**Dr. Joyce Ann Mercer, Ph.D., LCSW**

**Professor of Practical Theology and Pastoral Care**

**Editor, *Religious Education***

**Yale Divinity School**

**409 Prospect Street**

**New Haven, CT 06511**

**joyce.mercer@yale.edu**

**EDUCATION**

**Emory University, Atlanta, GA**

Ph.D., Graduate Division of Religion (1997), Department of Persons, Communities, and Religious Practices, and Graduate Certificate in Women’s Studies

**McCormick Theological Seminary, Chicago, IL**

D. Min., Urban Ministries Program (1991)

**University of Connecticut, Hartford, CT**

Graduate School of Social Work, M.S.W. (1985)

Group Work Major, Case Work Minor

**Yale University School of Divinity, New Haven, CT**

M.Div. (1984)

**University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA**

B.A. with Distinction (1979), Religious Studies

**FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND HONORS**

**Conant Grant, The Episcopal Church**

Indonesian Women’s Peacebuilding Narratives, Spring 2014;

Religious Conflict and Election Violence, Philippines, Summer 2010

**Peacemaking Grant, National Capital Presbytery**

People’s Election Observer Mission 2010, Philippine National Elections, May 2010

**The Fund for Theological Education**

“Greenhouses of Hope” Ethnography Project on Calling Congregations and the Vocations of

Youth 2008-2009

**The Louisville Institute**

2008-9: Religious Institutions Grants, “Against Our Own Kind: Congregations in Conflict with their Own Denominations,” August 2008-June 2009.

2003: General Grants Program, “Congregational Practices with Children: Sharing Our Research,” April-June 2003.

2002. General Grants Program, “Children in Congregations: A Congregational Studies Research Project,” January 2002-August 2003.

**Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religion**

2004-2005 Wabash Faculty Study Leave (Sabbatical semester) Grant

2001 Workshop/Grant for Theological Faculty

2002 Summer Grant for Theological Faculty

**Association of Theological Schools**

2004-2005 Awardee, ATS-Lilly Faculty Sabbatical Grant

**Youth Theology Initiative, Candler School of Theology**

2004-2006 Research Fellow

**EMPLOYMENT HISTORY**

**Yale Divinity School**

Professor of Practical Theology and Pastoral Care, 2016-present

**Virginia Theological Seminary**, Alexandria, VA

Arthur Lee Kinsolving Professor of Pastoral & Practical Theology, 2013-2015

Professor of Practical Theology, 2008-2015

Associate Professor of Pastoral Theology, 2006-2008

**San Francisco Theological Seminary and The Graduate Theological Union**

San Anselmo and Berkeley, CA**,** 2000-2006

Associate Professor of Practical Theology and Christian Education, and

GTU Core Doctoral Faculty Member in Interdisciplinary Studies,

Faculty Liaison, SFTS International Feminist D. Min. Program

Faculty Director for the David Ng Resource Center in Christian Education

**Union Theological Seminary in the Philippines,** Dasmarinas and Manila. 1997-2000 Faculty member in Practical Theology and Pastoral Care; Faculty for M. Theol. program of Southeast Asia Graduate School of Theology (SEAGAST)

**Teen Age Medical Service and Children’s Health Care, Minneapolis,** 1994-1996, Clinical Social Worker

**Egleston Children’s Hospital at Emory University,** Atlanta, GA., 1991-1994, Part-time Medical & Psychiatric Social Work

**Youth Theology Institute, Candler School of Theology,** Research Coordinator, 1992-1995

**Mayflower Congregational Church, U.C.C.,** Minneapolis, Minnesota, 1989-1991, Minister for Pastoral Care and New Member Nurture

**Fairview Deaconess Hospital,** Minneapolis, Minnesota, 1985-1989, Chaplain, Adolescent Chemical Dependency Program

**Third World Church Leaders Center, Presbyterian Theological Seminary of Korea,** Seoul, Korea, 1982-83, Volunteer in Mission Program, Presbyterian Church US, Seminary Teaching Internship

**ADDITIONAL TEACHING EXPERIENCES**

**United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities,** June 2012 Visiting Professor of Women’s Studies; Adjunct faculty, 1995-1997. Courses in “Ministries with Youth,” and “Feminism, Postmodernism, and Christian Education.”

**Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religion,** Faculty, 2007-2009 Workshop for Pre-Tenure Theology Faculty

**University of Toronto School of Theology, Knox College,** Visiting Professor, Summer Intensive course, “Theologies of Childhood,” May 28-June 8,2007

**Luther Seminary, St. Paul, MN,** Summer Faculty, Hybrid Course “Theologies of Childhood.” June 2006.

**PUBLICATIONS**

**Books**

*Conundrums in Practical Theology* (Leiden, Netherlands: Brill). Joyce Ann Mercer and Bonnie Miller-McLemore (Eds.). In Theology in Practice Series, November 2016.

