

# James D. Byassee (Jason), Ph.D.

## CURRICULUM VITAE

BUTLER CHAIR IN HOMILETICS & BIBLICAL HERMENEUTICS  
VANCOUVER SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

Telephone (604) 828-3745      Email [jbyassee@vst.edu](mailto:jbyassee@vst.edu)

Objective	To serve the church as a teaching pastor	
Education	<i>Ph.D. in Theology</i> , DUKE UNIVERSITY	2005
	Dissertation: <i>Praise Seeking Understanding</i> Supervised by Dr. Reinhard Hütter Major in Systematic Theology Minors in Patristics & Ancient Philosophy	
	<i>Master of Divinity</i> , DUKE DIVINITY SCHOOL	1999
	Graduated <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> ABS award in New Testament Studies, 1998 Hickman Award for Liturgics, 1999	
	<i>AB in History</i> , DAVIDSON COLLEGE	1996
	Thesis: "Let the Churches Lead the Charge: The Civil War in the Southern Presbyterian Church, 1861-1865" Graduated <i>Cum Laude</i> , with Honors in History	

### Professional Appointments

<i>Vancouver School of Theology</i>	
Butler Associate Professor in Homiletics and Hermeneutics	
Senior Fellow of the Centre for Missional Leadership	2015-present
<i>Centre for Missional Leadership</i>	2015-present
St. Andrews Hall, University of British Columbia	
Senior Fellow	
<i>Boone United Methodist Church</i>	2011-2015
Senior Pastor	
·Grew by 15% in membership	
·Membership 1500, budget \$1.4m, raised over \$1/2m in grants	
<i>Leadership Education at Duke Divinity</i>	2010-present
Fellow in Theology & Leadership	
<i>Union Theology Seminary, New York City</i>	2011-2013
Research Fellow for the New Media Project	

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*Duke Divinity School* Director of the Center for Theology Writing & Media, Special Assistant to the Dean, & Executive Director of Leadership Education 2008 – 2010

*The Christian Century* Magazine, Assistant Editor 2004 – 2008

Contributing Editor 2008-present

Editorial Boards for *Pro Ecclesia*, *Journal for Scriptural Reasoning*, & *The Other Journal*

*Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary*, 2007 - 2008  
Affiliate professor of theology &  
Director of the Center for Theology and Media

*Shady Grove UMC*, Providence, NC 2002-2004  
·Rural, ~80 member church  
·Grew by 10% in my two years  
·Oversaw building of \$140,000 parsonage

## Teaching

*Primary Competencies*  
Homiletics, Scripture, Church History, Theology, Writing, Leadership,  
Theology & Popular Culture

### COURSES TAUGHT (A sampling)

Courses in Preaching, Church History, Leadership, Writing at  
*Vancouver School of Theology* 2015-2016

Doctor of Ministry: “Communication: Inspiring and Guiding  
Change,” *Duke Divinity School* 2012-2013

Parish Ministry: “Leadership in the Ancient and Contemporary  
Church,” *Duke Divinity School*, taught with James Howell, 2010

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Parish Ministry: "Writing as a Christian Practice," *Duke Divinity School*  
2009 & 2010

Christian Theology: "Christ and (Popular) Culture: Theology  
and the Movies," *Northern Seminary, Illinois* 2007

Course of Study: "Early and Medieval Christianity,"  
*Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, IL* 2007

Bible & Theology: Theology of Augustine  
*Wheaton College, IL* 2007

History: Theology of St. Augustine  
*North Park Theological Seminary, IL* 2006

## Honors

Cover stories: 26 for *Christian Century*, 3 for *Books & Culture*, 1 each  
for *Covenant Companion*, *Sojourners*, and *Christianity Today*. 11 Asso-  
ciated Church Press awards.

My essay, "Not Your Father's Pornography," chosen for "Other Note-  
worthy Spiritual Writing of the Year" by *The Best Spiritual Writing*  
2010, edited by Philip Zaleski.

First place in the *American Academy of Religion's* 2007 newswriting  
contest for news outlets with circulations under 100,000.

