Andy Crouch (STH 1994, M.Div.)

Andy is the author of *Playing God: Redeeming the Gift of Power*, to be published in October 2013. His book *Culture Making: Recovering Our Creative Calling*, won *Christianity Today*’s 2009 Book Award for Christianity and Culture and was named one of the best books of 2008 by *Publishers Weekly, Relevant, Outreach* and *Leadership*. In December 2012 he became executive editor of *Christianity Today*, where he is also executive producer of This Is Our City, a multi-year project featuring documentary video, reporting, and essays about Christians seeking the flourishing of their cities.

Andy serves on the governing boards of Fuller Theological Seminary and Equitas Group, a philanthropic organization focused on ending child exploitation in Haiti and Southeast Asia. He is a senior fellow of the International Justice Mission’s IJM Institute and a member of the Board of Advisors for the John Templeton Foundation. His writing has appeared in *The Wall Street Journal* and in several editions of *Best Christian Writing and Best Spiritual Writing*. He lives with his family in Swarthmore, Pennsylvania.

From 1998 to 2003, Andy was the editor-in-chief of *re:generation quarterly*, a magazine for an emerging generation of culturally creative Christians. For ten years he was a campus minister with InterVarsity Christian Fellowship at Harvard University. He studied classics at Cornell University and received an M.Div. *summa cum laude* from Boston University School of Theology. A classically trained musician who draws on pop, folk, rock, jazz, and gospel, he has led musical worship for congregations of 5 to 20,000.
Rev. David K. Farley (STH 1978, M.Div.)

David has always felt called to prophetic/pastoral ministry with the poor and the marginalized. This has moved him to passionately embrace the cause of immigrants and advocacy for immigrants, among whom he has ministered for more than 30 years as pastor of Echo Park United Methodist Church in the urban core of Los Angeles. During his ministry Echo Park UMC has developed into a culturally diverse, neighborhood oriented church that serves as a vibrant center for community services, forums and activism, as well as the home of a caring community of faith. Pastor Farley & Echo Park UMC were involved in both the original Sanctuary Movement for Central American Refugees the 80s and the New Sanctuary Movement for undocumented families in more recent years. In addition to his ministry in Echo Park David also provides pastoral leadership for the Native American Circle of Life, an outreach church that meets in the United American Indian Involvement Center on 6th Street in downtown L.A.

In 1996, David joined with other religious leaders in the Los Angeles area in the effort to pass a living wage law mandating businesses with Los Angeles city contracts to provide adequate wages and health benefits to its workers. Upon the passage of the legislation, they organized CLUE-LA, Clergy and Laity United for Economic Justice – Los Angeles which has made a significant impact in mobilizing, educating and organizing the faith community in championing the struggle of workers and their families for respect and dignity in the workplace and beyond. To date CLUE-LA has over 600 religious leaders and 1200 lay people active in its work.

David is the Chairperson of the Immigration Task Force of the California Pacific Conference of the United Methodist Church and was, for many years, the Peace with Justice Coordinator for the L.A. District of the UMC. David is the recipient of the Methodist Federation for Social Action’s Mildred Hutchinson Award and the Inclusive Ministry Award from the Cal-Pac Commission on Religion and Race. In 2012 he was one of those recognized as a "Giant of Justice" by Clergy and Laity United for Economic Justice (CLUE-LA) in recognition of his contribution to the interfaith struggle for the rights of workers and immigrants.

Upon learning of David’s selection as one of the distinguished alumni by Boston University School of Theology the Newly Elected Mayor of Los Angeles, Eric Garcetti, issued the following statement:

“Rev. David Farley does good for people from all walks of life. He seeks justice and corrects oppression. He is a person who opens his mouth, judges righteously and defends the rights of those in need. Rev. Farley’s ministry serves as a vital center for the community that cultivates faith as well as activism for the poor and undocumented. He has created a sanctuary that invites people, regardless of their culture or religious views, to contribute to a more just, peaceful and faithful Los Angeles.

