

# Curriculum Vitae for J. Todd Billings

*J. Todd Billings*

*Gordon H. Girod Research Professor of Reformed Theology*

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## EDUCATION

**Harvard Divinity School**

Th.D., Theology

Cambridge, MA

2005

**Fuller Theological Seminary**

M.Div.

Pasadena, CA

1999

**Wheaton College**

B.A., *cum laude*

Majors: Philosophy, English

Wheaton, IL

1995

## DISSERTATION

“Calvin, Participation, and the Gift: The Activity of Believers in Union with Christ”

Advisor: Professor Sarah Coakley, Harvard Divinity School

## PUBLICATIONS

### Books

*Rejoicing in Lament: Wrestling with Incurable Cancer and Life in Christ* (Brazos Press, Feb. 2015). Five Star Review in *Christianity Today*, Jan./Feb. 2015 issue. Starred Review in *Publishers Weekly*.

*Union with Christ: Reframing Theology and Ministry for the Church* (Baker Academic, November 2011). Winner of “Award of Merit in Theology and Ethics” in the *Christianity Today* Book Awards, 2012 (see “Academic Honors and Grants” below). Korean Translation edition of *Union with Christ* (Christian Literature Crusade: Seoul, South Korea, 2014).

*The Word of God for the People of God: An Entryway to the Theological Interpretation of Scripture* (Eerdmans, 2010). Winner of the Center for Catholic-Evangelical Dialogue Book Prize, 2011 (see “Academic Honors and Grants” below).

*Calvin, Participation, and the Gift: The Activity of Believers in Union with Christ*, in “Changing Paradigms in Historical and Systematic Theology” Series with Oxford

University Press (2007). Winner of John Templeton Award for Theological Promise, 2009 (see “Academic Honors and Grants” below).

### **Edited Book**

*Calvin’s Theology and Its Reception: Disputes, Developments, and New Possibilities*, co-edited with I. John Hesselink (Westminster John Knox Press, 2012).

### **Forthcoming Books Under Contract**

*The Lord’s Supper and the Gospel: The Eucharistic Doorway to a Catholic-Reformed Vision of Salvation* (working title), Eerdmans, 2017.

### **Peer Reviewed Journal Articles**

“Catholic and Reformed: Rediscovering a Tradition,” *Pro Ecclesia* 23:2 (Spring 2014): 132-46.

“On Moving Beyond ‘Incarnational Ministry:’ A Response to Paul Louis Metzger,” *Cultural Encounters: A Journal for the Theology of Culture*, Vol. 9:2 (2013): p. 104-108.

“The catholic Calvin,” *Pro Ecclesia* 20:2 (Spring 2011): 120-134.

“The Lord’s Supper and the Church’s Public Witness: Bringing Together Heaven and Earth, Living Between Gift and Promise,” *Theology Today* 67:1 (April 2010): 7-14.

“John Calvin’s Soteriology: On the Multifaceted ‘Sum’ of the Gospel,” *International Journal of Systematic Theology* 11:4 (October 2009): 428-447.

“United to God through Christ: Calvin on the Question of Deification,” *Harvard Theological Review* 98:3 (July 2005): 315-34.

“Milbank’s Theology of the Gift and Calvin’s Theology of Grace: A Critical Comparison,” *Modern Theology* 21:1 (January 2005): 87-105.

“Incarnational Ministry and Christology: A Reappropriation of the Way of Lowliness,” *Missiology: An International Review* 32:2 (April 2004): 187-201.

“John Updike as Theologian of Culture: *Roger’s Version* and the Possibility of Embodied Redemption,” *Christianity and Literature* 52:2 (Winter 2003): 203-213.

“Theodicy as a ‘Lived Question’: Moving Beyond a Theoretical Approach to Theodicy,” *Journal for Christian Theological Research* 5:2 (2000).

## Chapters and Entries in Books

“Norms and Methodologies for Theology in the Reformation and Early Modern Period,” chapter in *The Oxford Handbook to the Reception of Christian Theology*, ed. Richard Cross and Sarah Coakley (Oxford University Press, forthcoming).