## Publications

### Books

*Psalms III* in *The Brazos Theological Commentary on the Bible*,  
forthcoming with Brazos.

*Surprised by Jesus Again: Reading the Bible with Augustine and the*  
*Whole Church*, a general readership book forthcoming with Eerdmans.

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*Mentoring for Ministry: The Grace of Growing Pastors*, coedited with Craig Kocher and James Howell (Eugene, Oreg.: Cascade, forthcoming in 2016).

With John Buchanan, *From the Editor's Desk: Thinking Critically, Living Faithfully at the Dawn of a New Century* (Louisville: Westminster, forthcoming in 2016).

*Trinity: The God We Don't Know* in the *Belief Matters* series, edited by Will Willimon (Nashville: Abingdon, May 2015).

Co-edited with Roger Owens, *Pastoral Work: Pastoral Engagements with the Vision of Eugene Peterson* (Eugene, Oregon: Cascade, 2014).

*Discerning the Body: Searching for Jesus in the World* (Eugene, Oreg.: Cascade, 2013).

*The Gifts of the Small Church* (Nashville: Abingdon Press 2010).

*Praise Seeking Understanding: Reading the Psalms with Augustine*, in *Radical Traditions*, with a forward by Robert W. Jenson (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2007).

*An Introduction to the Desert Fathers* (Eugene: Cascade, 2007).

*Reading Augustine: A Guide to the Confessions* (Eugene: Cascade, 2006).

## Writing for *Faith & Leadership*

More than 100 articles, interviews, blog posts and essays from 2008-present, available at [www.faithandleadership.com](http://www.faithandleadership.com). A sampling:

"What is Pentecost?" a sermon posted June 3, 2014.

"We may all be headed to bivocational ministry," essay posted June 4, 2013.

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“Scattering Seeds,” a sermon preached at Boone UMC and posted November 1, 2011.

“From structure to Spirit and back,” an interview with Rob Bell, posted November 9, 2010.

“David Black: Salt and light,” an interview with the president of Eastern University, posted August 16, 2010.

“Wounded healer,” an interview with Rwandan genocide resistor Violette Nyirarukundo, posted August 10, 2010.

“Small acts, great transformations,” an essay on leadership in André Trocmé and Nelson Mandela, posted February 15, 2010.

“David Ford and Peter Ochs: Community that’s not monochrome,” an interview on Scriptural Reasoning and Christian leadership, posted August 4, 2009.

“The pause,” a reflection on the moment before preaching, posted May 26, 2009.

“The Humility of Dust,” a reflection on Ash Wednesday for leaders, posted February 22, 2009.

## Writing for the *Christian Century*

More than 150 articles, interviews, blog posts, and reviews available at [www.christiancentury.com](http://www.christiancentury.com), and a regular column “On Media.” A sampling:

“Vancouver’s Stony Soil,” a cover profile of flourishing ministries including Tenth Church, Grandview Calvary Baptist, and Pacific Theatre, January 6, 2016.

“Delight in preaching,” a review of six books on preaching, September 16, 2015, 30-33.

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Review of Fleming Rutledge's book *And God Spoke to Abraham*, October 16, 2012.

"Synchronized worship: The rise of the multicampus church," on Lifechurch.tv, January 26, 2010, 26-29.

Cover story, "Stand and deliver: Performers in the pulpit," on four former full-time entertainers and what they teach the rest of us about pastoral ministry, April 7, 2009, 20-24.

Twin Feature on "Emerging in Seattle": "Education at Mars Hill," February 24, 2009, 24 & 26 and "Ray Bakke and a school without walls," *ibid.*, 25 & 27-29.

"The Recovery Café," part of a series I conceived on "Ministry in the None Zone," December 2, 2008, 23-24.

"Inside *The Shack*: The Trinity Makes the Best-Seller List," October 21, 2008, 11-12.

Cover story, "How martyrs are made: Stories of the faithful," July 29, 2008, 20-23.

"Textweek.com: The woman behind the Web site," a profile of Jenee Woodard, January 15, 2008, 10-11.

