

Cheryl J. Sanders

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OFFICE

Howard University School of Divinity
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Washington, DC 20008

RESIDENCE

7704 Morningside Drive, NW
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EDUCATION

Th.D. Harvard Divinity School, Cambridge, MA

Concentration: Applied Theology

Dissertation: "Slavery and Conversion: An Analysis of Ex-Slave Testimony"

M.Div., *cum laude* Harvard Divinity School, Cambridge, MA

Clinical Pastoral Education (one basic unit), Washington (D.C.) Hospital Center

B. A. Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, PA

Major: Mathematics

Minor: Black Studies

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Professor of Christian Ethics, Howard University School of Divinity (since 1996)

Associate Professor (1990-1996); **Assistant Professor** (1984-1990)

Courses: African American Spirituality, Biblical Ethics, Christian Social Ethics, Ethics in Contemporary African American Cinema, Faith Development and Spiritual Formation, Field Education, Introduction to Christian Ethics, M.A. Colloquy, Pastoral Ethics, Senior Colloquy, Womanist Ethics and Theology

Adjunct Professor, Anderson University School of Theology, Anderson, IN, (2015-2016)

Guest Lecturer, Georgetown University (2003-2015)

Seminar Faculty, Duke Summer Institute, Center for Reconciliation (2012-2013)

Faculty Team, Howard/Harvard Clergy Empowerment Forum: New Strategies for Public Religious Leadership (Spring 2005)

Lecturer, Summer Leadership Institute, Harvard Divinity School (2002)

Instructor, In-Service Training Institute, Anderson University, Anderson, IN (2004)

Keller Visiting Scholar in Religion, High Point University, NC (2002)

Exchange Professor, Wesley Theological Seminary, Washington, DC (Fall 1996)

Exchange Professor, Lutheran Theological Seminary, Gettysburg, PA (Spring 1996)

Staley Distinguished Christian Scholar Lectureship (1992-1995)

Black Religious Studies Computer Network (BRSNET) Faculty Team (1991-1992)

Visiting Assistant Professor of Afro-American Studies, Harvard Divinity School (1988)

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Senior Pastor, Third Street Church of God, Washington, DC (since 1997)

Associate Pastor for Spiritual Life and Leadership Development (1985-1997)

Minister of Christian Education (1988-1993)

Presiding Elder, National Association of the Church of God (since 2025)

Vice-Presiding Elder (2019-2024)

President, American Theological Society (2019-2021)
Faculty Researcher, "Equipping the Saints: Promising Practices in Black Congregational Life," Howard University School of Divinity funded research project (2012-2021)
Member, Editorial Board, *Studies in the Holiness and Pentecostal Movements*, The Pennsylvania State University Press (since 2022)
Member, Luce-ATS Council on Theological Scholarship and Research (2020-2022)
Board of Elders, Church of God Chesapeake-Delaware-Potomac District (2013-2023)
Mentor, LET'S Network (mentoring Church of God pastors since 2014)
Co-chair, Commission on Racial Unity, Church of God Ministries (2016-2018)
Vice-Chair, General Assembly and Ministries Council, Church of God (2013-2017)
Executive Committee, Clergy for Community Wealth Preservation, Washington, DC
Member, Luce Fellows Advisory Committee (2014-2017)
Board Member, Association of Theological Schools (2010-2014)
Member, Leadership Council, Harvard Divinity School (2005-2012)
Member, Howard University Public Health Council (2004-2008)
Chairperson, Mayor's Interfaith Council, Washington, DC (2002-2004)
Contributing Editor, *Leadership* journal (2000–2006)
Advisory Board, Religion and Ethics Newsweekly (2006)
Columnist, *One Voice* magazine (2004-2006)
Pastoral Consultant, Howard University Lead Poisoning Prevention Project (2005)
Consultant, Black Moral Leadership Project, Institute for Church Administration and Management, Interdenominational Theological Center, Atlanta, GA (2003-2004)
Member, Executive Session on Faith-Based and Community Approaches to Urban Revitalization, Hauser Center, John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University (2002-2004)
Member, National Steering Committee, SHAPE (Sustaining Health and Pastoral Excellence) Initiative of the Church of God (2002)
Advisory Board, Pew Forum on Religion and Public Life (2002-2004)
Guest Chaplain, U. S. House of Representatives (2001)
Ethics Working Group, White House Health Care Reform Task Force (1993)
Producer, *Soul Vision*, WHMM-TV Howard University television (1992)
Bioethics Committee, Howard University Hospital (1988-1992)
Member, National Board of Christian Education of the Church of God (1986-1992)
Dean, Summer Institute for Urban Ministries, Washington, DC (1988-1989)
Pastor, First Church of God, Boston, MA (1982-1984)
Campus Ministry Intern, Harvard and Radcliffe Colleges, Cambridge, MA (1978-1979)
Chaplaincy Intern, Washington Hospital Center (Summer 1979)
Operations Research Analyst, U. S. Dept. of Transportation, Washington, DC (1975-77)
Mathematical Statistician, Transportation Systems Center, Cambridge, MA (1977-1983)

PUBLICATIONS

Books

The Church of God in Black Perspective, co-editor with Arnetta Bailey (Warner Press, 2022)
Ministry at the Margins: The Prophetic Mission of Women, Youth and the Poor (InterVarsity Press, 1997; Wipf and Stock, 2009)
Saints in Exile: The Holiness-Pentecostal Experience in African American Religion and Culture (Oxford University Press, 1996)

Empowerment Ethics for a Liberated People (Fortress Press, 1995)
Living the Intersection: Afrocentrism and Womanism in Theology, editor, (Fortress Press, 1995)
How Firm a Foundation: Eighty Years of History at Third Street Church of God, 1910-1990 (Third Street Church of God, 1990)

Articles, Essays, Blogs, Reviews, Sermons, Chapters in Books

"Holiness and Black Consciousness: The Social Witness of Black Saints, Shepherds, and Sages." *Wesley and Methodist Studies* 17 (1): 1–19. (January 2025)
<https://doi.org/10.5325/weslmethstud.17.1.0001>.

