

## Contributors

**KAREN L. BLOOMQUIST** is the Dean of Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary of California Lutheran University in Berkeley, USA. Previously she directed the theology and studies unit in the Lutheran World Federation, and before then, in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. She has also been on the faculty of ELCA seminaries in Chicago, Dubuque, and Philadelphia, and has also served as a parish pastor. Among her publications are *The Dream Betrayed: Religion Challenge of the Working Class* (1990) and *The Promise of Lutheran Ethics* (1998). She has edited a number of LWF publications, among them the six-book *Theology in the Life of the Church* series (2007–2009).

**ELISABETH GERLE** is Adjunct Professor in Ethics, especially Human Rights at Uppsala University and Researcher at Church of Sweden Research Unit, Uppsala. She has worked on religion and politics, and written on neo-atheism and neo-nationalism, on racism, and xenophobia. Within a broad research project on Lutheran theology today she has written on marriage and sexuality from a Lutheran perspective. Among her publications are *Farlig förenkling* (Dangerous Simplification 2010), *Luther som utmaning: Om frihet och ansvar* (Luther as Challenge: On Freedom and Responsibility, 2008), and *Mänskliga rättigheter för Guds skull* (Human Rights for God's Sake, 2006).

**CARL-HENRIC GRENHOLM** is Senior Professor of Ethics at the Department of Theology, Uppsala University, Sweden. His main research areas are ethical theory, Christian social ethics, work ethics, ethics and economics, and theological ethics. He is the leader of a research project on Lutheran Theology and Ethics—in a Post-Christian Society. Among his publications are *Protestant Work Ethics* (1993), *Teologisk etik* (Theological Ethics, 1997), *Bortom Humanismen* (Beyond Humanism, 2003), *Sustainable Development and Global Ethics* (2007), and *Etisk teori: Kritik av moralen* (Ethical Theory, 2014).

**GÖRAN GUNNER** is Associate Professor in Mission Studies, Uppsala University, and Researcher at Church of Sweden Research Unit, Uppsala. Dr. Gunner is also Senior Lecturer at Stockholm School of Theology, Stockholm, Sweden. His research areas include religious minority situations in the Middle East and issues related to human rights. He is also the editor of Church of Sweden Research Series. Among his publications are *An Unlikely Dilemma: Constructing a Partnership between Human Rights and Peace-Building* (co-authored with Kjell-Åke Nordquist, 2011) and *Genocide of Armenians: Through Swedish Eyes* (2013).

**TAGE KURTÉN** is Professor in Theological Ethics and Philosophy of Religion, Åbo Akademi University, Finland. His main interest is in contemporary theology with an emphasis on presuppositions taken for granted in secular views of life, in morality, and in religious beliefs. He took part in a large Nordic network on Religion, Ethics and Law (2003–2008), and has been in charge of three interdisciplinary projects on Ethics, law and late modernity (2000–2011). He is editor of the anthologies *Homo moralis. Människan och rättssamhället* (Human Being and the Rule of Law, 2005), *Legitimacy: The Treasure of Politics* (2011), and *Crisis and Change: Religion, Ethics and Theology under Late Modern Conditions* (2012).

**MARY ELISE LOWE** is Associate Professor of Religion at Augsburg College in Minneapolis, USA. Her main areas of research and teaching are in the field of contemporary theology, with specialities in theological anthropology, feminist theologies, queer theologies, the doctrine of sin, and disability theologies. Among her publications are “‘Rabbi, Who Sinned?’ Disability Theologies and Sin” (2012), “Queering Kenosis: Luther and Foucault on Power and Identity” (2011), “Sin from a Queer, Lutheran Perspective” (2010), and *The Human Subject and Sin: The Anthropology of Pannenberg, Ruether, and Fulkerson* (2010).

**VILLE PÄIVÄNSALO** is Assistant Professor in global theology, world views, and ideologies on the Faculty of Theology, the University of Helsinki, Finland. He has also served as an acting university lecturer in theological and social ethics in Helsinki. His main research areas are theories and theologies of justice and health. He is the author of *Balancing Reasonable Justice: John Rawls and Crucial Steps Beyond* (2007).

**KIRSI STJERNA** is Professor of Reformation Church History and Director of the Institute for Luther Studies at the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg, PA, USA and a docent at the Faculty of Theology at the University of Helsinki, Finland. Her research areas include Luther and Lutheran

theology, Reformation and gender studies, contemporary issues of justice. Among her publications are *Martin Luther, the Bible and the Jewish People* (co-authored with Brooks Schramm, 2012), *No Greater Jewel: Thinking about Baptism with Luther* (2010), and *Women and the Reformation* (2009). She is one of the general editors, and a volume editor, for *The Essential Luther* (six volumes, forthcoming by 2016).

**MARY J. STREUFERT** is Director for Justice for Women in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Her research includes Christology, soteriology, ethics, gender, and feminist and Lutheran theology. She assists in developing a social message on gender-based violence and a social statement on gender justice in the ELCA and serves as the Lutheran World Federation Women in Church and Society North American regional coordinator. Publications include *Transformative Lutheran Theologies: Feminist, Womanist, and Mujerista Perspectives*, editor (2010) and “Philosophical Kinship: Luther, Schleiermacher, and Feminists on Reason” (2011).

**LEIF SVENSSON** is Doctor of Philosophy student at the Department of Historical, Philosophical, and Religious Studies, Umeå University, Sweden. His main field of research is Lutheran ethics. In his dissertation, he is discussing the relationship between, on the one hand, interpretations of Luther’s ethics in Wilhelmine Germany and, on the other hand, modern German culture and philosophy, with special attention to Albrecht Ritschl and Karl Holl.

**VICTOR THASIAH** is Assistant Professor of Religion at California Lutheran University, Thousand Oaks, USA. His main research areas include contemporary political theology, the history of religion and political thought, and Christian ethics. Among his interests are critical theory and human rights. He is currently working on a book on political theology in post-genocide Rwanda, based on ethnographic research.

**MICAEL R. TRICE** is Assistant Dean of Ecumenical and Interreligious Dialogue at the School of Theology and Ministry, Seattle University, USA. He has previously served as the Associate Executive of Ecumenical and Inter-Religious Relations for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. As Assistant Professor of Practical Theology he continues his research interest on the theological practicalities of reconciliation when trespass and trauma defy language. His recent book, *Encountering Cruelty: A Fracture in the Human Heart* (2011) won the distinguished best original dissertation award for Loyola Jesuit University, Chicago.

**VÍTOR WESTHELLE** is Professor of Systematic Theology at the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago and the chair of Luther Research at FACULDADES-EST, São Leopoldo, Brazil. Born in Brazil and ordained in IECLB, his research areas include Luther, liberation, creation, the apocalyptic, eschatology, and post-colonialism. Among his publications are *The Scandalous God: The Use and Abuse of the Cross* (2006), *After Heresy: Colonial Practices and Post-Colonial Theologies* (2010), and *Eschatology and Space: The Lost Dimension in Theology Past and Present* (2012).

**ELSE MARIE WIBERG PEDERSEN** is Associate Professor of Systematic Theology in the Department of Culture and Society, Aarhus University, Denmark. Her research areas are medieval and Reformation theology as well as contemporary systematic theology, and include ecumenism and a gender perspective. Among her publications are *Bernhard af Clairvaux: Teolog eller mystiker?* (Bernard of Clairvaux: Theologian or Mystic?, 2008) currently being translated into English and *Gudstankens aktualitet* (The Relevance of the Concept of God, 2010).