Annotated bibliography
For the Ecumenical Workshop
Marked with § are highly recommended

Gnosticism and Early ‘Primitive’ Christianity


Ehrman, Bart D. *Lost Christianities: The Battles for Scripture and the Faiths We Never Knew*, Oxford University Press, 2003. [introduction to influential and valuable texts that were excluded from the biblical canon; some of them include theologies closer to Christian Science than orthodoxy]

King, Karen L. *The Gospel of Mary of Magdala: Jesus and the First Woman Apostle*, Polebridge Press, 2003. [essential explanation of relevance of so-called gnostic writings and their struggle in the orthodox Christian context; important for understanding struggle for women’s voices as Christian leaders]

§ Lewis, Nicola Denzey. *Introduction to "Gnosticism:" Ancient Voices, Christian Worlds*. Oxford, New York: Oxford University Press, 2013. [highly recommended for beginning and intermediate Gnostic studies; first actual textbook on Gnosticism that covers all the most important issues]

§ Taussig, Hal, ed. *A New New Testament: A Bible for the 21st Century Combining Traditional and Newly Discovered Texts*, Boston, NY: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2013. [In addition to the canonized bible, this text includes texts that were well-known and circulated among Christians at the same the canonized texts circulated; several have been historically classified as ‘gnostic,’ but seen in this context, they are part of the original Christian world.]

www.gnosis.org. [includes all the modern translations of Nag Hammadi documents plus many other ancient writings; also searchable]

American history of religion

Albanese, Catherine L. *America: Religions & Religion*, fourth edition, Thomson Wadsworth, 2007. [good overview of American religions, with chart on metaphysics showing Quimby at the center, and MBE as an offshoot; author is highly acclaimed authority on the subject]


Fuller, Robert C. *Spiritual but not Religious: Understanding Unchurched America*, Oxford University Press, 2001. [description of the American religious lifestyle without church structure; good section on meaning and popularity of New Age]


*Also note: Curtis, *Faith in the Great Physician* under category, ‘Healing Context’*

### Healing traditions


Wainwright, Elaine E. *Women Healing/Healing Women: The Genderization of Healing in Early Christianity*, London: Equinox Publishing, Ltd., 2006. [the search for the role of women in healing during NT times; mostly silent in terms of public, dramatic healing works, but this author finds evidence of women being healed and naturally nursing]


### Christian Science as cult or ‘new religious movement’


Beverley, James A. *Nelson's Illustrated Guide to Religions: A Comprehensive Introduction to the*

http://digital.faithtoday.ca/faithtoday/20140506?pg=5#pg75 [Jim’s response to Shirley’s personal visits with him. Still seems very strong opposition to Christian Science, but he himself moved mountains to be able to write a headline with “What’s good about CS”.


Martin, Walter. The Kingdom of the Cults: The Definitive Work on the Subject, Bethany House Publishers, 2003. [originally written in 1935, this text is the classic polemic against mainstream Christianity and minorities; frequently updated; highly influential in American religious thought; extremely negative views on MBE]


Ecumenical Movement and related topics


Campbell, Ted. A. Christian Mysteries, Eugene, OR: Wipf&Stock Publishers, 2005, extended format. [very brief book with succinct and clear descriptions of various denominational views on most important Christian doctrinal topics and issues]

Chryssides, George and Margaret Z. Wilkins. Christians in the 21st Century, Sheffield, UK: Equinox, 2011. [understanding global Christianity in 21st century as a whole, in contrast to other world religions; includes overview of its beliefs, relationship to the Bible, the church, its own history and fragmentation; its response to contemporary challenges]

§ Kinnamon, Michael. Can a Renewal Movement Be Renewed?: Questions for the Future of Ecumenism, April 30, 2014. [At this time, the book has not been released, but the ecumenical team has read the manuscript. Highly recommended by all of us for understanding most interesting and important ecumenical issues]

§ Lohre, Kathryn, ed. for such a time as this: Young Adults on the Future of the Church, Valley Forge, PA: Judson Press, 2014. [Very insightful ideas from young adult Christians who
envision Christianity in their future – what to let go of, what to hold onto, and in an ecumenical way of doing it]

Christian Science self-explanation