

## Rex D. Matthews

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### **Current Position**

Professor in the Practice of Historical Theology and Wesleyan Studies, Candler School of Theology

### **Education**

Th.D. *cum laude*, Harvard Divinity School, 1986  
M.Div. *cum laude*, Harvard Divinity School, 1976  
B.A. *cum laude*, Birmingham-Southern College, 1972

### **Academic Honors (Recent)**

Eagles's Wings Excellence in Teaching Award, Candler School of Theology, 2016 (and 2010)  
Florence A. Bell Scholar Award, Drew University Theological School Library, 2014  
Fellow, Seminar Wesley Seminar, Duke Divinity School, 2014  
Luce Fellow and Visiting Professor, School of Theology, Methodist University of São Paulo, Brazil, 2013  
Emory Williams Distinguished Teaching Award for Candler School of Theology, Emory University, 2012  
Exemplary Teaching Award, General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, UMC, 2012  
Saddlebag Selection Award, the Historical Society of The United Methodist Church, 2007 (for *Timetables of History for Students of Methodism* as "the outstanding book on United Methodist history or a related subject published during 2007")

### **Publications (Selected)**

*The Vocation of Theology: Inquiry, Dialogue, Adoration*, edited (Foundry Books/General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, UMC, 2017)  
"John Wesley's Idea of Christian Perfection Reconsidered," *Wesleyan Theological Journal*, Vol. 50, No. 2 (Fall 2015): 25–67  
*The Renewal of United Methodism: Mission, Ministry and Connectionalism / Essays in Honor of Russell E. Richey*, edited (General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, UMC, 2012)  
*The Methodist Review Newsletter* (regularly quarterly electronic newsletter published by *Methodist Review*; first issue January 2011; most recent issue April 2015)  
"Church Membership and Pastoral Authority in The United Methodist Church and Its Antecedents," *Methodist Review* 2 (2010): 69–136  
"An Editorial Welcome to *Methodist Review*," with Russell E. Richey and Ted A. Campbell, *Methodist Review: A Journal of Wesleyan and Methodist Studies*, Vol. 1 (2009): 1–6  
*Timetables of History for Students of Methodism* (Abingdon Press, 2007)

### **Professional and Church Presentations (Recent)**

"Baptism and Church Membership in United Methodism," North Georgia Annual Conference Board of Ordained Ministry, August 23, 2016  
"From 'Conferencing' to Conferences: The Development of Conference in American Methodism," the Mallard Lay Theology Institute of Candler School of Theology, Northside United Methodist Church, April 9, 2016  
"Rethinking John Wesley's Idea of Christian Perfection," public lecture at the School of Theology of the Methodist University of São Paulo, Brazil, June 4, 2013  
"The Methodist Educational Vision," plenary presentation to the University Senate of The United Methodist Church, Atlanta, Jan. 30, 2013

### **Professional and Church Service (Recent)**

Emory University *Academic Exchange* Editorial Advisory Board, 2011–2014  
Scholarly Advisory Board, American Methodism Project, 2011–  
Principal Organizer, "The Methodist Experience in America" Conference, Candler School of Theology, 2011  
Managing Editor, *Methodist Review: A Journal of Wesleyan and Methodist Studies*, 2009–  
General Editor, Kingswood Books series, United Methodist Publishing House, 2008–  
Co-Chair, Wesleyan Studies Group, American Academy of Religion, 2008–2013