Cover story, "Gangs and God: How churches are reaching out," September 18, 2007, 20-27.

With John Wright, "Islamic wisdom: What Christians can learn," an interview with David Burrell, May 15, 2007, 27-32.

"John Paul & the Jews: A blessing to one another," review of an exhibit on the late pope's rapprochement with Judaism at the Museum of Jewish Heritage in New York, March 20, 2007, 24-26.

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Cover story, "Room service: Hotel workers demand a fair contract," on religious organizers' work among hotel workers in Chicago, November 14, 2006, 8-9.

"Sanctuary: Mary, Methodists, and immigration," on the new sanctuary movement, October 31, 2006, 10-11.

Cover story, "I was in prison . . . The church behind bars," on what the free church can learn from the bound church, October 3, 2006, 20-24.

"Purpose-Driven in Brazil," on the relationship between the World Council of Churches and evangelicals, April 4, 2006, 8-9.

## Book Chapters, Academic Articles, and Reviews (a sampling)

A paper, "Christianity Without Enemies," on Jonathan Sacks, Rene Girard and Rowan Williams, at the conference "Encountering the Other," at the *Vancouver School of Theology* May 17, 2016.

An essay on politics in Kansas and elsewhere reflecting on Thomas Frank, Joseph Bottum, and Stanley Hauerwas, in the *Journal for Scriptural Reasoning*, Vol. 14, No. 1 (June 2015),

<https://jsr.shanti.virginia.edu/back-issues/vol-14-number-1-june-2015-politics-scripture-and-war/city-on-a-hill-still/>

A review of Mickey Mattox and AG Roeber's *Changing Churches: An Orthodox, Catholic, and Lutheran Theological Conversation* in *The Thomist*, (April 2015).

A chapter on Theology and Worship for the *Routledge Companion to the Practice of Christian Theology*, edited by Jim Fodor and Mike Highton (London: Routledge, 2015).

Two entries, "Allegory" and "Typology," for the *Cambridge Dictionary of Christian Theology*, edited by Ian McFarland, David Fergusson, Karen Kilby & Iain Torrance (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2011).

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“A Village of Peace for Sudan,” in *The Review of Faith & International Affairs* Vol 8 No 1 (Spring 2010), 85.

“Delight in Scripture,” in *Augustine: His Relevance and Legacy*, ed. Wayne Cristaudo and Heung Wah Wong (Adelaide: Australasian Theological Forum Theology, 2010), 37-54.

Review of *Christ and the Just Society in the Thought of Augustine*, in the *Scottish Journal of Theology*, Vol. 62 No. 2 (Spring, 2009).

“God Does Not Entertain Us,” in Brent Laytham, ed., *God Is Not...* (Grand Rapids: Brazos Press, 2009), 107-130.

Review of Brian Brock’s *Singing the Ethos of God: On the Place of Christian Ethics in Scripture* (Eerdmans), in *Studies in Christian Ethics*, Vol. 21 No. 3 (December, 2008), 434-438.

“Emerging From What, Going Where?” the Epilogue to *Ancient Faith for the Church’s Future*, Mark Husbans and Jeffrey Greenman, eds. (Downers Grove, Ill.: InterVarsity Press, 2008), 249-263.

“‘Closer Than Kissing’: Sarah Coakley on the Fathers and Feminism,” *Anglican Theological Review*, Vol. 90 No. 1 (Winter 2008), 139-155.

“‘Roomy Hearts’ in a ‘More Spacious World’: Origen of Alexandria and Ellen Davis on the Song of Songs” in *Anglican Theological Review* 88 (Fall 2006), 537-556.

Other Publications (a sampling from more than 100 publications)

Regular reviewer for *Christian Century*’s “On Media,” 2012-2016, *Sojourners*’ “Living the Word” 2015-2016, *United Methodist Reporter and Publisher’s Weekly* from 2006-2008, for *Call & Response* 2009-2012, for the *New Media Project* 2011-2013, and for the *Watauga Democrat* 2012-2015.

