

Ted A. Smith

CURRICULUM VITAE

The Divinity School
Vanderbilt University
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ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

Assistant Professor of Ethics and Society, 2005-present
Director of the Program in Theology and Practice
Vanderbilt University Divinity School
Vanderbilt University Graduate Department of Religion

Visiting Assistant Professor of Christian Ethics and Preaching, 2004-2005
Candler School of Theology, Emory University

ECCLESIAL EMPLOYMENT

Pastor, Presbyterian Churches of Dundee and Weston, New York, 1995-1999
The Dundee church received the Elias Boudinot Award for excellence in small church ministry in 1997.

EDUCATION

Ph.D., with distinction, Emory University, 2004
Area: Ethics and Society, with a Bandy Fellowship in Preaching

M.Div., Princeton Theological Seminary, 1995

M.A., first-class honours, Oxford University, Joint Schools of Philosophy and Theology, 1992

B.A., *summa cum laude*, Duke University, 1990
Majors in Public Policy and Religion, Certificate in Jewish Studies

FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS AND AWARDS

Post-doctoral Fellowship, Princeton University Center for the Study of Religion, 2005 (declined)
Woodruff Fellowship, Emory University, 1999-2004
Bandy Fellowship in Preaching, Emory University, 1999-2002
Presidential Fellowship, Princeton Theological Seminary, 1992-1995
Roberts Scholarship in Preaching, Princeton Theological Seminary, 1995
Wailes Memorial Prize in New Testament, Princeton Theological Seminary, 1994
Gallaway Prize in Expository Preaching, Princeton Theological Seminary, 1994

Rhodes Scholarship, Missouri and Jesus, 1990-1992
College Book Prize, Jesus College, Oxford, 1992
Joel L. Fleishman Prize in Public Policy, Duke University, 1990
Outstanding Graduate, Department of Religion, Duke University, 1990
Phi Beta Kappa, Duke University, 1989

PUBLICATIONS

Book

The New Measures: A Theological History of Democratic Practice. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2007.

Edited booklet

Frequently Asked Questions About Sexuality, Bible and the Church: Plain Talk About Tough Issues. San Francisco: The Covenant Network of Presbyterians, 2006 (second edition, 2007).
Editor and contributor.

Frequently Asked Questions has been featured as a notable resource by The Human Rights Campaign and the Institute for Welcoming Resources. The second edition was funded by a \$10,000 grant from the Carpenter Foundation and a matching gift from an individual donor.

Book chapters, articles and essays

- “History, Practice, and Teaching for Ministry,” with David D. Daniels, III, in *For Life Abundant: Practical Theology in the Education and Formation of Ministers*, Craig Dykstra and Dorothy Bass, eds. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, forthcoming.
- “Charles Grandison Finney” and “Antoinette Brown,” in *The Cambridge Dictionary of Christianity*. Daniel Patte, ed. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, forthcoming.
- “Baptism of the Lord,” “Second Sunday after Epiphany,” “Third Sunday after Epiphany,” *Lectionary Commentary Series, Lectionary Commentary Series, Year B, vol. 1*. Barbara Brown Taylor and David L. Bartlett, eds. Louisville, Ky.: Westminster John Knox Press, forthcoming.
- “The Price of Respectable Equality: Eschatological Memories of Actually-Existing Democracy,” *Journal of the Society of Christian Ethics*, vol. 27, no. 1 (Fall 2007), 137-156.
- “Preaching and the Politics of Eschatological Memory,” *Liturgy*, vol. 22, no. 1 (2007), 39-45.
- “Authoritative Witnesses: Accept No Substitutes,” *Presbyterian Outlook*, vol. 188, no. 41 (December 4/11, 2006), 12, 14.
- “The Fullness of Ordinary Time,” *Journal for Preachers*, vol. 29, no. 4 (Pentecost 2006), 3-9.
- “Ethically Engaged,” *Candler Connection*, Spring 2005, 7.
- “Redeeming Critique: Resignations to the Cultural Turn in Christian Theology and Ethics,” *Journal of the Society of Christian Ethics*, vol. 24, no. 2 (Fall 2004), 89-113.
- “Eunuchs for the Kingdom of Heaven,” *The Register of the Company of Pastors*, vol. I, no. 1 (Summer 1998), 54-62.

