

# JENNIFER W. DAVIDSON, PHD

Curriculum Vitae

April 2017

American Baptist Seminary of the West  
Graduate Theological Union  
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## EDUCATION

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- 2015 Graduate Certificate in Online Teaching and Learning, United Theological Seminary
- 2011 PhD, Liturgical Studies, Systematic & Philosophical Theology, Graduate Theological Union
- 2003 MDiv, with honors, Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia
- 1991 BA, English and Secondary Education, Eastern University

## PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

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**Associate Professor of Theology & Worship** (Tenure-Track) **and Director of Chapel**, American Baptist Seminary of the West, member school of the Graduate Theological Union, 2014-present

**Core Doctoral Faculty**, Religion and Practice Department, Theology and Ethics Department, Graduate Theological Union, 2016-present

**Assistant Professor of Worship & Theology and Director of Chapel**, American Baptist Seminary of the West, member school of the Graduate Theological Union, 2007-2014

**Consortial Doctoral Faculty**, Liturgical Studies Area, Graduate Theological Union, 2011-2015

**Visiting Faculty & Chaplain**, Women's Studies May Term, The Oregon Extension of Eastern University, Lincoln, OR, 2009

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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### **American Baptist Seminary of the West | Graduate Theological Union**

Women's Studies in Religion, (Spring 2017; 2015; 2010)

Theology as Living Conversation: Introduction to Christian Theology (Spring 2017, Fall 2015)

River of Life, Feast of Grace: Baptism, Communion, and the Call to Radical Discipleship (Intersession 2017)

Practice of Worship (Fall 2016)

Constructive Theology (Fall 2016, 2015, 2014, 2013, 2012, 2011, 2010)

Middler Colloquium, team-taught with Dr. Nancy Hall & Dr. Sangyil Park (Fall 2016, 2015, 2014, 2013, 2012, 2011, 2010, 2009, 2008, 2007)

Liturgical Studies Proseminar, team-taught with Liturgical Studies Area Faculty (Fall 2015)

#BlackLivesMatter: The Spirit of Protest, team-taught with Dr. Sharon Fennema, made possible via a grant from The Center for Spiritual and Social Transformation (Spring 2015)

Missional Worship, Newhall Fellowship Course with PhD students Rev. George V. Hudgins, III, and Rev. Khalia Jelks Williams (Spring 2014)

Multicultural Awareness and Worship (Spring 2014)

Pedagogy for Teaching Worship [Doctoral Seminar] (Spring 2013)

The Triduum of Holy Week, team-taught with Liturgical Studies Area Faculty (Spring 2013)

Intercultural, Free Church Worship [PhD Special Reading Course] (Fall 2012, Spring 2013)

Prayer & Public Worship: Approaching the Sacred (Spring 2011; January 2008)

Liberative Pedagogy (Spring 2011)

Worship Planning & Leading (Spring 2011, 2010; Fall 2009)

Worship in All Seasons: Liturgy & Time (Spring 2009)

### **Courses Taught at Other Institutions**

Introduction to Christian Worship, Adjunct Instructor, team-taught with Ms Sharon Fennema and Ms Aeri Lee, Pacific School of Religion, Berkeley, CA (Spring, 2007)

Worship in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: New Wine & The Ferment of Worship in Postmodernity, team-taught with Ms Sharon Fennema, supervised by Dr. Andrea Bieler, Newhall Fellowship Course, Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley, CA (Fall 2006)

Introduction to Christian Worship, teaching assistant to Dr. Andrea Bieler, Pacific School of Religion, Berkeley, CA (Spring 2004, 2005, 2006)

Eucharist as Holy Eating, teaching assistant to Dr. Andrea Bieler and Dr. Luise Schottroff, Pacific School of Religion, Berkeley, CA (Fall 2004)

Ecclesiastes and Jacques Ellul, The Alternative Seminary, Philadelphia PA (Spring 2000)

Wrestling with the Word: Liberating Bible Study for Our World Today, The Alternative Seminary, Philadelphia, PA (Spring 1996)

April 2017

Reading Improvement, Adjunct Instructor, Eastern University, St. David's, PA (Fall 1995)