“Gentleness Rules,” in *Journal for Preachers* Vol. XXXIX No. 4 (Pentecost 2016), 49-54.



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“How John Piper Knows the Bible is True,” *Christianity Today* Vol 60 No 3 (April 2016), 69.

“Surprised by Wright,” a cover story profile of N.T. Wright for *Christianity Today* (April 2014), 36-43.

“Seminary left you ill-prepared? Of course it did,” a review of Dana Fearon’s *Straining at the Oars*, in *In Trust* magazine, Vol. 25 no. 2 (2014), 28.

“Fatherhood and Loss,” a review essay in *Books & Culture* (January-February 2014), 11-14.

Two essays on theological themes in Hebrews 5 & 7 for *Lectionary Homiletics*, Vol. XXIII, Number 6 (October-November 2012), 20-21 & 30-31.

“Seminary preps pastors for laity’s big questions,” a commentary published in *United Methodist Reporter*, August 10, 2011.

“Does Seminary Still Matter?” an essay in *Relevant* magazine (January 2011).

Cover story, “Prisons and the body of Christ: Justice and Grace,” in *Books & Culture* (January-February 2010), 16-18.

Three guest editorials in *Theology Today*, Oct. 2007, April 2009 & Jan. 2010.

With L. Gregory Jones, “Methodists and Microfinance,” an article comparing the work of Muhammad Yunus and John Wesley in *First Things* (November 2009), 20-22.

11 Theological perspectives for *Feasting on the Word: Preaching the Revised Common Lectionary*, ed. David Bartlett and Barbara Brown Taylor, 2008-2010.

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5 footnote commentaries on the Book of Exodus (on chapters 2-3, 14, 23, 24-27 & 33) for the *Wesley Study Bible*, edited by Joel Green (Nashville: Abingdon, 2009).

5 commentaries or sermons in *Homily Service*, 2008-2010.

3 lectionary commentaries for *Pulpit Resource*, 2005-2008.

“Jeremiah Wright, Evangelicals’ Brother in Christ,” published in the blog of *Christianity Today*, May 7, 2008.

“Reading with the Saints,” a review of several volumes on theological exegesis in *Books & Culture*, Vol. 14 No. 3 (May/June 2008), 12-14 & 40-42.

Cover story, “Preaching is Hard,” in *Books and Culture*, Vol. 12 No. 3 May/June 2006, 38-39.

“The Almost Formerly Important,” guest column on the church and politics in *Christianity Today*, March 2006.

## Speaking Engagements (A sampling from more than 100)

Speaking on homiletics for the annual theology lecture at Queens University in Kingston, Ontario, October 2016.

Retreat leader for Tenth Church’s annual weekend away, May 20-22, 2016.

Presented on the story of Noah from a Christian perspective for *Noah’s Pudding*, a conversation between Jews, Christians, and Muslims in *Epiphany Chapel* at *Vancouver School of Theology* November 18, 2015.

Regular speaking opportunities at *Duke Divinity School* from 2002-present and at *Appalachian State University* 2011-2015.

Speaker and preacher at *Bay View Chautauqua* in Bay View, Michigan, June 2015.

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Speaker, preacher, and panelist for the *Academy for Leadership Excellence's* inaugural *Preaching Festival* in Raleigh, NC, April 2015.

One of two Albright-Deering lecturers and preacher at *Pittsburgh Theological Seminary*, April 2015.

Presented the Smith-Wilson Lecture at *Southwestern College* in Wichita, Kansas, called "City on a Hill, Still?" September 10, 2014.

Taught an extended elective for three days at the *Institute on Youth Ministry* at *Princeton Theological Seminary*, April 28-May 1, 2014.

"Augustine on Tropology: Turning Enemies into Friends," a paper for the Christian Theology and Bible Section of the *Society for Biblical Literature*, Baltimore, Maryland, November 23, 2013.

"Reading Scripture *For* the Whole Church," and "*With* the Whole Church," lectures at *Union Presbyterian Seminary-Charlotte*, October 20-21, 2013.

Panelist and speaker for "Digital Church: Theology and New Media," at *Union Theological Seminary* in New York, February 8, 2013.

