

# Rev. Dr. Aaron Gross

Accomplished Assistant Professor at Indiana Wesleyan University, adept in student engagement and classroom management. Offering an Interdisciplinary approach to teaching combined with years of schooling and ministry experience to enhance higher education. A proficient online educator with extensive use of BrightSpace but also excels in the classroom with onsite students. Spearheaded initiatives at the Logansport church which caused both spiritual and numerical growth. Shows servant leadership while working with both members of the congregation and staff.

## Education

2022-04

### Doctor of Ministry in Transformational Preaching

Wesley Seminary at Indiana Wesleyan University. Marion, IN.

- Research Project: Preaching in Addicted Communities, the project examined the best preaching methods for engaging those who struggle with addictive behaviors.

2012-08

### Masters of Divinity: Pastoral Leadership

Wesley Seminary at Indiana Wesleyan University. Marion, IN.

- Capstone Project: Leadership in the Church, how can a pastor lead their congregation successfully while practicing self-care.

2009-06

### Bethany Seminary: Training in Ministry

Bethany Theological Seminary, Richmond, IN.

- Ordination into Ministry: Ordained in the Church of the Brethren after completing the requirements through the ordination program .

2007-04

### Bachelor of Science: Christian Ministries

Indiana Wesleyan University. Marion, IN.

- Focus on theological studies and pastoral care and counseling.

## Contact

### Address

403 Hampshire Dr.  
Logansport, In. 46947

### Phone

574-601-1272

### Email

aaron.gross@indwes.edu

## Skills

Student Engagement

Leadership Guidance

Interdisciplinary Approach

Group Instruction

Classroom Management

Ministry Resilience

Online Class Discussion

Diversity Awareness

Workshop Facilitation

Syllabus Development

Self Motivation

## The Big Five

1. Open-mindedness: enjoys having novel experiences and seeing things in new ways.
2. Conscientiousness: very well organized and can be responsible.
3. Extraversion: extremely outgoing, social and energetic.
4. Agreeableness: good natured, courteous and supportive.
5. Negative Emotionally: an anxious person and worry about things,

## Work History

2025– 07 to  
current

### Assistant Professor

Wesley Seminary at Indiana Wesley University Marion, IN

- Teaching professor focusing on preaching and pastoral leadership both in person and online.
- Contributed to curriculum development by redesigning two spiritual formation classes at the request of Wesley Seminary's leadership.
- Mentored students on academic and career aspirations providing guidance both during their time in class and years after their time at Wesley Seminary.
- Developed curriculum, designed BrightSpace pages, lesson plans, and syllabi.

### Courses Taught Starting July 2025

- PROC-520: Transformational Communication Onsite Intensive (July 2025)
- BIBL-631: Exegesis for Christian Proclamation Online (August 2025)
- WSEM-501: Pastor, Church World Online (August 2025)
- MIN-695: Integration Capstone Online (August 2025)
- PROC-631: Christian Proclamation Online (October 2025)

## Classes Taught

### Wesley Seminary

SPIR -500 Spiritual Formation: Change and Transformation

SPIR-520 Spiritual Formation: Self Awareness and Appraisal

SPIR-540 Spiritual Formation: Goal Setting and Accountability

SPIR-560 Spiritual Formation: Mentoring and Spiritual Direction

SPI-570 Spiritual Formation: Personal and Corporate Disciplines

SPIR-590 Spiritual Formation; Recovery and Deliverance

WSEM-501 Pastor Church World

PROC-520 Transformational Communication

BIBL-631 Exegesis for Christian Proclamation

PROC-631 Christian Proclamation

## Publications

The author of "Preaching in Addicted Communities" and currently working with a publisher.

## Work History

2012-08 to  
2025-07

### Adjunct Professor

Wesley Seminary at Indiana Wesleyan University Marion, IN

- Taught Pastor, Church, World six times along with the Six Spiritual Formation courses every semester for the past twelve years.
- Contributed to curriculum development by redesigning two spiritual formation classes at the request of Wesley Seminary's leadership.
- Mentored students on academic and career aspirations providing guidance both during their time in class and years after their time at Wesley Seminary.
- Developed curriculum, designed BrightSpace pages, lesson plans, and syllabi.