*Girl Talk, God Talk: Why Faith Matters to Adolescent Girls—and their Parents, (*San Francisco: Jossey Bass), 2008.

*Lives to Offer: Accompanying Youth on Their Vocational Quests*, co-authored with Dori Baker. (Cleveland, OH: The Pilgrim Press), 2007.

*Welcoming Children: A Practical Theology of Childhood* (St. Louis, MO: Chalice Press), 2005.

**Book Chapters**

“Environmental Activism in the Philippines: A Practical Theological Perspective,” Chapter 16 pp. 287-307, in *Planetary Solidarity: Global Women’s Voices on Christian Doctrine and Climate Justice.* Grace Ji-Sun Kim and Hilda P. Koster, eds. (Minneapolis: Fortress Press), 2017.

“Communal Identities and Collective Trauma: A Practical Theological Exploration into Indonesia’s 1965-67 Anti-Communist Massacre,” pp. 192-203 in *Practicing Ubuntu: Practical Theological Perspectives on Injustice, Personhood and Human Dignity.* Olehile A. Buffel, Jaco Dreyer, Yolanda Dreyer, and Malan Nel, eds. (Leiden: LIT Verlag), 2017.

“Interdisciplinarity,” in *Conundrums in Practical Theology,* Joyce Ann Mercer and Bonnie Miller-McLemore, eds. (Leiden: Brill), 2016.

“Feminist and Womanist Practical Theologies,” in *Opening the Field of Practical Theology*, Kathleen Cahalan and Gordon Mikoski, eds. (Lanham, MD: Rowman and Littlefield), 2014.

“A Practical Theological Approach to Ecofeminism: Story of Women, Faith, and Earth Advocacy,” pp. 93-106 in Dewi Candraningrum, ed., *Body Memories: Goddesses of Nusantera, Rings of Fire, and Narratives of Myth.* Yayasin Jurnal Perempuan Press and Pusat Penelitian dan Studi Gender: Salatiga, Indonesia: 2014.

“Mark 9: 42-50,” pp. 290-294; “Mark 10: 1-12,” pp.296-300; “Mark 10: 13-16,” pp. 302-306 (Theological Perspective), in *Feasting on the Gospels* (Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press), 2014.

“Attending to Children, Attending to God: Children with ADHD and Christian Spirituality,” pp. 63-88 in Bert Roebben and Katharina Kammeyer (eds.), *Inclusive Religious Education. International Perspectives*, Berlin and Zurich: LIT Verlag, 2014.

“Pornography and Abuse of Social Media,” Chapter 17, pp. 193-204 in *Professional Sexual Ethics: A Holistic Ministry Approach*, eds. Darryl W. Stephens and Patricia Jung (Minneapolis: Fortress Press), 2013.

“Virtual Sex, Actual Infidelity: A Practical Theological Inquiry into (Dis)Embodied Desire and Cybersex,” Ch. 6, pp. 69-78 in CITY OF DESIRES. A PLACE FOR GOD? PRACTICAL THEOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVES Edited by R.Ruard Ganzevoort, Rein Brouwer, and Bonnie Miller-McLemore, International Academy of Practical Theology. Amsterdam: LIT Verlag, 2013.

“Girls and God When Everything’s Changing,” with Dori Baker, in David M. Csinos and Melvin Bray, eds. *Faith Forward: A Dialogue on Children, Youth, and a New Kind of Christianity* (Kelowna, BC, Canada: CopperHouse Division of Wood Lake Publishing), 2013.

“Economics, Class Relations, and Classism,” Chapter 41, pp. 432-442 in *The Blackwell Companion to Practical Theology,* ed. Bonnie J. Miller-McLemore (Malden, MA and Oxford:Blackwell), 2011.

“Calling Amid Conflict: What Happens to the Vocations of Youth When Congregations Fight?” Chapter 7, pp. 165-190 in *Greenhouses of Hope*: *Congregations Growing Young* *Leaders Who Will Change the World,* Dori G. Baker, Ed. (Herndon, VA: Alban), 2010.

“Sometimes I Feel Like a Fatherless Child,” Ch. 5, pp. 78-91 in Mary Elizabeth Moore and Almeda M. Wright, eds., *Children, Youth, and Spirituality in a Troubling World* (St. Louis, MO: Chalice Press), 2008.

“Children in the Gospel of Mark,” Ch. 5, pp. 44-61 in Jan Grajczonek and Maurice Ryan, eds., *Religious Education in Early Childhood: A Reader* (Brisbane, Australia: Lumino Press), 2007.

“Capitalizing on Children’s Spirituality: Parental Anxiety, Children as Consumers, and the Marketing of Spirituality,” Chapter 3 in *Perspectives on Children’s Spirituality,* Cathy Ota and Mark Chater, eds. (New York: Routledge), 2006.