Lectured on bi-vocational ministry and presented a workshop on social media at *Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary*, Austin, TX November 2-3, 2012.

Spoke at "Heaven on Earth?: The Future of Spiritual Interpretation," a conference at *Regent College* in Vancouver, British Columbia, September 17, 2011.

Spoke on Christology and allegory in Augustine at a class on spirituality at *Beeson Divinity School* at *Samford University*, Birmingham, Alabama, April 5, 2011.

Plenary speaker and in-depth faculty member for *St. Olaf College's* Conference on Worship, Theology and the Arts, "The New and the Good News," Northfield, Minnesota, July 19-23, 2010.

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“Prisons and the body of Christ,” a lecture at *DePaul University* in Chicago, co-sponsored by the departments of Political Science, Religion, and Catholic studies, May 17, 2010.

“My God and your God,” a commencement address and sermon at *Western Theological Seminary* in Holland, MI, May 10, 2010.

Inaugural lecturer for a new Lenten speakers’ series co-sponsored by *Mount Olive College* and the *Mount Olive Area Ministerial Alliance*, Mount Olive NC, March 8-9, 2010.

Lectured to an ethics class at *The College of William and Mary* in Williamsburg, Virginia, on “Augustine and the Virtues,” February 10, 2010.

Faculty for training session for Scriptural Reasoning at the *University of Virginia*, Charlottesville, VA, July 6-9, 2009.

Participated in Scriptural Reasoning University at *Cambridge University*, Cambridge, England, June 8-11, 2009.

Presented three workshops on “The writing and the pastoral life” to the *Transition Into Ministry* conference sponsored by the Lilly Endowment in Indianapolis, May 6, 2009.

“Your one wild, precious life,” a talk to students at *Davidson College*, Davidson NC, about the discernment of vocation, March 29, 2009.

“Committing Faith in Public,” a lecture to a conference on “Faith, Doubt and the Media” at *Elon University*, Burlington NC, March 9, 2009.

Keynote address to the Faith & Public Policy Forum of the Wisconsin Council of Churches, October 3, 2008 at *First UMC* in Appleton, WI.

Guest speaker at *Prolix*, an annual meeting of pastors of large UCC churches on Guemes Island, Washington, April 29-May 2, 2008.

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Guest lecturer at *North Central College* in Naperville, IL on rhetoric, the media, servant leadership and the black church, April 9, 2008

Speaker and participant in a forum on Religion and the Media at *Duke Divinity School* along with representatives of *USA Today*, the *Boston Globe*, the *Washington Post*, *NPR* and others, March 27-28, 2008

Guest lecturer at *Furman University*, sponsored by the Mere Christianity Forum and the university's Cultural Life Program on "A Faith Worth Dying For," Greenville, South Carolina, February 11, 2008.

Participated in a closed conference on "Augustine: His Legacy and Relevance" at *Hong Kong University*, December 6-9 2007. Sponsored by the Department of Modern Languages of HKU and the Australasian Theological Forum

Presented "Urban Ministry Amidst Gentrification" at *Vancouver School of Theology's* "Alternative Ecclesiologies Fair," Vancouver, BC, November 14, 2007

Public lecture, "Augustine, the Just War Theory, and the War on Terror" to students and faculty at *Hope College*, October 8, 2007

Participated in a *Center of Theological Inquiry's* Consultation alongside David Ford, Brian Daley, Marilynne Robinson and others, Princeton, NJ, April 19-21, 2007

Plenary speaker on the Emergent Church at *Wheaton College's* Annual Theology Conference, April 13, 2007

Respondent at North Park's *Ex Audit* symposium on Theological Exegesis, September 29, 2006

Featured speaker at the *Annual Conference of the Academy of Parish Clergy* in Milwaukee, April 19, 2005

"Allegory as Comedy" on Augustine's hermeneutics, read at the Divine Comedies conference at *Baylor University*, Waco, TX, April 8, 2005

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## Media

Have been consulted by writers or producers at *The New Yorker*, *60 Minutes*, *The Chicago Tribune*, *HBO*, *Newsweek*, *NPR*, *WGBH Boston*, *Jerusalem Post*, *Washington Post*, *Religion & Ethics Newsweekly*, *USA Today*, *Time*, *Investors' Business Daily*, the *Raleigh News & Observer*, and the *Nashville Tennessean*, and quoted in the last seven.