“Radical Orthodoxy” and “John Milbank” entries, *New Dictionary of Theology*, 2nd ed., edited by Tim Grass, Tom Noble, Steve Holmes, Martin Davie and John McDowell (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2016).

“Calvin’s Theology of Salvation,” chapter in *Theologies of Salvation*, ed. Justin Holcomb (New York, NY: New York University Press, 2016).

“Scripture,” chapter in *The Cambridge Companion to Reformed Theology*, ed. Paul Nimmo and David Fergusson (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2016) 11-27.

“The Sacraments,” chapter in *Christian Dogmatics*, ed. R. Michael Allen and Scott R. Swain (Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2016) 339-62.

“Rediscovering the Catholic-Reformed Tradition for Today,” Afterword in *Reformed Catholicity*, by R. Michael Allen and Scott R. Swain (Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2015) 143-61.

“The Contemporary Reception of Luther and Calvin’s Doctrine of Union with Christ: Mapping a Biblical, Catholic, and Reformational Motif,” chapter in *Calvin and Luther: The Continuing Relationship*, ed. R. Ward Holder, (Göttingen: Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, 2013) 158-75.

“John Calvin and the Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper: A Contemporary Appraisal,” chapter in *Restoration through Redemption: John Calvin Revisited*, ed. Henk van den Belt, *Studies in Reformed Theology* series (Leiden: Brill, 2013) 171-84.

“John Calvin’s Theology of Union with Christ, and Its Early Retrieval,” chapter in *Calvin’s Theology and Its Reception: Disputes, Developments, and New Possibilities*, ed. J. Todd Billings and I John Hesselink (Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 2012), 49-71.

“John Calvin: United to God through Christ,” chapter in *Partakers of the Divine Nature: The History and Development of Deification in the Christian Traditions*, ed. Michael J. Christensen and Jeffery A. Wittung (Madison, NJ: Fairleigh Dickinson University Press, 2007; reprint, Baker Academic, 2008) 200-218.

## Articles in Periodicals

“How Learning to Lament Can Help Fight Racism,” *Relevant Magazine* feature article online, May 5, 2016: <http://www.relevantmagazine.com/reject-apathy/worldview/how-learning-lament-can-help-fight-racism>

“Cancer, Where Is Your Sting?” *Christianity Today*, April 16, 2016 (April web only edition) <http://www.christianitytoday.com/ct/2016/april-web-only/when-deaths-enemy-gave-up-fight-paul-kalanithi.html>

“A Luminous Mystery,” *The Banner Magazine*, cover article, 150:9, October 2015, 18-20. Winner of 2016 Award from Associated Church Press in “Theological Reflection” category, and 2016 Award from Evangelical Press Association in “First Person Article” category.

“Mortality and the Limits of Medicine,” *Comment: Public Theology for the Common Good*, Fall 2015, p.58-63.

“Modern Medicine and Human Dignity,” *Sapientia*, October 12, 2015, <http://henrycenter.tiu.edu/2015/10/modern-medicine-and-christian-dignity/>.

“Why Does God Turn to Poetry? A Dialogue with Christian Wiman,” *Huffington Post*, September 8, 2015.

“Desiring the End(s) of Salvation,” *Perspectives: A Journal of Reformed Thought*, July/August 2015, p. 4-6.

“The Spirit and Scripture: More Than Divine Advice,” *Reformation 21* article, June 8, 2015: <http://www.reformation21.org/articles/the-spirit-and-scripture-more-than-divine-advice.php>

“Praying in the Dark: Lament, Providence, and Protest,” *Perspectives: A Journal of Reformed Thought*, May/June 2015.

“Praying for Someone with Incurable Cancer,” *Leadership Journal*, Spring 2015, p. 35-38.

“Bigger than Cancer: In the Darkness, Theologian Meets God in a New Way,” *RCA Today*, Spring 2015, 12-15.

“Why Doesn’t God Always Heal? Prayer and Incurable Cancer,” *Huffington Post*, March 24, 2015.

