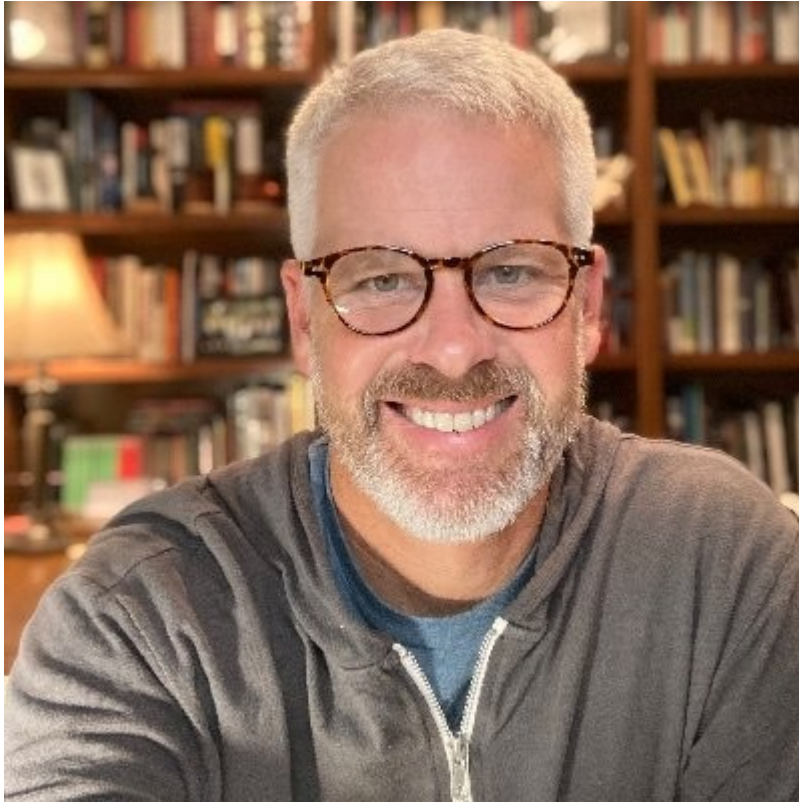


Brett Opalinski to lead Methodist studies at Candler School of Theology

by [Dawn Araujo-Hawkins](#) in the [June 29, 2022](#) issue



(Twitter)

Brett Opalinski has been selected as the next dean of Methodist studies at the Candler School of Theology. He will also serve as an assistant professor in the practice of spiritual formation and church leadership.

He succeeds Anne Burkholder, who is retiring after 14 years of leading the school's Methodist studies program.

Opalinski is currently senior pastor at Christ Church United Methodist in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, and is the founder of Manaigh Nua, an online monastic community for people interested in intentional, daily practices of prayer, study, and justice. He previously served on the UMC Florida Annual Conference's antiracism task force and also chaired the conference's board of ordained ministry.

He is a member of the American Academy of Religion, the Society of Biblical Literature, and the North American Patristics Society.