“Spiritual Economies of Childhood: Christian Perspectives on Global Market Forces and Young People’s Spirituality,” Chapter 36, pp. 458-471 in *Nurturing Child and Adolescent* *Spirituality: Perspectives from the World’s Religious on Spirituality in Childhood and* *Adolescence* Karen-Marie Yust, *Aostre N. Johnson,* Rabbi Sandy Eisenberg Sasso, and Eugene C. Roehlkepartain, general editors. (Rowman and Littlefield), 2006.

“Children in Congregations: Congregations as Contexts for Children’s Spiritual Growth,” coauthored with Deborah L. Matthews and Scott Walz. Chapter 16 in *Children’s Spirituality:* *Christian Perspectives, Research, and Applications,* Eugene, OR: Cascade Books, 2004. 249-265.

“Iris Cully: Imparting the Word”, Chapter 5 in Faith of Our Foremothers: Women Changing Religious Education. Ed. By Barbara Anne Keely (Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press), 1997.

“Liberation” and “Faith”, in Dictionary of Feminist Theologies ed. by Letty M. Russell and J. Shannon Clarkson (Westminster/John Knox: Louisville: 1996), pp. 96-97 & 168.

“Lucy Rider Meyer, Educator”; “Seattle, Chief of the Duwamish Confederacy”; and “Jennie Fowler Willing, Suffrage Worker,” For All the Saints: A Calendar of Commemorations for United Methodists (Order of St. Luke Publications: Akron, Ohio), 1995.

**Journal Articles**

“Conflicting Identities: An Ethnographic Account of Conflict and Schism in an Episcopal Parish,” in *Ecclesial Practices* (Brill)*,* November 2016.

“’We Teach Our Children to See a Human Being’: Women Transforming Religious Conflict in Indonesia,” *International Journal of Practical Theology*, November 2016; 20(2): 261–281

“Pastoral Care with Children of War: A Community-Based Model of Trauma Healing in the Aftermath of Indonesia’s Religious Conflicts,” *Pastoral Psychology* (2015) 64:847-860. DOI 10.1007/s11089-015-0654-4.

“Play: A Theological Perspective on Recreation,” *Focus: The Magazine of Union Presbyterian Theological Seminary*, Spring 2015.

“Women, Congregations, and Conflict: Why Church Conflict is So Difficult for (Some) Women,” in *Insights: The Faculty Journal of Austin Seminary*, Vol. 129, No. 2, Spring 2014: 23-27.

“Cultivating a Community of Practice,” in *Lifelong Faith: The Theory and Practice of Lifelong Faith Formation,* Vol. 7.4, Winter 2013, pp. 10-12.

“Emerging Resources for a New Generation of Youth Ministry,” in Resources for American Christianity, http://www.resourcingchristianity.org, a website for disseminating information and reflection on research, projects, and publications funded by the Religion Division of the Lilly

Endowment. Joe Coulter, editor.

“Attending to Children, Attending to God: Children with ADHD and Christian Spirituality,”

*Journal of Childhood and Religion*, Vol. 2, Issue 7, November 2011: 1-38. www.childhoodandreligion.com.

“Early Childhood Religious Education and Attention Deficit Disorder,” in *Journal of Religious Education* (Australia), Special Themed Issue on Early Childhood. Vol. 59 (3):2011: 13-22.

“Vampires, Desire, Girls and God: *Twilight* and the Spiritualties of Adolescent Girls,” in *Pastoral Psychology*, 60, No. 2, April 2011: 263-278.

“Children, Church, and the Problem of Boredom,” in *Interface: A Forum for Theology in the*

*World* (Australasian Theological Forum: Adelaide, Australia). Vol. 10/2, 2008: 23-40.

“Europe: Just Do It! Recent Developments in European Religious Education Research,” coauthored with Bert Roebben in *Religious Education*, 102 No. 4, Fall 2007: 438-450.

“A Universally Particular Psychology? A Feminist Practical Theological Exploration of

*Cultural and Indigenous Psychology,*” in *Pastoral Psychology* 56:1, September 2007: 81-94.

"Transformational Adult Learning in Congregations." *Journal of Adult Theological Education*

3 (2006): 163-178

“Capitalizing on Children’s Spirituality: Parental Anxiety, Children as Consumers, and the Marketing of Spirituality,” in *International Journal of Children’s Spirituality,* Vol. 11, No. 1,

Spring 2006: 23-33.

“Children as Mystics, Activists, Sages, and Holy Fools: Understanding the Spirituality of

Children and Its Significance for Clinical Work,” *Pastoral Psychology* 54:5 May 2006: 497-515.

"A Madness to Our Method: Congregational Studies as a Cross-Disciplinary Approach to Contextualizing Teaching and Learning in Theological Education," in *Teaching Theology and* *Religion* 9:3, July 2006: 148-155.