“Are We Missing Something Important About Prayer? Why We Need to Add the Element of Lament into Our Prayer Lives,” *Relevant Magazine* online, Feb. 24, 2015: <http://www.relevantmagazine.com/god/practical-faith/are-we-missing-something-important-about-prayer>

“Undying Love [On Divine Impassibility],” *First Things*, December 2014, p. 45-49.

“Deadly, Healing Medicine,” cover article of *The Behemoth*, Issue 10: November 27, 2014: <http://www.christianitytoday.com/behemoth/2014/issue-10/deadly-healing-medicine.html>.

“Recovering Our Confessions: Coming to Know and Love the RCA’s Standards,” *RCA Today* magazine, Winter 2013, 32-37.

“Adopted into God’s Family,” *Perspectives: A Journal of Reformed Thought*, October 2012, 11-13.

“The Historical Sense, Spiritual Interpretation, and Fulfillment in Christ: On Avoiding the Eclipse of the Old Testament Narrative,” *CRUX: A Quarterly Journal of Christian Thought and Opinion*, Vol. 48, No. 2 (Summer 2012), 4-11.

“The Problem with ‘Incarnational Ministry’: What if our mission is not to ‘be Jesus’ to other cultures, but to join with the Holy Spirit?” in *Christianity Today*, July/August 2012, 58-63.

“Premodern Biblical Exegesis: Why Does it Matter for Preachers and Teachers Today?” in *Catalyst: Contemporary Evangelical Perspectives for United Methodist Seminarians*, Vol. 38.1, November, 2011.

“How to Read the Bible: New strategies for interpreting Scripture turn out to be not so new—and help deepen our life in Christ,” cover article, along with sidebar articles “A Brief Guide to Resources on the Theological Interpretation of Scripture,” and “Theological interpretation in Action,” in *Christianity Today*, October 2011, 24-30.

“Assessing Incarnational Ministry: A Brief Primer,” *Modern Reformation*, 20:5, Sept./Oct. 2011, 27-28.

“The Problem with TULIP, or More than TULIPs, in this Field,” *Perspectives: A Journal of Reformed Thought*, March 2011, 9-12.

“Trinity and Incarnation: Moving Shelf Doctrines to Daily Living,” *Modern Reformation*, 19:6 November/December 2010, 4-6.

“Calvin’s Comeback? The Irresistible Reformer,” cover article in *The Christian Century*, December 1, 2009, 22-25.

“Being Missional in the Reformed Tradition,” *Perspectives: A Journal of Reformed Thought*, May 2009, 3-5.

“Incarnational Ministry and the Unique, Incarnate Christ,” *Modern Reformation*, 18:2 March/April 2009, 19-22. Reprinted in *Modern Reformation*, November/December, 2016, p. 43-51.

“Terms of Endearment: The Missional Buzz,” *The Church Herald*, February 2009, 15-19.

“What Makes a Church *Missional*? Freedom from cultural captivity does not mean freedom from tradition,” *Christianity Today*, March 2008, 56-59.

“On Giving and Receiving: How can Christians live out the commands of Matthew 25 – without the pity,” *Sojourners Magazine*, April 2007, 48-51.

“Emergent Church: New Links, Old Traditions,” *The Church Herald*, April 2007, 5-7.

“The Problem with Mere Christianity: We Jettison ‘Nonessential’ Theology at Our Own Peril,” *Christianity Today*, February 2007, 46-47. Reprinted as “Featured Article” on *ChristianBibleStudies.com* website (July 2007).

“The Promise of Catholic Calvinism,” *Perspectives: A Journal of Reformed Thought*, April 2006, 12-15.

“More Than an Empty Bed” (on Gregory of Nyssa’s “On Virginity”), *Re:generation Quarterly*, April 1, 2002, 12-13.

“John K. Roth, the Psalms of Lament, and the Place of Theological Reflection on the Problem of Suffering,” *The Other Journal*, [www.theotherjournal.com](http://www.theotherjournal.com), Issue 2, 2003.

“Theodicy as a ‘Lived Question’: A Postmodern Approach to the Theodicy Question,” reprinted from *Journal for Christian Theological Research in Constellation*, Fall 2002.

