



## Gailyn Van Rheenan Endowed Session on Mission and World Christianity

**Session 2: Wednesday, June 5, 4:15–5:45 p.m.**

**“The Missional Necessity of Discernment”**

*Location: Stone Chapel*

- **Mark Love**, *Rochester University*
- **Scott Hagley**, *Pittsburgh Theological Seminary*, Respondent

Love is professor of theology and ministry and director of the Master of Religious Education in missional leadership program at Rochester University. He holds a PhD from Luther Seminary and a DMin from Abilene Christian University. Love served congregations in Texas and Oregon in full-time ministry for 17 years before moving into the world of academia. He consults with congregations across the United States who are interested in cultivating a missional identity. His most recent book is *It Seemed Good to the Holy Spirit and to Us: Acts, Discernment, and the Mission of God* (2023 Wipf and Stock).

Discernment occupies a prominent place in many discussions of what constitutes mission. It is imperative to underscore that discernment must transcend a conventional role as a mere procedural facet in the determination of missional action; rather, it is a necessity for any theology of participation. This presentation endeavors to connect the areas of discernment and missional theology, exploring theological, biblical, and philosophical sources.