"Why Prophesying Deliverance Still Matters." *Journal of Black Religious Thought* 3 (1): 38–51. (September 2024) <https://doi.org/10.1163/27727963-03010002>.

Review of *Azusa Reimagined: A Radical Vision of Religious and Democratic Belonging*. By Keri Day. *Pneuma*, vol. 45, no. 1, June 2023, pp. 165–67, <https://doi.org/10.1163/15700747-04501015>.

"Black Radical Holy Women at the Intersection of Christian Unity and Social Justice" in *Holiness and Pentecostal Movements: Intertwined Pasts, Presents, and Futures*, David Bundy, Geordan Hammond, and David Sang-Ehil Han, eds. (The Pennsylvania State University Press, 2022)

"Songs and Symbols for an Overcoming Church" in *God and Wonder: Theology, Imagination, and the Arts*, Jeffrey W. Barbeau and Emily Hunter McGowin, eds. (Cascade Books), 2022.

"The Historiography of the Holy Spirit in Black Church Culture," Berkley Center for Religion, Peace and Public Affairs (Georgetown University, April 8, 2021)
<https://berkeleycenter.georgetown.edu/posts/the-black-church-in-american-public-life>

"Do Black Lives Matter to God? Reflections on History, Theology, and Hope Amid the Flames of Outrage," Berkley Center for Religion, Peace and Public Affairs (Georgetown University, June 17, 2020) <https://berkeleycenter.georgetown.edu/posts/religion-and-racial-justice-the-george-floyd-protests>

"Social Justice: Theology as Social Transformation" in *The Routledge Handbook of Pentecostal Theology*, Wolfgang Vondey, ed. (Routledge: Abingdon, Oxon; New York: 2020)

"Debunking, Unmasking and Disentangling: Theology and Institutions," *Syndicate Report on the State of Theology* Sean Larsen, ed.
<https://syndicate.network/symposia/theology/syndicate-project-on-the-state-of-theology/>

"Opinion: Help Our Unbelief" in *All Church of God, CHOG Newsletter*, Op-ed,
<https://www.jesusisthesubject.org/opinion-help-our-unbelief/> posted April 25, 2020

"Echoes from the Mecca and the Capstone: Christianity and Social Justice at Howard University," in *Between the World of Ta-Nehisi Coates and Christianity*, David Evans and Peter Dula, eds. (Cascade Books, 2018)

"Racial Reconciliation and the Pro-Life Agenda: An African American Perspective" in *Catholics and Evangelicals for the Common Good: A Dialogue in an Historic Convergence*, Ronald J. Sider and John Borelli, eds. (Cascade Books, 2018)

"Wisdom for Biblical Interpretation and Preaching" in *Views from the Mountain: Select Writings of James Earl Massey*, Barry Callen and Curtiss DeYoung, eds. (Aldersgate Press, 2018).

Review of *Spirit in the Dark: A Religious History of Racial Aesthetics*. By Josef Sorett. New York: Oxford University Press, 2016. *Church History*, 87(2), 638-640.

"Who Is My Neighbor?" in "Religion, secularism, and Black Lives Matter," *Immanent Frame*, <http://blogs.ssrc.org/tif/2016/09/22/religion-secularism-and-black-lives-matter/>

Review of *Forged in the Fiery Furnace: African American Spirituality* by Diana L. Hayes *Horizons*, Volume 42, Issue 02, December 2015

"Wanted Dead or Alive: A Black Theology of Renewal," *Pneuma* 36 (2014)

"Racial Reconciliation and the Pro-Life Agenda," *Prism*, Vol. 20, No. 4 (Summer 2013)

"Ethics of Holiness and Unity in the Church of God," in *Called to Minister, Empowered to Serve*, MaryAnn Hawkins, gen. ed. (Warner Press, 2013)

"Prophetic Ministry, the Prosperity Gospel and Gentrification," in *Mobilizing for the Common Good: The Lived Theology of John M. Perkins*, Peter Slade, Charles Marsh and Peter Goodwin Heltzel, eds. (University Press of Mississippi, 2013)

"Amp up Innovation," in *Christianity Today* (November 2012)

"African American Spirituality" and "Womanist Spirituality," in *Dictionary of Christian Spirituality*, Glen G. Scorgie, ed. (Zondervan, July 2011)

"Pentecostal Ethics and the Prosperity Gospel: Is There a Prophet in the House?" in *Afro-Pentecostalism: Black Pentecostal and Charismatic Christianity in History and Culture*, Estrela Alexander and Amos Yong, eds. (NYU Press, 2011)

Contributing editor, *Preaching with Sacred Fire: An Anthology of African American Sermons, 1750 to the Present*, Martha Simmons and Frank A. Thomas, eds. (W.W. Norton, 2010)

"Consultation Abstract," in *Government, Global Poverty and God's Mission in the World: An Evangelical Declaration* (Bread for the World Institute, 2011)