"Introduction to Methodism," an online lecture as part of *Church-next.tv*, published September 2014.

Speaker for online worship service at *Darkwood Brew*, an "interactive web television program and spiritual gathering," on Psalm 137 and spiritual reading, August 27, 2014.

Guest panelist on *Religion & Ethics Newsweekly* on PBS alongside Bob Abernethy, Kim Lawton & EJ Dionne on "Look Ahead 2010 Roundtable," January 1, 2010.

Participant-Observers as a media voice at the Renewal Grant Colloquium of the *Calvin Institute of Christian Worship* at *Calvin College*, June 22-24, 2009.

Recorded 4 one-minute faith meditations for the Chicago Sunday Evening Club that aired on *PBS* in Chicago in early 2008.

Guest on Milt Rosenberg's Extension 720 on *WGN* radio to discuss atheism with author Nica Lalli, June 7, 2007.

## Ecclesial Experience

Ordained Elder in the *Western North Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church*, June 2008.

Member of the *Board of Ordained Ministry* of the *Western North Carolina Conference of the UMC*, 2010-present

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Informal advisor and regular speaker for campus ministries at *Appalachian State University*, for *Bethelview* and *Valle Crucis UMC's* in Boone NC, *Duke Memorial*, *Trinity* and *Reconciliation UMC's* and the *Duke Divinity School* chapel in Durham NC, *Evanston 1st UMC* in Evanston IL, *Gary Memorial UMC* in Wheaton IL, and *Flowing Grace UMC* in Aurora IL.

## Preaching and Teaching in the Church (A sampling of more than 100)

Preaching at *Duke Chapel*, Durham NC, July 24, 2016.

Preached at *St. Paul's Anglican Church* in Vancouver, BC, May 15, 2016.

Led a day-long retreat introducing homiletics to aspiring deacons in the *Diocese of New Westminster* at *Christ Church Cathedral*, Vancouver BC, May 7, 2016.

Keynote speaker for *Holy Shift*, a conference for the BC Conference of the United Church of Canada at *Trinity United Church*, Vernon BC, April 23, 2016.

Preached at *Canadian Memorial United Church*, Vancouver, BC, March 13, 2016.

Preached at *St. Andrews United Church*, North Vancouver, BC, February 28, 2016.

"A Bright Sadness," a seminar on preaching for Anglican clergy in the *Diocese of New Westminster*, February 24, 2016.

Spoke to *Sutherland Church* (Plymouth Brethren) and *St. Timothy's Anglican* in North Vancouver about being a southerner and a Christian, February 23, 2016.

Preached at *Fairview Presbyterian Church* in Vancouver, BC, February 14, 2016.

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Spoke to the elders of the Presbytery of Westminster on a way forward amidst disputes over homosexuality at *Gordon Presbyterian Church* in Burnaby, BC, January 19, 2016.

Preached at *Holy Trinity Anglican Church*, Vancouver, BC, January 17, 2016.

Preached at *St. Gregory's Armenian Orthodox Church* in Richmond, BC, January 10, 2016, on Orthodox Christmas, at a service welcoming newly-arrived Syrian refugees, attended by Members of Parliaments, Members of the Legislative Assembly, and other celebrities.

Meditation for a gathering of the principals of all the United Church of Canada schools in *Epiphany Chapel* at VST, December 10, 2015.

Preached at *Ryerson United Church* in Vancouver, BC, December 6, 2015.

Preached at *University Hill Congregation* (United Church of Canada) in Vancouver, BC, November 29, 2015.

Preached at *Christ Church Anglican Cathedral* in Vancouver, BC, November 22, 2015.

Preached all five services at *Tenth Church*, a Christian & Missionary Alliance congregation with an average attendance of 2000 in Vancouver, British Columbia, November 8, 2015.