“A Sense of Call: How Parents Support the Vocational Quests of Adolescent Girls,” in *Journal of Youth and Theology*, Vol. 4, No. 2 (Nov. 2005): 32-51.

“Who Do You Say That I Am? Children’s Identities, ‘Spiritual Capital,’ and Congregational Life,” *Family Ministry*, 19:4 Winter 2005: 11-27.

“Teaching the Bible in Congregation: A Congregational Studies Pedagogy for Contextual Education,” in *Religious Education*, Vol. 100, No. 3, Summer 2005: 280-295.

“The Child as Consumer: A North American Problem of Ambivalence Concerning the Spirituality of Childhood in Late Capitalist Consumer Culture,” in *Sewanee Theological* *Review,* Vol. 48, No. 1, Children and the Kingdom: Theology and Childhood. Christmas 2004: 65-86.

“The Protestant Child, Adolescent, and Family,” in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Clinics of North America, Allan M. Josephson and Mary Lynn Dell, Guest Editors. Saunders: Philadelphia. January 2004, Vol. 13, No. 1: 161-181.

“Liturgical Practices with Children in Congregations,” co-authored with Deborah L. Matthews in *Liturgy: Journal of the Liturgical Conference*, Vol. 19, No. 1, 2004: 27-33.

“Children in the Worshiping Community: Some New (And Not So New) Resources for Congregations,” co-authored with Larry A. Golemon, *Liturgy: Journal of the Liturgical Conference*, Vol. 19, No. 1, 2004: 11-19.

“The Idea of the Child in Freud and Jung: Psychological Sources for Divergent Spiritualities of Childhood,” *International Journal of Children’s Spirituality*, Vol. 8, No. 2: 115-132, August 2003.

“Children and Religious Education in an Age of Globalization: Learning from David Ng,” *Religious Education*, Vol. 97, No. 3, Summer 2002: 208-225.

“Call Forwarding: Putting Vocation in the Present Tense with Youth,” (pp. 29-44) and “Are We Going on a Vocation Now? Ministry with Youth as a Lifelong Vocation,” (pp. 45-56) *in Compass Points: Navigating Vocation. The 2002 Princeton Lectures on Youth, Church, and Culture*, Institute for Youth Ministry, Princeton Theological Seminary: 2002.

“Psychoanalysis, Parents and God: Julia Kristeva on the Imaginary Father and Subjectivity,” *Pastoral Psychology* Vol. 50, Number 4, March 2002: 243-258.

“Red Light Means Stop! Teaching Theology Through Exposure Learning in Manila’s Red Light District,” *Teaching Theology and Religion* Vol. 5, Number 2, April 2002: 90-100.

“How Clearly Must I See? Art and Ethics in Pedagogical Practice,” coauthored with Charles R. Foster, *Teaching Theology and Religion* Vol. 4 No. 3, October 2001: 124-132.

“Practical Theology and the Red Light District,” *Journal of Case Teaching* Number 11, Fall 2000: 51-59.

“Education For Subordination: Adolescent Girls, Gender Identity, and School Violence,” in *Journal of Religion and Abuse*, Vol. I (3) 1999: 19-48.

“Youth and Suicide,” in *Alert: A Magazine for Leaders and Planners of the Church’s Education Program*, (Presbyterian Publishing Corporation: Louisville) August 1996, Vol. 26, No. 2: 7-9.

“What Works with Youth Today,” in *The Clergy Journal*, March 1996: 4-8.

“The Devil Made Me Do It,” *Journal of Emotional and Behavioral Problems* Volume 2, Number 3: Fall 1993. Special Issue: “Alcohol and Kids.”

“Legal & Theological Justice for Adolescent Female Survivors of Sexual Abuse” *The Journal of Law and Religion*, Volume IX, Number 2: 1992.

**Editorials**

Editorial: Religious Education in Schools, Transitions in Journal Leadership, *Religious Education*, (2016). 111:1, 1-3, DOI: 10.1080/00344087.2016.1124009

Editorial: Thoughts on Religious Education and Youth, *Religious Education,* (2016) 111: 2, Pages 115-117.

Editorial: Preparing for the 2016 REA Conference, “Generating Hope: The Future of the Teaching Profession in a Globalized World.” *Religious Education*, (2016) 111:3, pp. 231–232.

Editorial: Imagination and Religious Education, *Religious Education*. (2016) 111:4, 345-347, DOI: 10.1080/00344087.2016.1201996

Editorial: Interdisciplinary Conversations in Religious Education." *Religious Education*, (2016) 111: 5, pp. 467–468.

Editorial: A Space for Hard Conversations on Race, Racism, Anti-Racism, and Religious Education. *Religious Education*, 112:1, pp. 1–2.