## **Book Reviews**

*Retrieving Nicaea: The Development and Meaning of Trinitarian Doctrine*, by Khaled Anatolios, forthcoming in *Books and Culture*.

*Lessons from a Hospital Bed* by John Piper, in *The Gospel Coalition*, March 2, 2016, <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/book-reviews-piper-lessons-hospital-bed>.

*Being Mortal: Medicine and What Matters in the End*, by Atul Gawande, forthcoming in *Sapientia* journal, <http://henrycenter.tiu.edu/sapientia/>.

*Remythologizing Theology: Divine Action, Passion, and Authorship*, by Kevin J. Vanhoozer, *Journal of Reformed Theology*. 8:3 (2014), 21-23.

*Ethics in the Presence of Christ* by Christopher R. J. Holmes, *Journal of Reformed Theology* 8:1 (2014), 115-17.

*Re-imagining Election: Divine Election as Representing God to Others and Others to God* by Suzanne McDonald, *Journal of Reformed Theology* 6:3 (2012), 311-312.

*The Missional Church in Perspective: Mapping Trends and Shaping the Conversation* by Craig Van Gelder and Dwight J. Zscheile, *Christian Century* (July 25, 2012): 38-39.

*Predestination: Biblical and Theological Paths* by Matthew Levering, *Theology* 114:4 (July/August 2012): 274-5.

*The Eucharist and Ecumenism: Let Us Keep the Feast* by George Hunsinger, *Journal of Reformed Theology* 6:1 (2012): 89-90.

*Participation in Christ: An Entry into Karl Barth's Church Dogmatics* by Adam Neder, *Theology Today* 68:2 (July, 2011): 195-197.

*Covenant and Salvation: Union with Christ* by Michael S. Horton, *Journal of Reformed Theology* 4:1 (2010): 73-74.

*Participatory Biblical Exegesis*, by Matthew Levering, *International Journal of Systematic Theology* 12:2 (April 2010): 242-245.

*The Promise of Baptism*, by James V. Brownson, *Perspectives: A Journal of Reformed Thought* 23:10 (December 2008): 22-23.

*Signs and Wonders: A Reformed Look at the Spirit's Ongoing Work* by John A. Alger, *Perspectives: A Journal of Reformed Thought* 23:9 (November 2008): 19-20, 23.

*The Promise of Baptism*, by James V. Brownson, *Reformed Review*: 61:1 (Winter 2007/08): 34.

*Reading the Bible with the Dead*, by John L. Thompson, *The Christian Century* (September 18, 2007): 43-45.

*John Calvin's Ideas*, by Paul Helm, *Journal of Ecclesiastical History* 58:1 (January 2007): 149-150.

*Lord and Servant: A Covenant Christology*, by Michael S. Horton, *International Journal of Systematic Theology* 9:1 (January 2007): 109-112.

*Introducing Radical Orthodoxy* by James K. A. Smith, *Interpretation* 61:1 (January 2007): 104-105.

*Violence, Hospitality and the Cross*, by Hans Boersma, *Interpretation* 60:3 (July 2006): 352.

*Jesus, Humanity and the Trinity* by Kathryn Tanner, *Christian Scholars Review* 32:1 (Fall 2002): 141-143.

*An Ethics of Remembering* by Edith Wyschogrod, *Koinonia* 7:2 (Fall 2000): 261-263.

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED LECTURES

“Living Well in a World That’s Ill,” Plenary Address for Fall Outreach of Cru at the Ohio State University (Columbus, OH): September 14, 2016.

“The Mystery of Our Union with Christ,” Plenary Address (30 minutes) to General Synod Delegates of the Reformed Church in America (Palos Heights, IL): June 11, 2016.

“Disability, Cancer, and Theological Education: Reflections from a Theologian in New Terrain,” Plenary Address, Summer Institute on Theology and Disability (Holland, MI): May 24, 2016.

“Embracing Biblical Lament in an Age of Twitter Outrage,” Plenary Address, Regional Meeting of the Evangelical Theological Society (Grand Rapids, MI): March 11, 2016.

