, Episode 6 (February 24, 2020) and Episode 7 (March 5, 2020).

- "What the Meme? Apologetics and Anti-Christian Memes," Humanitas Forum, Tennessee Tech University, Cookeville, TN, November 1, 2018.
- "C.S. Lewis' Discarded Image: the Medieval Model," presented to the C.S. Lewis Society of Atlanta, GA, June 21, 2016.
- "Response to Talbott on 'Libertarian Freedom and the Problem of Hell'," presented at the Wheaton Philosophy Conference, Oct. 21, 2005 in Wheaton, Illinois.
- "Response to Ross on the Self-Causation Theory of Punishment," presented at the Wheaton Philosophy Conference, Oct. 25, 2002 in Wheaton, Illinois.
- "The Debt of Thomas Reid's Epistemology to Scottish Legal Practice," presented at the Twenty-Third Hume Society Conference, July 15-19, 1996 in Nottingham, England.
- "Hume and Reid on the Possibility of Relational Moral Ontologies," presented at the Twentieth Hume Society Conference (held jointly with The Eighteenth Century Scottish Studies Society), July 6-10, 1993, in Ottawa, Ontario; an earlier version of this paper was read at the Central Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, April 23, 1993, in Chicago, Illinois.
- "Thomas Reid on the Role of Moral Feelings in Moral Judgment," presented at the Pacific Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, March 25, 1993, in San Francisco, California; an earlier version of this paper was read at the Northwest Conference on Philosophy, November 6, 1992, in Boise, Idaho.
- "The 'Testimony of Sense' in Eighteenth Century Jurisprudence and Moral Epistemology," presented at the Midwest Association of the American Society for Eighteenth Century Studies, October 11, 1992, at the University of Toledo, Ohio.

Church Education (recent)

- "Departing in Peace Conference," Grace Community Presbyterian Church," Fort Worth, TX, September 9-10, 2022.
- "First John: An Epistle on Knowledge, Truth, Love, and Obedience," Lookout Mountain Presbyterian Church, Spring 2022 (18 installment series).
- "Living as a Counter-Cultural Witness for Christ," Church of the Apostles, Atlanta, GA, August 4, 11, 18, and 25, 2021.
- "God's Law is a Gift," NewCity Church GetAway, Vienna, VA, July 30-August. 1, 2021.
- "Productive Cross-Generational Conversations about Social Justice," Seminar presented at the 49th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America, Birmingham, AL, June 22, 2022.
- "Pro-Life at the Beginning of Life" and "Pro-Life at the End of the Life," Summit Ministries, Lookout Mountain, GA, June 10, 2021.
- "The Gift of Sexuality," Fourth Presbyterian Church, Bethesda, MD, Young Adults Retreat, Adamstown, MD, October, 4-6, 2019.
- "Faith and Doubt in a Secular Age," Church of the Apostles, Atlanta, GA, July 21, 28, 2019.
- "The Law of God is a Gift," for Harvey Cedars July 4th Family Week, Long Beach Island, NJ, July 1-6, 2019.
- "Apologetics in an Internet Age: Anti-Christian Memes," Westminster Presbyterian Church (Atlanta, GA) Youth Retreat (grades 6-12), March 2-3, 2018.
- "Apologetics in the book of Acts," twelve week adult Sunday School series for Lookout Mountain Presbyterian Church, Lookout Mountain, GA, February-May 2018.

- "Male & Female: God's Design for Sex," Westminster Presbyterian Church (Atlanta, GA) Youth Retreat (grades 6-12), March 3-4, 2017.
- "Taking Delight in the Law of God," sixteen week adult Sunday School series for Lookout Mountain Presbyterian Church, Lookout Mountain, GA, January-May 2016.
- "Identity in Christ in an Age of Searchers," Grace United Reformed Church (Kennewick, WA) family camp, August 5-8, 2016.
- "Biblical Sexuality and Our Current Challenge," adult education event for Lookout Mountain Presbyterian Church with Kevin Eames, Ph.D., April 22, 2016.
- "iRetreat: Identity, Idolatry and Electronic Media in the Christian Life," middle & high-school weekend for Chestnut Mountain Presbyterian Church, held at Ridgehaven, NC, November 13-15, 2015. Repeated for Westminster Presbyterian Church youth group, March 4-5, 2016.
- "Our Call to Hope: Christian Apologetics in a Confused Culture," three day conference for First Presbyterian Church, Macon, GA, September 11-13, 2015.
- "Leaving Instructions: Biblical Principles for End-of-Life Decisions," four week Adult Sunday School series, conducted for Chattanooga Valley Presbyterian Church (March 2014), then Lookout Mountain Presbyterian Church (May 2014).
- "Apologetics: Making Jesus Visible," three day conference for Houston Lake Presbyterian Church (PCA), Kathleen, GA, February 7-9, 2014.
- "Apologetics to Religious Pluralists," General Assembly Seminar for the PCA annual meeting, June 19, 2013.
- "The Spirit of the Age: Pragmatic Pluralism and Community Group Development," one day training for Redeemer Church (PCA), Athens, GA, August 18, 2012.
- "End of Life Decision-making: Preparing Elders for Hospital Realities," General Assembly Seminar for the PCA annual meeting, June 20, 2012.
- "Ask the Doctors: End of Life Decision-making—a dialogue with two Physicians," church education series (4 evenings), Lookout Mountain Presbyterian Church, Fall 2011.
- "The Spirit of the Age: the Challenge for Churches," two-day Church Education event (3 lectures) for Watkinsville Presbyterian Church (PCA), Watkinsville, GA, October 19, 2011.
- "The Spirit of the Age & Church Life," weekend family camp (6 lectures), Grace United Reformed Church, Kennewick, WA, Aug. 3-5, 2009.

First Grade Sunday School teacher, Lookout Mountain Presbyterian Church (2002-present).

Professional Association

Evangelical Theological Association (2017)

Professional Conference Participation (2002-2022):

North Carolina and South Carolina Philosophical Societies (joint meeting), Spartanburg, SC, March 25-26, 2022 (Chair of the session, "Virtue Ethics").

Georgia Philosophical Society meeting (2021)

Southern Appalachian Undergraduate Philosophy Conference Meeting (2020)

American Philosophical Association: Central Division Meeting (2012, 2015)

Mid-South Philosophical Association (2011)

Wheaton Philosophy Conference (2002, 2003, 2004)
Scholars' Colloquium, Alliance of Confessing Evangelicals, Colorado Springs, CO (June, 2002)

Professional Service:

Memorial Hospital (Chattanooga) Ethics Committee (1999-present) Alexian Brothers PACE (Chattanooga) Ethics Committee (2008-2016)

College Service (Covenant College):

Faculty Status Committee (2006-present)
Coordinator of Faculty Development (2007-present)
Faculty Steering Committee (2002-2004)
Philosophy Department Chair (2003-2010, 2021-present)
Institutional Liaison to the Governance Committee of the Board of Trustees (2000-present)

Church Service:

First Grade Sunday School teacher, Lookout Mountain Presbyterian Church (2003-present) Adult Sunday School teacher, Lookout Mountain Presbyterian Church (2017-present) Ruling Elder, Lookout Mountain Presbyterian Church, (2016-present) Commissioner to PCA General Assembly, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2022.