

Bruce T. Gourley Curriculum Vita

Executive Director, Baptist History & Heritage Society
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EDUCATION

Ph.D., American History, Auburn University, 2008
Master of Divinity, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, 1992
Bachelor of Arts, English, Mercer University, 1988

CURRENT AND RECENT POSITIONS

Executive Director, [Baptist History and Heritage Society](#) (2010-present)
General Editor, [Baptist History & Heritage Journal](#) (2011-present)
Creator and Editor, [Baptists and the American Civil War: In Their Own Words](#)
Digital Project (2011-2015)
Editor, [Baptist Studies Bulletin](#) (2004-present)
Online Editor, [Nurturing Faith Journal](#) (2003-present)
Associate/Interim Director, [The Center for Baptist Studies](#), Mercer University (2004-2009)

CURRENT JOB DESCRIPTION:

Executive Director, Baptist History and Heritage Society

- Provide organization vision and direction in coordination with Board of Directors
- Fund-raising, donor development and grant writing
- Marketing and public relations coordinator
- Programming development

- Membership outreach
- Annual Conference coordination and planning
- Represent organization via speaking engagements at local, state and national conferences and seminars
- Website development and maintenance
- Extensive writing (books, chapters, articles, editorials, commentaries)
- General Editor, *Baptist History & Heritage Journal*

UNIVERSITY EXPERIENCE

Interim Director. The Center for Baptist Studies, Mercer University, 2007 to 2009.

Associate Director. The Center for Baptist Studies, Mercer University, 2004 to 2007.

Graduate Teaching Assistant. IT Specialist, History Department, Auburn University History Department, 2003 to 2004.

Professor. Yellowstone Baptist College, Billings, Montana, 1995 to 2002

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS / EDITORIAL EXPERIENCE

- Books:**
- Crucible of Faith and Freedom: Baptists and the American Civil War* (Macon, Georgia: Nurturing Faith, 2015)
 - Baptists Today at 30: Enabling, Recording and Shaping a Baptist Movement* (Macon, Georgia: Nurturing Faith, 2013)
 - Diverging Loyalties: Baptists in Middle Georgia During the Civil War* (Macon, Georgia: Mercer University Press, 2011)
 - Images of America: Manhattan, Belgrade, Amsterdam and Churchill:* (Mount Pleasant, SC: Arcadia Publishing, 2011)
 - A Capsule Summary of Baptist History* (Atlanta, Georgia: Baptist History and Heritage Society, 2010)
 - Leading the Way for 200 Years: The Story of the First Baptist Church of Huntsville, Alabama* (Atlanta, Georgia: Baptist History and Heritage Society, 2009)
 - The GodMakers: A Legacy of the Southern Baptist Convention?* (Franklin, Tennessee: Providence House Publishers, 1996).

- Book Chapters:** *Witnesses to the Baptist Heritage: Thirty Baptists Every Christian Should Know*, Mercer University Press, 2016
- "The Baptist Tradition," in *Worldmark Encyclopedia of Religious Practices*, Missoula, Mont.: Thomas Riggs & Company, 2015 edition
- "A Brief Survey of Four Centuries of Baptist Mission Quest," in *On Mission With God: Free and Faithful Baptists in the Twenty First Century*, Pamela R. Durso, editor. Atlanta, Ga.: Baptist History & Heritage Society, 2011.
- "Baptist Models of Polity: An Historical Overview," in *Walking Together: The Struggle of Baptists with Polity in the 21st Century*. Richmond, Va.: Center for Baptist Heritage and Studies, 2005.
- Booklets:** *Islamic Fundamentalism: A Brief History* (revised 2015)
- General Editor:** *Baptist History & Heritage Journal*, 2011 to present
- Creator and Editor:** *Baptists and the American Civil War: In Their Own Words* Digital Project (www.civilwarbaptists.com), 2011 to 2015
- Editor:** *Baptist Studies Bulletin*, 2004 to present
- Online Editor:** *Nurturing Faith Journal*, 2003 to present
- Sample Articles:** Bi-Monthly articles, "Religion and American Presidents," *Nurturing Faith Journal*, 2015-present
 Monthly editorials, *Baptist Studies Bulletin*, 2005-present
 "A Brief History of Muslims in the United States," *Nurturing Faith Journal*, September-October 2016
 "God's Handiwork: For a Century, America's National Parks Have Preserved Natural Wonders," *Nurturing Faith Journal*, July-August 2016
 "Politicized Prayer: National Day of Prayer Has Roots in False History, Anti-Communist Fears," *Nurturing Faith Journal*, May-June 2016
 "Shakespeare, the King and the KJV," *Nurturing Faith Journal*, March-April 2016
 "The Scourge of White Supremacy," *Christian Ethics Today*, Winter 2016
 Daily essays, *Baptists and the American Civil War: In Their Own Words* Digital Project (www.civilwarbaptists.com), 2011-

2015.