"The Measure of Prophetic Ministry: Trajectories in Contemporary African American Preaching and the Legacy of Gardner C. Taylor," in *Our Sufficiency Is of God: Essays on Preaching in Honor of Gardner C. Taylor*, Timothy George, James Earl Massey and Robert Smith, Jr., eds. (Mercer University Press, 2010)

Review of *Race: A Theological Account* by J. Kameron Carter, in *Duke Divinity Magazine*, Vol. 8, No. 2 (Winter 2009)

“Peace, Prosperity, and the Christian Paradox” in *The African American Pulpit*, Vol. 11, No. 4 (Fall 2008)

“Black Church Called to Lift Every Life,” *Washington Post*, April 29, 2008

“Prophetic Citizenship,” *The Thoughtful Christian*,
<http://www.thethoughtfulchristian.com/New%20Site/Main/ProductDetails.asp?txtProductID=5062&txtCatID=204>

“Cheryl Sanders: Race, Obama, and Wright,” video, Religion and Ethics Newsweekly
<http://www.pbs.org/wnet/religionandethics/blog/2008/03/cheryl-sanders-race-obama-and.html> March 19, 2008

“Obama at 100,” *Urban Faith* www.urbanfaith.com/2009/04/obama-at-100.html April 29, 2009

“Religion and Ethical Decision Making in the African American Community: Bioterrorism and the Black Postal Workers,” in *African American Bioethics*, Lawrence J. Prograis, Jr. and Edmund D. Pellegrino, editors (Georgetown University Press, May 2007)

“Holy Boldness, Holy Women: Agents of the Gospel,” in *Women, Ministry and the Gospel Exploring New Paradigms*, Mark Husbands and Timothy Larsen, eds. (InterVarsity Press, 2007)

“Woman on a Mission,” *I Am Not Ashamed: Sermons by Wesleyan-Holiness Women*, Diane Leclerc, ed. (San Diego: Point Loma Press, 2005)

Review of Leonard Lovett, *Kingdom Beyond Color* in *Pneuma: The Journal of the Society for Pentecostal Studies*, Vol. 27, No.1 (Spring 2005)

“Reconciliation and Repentance,” *The African American Pulpit* (Winter 2004-2005)

Review of *Democracy Matters: Winning the Fight Against Imperialism* by Cornel West in *Christian Century*, Vol. 122, No. 14, (July 12, 2005)

“The Role of Religion in Electoral Politics,” in *One Electorate Under God? A Dialogue on Religion and American Politics*, E.J. Dionne Jr., Jean Bethke Elshtain, and Kayla M. Drogoz, eds. (Brookings Institution Press and The Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life, 2004)

“Liberation Ethics in the Ex-Slave Interviews,” in *Cut Loose Your Stammering Tongue: Black Theology in the Slave Narratives*, Dwight Hopkins and George Cummings, eds. (Orbis Books, 1991), 2nd edition (Westminster John Knox Press, 2003)

“The Urban Prayer Breakfast at Third Street Church of God,” Project on Lived Theology, University of Virginia: <http://livedtheology.org/pdfs/sanders.pdf>

Leadership journal:

- "Which Important Doctrine Is Untaught or Ignored in Most Churches Today?" (Summer 2006)
- "Is There Any Sin from Which a Church Leader Cannot Be Restored?" (Spring 2006)
- "What's the Most Pressing Theological Issue Facing Your Church?" (Winter 2006)
- "Hummer or Honda? What Should a Pastor Drive?" (Fall 2005)
- "Does Church Membership Really Matter?" (Summer 2005)
- "Is seminary old school? How important is a degree for today's church leaders?" (Spring 2005)
- "Capitol Hill Leader" (Winter 2005)
- "What Kind of Leaders Do Younger People Want?" (Fall 2004)
- "Same-Sex Marriage: What Can I Say? Four pastors discuss the pressures and opportunities of the current controversy" (Summer 2004)
- "Second Takes on the Passion of the Christ" (Spring 2004)
- "Positively Discontent" (Winter 2004)
- "PKs and the Church's Dirty Laundry" (Fall 2003)
- "War, Politics and the Pulpit" (Summer 2003)
- "What characteristics do you look for in future leaders?" (Spring 2003)
- "Growing in Hospitality" (Winter 2003)
- "Leaders Set the Example" (Fall 2002)
- "How Do You Connect First-Time Guests to the Church Body?" (Summer 2002)
- "How Rapidly Do You Implement Change?" (Spring 2002)
- "Tainted Mail, Untainted Message" (Winter 2002)
- "How Do You Handle a Budget Crunch?" (Fall 2001)
- "Have You Read Jabez Yet?" (Summer 2001)
- "Inheriting the Pulpit of a Legend" (Fall 2000)

One Voice magazine:

- "The Prosperity Gospel," (No. 13, June/July, 2006)
- "The Challenge of Teleworship" (No. 12, April/May 2006)
- "Connecting to God's Purpose" (No. 11, February/March 2006)
- "Floods of Misery, Winds of Compassion" (No. 10, December/January 2005)
- "Appreciating the Old, Embracing the New" (No. 9, October/November 2005)
- "Taking the Lead in Accountability" (No. 8, August/September 2005)
- "Re-Imagining the Church of God" (No. 7, June/July 2005)
- "Women in Ministry" (No. 6, April/May 2005)
- "Taking up the Cross" (No. 5, February/March 2005)
- "Blessed are the peacemakers" (No. 4, December/January 2004)
- "Church responsibilities to state" (No. 3, October/November 2004)
- "Dogma divides. Mission unites!" (No. 2, August/September 2004)
- "The evolution of holiness teaching" (No. 1, June/July 2004)