Editorial: Religious Education for Such a Time as This: Keeping Our (Journal) Borders Open, Religious Education, 112:2, 93-94, DOI: 10.1080/00344087.2017.1294936

Editorial: Religious Education as a Practice of Hope, *Religious Education,* 112: 3, 195-197, DOI: 10.1080/00344087.2017.1325697

Editorial: Learning in Encounter—Preparing for the 2017 REA Conference, Religious Education, 112:4, 309-310, DOI: 10.1080/00344087.2017.1358040

**DIGITAL PUBLICATIONS AND BROADCAST FORMATS**

“Diving into Divinity: Pastoral Care,” Yale Divinity School Online Video Orientation Course. July 2017.

“Matthew 21:33-46,” “Matthew 22:1-14,” “Matthew 22:15-22,” & “Matthew 22:34-46,” for *Lectionary Homiletics/Good Preacher.com* October 2014, Accessible via: [www.goodpreacher.com](http://www.goodpreacher.com)

Guest Editor, *Sacred Spaces: The E-Journal of the American Association of Pastoral Counselors,* Special Edition, “Pastoral Care and Children,” Vol 6, 2014. Accessible via: <http://www.aapc.org/news-events/sacred-spaces/>

“Six Ways to Keep Congregational Conflicts Constructive,” featured column for *Ask an Expert, 8/14/14* on Studying Congregations: www.studyingcongregations.org . Congregational Studies Project Team.

“Passing on the Faith: Cultivating a Community of Practice” Aug. 13, 2013 featured column for Patheos Symposium, Passing on the Faith: Teaching the Next Generation> <http://www.patheos.com/Topics/Passing-on-the-Faith/Community-Practice-Joyce-Ann-Mercer-08-14-2013.html>

“How to Visit the Sick and Hurting, with Joyce Mercer,” Master Class 014, www.churchnext.tv/category/ministry-training-master-classes/ . Posted June 11, 2012.

Interview by Melodie Davis for “Shaping Families,” MennoMedia. Airing Oct. 13, 2012.

www.MennoMedia.com

Podcast interview by Robin Blair for Common Good Radio, United Methodist Church,

featured in May 2009, [www.commongoodradio.org](http://www.commongoodradio.org).

Interview, Australian Broadcasting Company, “Welcoming Children,” aired October 2006.

“Iris V. Cully,” in *Christian Educators of the Twentieth Century,* a web based publishing project sponsored by the Lilly Endowment: http://www.talbot.edu/ceacademic.

“David Ng,” in *Christian Educators of the Twentieth Century*, a web based publishing project sponsored by the Lilly Endowment: <http://www.talbot.edu/ceacademic>.

**REVIEW ESSAYS AND MAJOR BOOK REVIEWS**

"Disability in the Christian Tradition: A Reader." *Anglican Theological Review* 96.3 (2014): 594-6.

**“**Mirror, Mirror: The Uses and Abuses of Self-Love,” *The Christian Century,* Jul 09, 2014: 42 (Review article).

**SELECTED SCHOLARLY PRESENTATIONS**

“Vocation Across the Lifespan” panel presenter, International Association of Practical Theology meeting, Oslo, Norway, April 21, 2017.

“Writing Transformations: Using Addiction Recovery Memoirs Toward Personal and Social Change,” International Academy of Practical Theology meeting, Oslo, Norway, April 23, 2017.

“Conundrums in Practical Theology,” Panel, American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX, November 19, 2016.

“Restorative Spirituality: Hope for Traumatized Children,” Keynote, International Society for Children’s Spirituality, Bishop Grosseteste University, Lincoln, UK, July 28, 2016.

“Collective Trauma and Pastoral Care: Global Insights for Local Ministries,” a public lecture for the Arthur L. Kinsolving Chair in Pastoral and Practical Theology, Virginia Theological Seminary, forthcoming, April 17, 2015.

“Communal Identities and Collective Trauma: A Practical Theological Exploration into Indonesia’s 1965-67 Anti-Communist Pogrom,” International Academy of Practical Theology, July 20, 2015, Pretoria, South Africa.

“ ‘We Teach Our Children to See a Human Being There’: Women’s Formal and Informal Religious Education Work in Transforming Religious Conflict in Indonesia,” Research Interest Group paper, Religious Education Association Annual Meeting, November 6-8, 2014, Chicago, IL.

“A Practical Theological Approach to Eco-Feminism,” Invited public lecture, July 8, 2014.

St. Andrew’s Seminary, Quezon City (Manila), Philippines

“Brain Waves And Conflict: Trauma Narratives In Light Of Neuroscience,” Invited public lecture sponsored by the Department of Theology. July 1, 2014. Artha Wacana Christian University, Kupang, West Timor, Indonesia

“Moving Beyond the Descriptive Moment in Practical Theology: A Response to the *Theories of Change* Panel,” Practical Theology Group, American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Baltimore, MD, Nov. 23, 2013.