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**AWARDS AND HONORS**

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- 2006 Henry Mayo Newhall Fellowship, Graduate Theological Union
- 2003-5 Presidential Scholar, Graduate Theological Union
- 2001-2 Traci L. Maul Award, Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia
- 2000-1 Roy L. Winters and Sarah Stober Winters Scholarship, Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia
- 2000-3 FTE Ministry Fellow, Fund for Theological Education

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**GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS**

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- 2016 Faculty Enrichment Retreat, Dialogue on Science, Ethics and Religion, American Association for the Advancement of Science
- 2016 Course Revision Grant, Jesuit School of Theology of Santa Clara University, American Association for the Advancement of Science
- 2009 "Taste and See: How to Teach for Depth in Worship," Seminars in Christian Scholarship, Calvin College

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**INVITED TALKS**

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- 2017 "Crafting a Rule of Life," keynote addresses at Rhythms of the Spirit: Nurturing a Contemplative Life, Exeter, RI (August 14-18)
- 2016 "Crafting a Rule of Life," keynote addresses at Ministers Conference, American Baptist Churches USA, Chevy Chase, MD (August 22-26)
- 2014 "Contemplative Approaches to Everyday Life," Keynote Speaker, Rhythms of the Spirit: Nurturing a Contemplative Life, Loma Mar, CA (November 3-7)
- 2012 "Why Worship Matters," keynote address at Pacific Coast Baptist Association Annual Meeting, Alameda, CA (May)
- 2009 "Using the Peoples' Bible for Interdisciplinary Teaching," webinar panel member, Augsburg Fortress Press (March)

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**CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION**

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**Conferences Organized**

- 2017 "The Church's Public Witness," Fourth Theologians and Theological Educators Conference for American Baptist Churches USA, Portland, OR (June)

April 2017

- 2015 "Beloved Community: The Church & Theological Education at a Time of Adaptive Change," Third Theologians and Theological Educators Conference for American Baptist Churches USA, Overland Park, KS (June)
- 2013 "Baptists and the Spirit: Living into God's Future," Second Theologians and Theological Educators Conference for American Baptist Churches USA, Central Baptist Theological Seminary, Shawnee, KS (June)
- 2011 "Memory, Identity, & Hope: Intersections in American Baptist Ecclesiology," First Theologians and Theological Educators Conference for American Baptist Churches USA, San Juan, Puerto Rico, for American Baptist Churches, USA (June)

### Papers Presented

- 2015 "Can Religious Ritual Play a Role in Protecting Society's Sacrificial Victims? René Girard, Violence, and the Unprotected," co-authored paper with Dr. LeAnn Snow Flesher, delivered at Beloved Community: The Church & Theological Education at a Time of Adaptive Change, American Baptist Theologians and Theological Educators Conference, Overland Park, KS (June 2015)
- 2015 "Prayers to Radicalize the Baptized," paper presented in response *Missional Worship Worshipful Mission* by Ruth Meyers, presented at the Church Divinity School of the Pacific (April)
- 2015 "I Am Who I Am Not: A Trinitarian Approach to the Rise of Extreme Poverty in the United States [Mutually Informed Identity Politics], paper presented as a response to the Annual Drexler Lecture at American Baptist Seminary of the West, Berkeley, CA (March)
- 2015 "The Seminary Classroom as an Extension of Liturgical Space: The (Mal/Trans)Formative Potential of Teaching and Reading," paper presented in response to *African American Music and Worship*, Volume 2 with Dr. James Abbingdon at American Baptist Seminary of the West, Berkeley, CA (February)
- 2014 "Dislocated Liturgical Spirituality: Negotiating Online Spaces as Liturgical Practice," paper delivered at the North American Academy of Liturgy, Liturgy & Spirituality Seminar, Orlando, FL (January 2014)
- 2013 "Creation's Groans and Spirit's Sighs: Cultivating Attentiveness to the Spirit through the Practice of *Concerns and Celebrations*," paper delivered at Baptists and the Spirit: Living into God's Future, American Baptist Theologians and Theological Educators Conference, Central Baptist Theological Seminary, Shawnee, KS (June 2013)
- 2013 "I Hate, I Despise Your Festivals: A Praxis-Oriented Liturgical Spirituality," paper delivered at the North American Academy of Liturgy, Liturgy & Spirituality Seminar, Albuquerque, NM (January 2013)