“Rejoicing in Lament: Wrestling With Incurable Cancer, Cancerous Racism, and Life in Christ,” Calvin Symposium on Christian Worship co-presentation (Grand Rapids, MI) January 28, 2016. Published: <http://worship.calvin.edu/resources/resource-library/rejoicing-in-lament/>

“Resurrection Hope and Lesser Hopes: Discerning the Church’s Witness to the Resurrection in a Medicalized Age,” Hope-WTS Theology Seminar (Holland, MI) Dec. 4, 2015.

“Hope for Mortals: The Church’s Witness in the Midst of Dying and Death,” Carl Henry Lecture, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School (Deerfield, IL): October 21, 2015.

“Rediscovering the Catholic-Reformed Tradition for Today: A Biblical, Christ-Centered Vision for Church Renewal,” Gordon H. Girod Chair inaugural lecture (Holland, MI): April 17, 2013.

“Retrieving Calvin’s Theology of the Lord’s Supper: Prospect and Promise,” invited speaker for Meeter Center Lecture, Calvin College (Grand Rapids, MI): Nov. 1, 2011.



“How to Read the Bible: Idolatry, Adoption, and Other Paths to Biblical Interpretation,” Invited Lecture, Community Reformation Day celebration, Holland, MI: October 30, 2011.

“The Historical Sense, the Incarnate Christ, and Spiritual Interpretation,” invited speaker at “Heaven on Earth? The Future of Spiritual Interpretation,” Regent College (Vancouver, BC): September 16-17, 2011.

Interdisciplinary Workshop on my book *The Word of God for the People of God* with Hope College professors (Holland, MI): May 20, 2011.

“The Contemporary Reception of Luther and Calvin’s Doctrine of Union with Christ: Mapping a Biblical, Catholic, and Reformational Motif,” invited speaker at Calvin Studies Society and North American Luther Forum (Minneapolis, MN): April 7-10, 2011.

“The Contemporary Reception of Luther and Calvin’s Doctrine of Union with Christ: Mapping a Biblical, Catholic, and Reformational Motif,” invited speaker at Ph.D. Colloquium at Calvin Theological Seminary (Grand Rapids, MI): March 24, 2011.

“Luther and Calvin on Participation in Christ: Their Retrieval and Development of a Biblical, Catholic, and Reformational Motif,” Hope College -Western Seminary Theology Seminar (Holland, MI): March 17, 2011.

“Ministry in Union with Christ: A Constructive Critique of Incarnational Ministry,” Public Lecture at Fuller Seminary (Pasadena, CA): Feb. 24, 2010.

“‘To Unite Us to Our God’: The Lord’s Supper, the Law of Love, and Justice,” Public Lecture at Central College (Pella, Iowa): November 17, 2010.

“Reading the Bible as God’s Word (Rather Than as a Historical Artifact or a Diet Manual),” Searching the Sacred Public Lecture at Hope College (Holland, MI): October 26, 2010.

“Ministry in Union with Christ: A Constructive Critique of Incarnational Ministry,” Public Lecture at Calvin College (Grand Rapids, MI): October 19, 2010.

“Encountering a Mystery: Calvin and Bavinck on Communion with the Incomprehensible God,” Religion Seminar Presentation, Calvin College (Grand Rapids, MI): October 19, 2010.

“Reading the Bible with the Church on a Journey in Christ (Or, Why the Bible Isn’t Just a Christian ‘Answer Book’),” Hope College (Holland, MI): September 21, 2010.

“United to the Living Christ: The Dynamic Reality of Salvation in the Reformed Tradition,” Invited Osterhaven Lectureship, Three Lectures at Hope College and Western Theological Seminary (Holland, MI): March 16-17, 2010.

“Encountering a Mystery: Calvin and Bavinck on Communion with the Incomprehensible God,” Invited Lecture at Aberdeen University (Aberdeen, Scotland): February 9, 2010; Edinburgh University (Edinburgh, Scotland): February 11, 2010; St. Andrews University (St. Andrews, Scotland): February 12, 2010.

“Calvin and Bavinck on Union with God and Divine Incomprehensibility,” Invited Lecture at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School (Deerfield, IL): January 26, 2010.