2021-01 to  
Current

### Adjunct Professor

Indiana Wesleyan University. Marion, IN

- Taught six New Testament, one Theology, and two Pastoral Placement and Persistence courses.
- Built relationships with students, mentoring on personal, professional, and academic goals while providing coaching on effective study habits.
- Evaluating and revising lesson plans and course content to achieve student-centered learning.
- Graded papers, tests, quizzes and projects providing timely feedback to increase academic success.

1998-08 to  
July 2025

### Lead Pastor

The Logansport Church, Logansport, IN.

- Supervised associate pastors and staff who were leading education, youth, pastoral care, and children's ministry programs
- Oversaw administration and management of all areas of ministry.
- Designed services specifically for those struggling with substance use disorders.
- Utilized sermons, Bible studies, LIFE groups, membership classes, and baptismal services to enhance discipleship and spiritual growth.
- Led programs such as worship, study, fellowship, and service opportunities.

## Classes Taught

### Indiana Wesleyan University

THE 101 Theology of Christian Life

BIL 102 New Testament Survey

REL 390 Pastoral Placement and Persistence.

### Brethren Academy for Ministerial Leadership

Preaching in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Intensive

Teaching and Learning in the Church: Intensive

Homiletics for Second Carrier Pastors: Intensive

Christian Education in the Early Church: Intensive

## Work History Cont.

1996-08 to  
1998

### Associate Pastor

Mexico Church of the Brethren. Mexico, IN

- An apprentice under Rev. Tim Deardorff giving spiritual guidance and encouragement to those in hospitals, nursing homes, and home visits. Served as a member of the ministry team, led programs such as worship, mission trips, and service opportunities.

## Accomplishments

- Presenter for Pastoral Burnout and Congregational support at the National Conference for the Church of the Brethren.
- Educates second carrier pastors in the art of preaching and teaching through the Brethren Leadership Institute.
- Organizer of "United" a multi-denominational organization bringing unity to the churches of Cass county.
- Taught pastors on location in India and online in Kenya.
- South Central Indiana District Moderator, District Leadership Board member, and National Standing Committee representative for the Church of the Brethren.

## Presentations

- The Future of the Church: District Conference of the Church of the Brethren 2008
- Addiction and Grace: Recovery Centers of Tijuana, Mexico 2010
- The Value of a Demon Possessed man: Congregations throughout Indiana 2016
- Pastoral Care to Congregational Members: Logos School of Theology in India 2016
- Moses and the Exodus: Gilgal School of Theology in Trivandrum, India 2017
- Breaking the 200 Code: District Workshops 2018 and 2019
- Preaching in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Brethren Leadership Institute Church of the Brethren 2018
- Teaching and Learning in the Church: Brethren Leadership Institute Church of the Brethren 2018
- Homiletics for Second Carrier Pastors: Brethren Leadership Institute Church of the Brethren 2021
- Christian Education in the Early Church: Brethren Leadership Institute Church of the Brethren 2022

## Readings

### Current Books of Inspiration.

- *Atlas of the Heart* by Brene Brown
- *Get out of Your Head* by Jennie Allen
- *The Reason for God* by Tim Keller
- *Dare to Lead* by Brene Brown

## Mission Statement

To educate, equip, and empower God's people to live out biblical principles in their daily lives.

## Podcasts

Currently involved in the production of three podcasts.

- The Mucked Up Christian: Aaron and his wife Peggy (a dually licensed addictions and mental health therapist) use an interdisciplinary approach combining religion and psychology to encourage optimum mental health.
- Sunday Morning Shakedown: Takes a deeper look into the Sunday morning message and to get at those issues that the sermon did not have time to uncover.
- The LC Podcast: takes the weekly message preached by Dr. Gross and shares it with others in need of spiritual nutrition.

## Organizations

- Member of the city and county chaplains
- Mayor's council for spiritual enrichment
- Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors
- Cass County Resource Network Board Member
- Cass County System of Care Board Member

## References

- Rev. Kelly Beutler (Pastor and Spiritual Advisor) 260-571-9992
- Rev. Nate Mishler (Previous Student) 317-480-3839
- Dr. Miranda Cruz (Professor and Advisor) 764-677-2247