2012 "Constructing Theologies of Prayer in the Midst of Worship," paper delivered at the North American Academy of Liturgy, Liturgy & Spirituality Seminar, Montreal, Canada (January 2012)

## PUBLICATIONS

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"I Hate, I Despise Your Festivals: A Praxis-Oriented Liturgical Spirituality," forthcoming chapter in *Trouble the Waters: A Congregational Resource for Racial Justice*, edited by Michael-Ray Mathews, Marie Onwubuariri, and Cody Sanders, Alliance of Baptists, forthcoming 2017.

"Can Religious Ritual Play a Role in Protecting Society's Sacrificial Victims? René Girard, Violence, and the Unprotected," *Tikkun*, Duke University Press Journals, forthcoming December 2015.

"Op-Ed: Talking About Violence is Not A Distraction: The Berkeley Protests for Ferguson," *Berkeleyside: Berkeley, California's Independent News Site*, <http://www.berkeleyside.com/2014/12/10/op-ed-talking-about-violence-is-not-a-distraction-the-berkeley-protests-for-ferguson/> (December 12, 2014).

"Commemorating 9/11, Commemorating Christ," *Sojourners Online*, <https://sojo.net/articles/commemorating-911-commemorating-christ> (September 11, 2014).

"Creation's Groans and Spirit's Sighs: Cultivating Attentiveness to the Spirit through the Practice of *Concerns and Celebrations*." *American Baptist Quarterly*, Summer 2014.

"Beyond Preferences: Worship as Practicing the Presence of God." *Baptist World: A Magazine of the Baptist World Alliance*, Vol. 60, No. 2 (April-June 2013).

"In Step with the Spirit: Proclamation," Baptist World Alliance Day Worship Resource Materials, Baptist World Alliance (May 2012).

"Remembering Ourselves Before God: A Constructive Liturgical Theology of Prayer." *The South African Baptist Journal of Theology*, Vol. 18 (Fall 2009).

"Sarai, Hagar, and Abram: Within Each One of Us" Essay published in the book *Home is Where You're Going: Crossing Borders and Risking Solidarities through Women's Studies* (Cathedral Hill Press, 2006).

"The Womb of God," *The Other Side* (September/October 2004) A feature article that investigates subversive womb imagery in Hosea.

"The Night of Wrestling," *The Other Side* (March/April 2004) A reflection on Jacob, betrayal, and the acceptance of identity.

- “When Words Fail,” pseudonym Ann Sill, *The Other Side* (November/December 2001)\* A feature article that considers the power of the Book of Lamentations for the times when we need to rage at God.
- “Breaking into the Heart of God,” *The Other Side* (July/August 2001)\* A feature article that ponders the invitation to enter the “forbidden territory” of God’s own heart. Reprinted in *Circuit Rider* (January/February 2002).
- “Night is as Day,” *The Other Side* (May/June 2000) A reflection on Psalm 139 and a call to ministry.
- “Listening for God,” *The Other Side* (March/April 1999) A devotional on contemplative prayer in an urban context.
- “Running Scared,” *The Other Side* (March/April 1996) A feature article on Mark’s sometimes terrifying portrayal of Jesus.
- “Community of Hope,” *The Other Side* (September/October 1992) A profile of death-row inmates in Atmore, Alabama. Reprinted in *Horizons*, a Presbyterian women’s magazine (March/April 1993).
- “Mending,” *The Other Side* (November/December 1991) A reflection on a family quilt and memory.

