
JENNIFER RYAN AYRES

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FORMAL EDUCATION

- Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia**
Graduate Division of Religion
Ph.D., Person, Community and Religious Life 2007
- *Qualifying Examinations:*
Theology and Ethics, Sociology of Religion, Human Rights, Religious Practices
Oral examination passed with distinction.
 - *Dissertation:*
Title: “With an Urgency Born of This Hope...”: A Constructive Practical
Theology of Reformed Christian Social Witness Practice
Advisor: Dr. Thomas G. Long
Committee: Elizabeth Bounds, Nancy Eiesland, Mary Elizabeth Moore
 - Emory Graduate Certificate Program in Human Rights
 - Concentration in Religious Practices and Practical Theology
- Union-PSCE, Richmond, Virginia**
Th.M., History and Theology 2002
M.Div., M.A. in Christian Education 2000
- University of Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, North Carolina**
B.A. in Political Science 1994

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- McCormick Theological Seminary, Chicago, Illinois** 2007 - Present
Assistant Professor of Christian Ethics
- Candler School of Theology, Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia** 2006
Conference Coordinator, Hospitalidad: Ministry With Hispanic/Latino Communities
- Cooperative Baptist Fellowship Global Missions** 2006
Consultant to Curriculum Writing Team
- Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia** 2004 – 2006
Program Assistant, Lilly Initiative in Religious Practices and Practical Theology
- International Journal for Practical Theology** 2003 – 2007
Editorial Assistant
- Emory Center for Interactive Teaching, Atlanta, Georgia** 2003 – 2007
Instructional Technology Consultant
- Myers Park Presbyterian Church, Charlotte, North Carolina**
Interim Associate Pastor With Youth and Their Families 2000 – 2001
Intern for Outreach and Singles Ministry 1997 – 1998
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TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Courses Taught at McCormick Theological Seminary

- Pilgrimage in Faithfulness
- Introduction to Christian Ethics
- The Christian Church in the American Public Sphere
- Ethics and the Body
- Reformed Tradition
- Globalization and Food
- Being Together: The Ethics and Practice of Community Building (DMin)

Courses in Religion, Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia
Courses Taught:
Instructor, Youth Theological Initiative Summer Academy

- Being Christian in the Global Community 2007
- Speaking the Truth in Love: Christian Social Witness 2005
- It Takes Practice: Religious Customs in Contemporary Life 2004
- It's About Time: An Exploration in *Kairos* Theology 2003

Courses Co-Taught:

- Introduction to Religious Studies: Christianity and Buddhism Spring 2004
- Issues of Women and Theology in the Christian Tradition Spring 2003

Courses in Pedagogy, Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia
Courses Co-Taught:

- Teaching Religion Doctoral Seminar 2005 – 2006
- Teaching With Technology (Short Course for Doctoral Students) Summer 2006

Union-PSCE, Richmond, Virginia
Course Assisted:

- The Christian Life Fall 2001, Summer 2002

ECCLESIASTICAL STATUS

Minister of Word and Sacrament, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

Presbytery Membership: Chicago Presbytery

Ordination Date: January 21, 2001

AWARDS AND HONORS

- Wabash Center Workshop for Pre-Tenured Faculty** 2009 – 2010
 - Louisville Institute Dissertation Grant** 2006 – 2007
 - Emory University Dean's Teaching Fellowship** (*declined*) 2006 – 2007
 - Emory Initiative in Religious Practices and Practical Theology** 2005 – 2006
Research and Travel Grant
 - Graduate Division of Religion Graduate Fellowship** 2002 – 2006
 - Walter W. Moore Fellowship for Graduate Study (Union-PSCE)** 2000
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PRESENTATIONS

- Faith and Political Engagement Conference** (August 2010)
Montreat, NC
Keynote Presenter
- Peace and Justice Studies Association Meeting** October 2009
Milwaukee, WI
Title: *(Sustainable) Food For Thought: A Conversation on Teaching Food Justice and Christian Ethics*
- Midwest Regional Meeting, American Academy of Religion** April 2009
Chicago, IL
Special Topics Session: Joint paper with Claire Bischoff
Title: *Tinkering Toward God: Theological Reflection and the Cultural Context of Young Adults*
- The Chicago Center for Global Ministries** November 2008
Chicago, IL
Faculty and Student Forum
Title: *Economics, Human Rights, and Religious Activism: The Case of the Jubilee Movement*
- Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion** November 2007
San Diego, CA
Ethics Section
Title: *“Good Evening, Godless Sodomites”: Comedy Central’s Contribution of Religious and Political Satire to the Public Sphere*
- Religion, Politics, and the State Group
Title: *It’s Not What You Said, It’s How You Said It: Relational Political Activism Among Liberal Protestants*
- Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion** November 2006
Washington, DC
Practical Theology Group
Title: *Waiting for a Glacier to Move: Practical Theological Reflections on Social Witness Practice*
- Southeast Regional AAR Meeting, Atlanta, Georgia** March 2004
Southeastern Commission for the Study of Religion
Title: *With Bruised Hands: Martin Luther King, Jr., Economic Rights and the Justice Project*
- Critical Moments Conference, Atlanta, Georgia** March 2003
Emory University Institute for Liberal Arts
Title: *Getting Off the Fence: An Exploration in Kairos Theology*