Essay, "Preaching with Passion" and sermon, "The Parable of the Sower," in *Power in the Pulpit: How America's Most Effective Black Preachers Prepare Their Sermons*, Cleophus J. LaRue, ed. (Westminster John Knox, 2002)

"Hagar," *The IVP Women's Bible Commentary*, Catherine Clark Kroeger and Mary J. Evans, eds. (InterVarsity Press, 2002)

Review of *Divided by Faith* by Michael Emerson and Christian Smith, *Harvard Divinity School Bulletin*, Vol. 29, No. 4 (Winter 2000/01)

"Foreword," Diana Swoope, *Chosen and Highly Favored* (Beacon Hill Press, 2001)

Review of *Tribal Talk* by Will Coleman, *Modern Theology*, Vol. 17, No. 2 (April 2001)

"Afrocentric and Womanist Approaches to Theological Education" in *Ministerial Formation* (World Council of Churches, April 2001)

Review of *African American Religion: Interpretive Essays in History and Culture*, Timothy Fulop and Albert Raboteau, eds., *Journal of Religious Thought* (Vol. 55, No. 2 and Vol. 56, No. 1)

Essay in *Spirituality: Does It Have a Place in the Seminary?* (Washington Theological Consortium, Fall 2000)

"African Americans and the Bible: Spiritual Formation," in *African Americans and the Bible*, Vincent L. Wimbush, ed. (Continuum International, 2000)

"Disciplined Spirituality," in *Where Shall My Wond'ring Soul Begin? The Landscape of Evangelical Piety and Thought*, Mark A. Noll and Ronald F. Thiemann, eds. (Wm. B. Eerdmans, 2000)

"Foreword," Samuel George Hines and Curtiss Paul DeYoung, *Beyond Rhetoric: Reconciliation as a Way of Life* (Judson Press, 2000)

"The Whole Armor of God," *Discernment* (Vol. 7, No. 3, Summer 2000)

"Resistance, Rebellion and Reform: The Collegiate Gospel Choir Movement in the United States," *Journal of the Interdenominational Theological Center* (Vol. XXVII, Nos. 1 & 2, Fall 1999/Spring 2000)

"The Dignity of Faith," with Albert J. Raboteau and Robert L. Stevenson, Jr., *Christian History*, Issue 62 (Vol. XVIII, No. 2, 1999)

1999 Advent Worship Guide, with Dalineta L. Hines, published by the Women of the Church of God, Anderson, Indiana (Fall 1999)

"Womanist Values and Christian Virtues," in *Religion and Ethics in 21st-Century America* (Winston-Salem State University, 1999)

"The Problem of Irrelevance in Black and Womanist Theologies," in *What Does It Mean to Be Black and Christian? Pulpit, Pew, and Academy in Dialogue, Volume 2*, Forrest E. Harris, Sr., ed. (Townsend Press, 1998)

"Sexual Orientation and Human Rights Discourse in the African-American Churches," in *Sexual Orientation and Human Rights in American Religious Discourse*, Saul M. Olyan and Martha C. Nussbaum, eds. (Oxford University Press, 1998)

"History of Women in the Pentecostal Movement," *Reconciliation*, No. 1 (Summer 1998)

"Themes of Exile and Empowerment in the Million Man March," in *Black Religion after the Million Man March*, Garth Kasimu Baker-Fletcher, ed. (Orbis Books, 1998)

"How We Do Church: Worship, Empowerment and Racial Identity," in *The Gospel in Black and White: Theological Resources for Racial Reconciliation*, Dennis L. Okholm, ed. (InterVarsity Press, 1998)

"African-American Worship in the Pentecostal and Holiness Movements," *Wesleyan Theological Journal*, Vol. 32, No. 2 (Fall 1997)

Review of *Conjuring Culture* by Theophus H. Smith, *Common Knowledge*, Vol. 6, No. 2 (Fall 1997)

"A Strong Black Woman: Recovering the Life of Sojourner Truth," *Books & Culture*, Vol. 3, No. 2 (March/April 1997)

Review of *And Still We Rise* by Diana Hayes, *Journal of Church and State*, Vol. 39, No. 3 (Summer 1997)

"God's Trombones: Voices in African American Folk Preaching," in *Sharing Heaven's Music: The Heart of Christian Preaching, Essays in Honor of James Earl Massey*, Barry L. Callen, ed., (Abingdon Press, 1995)

"African Americans and Organ Donation: Reflections on Religion, Ethics and Embodiment," in *Embodiment, Morality, and Medicine*, Lisa Sowle Cahill and Margaret A. Farley, eds., (Kluwer Academic Publishers, 1995)

"An Ethicist's View of Values," *The Sidwell Friends School Alumni Magazine*, (Spring 1995)

"Why We Sing," *Swarthmore College Bulletin*, Vol. XCII, No. 3, (February 1995)

"The Holy Spirit in African American Worship," *Vital Christianity*, Vol. 115, No. 2, (February 1995)

"Womanist Ethics: Contemporary Trends and Themes," *Annual of the Society of Christian Ethics* (1994)

"Afrocentricity and Theological Education," *Journal of Religious Thought*, Vol. 50, Nos. 1/2, (1994)

"Wading in the Water: The Refreshment Offered by Womanist Theology," *Sojourners* (August 1994)

"European-American Ethos and Principalism: An African American Challenge," in *A Matter of Principles? Ferment in U. S. Bioethics*, Edwin R. DuBose, et. al. eds., (Trinity Press International, 1994)

