

General Board of Higher Education and Ministry of The United Methodist Church

Publishing Office

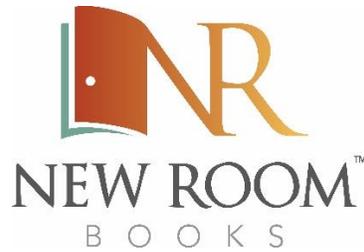
Information and Publishing Process

The first objective of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry (GBHEM) is: "to maintain the historic mission of The United Methodist Church in higher education and to serve as advocate for the intellectual life of the church." Central to that historic mission is what might be called a rigorously intellectual evangelical spirit. John Wesley expected that the innate desire of the heart for repentance, once fulfilled through the saving mercy of Christ, would lead to a deeply informed and committed discipleship, with readings and instruction in the Bible and spiritual texts. It is well known that Wesley expected much of his preachers. In addition to the hardships of itinerant preaching, he expected them to read and study, dictating for them the course of study in which they would engage. This was done so that the preachers, as well as the laity, might understand the depths of Christian faith rooted both in the heart and in the mind. GBHEM is tasked with tending and growing this intellectual tradition. GBHEM's publishing ministry seeks to accomplish this important work in the present context by producing academic resources for the constituencies of the agency through two imprints: Wesley's Foundery Books and New Room Books. The imprints publish single and multi-author works and edited volumes. The press does not publish dissertations.



Not long after the acquisition of the abandoned foundery, John Wesley's ministry transformed it into the cradle of Methodism in London. The Foundery Church was a simple structure but effective— on the outside built of brick and mortar, on the inside plainly adorned with several support columns and wooden pews.

Wesley's Foundery Books (FB) is an imprint of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry of The United Methodist Church. These academic books are clearly and accessibly written by Methodist/Wesleyan experts, with an emphasis on church life and ministry. Representing the rich diversity of the church, Wesley's Foundery Books offer a disciplined and balanced approach for Course of Study students, clergy, and lay leadership. These books are sent out to journals for review at the author's request with information provided by the author.



The New Room is an historic building in Bristol, England and place of John Wesley's study. It was built in 1739 by John Wesley and is the oldest Methodist chapel in the world. The New Room was designed to be a multi-purpose facility. On the first floor, the congregation could worship, but also bring their families for health care and school. On the second floor there were accommodations and study opportunities for traveling preachers.

New Room Books (NRB) is a carefully vetted academic monograph series that offers scholars from the Methodist/Wesleyan tradition and their students a way to share the benefits of research and in-depth study. While scholarship for the sake of the church is vital, this imprint focuses on resources meant to deepen and broaden the scope of scholarship for its own sake, in its diversity and contextual complexity. New Room Books has an active editorial board whose role is to review manuscripts for publication and help sharpen the imprint's focus. Members of the board are listed in the front matter of each book and meet yearly. Board members are senior Methodist/Wesleyan scholars who represent the various academic disciplines. Before acceptance for publication, all manuscripts are reviewed by one editorial board member and an outside reviewer, who may or may not be Methodist/Wesleyan. This imprint is committed to publishing junior faculty as they move toward seeking tenure and senior scholars who want to share the fruits of their research.

New Room Books Editorial Board

Membership

The NBR editorial board is made up of senior scholars from the Methodist/Wesleyan tradition. These board members represent the various fields, for example: Old Testament, New Testament, Church History, Theology, Pastoral Care, Preaching, Worship Arts, Ethics, Religious Studies, and Science and Religion. International scholars from various disciplines are added as needed. The board reflects the face of the academy and its theological diversity. The board also strives to give international scholars voice and access to the broader scholarly community.

Board members serve a three-year term, which can be renewed. Invitation to serve comes from the Publisher, who chairs and convenes board meetings as an ex officio member. The board will have the option to meet at AAR/SBL annually.

Publication Process

Proposals

Authors/General Editors submit a proposal using the Proposal Guidelines (available on request) to the Publisher. The Publisher decides if the project will move forward and communicates that decision with the author. If, however, the project moves forward and is to be published under the New Room Books imprint, after the completed manuscript is submitted to the Publisher, it will be sent out for review to two reviewers who will submit a written evaluation and recommendation whether or not the press should publish the manuscript. Reviewers' comments will be shared anonymously with the author, who will be notified by the Publisher whether or not the work will proceed to contracting and publication.

Contracting

For New Room Books, once an acceptable, reviewed, and revised manuscript is received, the project will be contracted. Wesley's Foundry Books are not typically sent out for review, and they are contracted after a proposal is accepted by the Publisher.

If a book has contributors, the author/general editor sends the Publisher complete contact information for all contributors and serves as point person for the project. Contributors also receive a contract.

Manuscripts

Electronic submissions only. Manuscripts should be double spaced Word documents with clearly marked headings and subheadings. There is no need for complex formatting. Footnotes are preferred to endnotes. If the book requires images, diagrams, or charts, please provide them in a separate file. They must be high-resolution to be reproduced in the book. Lower resolution images may be used in the manuscript as place holders.

Permissions—For permissions and releases, please refer to the Author Permission Guidelines.

Index—If the book will have an index, please note that the indexing fee is paid by the author.

Other Information Needed

If an author wants the book sent out for review by scholarly journals, the author must send the Publisher a list, with contact information, of no more than ten journals.

Authors should provide a high-resolution head shot for marketing.

Author Copies

The author/general editor will receive five copies of the book. If there are contributors to the work, each contributor will receive one copy of the book.

What Authors Can Expect

Authors can expect a professionally published book. The publishing team at GBHEM strives to make the book the best it can be. Books are published in print and e-book formats and are distributed worldwide. Authors can also expect some marketing help. They can also expect their book to appear at select conferences. In addition, GBHEM will advertise the book on the GBHEM website and other sites as appropriate. But for a book to be read, the author has to inform his/her friends and colleagues.

Contact Information

To receive proposal guidelines and to make inquiries, contact the Publisher, M. Kathryn Armistead, PhD; karmistead@gbhem.org; 615-340-7393.