\*Reprinted as online course resources for Asbury Theological Seminary

### **ABSW Faculty Blog Contributions**

- “Breaking Out of the Routine,” A response to the mass shooting at Umpqua Community College, <https://absw.wordpress.com/2015/10/02/breaking-out-of-the-routine/> (October 2, 2015)
- “A Primer for Navigating the #BlackLivesMatter Movement Online,” <https://absw.wordpress.com/2014/12/16/a-primer-for-navigating-the-blacklivesmatter-movement-online/> (December 16, 2014).
- “Talking About Violence is Not a Distraction: The Berkeley Protests for Ferguson,” <https://absw.wordpress.com/2014/12/08/talking-about-violence-is-not-a-distraction-the-berkeley-protests-for-ferguson/> (December 8, 2014).
- “Berkeley Protests: Black Lives Matter,” <https://absw.wordpress.com/2014/12/07/berkeley-protests-black-lives-matter/> (December 7, 2014).
- “Listening for God in Unlikely Places,” <https://absw.wordpress.com/2014/11/17/listening-for-god-in-unlikely-places/> (November 17, 2014).
- “Commemorating 9/11, Commemorating Christ,” <https://absw.wordpress.com/2014/09/11/commemorating-911-commemorating-christ/> (September 11, 2014).

“Stones Cry Out: Malala Means Grief-Stricken,”

<https://absw.wordpress.com/2012/10/24/stones-cry-out/> (October 24, 2012).

“Occupy Liturgy,” <https://absw.wordpress.com/2011/11/18/occupy-liturgy/> (November 18, 2011).

### **Works in Progress**

*River of Life, Feast of Grace: Baptism, Communion, and the Call to Radical Discipleship* (Judson Press)

*Worshipful Writing: A Contemplative Guide for Writing for Worship*

### **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

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- 2017 VoiceThread and Universal Design for Online Classroom, February 2017
- 2016 “Benedictine Leadership,” Monasteries of the Heart, Benedictine Sisters of Erie, March – May 2016
- 2016 “Science and Seminaries,” Jesuit School of Theology of Santa Clara University, January 2016
- 2015 “Developing Online Theological Learning Activities,” United Theological Seminary, May 2015
- 2015 “Building Theological Online Learning Communities,” United Theological Seminary, April 2015
- 2015 “Assessment and Evaluation in Theological Instruction,” United Theological Seminary, March 2015
- 2015 “Instructional Teaching Strategies,” United Theological Seminary, February 2015
- 2015 “Introduction to Theological Online Teaching and Learning,” United Theological Seminary, January 2015
- 2014 “Crafting a Religion of One’s Own,” online course led by author Thomas Moore, *Spirituality and Practice*, February 2014
- 2013 “Becoming a Monk in the World,” online course led by author Christine Valters Paintner, *Abbey of the Arts*, August 2013

### **PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES, INSTITUTIONAL, AND COMMUNITY SERVICE**

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- 2016 Presenter, Writing Successful CV and Cover Letters, Professional Development Program, Graduate Theological Union (October)

April 2017

- 2016 Conference for Graduate Program Directors, Deans, and Department Chairs, Wabash Center for Teaching & Learning in Theology & Religion, Indianapolis, IN (October)
- 2016 Chair PhD Dissertation Committee, A. Vanessa Hawkins, Interdisciplinary Studies Area
- 2016 Faculty Representative to the Board of Trustees, American Baptist Seminary of the West
- 2016 – Presidential Search Committee, American Baptist Seminary of the West
- 2015 – Chair, Women’s Studies in Religion Steering Committee for academic certificate program, Graduate Theological Union
- 2015 – Elected Member, Commission on Baptist Doctrine and Unity, Baptist World Alliance
- 2015 Invited Participant, Sojourners Summit, Washington, DC (June)
- 2015 Workshop Leader, “Theological Education in the Seminary,” with Dr. LeAnn Snow Flesher, TransForm Network Annual Conference, Washington, DC (April)
- 2014 – PhD Dissertation Committee, Liturgical Studies Area, Khalia Jelks Williams
- 2014 Faculty Representative to the Board of Trustees, 3<sup>rd</sup> term, American Baptist Seminary of the West
- 2014 – Member, Practical Theology Working Group, Graduate Theological Union
- 2014 – Chair, Commission for Emerging Theologians, American Baptist Churches, USA
- 2014 Member, Women’s Studies in Religion Steering Committee for academic certificate program, Graduate Theological Union
- 2014 Participant, Transform: A Missional Community Formation Network Annual Gathering, “Translating the Language, Culture, and Practice of the Missional Church to Broaden Movement for Change,” San Diego, CA (March)
- 2014 Library Committee, ABSW Representative, Graduate Theological Union (Spring)
- 2013-14 Convener, Liturgy and Spirituality Seminar, North American Academy of Liturgy
- 2013 Faculty Representative on the Committee to Interview for the Director of Development and Communication position for American Baptist Seminary of the West (Fall)
- 2013 Faculty Representative for the Workshop for Reaccreditation at Association of Theological Schools, Pittsburgh, PA (September)
- 2013 Faculty Representative to the Board of Trustees, 2<sup>nd</sup> term, American Baptist Seminary of the West
- 2013 Commission on Baptist Worship and Spirituality, Baptist World Alliance Annual Gathering, Ocho Rios, Jamaica (July)