"A Children's Pentecost," in *Prophetic Voices: Black Preachers Speak on Behalf of Children* (Children's Defense Fund, 1993)

"Foreword," *Listen to the Children*, Anita Smith Womack (Anderson, Indiana: Board of Christian Education, 1993)

"Problems and Limitations of an African-American Perspective in Biomedical Ethics: A Theological View," in *African-American Perspectives on Biomedical Ethics*, Harley E. Flack and Edmund D. Pellegrino, eds., (Georgetown University Press, 1992)

"Surrogate Motherhood and Reproductive Technologies," *Creighton Law Review*, Vol. 25, No. 5 (November 1992)

"Afrocentrism and Womanism in the Seminary," *Christianity and Crisis*, Vol. 52, Nos. 5/6 (April 13, 1992)

"The Church and Racial Justice," *ESA Advocate* (December 1990)

"Biblical Resources for Ethical Preaching on Social Justice Issues," *A.M.E. Church Review*, Vol. CVI, No. 339 (July-September, 1990)

"Black Women: Moral Agents," *Christianity and Crisis*, Vol. 49 (December 11, 1989)

"Christian Ethics and Theology in Womanist Perspective," *Journal of Feminist Studies in Religion*, Vol. 5, No. 2 (Fall, 1989), also reprinted in Gayraud S. Wilmore and James H. Cone, eds., *Black Theology: A Documentary History, Vol. 2* (Orbis Books, 1992)

"Religious Conversion, Ethics and the Afro-American Slave: Evaluating Alternative Approaches," *Journal of Religious Thought*, Vol. 45, No. 2 (Winter-Spring, 1989)

"Ethics of Holiness and Unity in the Church of God," in *Called to Minister: Empowered to Serve*, Juanita Leonard, ed. (Warner Press, 1989)

"Ethics and the Educational Achievements of Black Women," *Religion and Intellectual Life*, Vol. V, No. 4 (Summer 1988)

"Christ in You, the Hope of Glory," in *Those Preaching Women, Vol. 2*, Ella Mitchell, ed. (Judson Press, 1988)

"A Consequence of Openness," *Sojourners* (July 1987)

"To Receive the Impossible," *Sojourners* (April 1987)

"The Kingdom Mandate," *The Shining Light* (January-February, 1987)

"The Woman as Preacher," *Journal of Religious Thought*, Vol. 43, No. 1 (Spring-Summer, 1986), reprinted in *African American Religious Studies*, Gayraud Wilmore, ed. (Duke University Press, 1989)

"Film as a Medium to Study the Twentieth-Century Afro-American Experience," w/Marshall Hyatt, *Journal of Negro Education*, Vol. 53, No. 2 (Spring 1984)

PUBLIC LECTURES AND PRESENTATIONS

Lecture: "Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and the Prophetic Witness for Black Equality: Holiness and Pentecostal Perspectives," 2025 Martin Luther King, Jr. Lecture Series, Duke Divinity School, April 1, 2025

Lecture, "Holiness and Black Consciousness," 2023 Manchester Wesley Research Centre Annual Lecture, Manchester U.K., June 24, 2023

Paper, "A Door Opened in Heaven: Scenes, Songs and Symbols for an Overcoming Church," Wheaton Theology Conference, April 9, 2021

Presidential Address: "The Crisis of the Black Christian Public Intellectual: Ethical and Theological Responses to the Problem of Anti-Blackness," American Theological Society Annual Meeting, March 19, 2021

Plenary Lecture, "Radical Holiness, Reconciliation and Healing," Wesleyan Theological Society Annual Meeting, March 12, 2021

Plenary Address, "Debunking, Detangling, and Dismantling the Myth of Fear," 2021 DART Clergy Conference, February 4, 2021

Panelist, "Cornel West and Robert P. George: On Honesty and Courage in a Time of Polarization," Museum of the Bible, Washington, DC, November 18, 2020

Presentation, "Crisis Leadership," Credentialing Service, Church of God in the East (Delaware Valley), October 31, 2020

Lecture, "Preaching in the African American Tradition," Campbell Divinity School, October 19, 2020

"Listening to Black Clergy: Election Edition" Berkley Forum, platform for public scholarship hosted by the Berkley Center for Religion, Peace, and World Affairs at Georgetown University, October 7, 2020

Inaugural Address, "A Queen's Agenda for Theological Education," Installation of President Angela D. Sims, Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School, September 29, 2020

Webinar, "Social Activism and the Church," Forum on Race, National Association of the Church of God, August 3, 2020

Webinar, "Equity, Racism and Religion," St. John Baptist Church, Columbia, MD July 28, 2020

Webinar, "The Pressures of Multiple Pandemics on Community Development," Enterprise Community Partners Faith-Based Development Initiative, Washington, DC, June 25, 2020

"Religion and Racial Justice in Light of the George Floyd Protests," Berkley Forum, platform for public scholarship hosted by the Berkley Center for Religion, Peace, and World Affairs at Georgetown University, June 16, 2020

Paper, "White Nationalism, Race, Religion and the Political Crisis in Black Life" African and African American Working Group, The Society of Christian Ethics Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, January 11, 2020

"Clergy Roundtable," Church of God National Inspirational Youth Convention, Pittsburgh, PA, December 28, 2019

Paper, "Black Radical Holy Women," American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA November 25, 2019

Podcast, "Holiness and American Culture," Lewis Center for Church Leadership, Wesley Theological Seminary, Washington, DC, November 13, 2019

"Ministry Intensive: Ethics for Evangelicals," D.C. Baptist Convention, Clifton Park Baptist Church, Silver Spring, MD, October 25, 2019