“*‘I believe in the holy catholic church...’* Why African Theology Needs to Recover its ‘catholic’ Identity,” Invited Public Lecture at Ethiopian Graduate School of Theology, (Addis Ababa, Ethiopia): November 6, 2009. Invited Lecture at Ethiopian Full Gospel College (Addis Ababa, Ethiopia): December 3, 2009.

“‘To Unite Us to Our God:’ The Lord’s Supper, the Law of Love, and Justice,” Invited Lecture, University of West Cape (Cape Town, South Africa): August 18, 2009, and Stellenbosch University (Stellenbosch, South Africa): August 20, 2009.

“Norms and Methodologies for Theology in the Reformation and Early Modern Period,” Conference for the *Oxford Handbook to the Reception of Christian Theology* (Berlin, Germany): August 14, 2009.

“John Calvin and the Sacraments,” Invited Keynote Lecture, International Reformed Theological Institute Conference, (Aix-en-Provence, France): July 11, 2009.

“The Lord’s Supper and Salvation: The Eucharist as an Entryway to a Renewed Theology of Salvation in the Reformed Tradition,” Invited lecture, Templeton Scholars Colloquy (Heidelberg, Germany): May 23, 2009.

“Rediscovering the Lord’s Supper: Growing Deeper into the Gospel,” Invited Lecture, Calvin Symposium on Worship (Grand Rapids, MI): January 29-31, 2009.

Chair, Reformed Theology and History Group session of the American Academy of Religion on “Spiritual Practices in the Reformed Tradition” (Chicago, IL): November 3, 2008.

“What is a Theological Hermeneutic of Scripture?” Invited Lecture, Hope College and Western Theological Seminary Theology Conference (Holland, MI): October 2008.

Invited speaker, ATS Seminar for Newly Appointed Faculty, Association of Theological Schools (Chicago, IL): October, 2008.

Invited speaker, *John Calvin: His Life and Legacy*, Documentary on John Calvin in Commemoration of the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of his Birth, Witherspoon Publications (a publishing house of the Presbyterian Church USA): filmed June, 2008.

“The Lord’s Supper and Dissent,” Invited Lecture, 20th Anniversary celebration of First Church Shelter (Cambridge, MA): October, 2007.

“Preliminary Reflections: Norms and Methodologies for Theology in the Reformation and Early Modern Period,” Conference for the *Oxford Handbook to the Reception of Christian Theology* (Oxford University, United Kingdom): August, 2007.

“United to God through Christ: Assessing Calvin on the Question of Deification,” Paper presented at *Partakers of the Divine Nature: The History and Development of Theosis/Deification in the Christian Traditions* (Madison, NJ): April, 2004.

“Milbank on Gift-Giving and the Theology of Grace in Calvin,” Paper presented at the *Engaging Radical Orthodoxy* conference (Grand Rapids, MI): September, 2003.

“Holding Together Confession and Practice: an Evangelical Reframing of the Problem of Suffering,” Paper presented at the American Academy of Religion National Meeting (Nashville, TN) for the Evangelical Theology Group (ETG): November, 2000.

“After Tilley: The Sustaining Relevance of the Problem of Suffering as a Concrete Question,” Paper presented at the American Academy of Religion National Meeting (Nashville, TN) for the Christian Theological Research Fellowship (CTRF): November, 2000.

“Salubrious Remembering? Nietzsche and Wyschogrod on the Function of History for Life,” Paper presented at the American Academy of Religion Western Region Meeting (Azusa, CA): April, 2000.

“Terrence Tilley and the Problem of Suffering,” Paper presented at the Society of Christian Philosophers Pacific Regional Conference (Pasadena, CA): March, 2000.

“Wyschogrod’s Ethical Remembering Encounters Nietzsche: Negotiating the Ontology of Violence.” Paper presented at the Southern California Society of Philosophy annual conference (Irvine, CA): October, 1999.

“Beyond Belittlement: Nietzsche’s Critique of Gift-Giving and the Rejuvenation of Christian Compassion,” Paper presented at the American Academy of Religion Western Region Meeting (San Francisco, CA): April, 1999.