- 2013 Moderator, "Liberal Fundamentalism in the Service of Empire: Feminism, Sexuality, Islamophobia," round table conversation with Munir Jiwa, Women's Studies in Religion and the Center for Islamic Studies, Graduate Theological Union (April)
- 2013 Moderator, "Envisioning The Future of Theology and Ethics: A Womanist Perspective," round table conversation with faculty and students featuring Monica Coleman, Keri Day, and Andrea White, Women's Studies in Religion and the Black Church/Africana Studies Certificate Program, Graduate Theological Union (March)
- 2013 Session Chair, "Next: How Women are Changing Christianity," The Second Annual Women & Religion Student Conference "Sex, Text, and Next," Women's Studies in Religion, Graduate Theological Union (March)
- 2013 "Concerns and Celebrations: A Lived Theology," three-week adult Sunday school forum series, Shell Ridge Community Church, Walnut Creek, CA (March)
- 2012— PhD Comprehensive Exams Committee, Liturgical Studies Area, George V. Hudgins, III
- 2012-13 PhD Comprehensive Exams Committee, Liturgical Studies Area, Khalia Jelks Williams
- 2012-13 MA Thesis Committee, Rodrigo Garcia, "Towards a More Equal Treatment of the Poor by the Oppressors through the Provision of Bread as Symbolically Represented in the Eucharist"
- 2012-13 Chair, Women's Studies in Religion Steering Committee for academic certificate program, Graduate Theological Union
- 2012 "Worshipful Writing," three-week worship and intergenerational workshop series on writing and creative worship, First Baptist Church of Palo Alto, Palo Alto, CA (November)
- 2012 Panel Participant, "Preparing the Academic Conference Paper Proposal," Women's Studies in Religion, Graduate Theological Union (October)
- 2012 Faculty Representative to the Board of Trustees, 1<sup>st</sup> term, American Baptist Seminary of the West
- 2011— Chair, Emerging Theologians Task Force for American Baptist Churches, USA
- 2011-12 Member, Women's Studies in Religion Steering Committee for academic certificate program, Graduate Theological Union
- 2011 Member, Committee to review The Institute of Buddhist Studies, appointed by Dean Arthur Holder, Graduate Theological Union (Fall)
- 2011 "Though We Welcome All to Worship, Is All Our Worship Welcoming?" a workshop on intercultural worship with co-leaders Rev. Marie Onwubuariri and Rev. Tripp Hudgins for American Baptist Seminary of the West Leadership Conference (October)