Luncheon Speaker, Black Veterans Administration Chaplains Conference, Washington, DC, July 12, 2019

Commencement Address, "Servant Leadership," Southwestern Christian University, Oklahoma City, OK, May 4, 2019

Ordination Sermon and Annual Marcus Morgan Lecture, Celebration Church, Columbia, MD, April 29-30, 2019

Sermon, 28th Annual Women in Covenant Conference, Ocean City, NJ, April 19, 2019

Homily, "Justice, Justice," Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, Franciscan Monastery of the Holy Land, Washington, DC, January 17, 2019

Women's Day Conference, Mt. Olive Baptist Church, Springfield, VA, November 10, 2018

Chapel Address, Houghton College, Houghton, NY, October 29, 2018

Panelist, Fifth Anniversary Celebration, Sankofa Institute for African American Pastoral Leadership, Oblate School of Theology, San Antonio, TX, September 29, 2018

Sermon, "Revive," Wesleyan Holiness Women Clergy Conference, Estes Park, CO, April 14, 2018

WOW Revival, John Wesley AME Zion Church, Washington, DC, March 14, 2018

Pastors Day Speaker, Point Loma Nazarene University, San Diego, CA, February 9, 2018

Keynote Address, "The Church and Civil Rights--Toward a Militant Reconciling Movement," Memphis Teach-In, National Civil Rights Museum at the Lorraine Motel, Memphis, TN, September 30, 2017

Charge to the Pastor, Pastoral Installation Banquet for Pastor Craig Key, Second Church of God, Upper Marlboro, MD, August 5, 2017

Lecture, "In the world, but not of it: Sanctified Religion and the Social Gospel," Society for Pentecostal Studies 46th Annual Meeting, St. Louis, MO, March 9, 2017

Faculty-Student Colloquium, "From Capstone to Mecca: Black Intellectuals and the Social Gospel at Howard University," Howard University School of Divinity, February 27, 2017

Sermon, Shiloh Baptist Church 135th Anniversary, Washington, DC, September 22, 2016

Sermon, National Association of the Church of God Centennial, West Middlesex, PA, August 8, 2016

Keynote Speaker, National Association Ushers Convention, Romulus, MI, May 15, 2016

Revival Speaker, First Church of the Nazarene, Nashville, TN, April 24-27, 2016

Presentation, "Spiritual Dimensions of Elder Care," Staff Development Training Seminar, Howard University School of Social Work, December 16, 2015

Lecture, "Religious Liberty and the Sustainability of the African American Prophetic Witness in the City," Seymour Seminar, Princeton Theological Seminary, September 11, 2015

Plenary Address, "Kingdom-Focused Ethics," Churches Alive Conference, Mt. Jezreel Baptist Church, Silver Spring, MD, July 14, 2015

Lecture, "A Balm in Gilead: Toward a Theology of Healing and Wholeness for the Black Church," Black Theology Leadership Institute, Princeton Theological Seminary, July 13, 2015

Plenary Address, "Courageous Faith Transforming Communities," Lived Theology Conference, Metro Urban Institute, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, Pittsburgh, PA, March 27, 2015

Lecture, "Holiness at the Margins," Preaching with Power Conference, Lutheran Theological Seminary, Philadelphia, PA, March 17, 2015

Lecture, "Resurrecting the Dream: The Gospel and Socio-Economic-Political Freedom," Shaw University 42nd Annual Alexander/Pegues Ministers' Conference, Raleigh, NC, March 10-11, 2015

Plenary Address, "Holiness at the Margins," Church of the Nazarene Mission 15 (M15) Conference, Kansas City, MO, February 10, 2015

Homily, "Gifts of the Great Commission," Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, St. Matthew's Cathedral, Washington, DC, January 25, 2015

Radio Interview, "Beyond Belief," BBC Religion and Ethics, December 8, 2014

Workshop Presentation, "The Leader in You," Christian Women Connection Convention, Daytona Beach, FL, November 1, 2014

Workshop Presentation, "Spiritual Identity Expedition," Mt. Olive Baptist Church Women's Conference, Centreville, VA, October 24, 2014

Lecture, "Religious Liberty and the Sustainability of the African American Prophetic Witness in the City," Seymour Institute, Princeton Theological Seminary, Princeton, NJ, July 24, 2014

Consultation, "Religious Leadership and Diversity Project," Ohio State University, Columbus, OH, May 28-29, 2014

Presentation, "The School of the Prophet," Mid-Atlantic II African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, 185th Session of the Philadelphia and Baltimore Conference, Bethesda, MD, May 23, 2014

"Lessons in Leadership: Faith on the Front Lines," U. S. Naval Academy, Annapolis, MD, March 23-24, 2014

Roundtable Moderator, "Women in Ministry," National Association of the Church of God Mid-Year Leadership Conference, Birmingham, AL, March 6, 2014

Lecture, "Strength to Love," Minister as Distinguished Lecturer Series, Bethel Seminary, San Diego, CA, January 24, 2014

Martin Luther King Lecture, Fuller Theological Seminary, Pasadena, CA, January 23, 2014

Plenary Address, "Holiness and Humility," National Association of the Church of God Joint Conference, Chicago, IL, December 28, 2013

Paper, "Wanted Dead or Alive: A Black Theology of Renewal," Black Theology Group and Pentecostal-Charismatic Movements Group, Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Baltimore, MD, November 24, 2013

Convocation Address, "The Mantle and Mission of Theological Education," Lancaster Theological Seminary, Lancaster, PA, September 5, 2013