“Practical Theology & Theological Field Education: Alike and Different?” for Association of Theological Field Educators Annual Meeting, Williamsburg, VA, January 24-26, 2013.

“Calling Amid Conflict,” for *Greenhouses of Hope: Panel Presentation*, Religious Education Association Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA, November 2, 2012.

“Virtual Sex, Actual Infidelity: A Practical Theological Inquiry into (Dis)Embodied Desire and Cybersex,” International Academy of Practical Theology, Amsterdam, July 21, 2011.

“Automatic Weapons, Amens, and the Adhan: A Local Interfaith Peacebuilding Initiative and Election Violence in the Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao (Philippines).” Presented at the Second Annual Emory University Conference on Religion, Conflict, and Peace, June 17-19, 2011, Atlanta, GA.

Respondent, Plenary presentation by “TVbyGirls,” Religious Education Association Annual Meeting, Denver Colorado, November 7-9, 2010.

“Working with Religious Leaders: Mental Health and Spirituality,” Presentation for the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, New York, NY, October 26-28, 2010.

“Vampires, Desire, Girls and God: *Twilight* and the Spiritualties of Adolescent Girls,” Psychology, Culture and Religion Group of the AAR, pre-session meeting, November 2009, Montreal, Canada.

Speaker and co-presenter of the William Rainey Harper Award to Dr. James W. Fowler,

Religious Education Association Annual Meeting, November 2009.

“The Church Against Itself: Congregations in Conflict with Their Denominations,” International Academy of Practical Theology, Chicago, IL, August 2009.

“Contentiously Faithful: Practical Theological Reflections on the Tenacity of Belief,” Inaugural Lecture at promotion to Full Professor, Virginia Theological Seminary, December 1, 2008.

“Show a Little Class: Putting Class Analysis into Congregational Studies,” Annual Meeting of the AAR, Practical Theology section, November 2006, Washington, DC.

“Nature as Classroom,” Religious Education Association/APRRE Annual meeting, Toronto, November 4-6, 2005.

“Who Do You Say That I Am? Children’s Identities, ‘Spiritual Capital,’ and Congregational

Life,” Childhood Studies and Religion section, American Academy of Religion Annual

Meeting, San Antonio Texas, November 2004.

“A Madness to Our Method: Congregational Studies as Pedagogical Method for Contextual Theological Education,” American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX, November 2004.

“Teaching the Bible in Congregations: A Congregational Studies Pedagogy for Contextual Education,” Annual Meeting of the Association of Professors and Researchers in Religious

Education/ Religious Education Association, November 5, 2004, Denver, CO.

“Parents and the Religious Lives of Adolescent Girls: A Research Report,” Youth Theological Initiative conference, “New Visions of Youth Ministry.” Candler School of Theology, Emory University, Atlanta, GA. September 16-18, 2004.

“Constructing Children as Consumers: Globalized Capitalism and the Spirituality of Children,” Annual meeting of the International Conference on Children’s Spirituality, Bishop Grossetteste College, Lincoln, UK, July 19-23, 2004.

“Children as Mystics, Activists, Sages, and Holy Fools: Understanding the Spirituality of Children and Its Significance for Their Care,” Grand Rounds, University of California Los Angeles Medical Center, Neuro-psychiatric Institute, December 10, 2003.

“Call Forwarding: Putting Vocation in the Present Tense with Youth,” and “Are We Going on a Vocation Now? Ministry with Youth as a Lifelong Vocation, ”Keynote Presentations, 2002, Princeton Forum on Youth Ministry, St. Simons Island, GA, January 7-10, 2002.

“Children as Innocents or Devils: Getting Beyond Theology’s Reproduction of Cultural Ambivalence Toward Children with a Critical-Practical Theology of Childhood,” AAR Annual Meeting, November 2001, Denver, CO.

“Children and Religious Education in an Age of Globalization: Learning from David Ng,” Association of Professors and Researchers in Religious Education Annual Meeting, November 2-4, 2001, Minneapolis, MN.

“Material Girls, Constructed Bodies: A Feminist Religious Analysis of Bodily Practice Using the Cultural Theory of Pierre Bourdieu” presented in the Feminist Theory and Religious Reflection Section of the American Academy of Religion, November 1996 Annual meeting, New Orleans, LA.

“Becoming Female: The Place of Violence in Adolescent Girls’ Constructions of Gender Identity,” 1995, American Academy of Religion: Religion and the Social Sciences Section, in

Philadelphia, November 18, 1995.

“Psychoanalysis, Parents, and God: Julia Kristeva and the Imaginary Father’s Role in

Subjectivity,” Women and Religion Section of Upper Midwest Regional American Academy

of Religion, St. Paul, MN, April 21, 1995.