Reviews

- Review of *Berlin Childhood Around 1900*, by Walter Benjamin, transl. Howard Eiland, in *Political Theology*, forthcoming.
- Review of *Covenant and Communication: A Christian Moral Conversation with Jürgen Habermas*, by Hak Joon Lee, in *Journal of the Society of Christian Ethics*, forthcoming.

Review of *John Brown, Abolitionist: The Man Who Killed Slavery, Sparked the Civil War, and Seeded Civil Rights*, by David S. Reynolds, in *Political Theology*, vol. 8, no. 2 (April 2007), 249-252.

Review of *Anxious About Empire: Theological Essays on the New Global Realities*, ed. Wes Avram, in *Homiletic*, vol. 31, no. 1 (Summer 2006), 59-61.

Review of *Congregations in Conflict: Cultural Models of Local Religious Life*, by Penny Edgell Becker, in *Monday Morning*, vol. 65, no. 18 (November 6, 2000), 15-17.

Work in progress (selected)

Preaching in America: A Practical History. Co-authored with Thomas G. Long, under contract with Westminster / John Knox Press.

“Adorno and the Negation of Narrative,” for a volume proposed to Fordham University Press.

ACADEMIC PAPERS AND LECTURES

“On the Use and Abuse of History for Ethics,” Southeast Commission for the Study of Religion, Ethics Section, 2006.

“The Price of Respectable Equality: The Lynching at Oberlin and the Lived Religion of an Actually-Existing Democracy,” Annual Meeting of the Society of Christian Ethics, 2006.

“Memories of *Gilead*,” Literature and Literary Theory Interest Group, Annual Meeting of the Society of Christian Ethics, 2006.

“The Authority of Celebrity and the Perils of Sincerity” Annual Meeting of the Academy of Homiletics, 2005.

“Sinners Bound to Change Their Own Hearts: The Anxious Bench as a Ritual for Freedom,” Joint Session of the Ethics Section and the Ritual Studies Group, American Academy of Religion, 2005.

“Finney’s Eyes: Practices of Sincerity and the Authority of Celebrity,” Southeast Commission for the Study of Religion, Ethics Section, 2005.

“Redeeming Critique: Walter Benjamin and the Cultural Turn in Christian Theology and Ethics,” Annual Meeting of the Society of Christian Ethics, 2004.

“Chastity, Fidelity and Confession,” Lecture at Drew University School of Theology, 2003.

“Running Mad for Stories: Nineteenth-Century American Preaching and the Transformation of the Public Sphere,” Conference on Literature and Democracy, Emory University, 2002.

“Out of the Mouths of Babes: Exhortation by Children and the Great Revival in Kentucky,” American Society of Church History, 2002.

“Reformed Confessions as Testimony and Test,” Holy Wars: A Conference on Religion, Identity and Reconciliation, Emory University, 2001.

TEACHING IN ACADEMIC SETTINGS

Tolerance, Identity and Diversity (M.Div. / M.T.S. / Ph.D.)

Practical Theology and Theological Education in a Global Context (Ph.D.)

Theories of Practice (Ph.D.)

Theological Education as Vocation (Ph.D. colloquy)

Christian Ethics of Sex (M.Div. / M.T.S. / Ph.D.)

Critical Theory and the Question of History (Ph.D. reading course)

Habermas and Discourse Ethics (Ph.D. reading course)

History of Preaching in the United States (Ph.D.)

Globalization and Theories of Justice (Th.M.)

Christian Ethics / Christian Practice (M.Div. / M.T.S.)
Ethics of Work and Leisure (M.Div. / M.T.S.)
The Cultural Turn in Religious Ethics (M.T.S. reading course)
Introduction to Preaching (M.Div.)
Preaching and Ethics (M.Div. independent study)
Contextual Education for Ministry (M.Div.)
History of Religions in the United States (B.A.)
Jewish-Christian Relations (B.A.)