ESSAYS AND ARTICLES

- Book Review: Jack A. Hill (2008): *Ethics in the Global Village***
To be published in *Interpretation: A Journal of Bible and Theology* (forthcoming).
- “Jeremiah 33:14-16,” “Malachi 3:1-4,” and “Zephaniah 3:14-20”**
In *Feasting on the Word: Preaching the Revised Common Lectionary, Year C, Volume I*.
Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press (2009).
- Book Review: Robin W. Lovin (2008): *Christian Realism and the New Realities***
To be published in *Interpretation: A Journal of Bible and Theology* (forthcoming).

Book Review: Timothy V. Wineberg (2008): *Professional Care and Vocation: Cultivating Ethical Sensibilities in Teaching*

Published in *Religious Education*, Vol. 104, No. 2, March/April 2009.

Book Review: John W. deGruchy (2002): *Reconciliation: Restoring Justice*

Published in *The Bulletin of the Institute for Reformed Theology*, Spring 2005

WRITING PROJECTS FOR CHURCH AUDIENCES

“Bound Together: Sin, Hope, and Social Change”

Article for Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Washington Office (forthcoming)

“Food Production, Distribution and Consumption in the Age of Agribusiness”

Co-authored with Noah Onguéné François. Article for Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Hunger Program Churchwide Fast study materials. (2009)

“Christian and Citizen”

In 2010 Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Mission Yearbook.

CURRENT BOOK PROJECTS IN DEVELOPMENT

Waiting for a Glacier to Move: Practical Social Witness

Contracted with Wipf and Stock Publishers. (Manuscript due Fall 2010)

Tinkering toward God: An Invitation to Theological Reflection Upon the Cultural Context of Young Adults

Proposed edited volume with Claire E. Bischoff.
Status: Book proposals submitted to publishers.

PROFESSIONAL AND ECCLESIAL SERVICE

First Presbyterian Church of Lake Forest (IL)	June 2009
<i>Co-presented lecture and conversation series on the reformed tradition and political contexts.</i>	
Middle Tennessee Presbytery Lectionary Group	February 2009
<i>Facilitated pastors' three-day retreat.</i>	
Theological Education For Life Abundant Conference	February 2009
<i>Presented syllabus.</i>	
Special Committee to Consider the Belhar Confession	2009-Present
<i>Convened by the 218th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) to consider amending the denomination's Book of Confessions to include the Belhar Confession.</i>	
Theological Educators for Presbyterian Social Witness	2007-Present
<i>Serve on steering committee for consulting group for PC(USA) social witness policy.</i>	
Georgia Progressive Summit 2007	January 2007
Atlanta, GA	
<i>Workshop Presenter</i>	
Title: <i>AIDS: A Human Rights Crisis</i>	
Presbytery of Greater Atlanta	2006 – 2007
<i>Chair, Presbyterian Answer to Hunger (PATH)</i>	
Presbytery of Greater Atlanta	2003 – 2005
<i>Member, Committee on Preparation for Ministry</i>	
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Church Leader Support	2001 – 2004
<i>Design and Writing Team, New Member/Church Officer Resource</i>	

LEADERSHIP AT MCCORMICK EVENTS

Western National Leadership Training Event Jackson Hole, WY <i>Workshop Presenter</i> Title: <i>Christian Practice in a Time of Fear: Ethical Reflection for the Church</i>	October 2008
AADVENT Taste of Seminary Chicago, IL <i>Faculty</i>	June 2008
LEAD Workshop Arlington Heights, IL <i>Workshop Presenter</i> Title: <i>Beyond Bulbs and Beans: Congregational Sustainability</i>	March 2008

INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE TO MCCORMICK

Visioning Task Force	2009-Present
Academic Technology Leader	2007-Present
Educational Technology Committee, Chair	2008-2009
Urban Ministry Working Group	2008-2009
Theology and Ethics Field Convener	2008-2009
Dean of the Faculty Search Committee	2007-2008
Urban Ministry Search Committee	2008
Professional Boundaries Workshop Leadership Team	2008-Present
Other Committee Work <i>Worship and Spiritual Life Committee, Admissions Committee, Academic Program Committee, Student Learning Assessment Committee, Institutional Technology Oversight Committee</i>	2007-2009

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Academy of Religion	2003 – Present
Association of Practical Theology	2005 – Present
Society of Christian Ethics	2007 – Present

REFERENCES

Available upon request.