**SELECTED PRESENTATIONS, WORKSHOPS, LECTURES, AND CONSULTATIONS**

**Diocese of Newfoundland and Labrador, Canada**, Keynote, Diocesan Conference, October 27-29, 2016

**Salvation Army International Conference on Ministry with Children, London, UK,** Conference keynote speaker & Bible study leader, September 6-12, 2015.

**Center for Pastoral Counseling of Virginia, McLean, VA**, “Why Did I Want to Do This Anyway: Recovering a Sense of Vocation,” April 23, 2015.

**Presbyterian Immigrant Ministries Network, Washington, DC**, Keynote speaker and consultant, “Trauma and Immigration,” & “Church Conflict: Immigrant Communities Struggling within ‘Anglo-Denominational Governing Bodies,” March 7, 2015.

**Families and Faith in a Consumer Culture, St. Peter’s Episcopal Church, Arlington, VA,** A workshop for parents from area congregations. February 8, 2015

**Leader/Speaker, 2015 Youth Ministry Academy, Orlando, FL**, Lecturer and workshop leadership on youth and gender for the academy of the Youth Ministry Institute, January 28-31, 2015.

**Marsh Fellow, Saint Albans School and the National Cathedral School, Washington, DC,** Visiting teaching fellow and pastoral care consultant to chaplains, faculty, & parents, January 2015. Focus: mental health issues and the care of youth (depression, anxiety, grief, trauma, eating disorders)

**St. John’s University, Collegeville Institute Seminar, Vocation Across the Lifespan,** An interdisciplinary working group of scholars, meeting twice annually 2009-present, ongoing. We currently are working together on a multi-authored volume to disseminate our work.

**Congregational Studies Project Team Member,** Since 2010, ongoing: A national working group of scholars who utilize and provide resources for faith communities and mentoring for scholars interested in the disciplined study of religious organizations and practices through congregational studies methods. See www.studyingcongregations.org

**Consultation on Recreational Ministries,** Union Presbyterian Theological Seminary, Richmond, VA, April 17-19, 2013.

**St. Stephens St. Agnes School**, Religion Department faculty retreat Speaker

March 11, 2013

**Presbytery of Atlanta and Montreat Conference Center**, Modern Families Series Keynote Speaker, “Faithful Families” Feb. 24, 2013

**Nazarene Seminary**, October 10, 2012 consultant for curriculum and practical theology

**Virginia Theological Seminary, Employee Development Day** Workshop Leader, “What’s My Type? The MBTI and You,” May 23, 2012

**Children Welcome!** Guest Speaker, February 23-25, 2012, Kansas City

A conference for church leaders sponsored by the Disciples of Christ and the PCUSA

**Kanuga Conference Center, Hendersonville, NC** Staff for Christian Education Conference, June 13-17, 2011.

**Ring Lake Ranch, Dubois, WY** Conference co-leader with Katherine Turpin, “Our Stories, God’s Story: Exploring Vocation,” August 2013; Conference co-leader with Dori Baker, “Spa for the Girlfriend Soul: A Gathering for Mothers,Daughters, and Women Friends of All Ages.” June 19-25, 2011.

**The Reformed Institute of Greater Washington** “Christian Education in a Commitment-Challenged Culture,” Roundtable leader, April 9,2011.

**Presbytery of Baltimore** The Big Event, Invited Workshop Leader, “The Religious Lives of Adolescent Girls,” Feb.26, 2011, Baltimore, MD.

**Hartford Seminary Congregational Studies Team** Invited participant, “Engaged Scholars Conversation”, Nov. 15-17, 2010, Louisville, KY

**Memphis, TN, Calvary Episcopal Church** Invited consultant for youth and children’s ministries, Preacher, forum teacher, May 1-2, 2010

**Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary** Williamson Distinguished Scholars Conference, April 8-10, 2010

**United Theological Seminary in the Twin Cities** The Susan Draper White Lectures

March 1 & 2, 2010: “Girls, God, and Vampires: The Spirituality of Adolescent Girls”;

“Fighting Like Girls: Girlhood Religion and Church Conflict”

**United Church of Chapel Hill,** Keynote Speaker, “Share the Love”: A Multicongregational Event on Family and Children’s Ministries, February 13, 2010

**Summer Collegium, Virginia Theological Seminary** Lecturer on Congregational Studies and small group leader, June 2007, 2008 & 2010.

**Luther Seminary, St. Paul, MN** Keynote speaker, Children’s Summit, April 4-5, 2008.

**Association of Presbyterian Church Educators/ National Association of Episcopal**

**Christian Education Directors/ Association of United Church Educators** Keynote speaker, Western Christian Educators’ Conference, Zephyr Point Conference Center,South Lake Tahoe, NV, Oct. 13-17, 2007

**First Congregational Church, Guilford, CT,** The Wilcox Lectures, “Welcoming Children: A Weekend of Workshops on Children andFaith.” Friday, Oct. 27-Sunday Oct. 29, 2006.