TEACHING FOR WIDER PUBLICS (SELECTED)

- The Foote Lectures in Christian Ethics, First Congregational Church, Ithaca, NY, May 2007.
“How to Talk about Sex in and as Beloved Community,” Oakhurst Presbyterian Church, Decatur, Georgia, 2007.
“Sermon: John 20:9-23,” *Cloud of Witnesses: An Audio Journal of Youth, Church and Culture*, vol. 11 (2007).
“Christian Life in Time: Vocation, Sloth, and Holy Leisure” (three classes), First Presbyterian Church, Nashville, 2007.
“A Lived Theology of Beloved Community” (two lectures), Christ Cathedral, Nashville, 2006.
“Christian Life in Time: Vocation, Sloth, and Holy Leisure”
Two-day retreat for Second Presbyterian Church, Nashville, 2006.
“Practical Divinity,” Convocation Address, Vanderbilt Divinity School, 2006.
“Reformed Understandings of Scripture,” Vanderbilt Presbyterian Campus Ministry, 2006.
“Will Godcasting Make Church Obsolete?” (television interview), WTVF, Nashville, Tenn., 2006.
“The Meaning of Life in Time: Work, Leisure, and Sloth,”
Retreat for the Missouri Young Presidents’ Organization, 2006.
“An Ethic of Connection: Race, Class, Region, and Ecological Concerns,”
Panel presentation, student group for Eco-concerns, Vanderbilt Divinity School, 2005.
“Tactics for Hospitality: Creating More Welcoming Congregations,”
Panel presentation, student group for GLBTQ concerns, Vanderbilt Divinity School, 2005.
“Reviving Democracy: Religion, Politics, and the Practice of Hope” (three public lectures)
Vanderbilt Relevant Religion Series, 2005.
“Christian Life in Time: Vocation, Sloth, and Holy Leisure,”
Three-day retreat for Clairmont Presbyterian Church, Atlanta, 2005
Lenten Devotional, Oakhurst Presbyterian Church, Decatur, Georgia, 2005
Oakhurst received a grant from Calvin College for efforts to celebrate the liturgical year in a multi-cultural, multi-racial church. As part of a larger effort to help the congregation live into Lent, I conceived and edited a book of daily prayers that draws on Reformed, Benedictine, Black Church and civil rights traditions.
“The Preoccupation of Ecclesiology,” Candler Contextual Education Opening Lecture, 2004
“A Prayer for Peace,” Atlanta NAACP Rally at the Capitol, 2004
“Forming a Sexual Ethic,” Emory Presbyterian Campus Ministry, 2004
“Practical Christianity” (two lectures), First Presbyterian Church, Atlanta, 2003
“What To A Christian Is the Fourth of July?” Youth Theological Initiative, Emory Univ., 2003
“The Sabbath Keeps Us” (retreat), Church of the New Covenant, Atlanta, 2003
“Practical Christianity” (four lectures), Clairmont Presbyterian Church, Atlanta, 2003
“The Communion of Saints,” First Saint Paul AME Church, Lithonia, Georgia, 2001
“How Can I Read, Unless Someone Guides Me? Authority and Interpretation in Acts 8”
PC(USA) Consultation of Pastor-Theologians, 1997

SERVICE IN THE ACADEMY (SELECTED)

Referee

Cambridge University Press
Political Theology
Journal of the Society of Christian Ethics

Vanderbilt

Member, planning committee, "Expanding the School of the Prophets: Toward Multicultural Inclusion, Education, and Ministry" (Wabash Center grant), 2005-present
Principal Investigator (with Alice Hunt), "Practices for Evaluating Teaching," Wabash Center grant, 2006-2007
Chair, Worship Committee, 2007-present
Member, Board of Advisors, Carpenter Program in Gender, Religion, and Sexuality, 2007-present
Member, Academic Program Committee, 2007-present
Ex-officio member, Graduate Programs and Admissions Committee, 2007-present
Member, Theology and Practice Grant Committee, 2005-present
Member, University Conflicts Committee, 2005-present
Faculty advisor, Presbyterian Students Association, 2006-present
Faculty advisor, Eco-Concerns Committee, 2005-present

Emory

Faculty member, Worship Committee, Candler School of Theology, 2004-2005
Student speaker, Recruitment Weekend, Emory Graduate Division of Religion, 2001, 2002
Research Assistant to Rebecca S. Chopp for 2001 AAR Presidential Address
Reader for Mark D. Jordan for *The Ethics of Sex* (Blackwell, 2001)