Preached at *Tenth Church*, September 20, 2015.

Preached at *First Metropolitan United Church* in Victoria, BC, September 6, 2015.

Preached all five services at *Tenth Church*, August 9, 2015.

Co-led a two day workshop for the *School of Congregational Development* of the *General Board of Global Ministries* at Matthews UMC, near Charlotte NC, August 14-15, 2014.



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Preached in Miller Chapel at *Princeton Theological Seminary* as part of its *Youth Ministry Forum*, April 30, 2014.

Preached at *Union Presbyterian Seminary's* Charlotte campus, October 19, 2013.

Presented at *Connexion13*, a conference on new media and the church, at *Central UMC* in Concord, NC, October 10, 2013.

Preached at *Pillar Reformed Church* in Holland, MI, October 28, 2012.

Keynote speaker for the diocesan retreat of the *Episcopal Diocese of West Michigan* in Spring Lake, MI, giving four lectures from October 25-26, 2012.

Gave two lectures to the *Consortium of Endowed Episcopal Churches (CEEP)* on the topic, "Leadership that Matters: Cultivating Vibrant Institutions," in Charlotte, NC, March 8-9, 2012.

Keynote speaker for the Annual Council of the *Episcopal Diocese of Nebraska* in North Platte, Nebraska, November 4, 2011.

Preached at *Central UMC* in Concord, NC, as part of the Houston Preaching Mission, October 2, 2011.

Preached for the third time at *Duke Chapel*, Durham NC, August 14, 2011.

Diocesan speaker for the *Episcopal Diocese of Central Pennsylvania* meeting on the campus of *Bucknell University*, Lewisburg, Pennsylvania, June 8-9, 2011.

Spoke to a conference on the renewal of the small church for the *Synod of Detroit* and the *Synod of the Covenant* in Perrysburg, Ohio, May 6, 2011.

Taught Sunday School as part of "Semester @ Centenary" at *Centenary United Methodist Church* in Winston-Salem, NC, November 7, 2010.

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Delivered devotional at morning prayer at *All Saints Cathedral* in Juba, Sudan, as part of a Leadership Seminar sponsored by the Episcopal Church of Sudan, July 30, 2010.

Preached at the college chapel service at *Mount Olive College* in Mount Olive, NC, March 9, 2010.

Led a daylong retreat for the deacons of *Watts Street Baptist Church* in Durham NC on “Praying the Psalms with Jesus: How to Praise and Lament Like God,” February 27, 2010.

Spoke at the *Mission to Ministers* conference, sponsored by the *Finch-Hunt Institute on Preaching* to 250 UM ministers of the Western North Carolina Conference on “Leadership as Prophetic Listening,” at *Myers Park UMC*, Charlotte, February 2, 2010.

Led a one-day workshop on “The Pastoral and Writing Life” for *Transition into Ministry* residents current and past at *Wilshire Baptist Church* in Dallas, TX, January 27, 2010.

Led a three-day writing workshop for the interns at *Christ Church (Episcopal)* in Alexandria, VA, August 31-September 2, 2009.

Spoke to a workshop at the General Assembly of the Disciples of Christ (Christian Church), Indianapolis, July 29, 2009.

Inaugural speaker for the Academy for Spiritual Life at *Asbury First UMC* in Rochester, NY, on “A Winter’s Evening with the Desert Fathers,” January 11, 2009.

Keynote address on “The Old Testament as the Way to Peace,” for *Peace Matters*, the peace forum for the Burlington District of the North Carolina Conference of the UMC at Camp Chestnut Ridge in Efland, NC, December 6, 2008.

Preached at the closing Eucharistic celebration at the *Washington Island Forum*, Door County WI, June 27, 2008.

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Preached at a service of celebration of the joint recognition of ministries between Presbyterian, Lutheran, and UCC churches at *Plymouth UCC* in Milwaukee, June 19, 2008.

Spoke on my book *An Introduction to the Desert Fathers* at the *Church of the Servant King* in Eugene, OR, April 3, 2008