

Zachary L. McNeal

<https://edinburgh.academia.edu/ZacharyMcNeal>
The University of Edinburgh
308 26th Street
Butner, NC 27509
c: (318) 229-6834
zacharylmcneal@outlook.com

EDUCATION

- 2027 Ph.D. Candidate (ABD), New Testament and Christian Origins, The University of Edinburgh
Dissertation: The *Politeia* of Christ: Resolving the Gentile Problem in Ephesians
Advisor: Paul Foster, PhD
Secondary Advisor: J. Thomas Hewitt, PhD
- 2020 M.T.S. New Testament, Duke University, Summa Cum Laude
Thesis: "Patronal Loyalty and the Hope of Salvation: Divine Patronage, Eschatological Hope and the Success of Paul's Mission in Thessalonica"
Supervisor: J. Ross Wagner, PhD
- 2017 B.A. Biblical Studies, Lancaster Bible College, Summa Cum Laude
Delta Epsilon Chi Honor Society

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2026-Present Upper School Religious Studies Teacher
Trinity Academy
7th Grade Old Testament; 9th Grade Theology; 10th Grade Ethics
- 2023-Present Instructor
UMC Course of Study, The Divinity School, Duke University
Bible III: The Gospels
- 2021-2026 Graduate Teaching Assistant
The Divinity School, Duke University
New Testament Interpretation (2026, Hybrid) – Principal Instructor: Brittany Wilson, PhD
New Testament Interpretation (2026, Residential, Head Preceptor) – Principal Instructor: J. Ross Wagner, PhD
Theology of Christian Leadership (2025, Hybrid, DMin) – Principal Instructor: The Very Rev'd Timothy Kimbrough
New Testament Interpretation (2025, Residential) – Principal Instructor: J. Ross Wagner, PhD
The Anglican Tradition (2025, Residential) – Principal Instructor: The Very Rev'd Timothy Kimbrough
Christian Theology (2024, Hybrid) – Principal Instructor: Jeremy Begbie, PhD
The Book of Common Prayer and the Principles of Anglican Worship (2024, Residential) – Principal Instructor: The Very Rev. Timothy Kimbrough
New Testament Interpretation (2024, Residential) – Principal Instructor: J. Ross Wagner, PhD
New Testament Interpretation (2023, Residential/Hybrid) – Principal Instructor: J. Ross Wagner, PhD
Old Testament Interpretation I (2022, Hybrid) – Principal Instructor: Anthea Portier-Young, PhD
Old Testament in the New Testament (2022, Residential) – Principal Instructor: J. Ross Wagner, PhD
New Testament Interpretation (2022, Residential) – Principal Instructor: J. Ross Wagner, PhD
The Anglican Tradition (2021, Residential) – Principal Instructor: Christopher Beeley, PhD
English Exegesis of Luke (2021, Residential) – Principal Instructor: David A. Smith, PhD

2023-2024 Upper School Humanities Instructor
 Cresset Christian Academy
6th Grade World History; 7th Grade World History; 9th Grade Cultural Geography

PUBLICATIONS

Book Reviews

- 2026 “Reading Paul as Christian Scripture: A Literary, Canonical, and Theological Introduction (Review).” *Religious Studies Review* (forthcoming).
- 2026 “Paul and His Rivals: Apostleship and Antagonism in the Corinthian Correspondence (Review).” *Religious Studies Review* (forthcoming).
- 2026 “Paul: Apostle of Grace (Review).” *Religious Studies Review* (forthcoming).
- 2026 “The Commentarial Impulse: Interpretation and Actualization in the Pauline Tradition (Review).” *Religious Studies Review* (forthcoming).
- 2026 “Counting Paul: Scientificity, Fuzzy Math, and Ideology in Pauline Studies (Review).” *Religious Studies Review* 52.1 (2026).
- 2026 “The Life of Thecla: Apocryphal Expansion in Late Antiquity (Review).” *Religious Studies Review* 52.1 (2026).
- 2026 “A Room with a Pauline View (Review).” *The Expository Times*, 137.9 (2026).
- 2025 “Those for Whom the Lamp Shines: The Making of Egyptian Ethnic Identity in Late Antiquity (Review).” *Religious Studies Review* 50.4 (2025).
- 2025 “The Apostle to the Foreskin: Circumcision in the Letters of Paul (Review).” *Religious Studies Review* 50.4 (2025).
- 2024 “The Apostle and the Empire: Paul’s Implicit and Explicit Criticism of Rome (Review).” *Religious Studies Review* 50.1 (2024).
- 2024 “Divination and Philosophy in the Letters of Paul (Review).” *Religious Studies Review* 50.1 (2024).
- 2023 “Isaiah’s Servant in Paul: The Hermeneutics and Ethics of Paul’s Use of Isaiah 49–54 (Review).” *Religious Studies Review* 49.2 (2023).
- 2023 “The Curse Motif in Galatians: An Investigation into Paul’s Rhetorical Strategies (Review).” *Religious Studies Review* 49.2 (2023).
- 2023 “The Origin and Persistence of Evil in Galatians (Review).” *Religious Studies Review* 49.2 (2023).