Duke

Student member, Committee to Revise the Curriculum, Duke University, 1987-88
Chair, Committee on Academic Affairs, Duke University Student Government, 1987-88

Invited Conference and Seminar Participation

Seminar on Theology and Christian Ministry (Convened by the Valparaiso Project), 2005-2007
Conference on Educating Clergy, Chicago, (sponsored by the Wabash Center), 2006
Gustafson Interdisciplinary Faculty Seminar, Emory University, Spring 2005
Practicing Theology, a conference at Yale Divinity School, 2003
Consultant, Church Leadership Project (led by Thomas Frank), Candler, 2003
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A) Consultation of Pastor-Theologians, 1997, 2000

Academic and Professional Societies

The Academy of Homiletics
American Academy of Religion
 Presiding member, Ethics and Theory section, SECSOR, 2007
The Association of Practical Theology
Society of Christian Ethics
 Panel organizer, Reflections on Marilynne Robinson's *Gilead*, Literature and Literary Theory Interest Group, 2006
Society for the Study of Christian Ethics

ECCLESIAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE (SELECTED)

Minister of Word and Sacrament, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), 1995-present
Supply Preacher, Presbytery of Greater Atlanta, 1999-2005; Presbytery of Middle Tennessee, 2005- present
Member, Board of Directors, Covenant Network of Presbyterians, 2004-present
Member, Rhodes Scholarship State Selection Committee, Georgia, 2001, 2002, 2004; Delaware, 1994
Member, Board of Directors, Emory University Presbyterian Campus Ministry, 2002-2005
Interim Pastoral Team Member, Oakhurst Presbyterian Church, Atlanta, 2002
Co-Founder, Chair of Board of Directors, Dundee Area Youth Center, 1996-1999
By 1999 the Youth Center had a stable budget that drew together church, community, state and federal funds. It continues to work with over one hundred young people in a small town – about 75% of each class in the school.
Co-Founder, Chair of Board of Directors, Mustard Seed Ministries, Weston, NY, 1996-1999
Mustard Seed Ministries brings together evangelical, mainline, and Roman Catholic churches for worship, local mission and Christian education in a rural region of upstate New York.
Vice Moderator, Presbytery of Geneva, 1998-1999
Member, Board of Directors, St. Mark's Terrace, Penn Yan and Dundee, NY, 1997-1999
A ministry of St. Mark's Episcopal Church, the Terraces provide affordable housing for older adults.
Chaplain and Clinical Pastoral Education student, Robert Wood Johnson Hospital, New Brunswick, New Jersey, 1994
Intern for community organizing, Bethany Presbyterian Church, Trenton, New Jersey, 1994
Intern pastor, Tri-Church Ministries (Presbytery of Northern New York), 1994
Teacher, farm hand, and guest preacher, Happy Home Orphanage, Muhoroni, Kenya, 1991
Intern, U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs, 1989
Co-Founder and President, Duke Community Habitat for Humanity, 1988-1990
In 1990 Duke Habitat completed its first house and negotiated with the University for a \$2 million bridge loan for affordable housing in Durham, NC. Habitat used Duke as a model for campus chapters nationwide.

GUEST PREACHING (SELECTED)

Conference preacher (four sermons), Princeton Forum on Youth Ministry, 2007
Westminster Presbyterian Church, Nashville, Tennessee, 2007
Second Presbyterian Church, Nashville, Tennessee, 2006
Southminster Presbyterian Church, Nashville, Tennessee, 2006
Vanderbilt University Divinity School Chapel, 2006
More Light Presbyterians Southeast Regional Conference, 2006
Clairmont Presbyterian Church, Atlanta, Georgia, 2005
Cannon Chapel, Emory University, 2004, 2005
Oakhurst Presbyterian Church, Decatur, Georgia, 2000-2005
Church of the New Covenant, Doraville, Georgia, 2000-2005
The Presbytery of Geneva broadcast sermons from Dundee on WFLR radio, 1997-1999
Jesus College Chapel, Oxford University, 1991
African Independent Church, Muhoroni, Kenya, 1991

LANGUAGES

German (Zertifikat Deutsch, Goethe-Institut Inter Nationes, Atlanta, 2003)

French (reading)

Koine Greek

Biblical Hebrew

References are available upon request.