CONTENTS

Contributors

11

1. Introduction: Wesleyan Ecclesiology

Diane Leclerc and Mark A. Maddix

15

Part 1: The Church at Its Core

27

2. The Church: The Event of the Kingdom of God Eric Severson

29

Trinitarian Identity: The Church's True Foundation
Henry W. Spaulding III
 37

4. Putting Christ in His Place:

Ecclesiology and Christology in the Nazarene Tradition

Mark H. Mann

48

5. Mission Possible:

The Importance of the Spirit in Wesleyan Ecclesiology
Diane Leclerc

62

6. Tradition at Its Best: The Classical Marks of the Church

Tim J. Crutcher

75

7. Cultural Correlation: The "Postmodern" Marks of the Church Deirdre Brower Latz

Part 2: The Church's Essential Functions

95

8. The Church at Worship

Jeffrey T. Barker

97

9. The Church's Sacraments

Brent Peterson

107

10. The Church's Proclamation

James N. Fitzgerald

115

11. The Church as Confessional Educator:

A Catechetical Approach to Christian Education
Mark A. Maddix

124

12. The Church as Formational Fellowship

Dean G. Blevins

138

13. The Church as Egalitarian Liberator

Kristina LaCelle-Peterson

147

14. The Church of Compassion and Justice

Stephen Riley

156

15. The Church as a Witnessing Community

David Busic

167

Part 3: The Church as Organized Organism

177

16. The Body of Christ: A Theology of Ecclesial Relationships
Richard P. Thompson

179

17. The Priesthood of All Believers: A Theology of Laity

Rebecca Laird

189

18. Unifying the Church:

A Theological Understanding of Ordination

Brent Peterson

199

19. The "Designated Reader":

An Ecclesiological Metaphor for Pastoral Leadership

Jeff Crosno

209

20. Pastoring Pastors: A Functional Theology of Superintendency

Jeren Rowell

219

Notes

229