I commend Boston University School of Theology for its decision to honor Rev. David Farley.”

The Rev. David Kennedy Farley was born and raised in Southern California, received his M.Div. from Boston University School of Theology in 1978, and has served as an ordained elder in the California Pacific Conference of the United Methodist Church since 1982.
Bishop Deborah Lieder Kiesey (STH 1976, M.Div.)

Bishop Deborah Lieder Kiesey was born in Sioux City, Iowa to Reverend Dr. Lyle and Betty Lieder. She attended Morningside College in Sioux City, Iowa, where she graduated with honors in 1973 with a double major in Religion and Piano Performance. She was named Outstanding Alumna of the Year for Morningside College in 2004. Bishop Deb first felt a calling to the ordained ministry while a student at Boston University School of Theology and earned her Master’s of Divinity degree there in 1976.

Ordained Deacon in 1974 and Elder in 1977, she served the following churches in the Iowa Annual Conference: Richland & Ollie, Washington, Mt. Pleasant, and Iowa City. In 2001 she was appointed to the Waterloo District, and served there until her election to the episcopacy in 2004, at which time she began serving as the Bishop of the Dakotas Area Annual Conference. In July of 2012 she was assigned to the Michigan Area.

Bishop Deb was elected to serve as a delegate to the General Conference of the United Methodist Church in 1988, and was the first elected clergy from the Iowa Annual Conference in 1992, 1996, 2000, and 2004. Throughout her ministry she has had the privilege of serving on a wide range of committees and boards, including the Board of Fellows, University of Iowa School of Religion, the Board of Trustees for Iowa Wesleyan College, Morningside College and Dakota Wesleyan University, the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women from 1992 – 2000, and on the General Board of Church and Society from 2004 – 2012, serving as President of that Board from 2008 – 2012. She has received honorary Doctor of Divinity degrees from both Iowa Wesleyan College (in 2004) and Dakota Wesleyan University (in 2012).

She has been on the faculty of the Licensing School at the University of Dubuque from 1997 – 2004 (teaching a course in Worship), and has taught both Administration and Preaching at the Iowa School for Lay Ministry from 2000 – 2004.

Bishop Deb is married to D. Bradley Kiesey, an attorney with a 40 year practice in Washington, Iowa. They have two adult sons, Joel (an attorney) in Denver, Colorado and Aaron (a student) in Iowa City, Iowa.
Rev. Dr. Michele Shields (STH 1981, M.Div.)

Michele is the director of Spiritual Care Services at UCSF Medical Center and UCSF Benioff Children’s Hospital and oversees 20 chaplains. She is affiliated with the United Methodist Church and has been an ordained minister since 1981. She is a certified supervisor with the Association for Clinical Pastoral Education and a board-certified chaplain with the Association of Professional Chaplains. She is also endorsed by the United Methodist Church to serve as a chaplain in general hospital and VA hospital settings.

UCSF Medical Center’s Spiritual Care Services was established in 1961 and is accredited by the Association for Clinical Pastoral Education. Michele oversees the chaplains who are an integral part of the health care team, representing many faiths and are available around-the-clock to be a caring presence, offer spiritual and emotional support, and listen with openness and understanding. Chaplains make approximately 60,000 visits annually. In May 2013, UCSF Medical Center was awarded a $250,000 Chaplaincy Research Grant from the John Templeton Foundation. Six institutions were chosen out of 72 applicants. The Templeton grants are the largest in size and scope for professional chaplaincy.

Michele served as a local church minister for ten years and later served five hospitals as a chaplain prior to joining UCSF Medical Center. She is also on the faculty of the UCSF School of Medicine and the UCSF School of Nursing, teaching spirituality, ethics, cultural humility, and end of life.

Michele holds a BA degree from McGill University in Montreal, a MDiv degree from BU STH, and a DMin degree from Drew University.