- 2011 “Considering Tradition, Contemporary Concerns, and Gospel Demands in Worship Design,” presentation delivered for American Baptist Seminary of the West Seminary Day (September)
- 2011 “When Words Fail: Anguish, Isolation, Power, and Presence,” sermon delivered at Shell Ridge Community Church, Walnut Creek, CA (August)
- 2011 “Choose Life,” sermon delivered for American Baptist Seminary of the West Seminary Sunday at New Life Community Fellowship, Castro Valley, CA (February)
- 2010-15 Commission on Baptist Worship and Spirituality, Baptist World Alliance
- 2010-12 Monthly preaching and worship leading for the ecumenical worship service at Byron Park Senior Retirement Residence Community in Walnut Creek, CA
- 2010 “Listen to the Spirit,” 20<sup>th</sup> Baptist World Congress, Baptist World Alliance, Honolulu, HI and Commission on Baptist Worship and Spirituality meeting (July)
- 2010 “Drinking Deeply from the Well,” retreat leader for an all-church retreat, Shell Ridge Community Church (April)
- 2009— Chair, Admissions and Curricular Oversight Committee, American Baptist Seminary of the West
- 2009 “A Soul Story: A Life of Prayer,” meditation, Shell Ridge Community Church (September)
- 2009 “Thank You, God, Who is Our Bread,” sermon delivered at First Chinese Baptist Church in San Francisco, CA (August)
- 2009 Conference Planning Committee, Alliance of Baptists Annual Meeting (April-September)
- 2009 “Finding Your Heart’s Song: Discerning Your Call,” workshop leader, Pacific Coast Baptist Association Annual Meeting, Walnut Creek, CA (May)
- 2009 “The Emerging Church Conversation,” panel moderator, American Baptist Seminary of the West Pastoral Leadership Conference (March)
- 2008-11 Member, Emerging Theologians Task Force for American Baptist Churches, USA by special invitation of the General Secretary of the denomination
- 2008-9 Search Committee, New Testament, American Baptist Seminary of the West
- 2008-9 Supervising Mentor for M.Div. student project, “Worship and Church Growth: Researching the Connection, Developing a Vision,” by The Rev. Wendell Ferguson, American Baptist Seminary of the West
- 2008 Seminary Representative to the Orientation to American Baptist Life, American Baptist Seminary of the West, Green Lake, WI (October)
- 2008 “Paradise Here & Now: How the Concept of Paradise Might Inform Liturgical Scholarship Today,” panel respondent from a feminist liturgical scholar’s perspective to *Saving*

*Paradise: How Christianity Traded Love of This World for Crucifixion and Empire* by Rita Nakashima Brock and Rebecca Ann Parker, Women's Studies in Religion Colloquium, Graduate Theological Union (September)

- 2008 Pulpit Preaching Supply, Delores Street Baptist Church, San Francisco, CA (May)
- 2008 "Attend to Hope," sermon delivered at Shell Ridge Community Church
- 2008 "Worshipful Writing: A Contemplative Approach to Writing for Worship," workshop leader for Young Clergy Network Annual Retreat funded by Lilly Endowment (August)
- 2007-8 Member, Website Redesign Committee, American Baptist Seminary of the West
- 2007-8 Faculty Advisor to the Student Body Council, American Baptist Seminary of the West
- 2007 Adjunct Instructor, Pacific School of Religion (Spring)
- 1995 Adjunct Instructor, Eastern University (Fall)

#### **OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

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- 2005-7 Associate Pastor, Worship and Spiritual Growth, Shell Ridge Community Church
- 2005-7 "Different Somatic and Mental Abilities and the Practice of Worship," annual workshop leader for Pacific School of Religion
- 2005-7 "Worshipful Writing: A Contemplative Approach to Writing for Worship," annual workshop leader for Pacific School of Religion
- 2001-4 Contributing Editor, *The Other Side* Magazine, Philadelphia, PA
- 2003 Conference Worship Planner and Leader, "The Pastoral Imagination," Fund for Theological Education's Excellence in Ministry Summer Conference, Collegeville, MN
- 2002-3 Intern, Office of Cooperative Christianity (Ecumenical and Interfaith Office), American Baptist Churches, USA, Valley Forge, PA
- 2001-2 Student Body President, Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia
- 2001-2 Intern, Philadelphia Liturgical Institute, Philadelphia, PA
- 2001 Chaplain, Women's Studies May Term of the Oregon Extension of Houghton College, Lincoln, OR
- 2000-1 Pastoral Intern, Central Baptist Church, Wayne, PA
- 1999-03 Writer, "Travelers Together: A Guide to Group and Individual Reflection on *The Other Side* Magazine

**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

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North American Academy of Liturgy

National Association of Baptist Professors of Religion

American Academy of Religion

Center for Theology and the Natural Sciences

**LANGUAGES**

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Reading knowledge of French and German

Working knowledge of biblical Hebrew and Greek