Monthly articles, "Baptists and the American Civil War," *Baptists Today*, 2011-2015

"The Great Unraveling," *Church & State*, July/August 2014

Periodical articles, "Good Question," *Baptists Today*, 2012-2014

Editorials (Thrice annually), *Baptist History & Heritage Journal*, 2010-present

"A Century Ago: Revisiting Henry Ford, Morality and the Baptists of 1914" *Baptists Today* (March 2014)

"Tommy Douglas: Baptist Champion of Freedom," *The Whitsitt Journal* (Fall 2009)

"Celebrating 400 Years of Being Baptists," A series published by Baptist History and Heritage Society (2009)

"Early English Baptists" - *Baptist History and Heritage Journal* (Winter 2009)

"Old Wines in New Wineskins: the First Amendment and the Internet - *Baptist History and Heritage Journal* (Summer Fall 2008)

"Maybe It's Time to Dust Off John Leland" - *Baptist History & Heritage Journal* (Spring 2008)

"The Christian Index and the American Civil War" – *Visions Journal* (2007)

Book Reviews: Published in a variety of periodicals, including:

Journal of Religion

Journal of Church and State

Journal of Appalachian Studies

Baptist Studies Bulletin

Baptist History & Heritage

Baptists Today

Photographs: Various photographs published/exhibited, including in/by:

Yellowstone Park Foundation

Montana PBS

Riverbend Publishing

Georgia Conservancy

Our State Magazine (NC)

24/7 North Carolina (New York: D.K. Publishing, 2007)

For the Love of Dogs (Lincolnwood, Ill.: Publications International, 2006)

Framed Prints and Canvas Wraps Sold via [Fine Art America](#)

CONFERENCES, SEMINARS AND OTHER SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

Representative of Bruce's speaking engagements are:

- American Civil War and Religion seminars and workshops
- American Religious History seminars and workshops
- Americans United groups / conferences
- Baptist denominational annual conferences: national, regional, state, local
- Baptist history and Christian history conferences and seminars
- Baptist identity / future of Baptists seminars
- Business consulting
- Church State Separation seminars and workshops
- Digital publishing workshops
- Local church events
- Montana history consultations
- Non-profit marketing, strategy consultations
- Photography workshops
- Religion and technology workshops, seminars and consultations
- Writing workshops
- Yellowstone National Park talks and seminars

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES, ORGANIZATIONAL AFFILIATIONS and AWARDS

Member, American Historical Association

Member, American Society of Church History

Member, Fellowship of Baptist Historians
Secretary 2009 – 2012

Member, Gallatin Historical Society (Bozeman, Montana)

Member, Montana Historical Society

Member, Yellowstone Historic Center
Executive Committee, 2013-present

Cooperative Baptist Fellowship
Nominating Committee, 2013-present
Coordinating Council, from West Region, 2009-present

Cooperative Baptist Fellowship West
Moderator (2013-2015)
Moderator-elect (2011-2013)
Coordinating Council (2009-present)

(Previous Member) Georgia Baptist Historical Society
Executive Committee 2006-2008

(Previous Member) Whitsitt Baptist Heritage Society
Board of Directors 2006-2010

(Previous Member) Yellowstone Country Regional Tourism Board, Montana
Board of Directors, 2007

Grand Prize Winner, 2014 Yellowstone Park Foundation "Capturing
Wonderland" Worldwide Photo Contest

Recipient, Norman W. Cox Award 2006 "For Best Article Published by the *Baptist
History & Heritage Journal* in 2005" for article entitled "John Leland: Evolving
Views of Slavery, 1789-1839"

Recipient, Carolyn Blevins Meritorious Service Award, Baptist History & Heritage
Society, 2005

SELECT WEBSITES OWNED OR MANAGED

Baptist History and Heritage Society – A national organization

Baptists and the American Civil War – Daily digital journal of the Baptist experience
during the Civil War

Baptists Today – The nation's only autonomous Baptist news journal

Montana History Net – An introduction to the history of Montana

Wall of Separation – Introduction and historical resources pertaining to the history of
church state separation in America

Yellowstone Net – The leading commercial Yellowstone web site, established in 1997