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS & INVITED LECTURES

- 2026 "Patron of Salvation: Pauline Associations, Divine Patronage and Christology in 1 Thessalonians," Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting (Upcoming).
- 2026 "Enslaved to Corruption: Cosmic Sin and Personal Transgression in Romans and Contemporary Ecclesiastical Corruption," Romans and Christian Theology Conference, Princeton, NJ, October 23–25, 2026 (Upcoming).
- 2024 "Gentiles and the Politeia of Israel: The Jewish *Politeia* in Ephesians, Philo and Josephus," British New Testament Society Conference, Glasgow, Scotland, 24 August, 2024.
- 2022 "Isaiah's Servant in Matthew," Guest Lecture for Prof. J. Ross Wagner's "The Old Testament in the New" (OT 817/NT 817), Duke Divinity School, 8 November, 2022.

MEDIA APPEARANCES

- 2024 "Unlocking 1 Thessalonians: Greek Insights and Early Christian Context," Exploring the Language of Scripture Podcast, 11 December, 2024

ADDITIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE

- 2019-Present Admissions Consultant, Solomon Admissions Consulting
- 2018-2019 First Reader, Duke University, Office of Undergraduate Admissions
- 2017 Youth Ministry Assistant, Grace Redeemer Church
- 2016-2018 Chaplain, The Bowery Mission

FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS, & DISTINCTIONS

- 2020 *Summa Cum Laude*, Duke University
- 2019-2020 Academic Merit Scholarship, Duke University
- 2017 *Summa Cum Laude*, Lancaster Bible College
- 2017 Delta Epsilon Chi Honor Society

LANGUAGES

Ancient:

Koine Greek (Advanced)

Hebrew (Basic)

Coptic (Basic)

Modern:

English (Native, First Language)

Spanish (Advanced)

German (Intermediate)

French (Basic)

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Online Course Management: Sakai, Canvas

Data Management: Microsoft Office Suite, Google Suite

Research: Logos Bible Software, ATLA

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

2019-present Society of Biblical Literature

2021-present North American Patristics Society

2021-present North American Society for the Study of Christian Apocryphal Literature

2021-present British New Testament Society

2026-Present Catholic Biblical Association

REFERENCES

Matthew V. Novenson, PhD
Princeton Theological Seminary
Helen H.P. Manson Professor of New Testament
101 Hodge Hall
64 Mercer Street
Princeton, NJ 08542-0803
O: (609) 497-7762
matthew.novenson@ptsem.edu

Paul Foster, DPhil
The University of Edinburgh
Professor of New Testament
School of Divinity, Mound Place
Edinburgh
EH1 2LX
O: +44 (0)131 650 8917
Paul.Foster@ed.ac.uk

J. Ross Wagner, PhD
Duke University, The Divinity School
Associate Professor, New Testament
Master's Thesis Advisor
407 Chapel Drive
Durham, NC 27708
O: (919) 660-3480
ross.wagner@duke.edu

The Very Rev'd Timothy Kimbrough
Duke University, The Divinity School
Jack and Barbara Bovender Professor of the Practice
of Anglican Studies
Director, Anglican Episcopal House of Studies
407 Chapel Drive
Durham, NC 27708
O: (919) 613-5365
tkimbrough@div.duke.edu