Television Panelist, "Amazing Grace: Drama in the Black Church," on Washington Watch with Roland Martin, TV One Broadcast, Washington, DC, March 31, 2013

Chapel Address, "Everyday Holiness," Andrew Rankin Memorial Chapel, Howard University, March 17, 2013

Presentation, "Reconciliation and Me: Envisioning a New Faith Community," National Association of the Church of God Mid-Year Leadership Conference, Hilton Head, SC, March 7, 2013

Address, African American Recognition Chapel, World Vision, Washington, DC, February 13, 2013

Chapel Address, "Extremists for Love," Anderson University, Anderson, IN, January 22, 2013

Homily, "What Does God Require?" 106th Annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, Franciscan Monastery of the Holy Land, January 18, 2013

Plenary Address, "The Case for Integrity," Kingdom Association of Covenant Pastors Annual Conference, Baltimore, MD, July 19, 2012

Plenary Address, "Reconciliation and Lament," Duke Summer Institute, Duke Divinity School, Durham, NC, May 30, 2012

Panel presentation, "The Future of Black Theology: Liberation, Legitimation and Locality," Annual Meeting of the American Theological Society, Princeton, NJ, March 31, 2012

Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Lectureship, "The Leadership Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.," Duke Divinity School, Durham, NC, April 4-6, 2011

Martin Luther King Lecture, "The Leadership Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.: Prophetic Citizenship and the Public Pastorate," Princeton Theological Seminary, Princeton, NJ, February 10, 2011

Plenary Address, Christian Churches Together Conference, Birmingham, AL, Jan 12, 2011

Plenary Address, "African American Church Perspective on the Role of Government," Bread for the World Consultation on Government, Foreign Assistance, and God's Mission in the World, at Wheaton College, Wheaton, IL, May 18, 2010

Martin Luther King Memorial Lecture, "Martin Luther King and the Burden of Black Leadership," Wesley Theological Seminary, Washington, DC, February 16, 2010

Bessie Boyd Holman Lectures, Shaw University, Raleigh, NC, September 27-29, 2009

"John M. Perkins and the Social Witness of the African American Churches," Spring Institute for Lived Theology, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA, April 23, 2009

"Pentecostal Ethics and the Prosperity Gospel: Is There a Prophet in the House?" Colloquium on African American Pentecostal and Charismatic Movements in the USA: Ethical and Theological Perspectives, Regent University School of Divinity, Virginia Beach, VA, February 23, 2008

Lectures on Ethics and Preaching, Hampton Ministers Conference, Hampton University, Hampton, VA, June 5-7, 2007

2005 C. Eric Lincoln Lectureship Series, "Through Many Dangers, Toils and Snares: 21st-Century Threats to African American Existence," Clark Atlanta University, Atlanta, GA, October 18, 2005

"Holy Boldness, Holy Women: Agents of the Gospel," Wheaton Theology Conference, Wheaton College, Wheaton, Illinois, April 7, 2005

Moderator, "Re-Imaging Pentecostalism," Black Pentecostalism Conference, Harvard Divinity School, Cambridge, MA, March 18, 2005

Chapel Speaker, Tuskegee University Faith Week, Tuskegee, AL, January 13, 2005

"Religion and Ethical Decision-Making in the African American Community: The Case of Bioterrorism and the Black Postal Workers," Symposium on African American Perspectives in Bioethics and Second Annual Conference on Health Disparities, Center for Clinical Bioethics, Georgetown University Medical Center, Washington, DC, September 24, 2004

"The Holy Spirit in African American Worship," Harrington Seminar for Contemporary Issues, St. Paul School of Theology, Kansas City, MO, September 22, 2004

"The KJV and the African American Churches," King James Bible Symposium, American Bible Society, New York, NY, June 25, 2004

Commencement Address, Eastern Nazarene College, Quincy, MA, May 10, 2003

Plenary Paper, "Race, Religion and Anthrax," Annual Meeting of the Society for Pentecostal Studies, Diversity Group, Lexington, KY, March 20, 2003

Harp Lectures in Christian Theology and Leadership, "Holiness and Health: A 21st Century Perspective," Center for Christian Leadership, School of Theology, Anderson University, Anderson, IN, February 11-12, 2003

Baccalaureate Address, Asbury College, Wilmore, KY, May 12, 2002

Finch Lecture, "The Role of the Bible in African American Spiritual Formation," High Point University, High Point, NC, March 21, 2002

"The Black Church in the 21st Century," McCormick Theological Seminary, Chicago, IL, May 20, 2002

"Prayer and Healing: Is There a Connection?" Spirituality and Medicine Seminar, Howard University Hospital, Washington, DC, February 9, 2001

"Preaching with Passion: Conversation, Conviction, and Conversion," Preaching with Passion Conference, Washington, DC, May 31, 2001

"The Future of the African American Churches," Henry H. Fowler Public Affairs Lecture Series, and "Ministry at the Margins," Convocation Address, Roanoke College, Salem, VA, March 30, 2000

"Gender and Family Issues in the Church," Christianity, Gender and the Family Conference, Eastern College, St. Davids, PA, May 22, 2000

"Spiritual Formation," African Americans and the Bible Conference, Union Theological Seminary, NY, April 8-11, 1999

Dialogue with Dr. Edmund Pellegrino on Ethics, Spirituality and Healing, Howard University televideo conference funded by Academic Excellence Grant, April 1999

"The Role of the Front Line Church in Mobilizing Services for the Poor," Christian Responses to Poverty Conference, Washington, DC, November 1998

