

Discerning the
times *together*.

NEW COLLEGE Berkeley
AWAKEN THEOLOGICAL IMAGINATION

THE NEW NEW COLLEGE BERKELEY



NCB was founded in 1977 by Dr. David Gill and Rev. Earl Palmer as a Center for Advanced Christian Studies to provide students and working professionals with courses and conferences to “think Christianly” in their vocational lives. In 1994, Dr. Susan Phillips introduced a needed emphasis on spiritual formation for cultivating lives rooted in God. Today, under the leadership of Craig Wong, NCB builds on these two pillars to connect the body of Christ across culture, tradition and generation to foster Christ-centered, communal reflection and discernment that is both contemplative and theologically-informed. NCB continues to be an affiliate “center of distinction” of the Graduate Theological Union and a member of the Consortium of Christian Study Centers.



The Bay Area church and academy
together navigating changing
and uncertain times.



A THINK TANK AMONG GOSPEL FRIENDS

Big questions loom. Where is artificial intelligence taking society? How will wealth disparity further erode human community? What awaits the land and its inhabitants with our present habits of consumption? How should we steward the region's beauty, resources, prosperity and technological power? What are the implications for faithful discipleship? For congregational formation and mission? We believe New College Berkeley (NCB) is positioned to foster learning communities around such inquiries among pastors, ministers, professionals, and the laity in partnership with academics, theologians and subject matter experts. Think of NCB as a think tank for gospel partners in the Bay Area. We set the table for rich feasts of theology and spiritual friendship.



A THIRD SPACE VISION

In a word, a third space is where unlikely partners gather to engage what matters. Sociologist Ray Oldenberg asserts that all third spaces share in common three things: all walks of life gather, conversations happen, and there are regulars. For Oldenberg, pubs and cafes are critical to healthy societies because they gather folks who would otherwise be secluded in their home or workplace. NCB is like a “pub” for the ecclesia where folks gather from otherwise disconnected realms, e.g. academy and congregation, mainline and evangelical, Orthodox and Catholic, boomer and Gen Z. Third spaces thrive because all come to the table eager to listen, expecting to learn, honoring one another with dignity and respect, regardless of ecclesial or ideological differences.



COURSES, WORKSHOPS, ART & FORMATIONAL OFFERINGS

Our various educational and contemplative programs interweave to create pathways for informing, transforming, and enlivening Christian discipleship, cultivating lasting friendship in the process. Whether as a “pop-up” in your city, online, or at the GTU, our seminars and workshops in Bible, theology & ethics integrate Christian belief with Bay Area realities, e.g. workshops for pastors and

lay leaders seeking to foster biblical shalom in their neighborhoods. Our spiritual and communal formation offerings connect us to God and each other through group spiritual direction, contemplative retreats, listening circles, and restorative practices for healing and reconciliation. Our creative arts engage the whole of our senses through film, iconography, writing and other art forms that help awaken redemptive imagination.



PARTNERSHIPS THAT EDIFY THE WHOLE CHURCH

Partnering with local congregations and organizations such as American Scientific Affiliation, AI & Faith, Center for Faith, Work & Technology, Center for Theology and Natural Sciences, Faith & Work Journey, InterVarsity, WP313, and many others, are critical to our mission. We’re excited about



the renewed connection between NCB and *Radix Magazine*. As we engage the big Bay

Area questions of technology, environment, economy and what it means to be the Church, *Radix* is where our collective discoveries are curated and published for the edification of the whole.



BE A PART OF THE ADVENTURE!

How might NCB be helpful to you, your congregation or community? What are ways you can support and invest in NCB's new vision? Perhaps an endowment or legacy gift? Whatever your interests may be, we would love to hear from you.

Contact the executive director, Craig Wong, at director@newcollegeberkeley.org or call (510) 841-9386. Thank you for your interest!

Also, stay informed about upcoming developments and events by getting on our mailing here:



Donate online:
www.newcollegeberkeley.org

Tax ID 942401323.

Send checks to
PO Box 4328, Berkeley, CA 94704