## MANUSCRIPT REVIEWER:

*Baker Academic*

*Christianity Today Book Awards Judge, 2010*

*Harvard Theological Review*

*International Journal of Systematic Theology*

*Journal of Reformed Theology*

*Oxford University Press*

*Pro Ecclesia*

*Theology Today*

## TEACHING, PROFESSIONAL, AND ECCLESIASTICAL POSITIONS

<b>Co-Chair of Reformed Theology and History Group Steering Committee, American Academy of Religion</b>	2014-Present
<b>Gordon H. Girod Research Professor of Reformed Theology Western Theological Seminary</b>	2013-Present
<b>Hope College-Western Seminary Theology Seminar Co-Founder, Co-Convener</b>	2010-Present
<b>Associate Professor of Reformed Theology Western Theological Seminary</b>	2009-2013 Holland, MI
<b>Theology Commission (elected member) Reformed Church in America</b>	2007-2013
<b>Reformed Theology and History Group Steering Committee American Academy of Religion</b>	2007-2012
<b>Reformed Confessions Joint Translation Task Force Reformed Church in America and Christian Reformed Church (CRCNA)</b>	2007-2011
<b>Visiting Professor Mekane Yesus Theological Seminary Ethiopian Graduate School of Theology</b>	2009 (5 months) Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

<b>Assistant Professor of Reformed Theology Western Theological Seminary</b>	2005-2009 Holland, MI
<b>Teaching Fellow Harvard Divinity School</b>	2003-2005 Cambridge, MA
<b>Church Elder First United Presbyterian Church (PCUSA)</b>	2002-2005 Cambridge, MA
<b>NECTT Advisory Counsel Northeast Colloquium on Teaching Theology</b>	2002-2004
<b>Homeless Shelter Staff First Church Shelter (UCC)</b>	2000-2005 Cambridge, MA
<b>Teaching Assistant Fuller Theological Seminary</b>	1998 Pasadena, CA
<b>Instructor Kale Hewet Ministry Training Center</b>	1995-1996 (9 months) Dilla, Ethiopia
<b>Community Development Worker HIL (in cooperation with Anglican church in Uganda)</b>	1994 (6 months) Aringa, Uganda
<b>Teaching Assistant Wheaton College</b>	1993-1994 Wheaton, IL

## **ACADEMIC HONORS AND GRANTS**

Project Grant for Researchers Award, Louisville Institute (\$25,000 grant), “Congregational Life and the Dying: Cultivating Resurrection Hope Among the Dying in a Congregational Context Today,” 2016-17.

Winner of “Award of Merit in Theology and Ethics” in the *Christianity Today* Book Awards in 2012 for *Union with Christ: Reframing Theology and Ministry for the Church*. Beginning with 390 titles submitted by 52 publishers, a two-stage judging process narrowed down winners in 12 categories. *Union with Christ* was one of two books which received an award in the “Theology and Ethics” category.

Winner of the 2011 Center for Catholic-Evangelical Dialogue Book Prize for *The Word of God for the People of God*, selected from books published in 2010, recognized “for its contribution to biblical interpretation” (CCED Press Release).

John Templeton Award for Theological Promise in 2009, for *Calvin, Participation, and the Gift*.  
Awarded for the most outstanding first books by junior scholars in biblical, theological,  
and religious studies internationally.

Wabash Center Summer Research Fellowship, “Introducing Theological Interpretation:  
Scripture, Revelation, and Interpretation,” Summer 2008.

Theological Scholars Grant (Lilly), “Participating in Christ: The Eucharistic Doorway to a  
Catholic-Reformed Vision of Salvation,” The Association of Theological Schools, 2007-  
2008.

Wabash Fellow, Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning, 2007-2008.

Dean’s Dissertation Fellowship, Harvard Divinity School, 2004-2005.

Harvard Divinity School Grant and Stipend, Harvard Divinity School, 2000-2003.

Dean’s Scholar Award, Fuller Theological Seminary, 1996-1999.

## **ORDINATION**

Ordained as Minister of Word and Sacrament in the Reformed Church in America (2007)

Ordained as Elder in the Presbyterian Church USA (2002)