**Hartford Institute for Religion Research, Hartford Seminary**

Leadership group, “A Conversation on Theology in Congregational Life,” October 11 & 12,

2005, Hartford, CT

**Presbyterian Church, Western National Leadership Training Event** Workshop leader, “Adult Education as Transformation,” October 5-8, 2005, Jackson Hole,

WY.

**Emory University, Candler School of Theology,** Guest speaker, educational event for supervisors of contextual education, “Skills and

Practice of Supervising Theology Students,” Atlanta, GA, Tuesday August 29, 2005.

Youth Theological Initiative, Staff Training Leader, “Youth and Vocation,” Jan. 18-20, 2008.

**Presbyterian Interim Ministry Education Network,** Keynote speaker and leader, Annual Continuing Education Event for Teachers of Interim**,** Ministry Education, Seattle, WA, January 28-30, 2005.Invited educational consultant, March 2006 new curriculum trial.

**First Presbyterian Church, Portland, OR,** Leader, “The Art and Heart of Teaching” event for teachers in the churches in CascadesPresbytery, Portland, OR, January 7-8, 2005.

Keynote, “Welcoming Children: Children, Consumerism, and the Church” Jan. 20-21, 2006.

**Association of Presbyterian Church Educators,** Presenter, “Children in Congregations,” Annual Meeting, Western Region APCE/AUCCE,Zephyr Point Conference Center, Lake Tahoe, NV, October 8-12, 2003.

**Presbytery of the Redwoods,** Speaker, September 21, 2001 meeting of the Presbytery, “Resourcing Christian EducationMinistries in the Local Church.”

**San Francisco Theological Seminary,** Annual Continuing Education Event for Christian Educators, September 29, 2001**;** Speaker, “Strategies and Practical Ideas for Educating Families for Faith”

TV Moore Lectures, Workshop Leader, “Toward a Theology of Childhood” April 17-20, 2001.

**Princeton Theological Seminary**, Keynote lecturer, 2002 Princeton Lectures on Youth, Church, and Culture, January 7-10,

2002.

**Lilly Youth Programs,** Invited consultant to Lilly Endowment’s Youth Program Directors, Vocation and Gender, St.John’s University, Collegeville, MN, Feb. 15-17, 2008.

**Congress of Asian Theologians,** Panel respondent and participant. Bangalore, India, August 1999.

**PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES AND ACCREDITATION**

**The Association of Practical Theology**, President 2016-2018; Executive Committee 2009-

**International Academy of Practical Theology**, elected to membership 2007

**Licensed Clinical Social Worker**, Commonwealth of Virginia Board of Health Professionals License # 0904006820

**Religious Education Association**: Board member ex officio (as journal editor), 2014-present; Board member and Chair of Call for Papers Committee/ Publications Committee 2006-2008. Nominating Committee, 2013.

**Editor, *Religious Education* journal** 2016-

**Ordained Minister (Teaching Elder), Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)** since 1985 and Minister Member, National Capital Presbytery

**The American Academy of Religion**, Co-chair of steering committee for the Practical Theology Group of the AAR, 2009-2011, continuing committee member 2012-13

**RELATED CONSULTATION, PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES AND COMMUNITY**

**INVOLVEMENT**

Editorial Board Member, Brill/JC Leiden, *Theology in Practice* book series.

Disaster Relief/Trauma Healing, United Church of Christ in the Philippines: Tacloban City and Bethany Hospital, Leyte and Samar Islands, Philippines, February 2014

Regular peer reviewer for *Pastoral Psychology; Teaching Theology and Religion; Theological Education, Theology Today.*

Congregational Studies Project Team, Mentor for newer scholars/fellowship awardees of the Engaged Scholars program, 2012; 2013; 2014.

Editorial Boards, *Religious Education* 2008-2016

*Theological Education* (ATS journal) 2009-2013

Selection Committee, Louisville Institute Project Grants for Researchers, January 16, 2013.

Convener and chair for review board for mainline Protestant religious educators, Christian

Educators of the 20th Century project, 2012

Louisville Institute, Dissertation Fellowship Selection Committee 2005-2006

**Church and Presbytery**

Board of Readers, PCUSA Educator Certification Exam 2007-present

Member, Ministerial Relations Subcommittee (formerly called Crisis Team) of Committee on Ministry, National Capital Presbytery, July 2008-present (mediation/consultation with conflicted congregations)

Old Presbyterian Meeting House, Alexandria, VA: Parish Associate, providing pastoral care with older adults; training and support for diaconal ministry, 2008-2015.

Consultant, San Francisco Presbytery’s Committee on Lay Commissioned Pastors, Fall 2004-2006

Member, Presbytery Committee on Ministry, & COM Conflict Response Team, Twin Cities Presbytery, 1994-1997

Member, Presbytery Council on Congregational Life, Minneapolis, 1986-1991