Bessie Boyd Holman Lectures in Ethics and Values, Shaw University, Raleigh, NC, October 11-13, 1998

Franklin S. Hickman Lectures, Duke Divinity School, Durham, NC, Oct 13-14, 1998

"Disciplined Spirituality," Inaugural Conference for the Alonzo L. McDonald Family Professorship of Evangelical Theological Studies, Harvard Divinity School, Cambridge, MA, February 14, 1998

"Sexual Orientation and Human Rights Discourse in the African-American Churches," Carpenter Program Lecture in Religion, Gender, and Sexuality, Vanderbilt Divinity School, Nashville, TN, February 12, 1998

27th Founders Convocation and Riley F. Williams Lecture, C. H. Mason Theological Seminary, Interdenominational Theological Center, Atlanta, GA, February 26, 1997

Africana Studies Lecture, University of North Carolina at Asheville, TN, Feb. 17, 1997

"Ecstasy and Liberation: Ethics and Worship in the African American Holiness Pentecostal Tradition," Oberlin College, Oberlin, OH, November 12, 1996

"Empathy and Empowerment: Toward an Ethic of Urban Ministry," Center for Urban Ministerial Education, Boston, MA, November 7, 1996

"Ethics for the People of God," Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, South Hamilton, MA, November 8, 1996

"African-American Worship in the Pentecostal and Holiness Movements," Annual Meeting of the Wesleyan Theological Society, Wesley Theological Seminary, November 2, 1996

"Hope and Empathy: Toward an Ethic of Black Empowerment," Inaugural Lecture, Howard University School of Divinity, October 31, 1996

"Ethics and Empowerment: A Challenge to Contemporary Church Leaders," Culbert G. Rutenber Lectureship, Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wynnewood, PA, November 9, 1995

"Living the Intersection," The Feminine in Religious Traditions Lecture Series, Howard University School of Divinity, April 20, 1995

"A Tale of Two Kings," Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Lecture, The Center for Ethics and Religious Affairs, Penn State University, State College, PA, April 4, 1995

"Sexual Orientation and Human Rights Discourse in the African-American Churches," Brown University Symposium, Providence, RI, April 8, 1995

"Christian Womanism and Christian Ethics," Symposium on Religion and Ethics in 21st Century America, Winston-Salem State University, Winston-Salem, NC, February 15, 1995

"Trajectories of Religious and Popular Culture in Contemporary Gospel Music," Sterling Nelson Brown Lecture, Howard University, November 3, 1994

"Martin King's Dream and Rodney King's Nightmare," Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Lecture, Colgate Rochester Divinity School, Rochester, NY, January 15, 1993

"African Women in the Bible" (four-part lecture series), Smithsonian Institution, Program in African American Studies, Washington, DC, November, 1993

"Empowerment Ethics for a Liberated Church," Harvard Divinity School Black Alumni/ae Day, Cambridge, MA, April 28, 1993

"Surrogate Motherhood and Reproductive Technologies: An African American Perspective," Symposium, Center for Health Policy and Ethics, Creighton University, Omaha, NE, January 13, 1992

"Holiness Women Doing Ministry in a Racist and Sexist World," Church of the Nazarene Compassionate Ministries Conference, Kansas City, KS, November 4, 1989

"Christian Womanism" and "Christian Ethics and Theology in Womanist Perspective," two lectures presented for the Feminine in Religious Traditions Lecture Series, Howard University School of Divinity, October 6-7, 1989

"Theological Perspectives on Political Activism," Mordecai W. Johnson Institute, Colgate-Rochester Divinity School, Rochester, NY, March 25, 1988

"God-Talk: A Feminist Perspective," Lutheran Theological Seminary, Gettysburg, PA, March 30, 1987

"The Role of God-Talk in Black Moral Self-Criticism," Conference on Research and the Black Church, Interdenominational Theological Center, Atlanta, GA, October 23, 1986

"Competition and Cooperation: Conflicting Ideals of Achievement in Black Womanist Theology," Martin Luther King Lectureship, Drew Theological School, Madison, NJ, February 25, 1986

GRANTS

Henry Luce III Fellow in Theology, 2000-01, Association of Theological Schools
Theological Scholarship and Research Award, 1993-94, Association of Theological Schools
Faculty Research Grant, 1993-94, Howard University

ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL HONORS

Melvin Banks Lifetime Achievement Award, Urban Ministry, Inc. and Jude 3 Project, 2021
Distinguished Alumni Award, The Sidwell Friends School, Washington, DC, 2021
Black Religious Scholars Group Distinguished Scholar Award, Boston, MA, 2017
Evans E. Crawford Living Legacy Award, Howard University School of Divinity, 2017
Inducted into the D.C. Hall of Fame, 2013
Pillar of Faith Award, HUSD/United Church of Christ, 2013
Womanist Legend Award, Black Religious Scholars Group, New York, NY, 2012
Preston N. Williams Alumni/ae of African Descent Award, Harvard Divinity School, 2009
Lifetime Achievement Award, Christians for Biblical Equality, St. Louis, MO, 2009
Pansy M. Brown Distinguished Christian Service Award in Education, National Association of the Church of God, West Middlesex, PA, 2008
Pastor's Award, WYCB Radio & Gospel Rescue Ministries, Inc., Upper Marlboro, MD, 2009
Honorary Doctor of Divinity degree, Anderson University, Anderson, IN, 2007
Honorary Doctor of Divinity degree, Asbury College, Wilmore, KY, 2002
Howard Thurman Award, Howard University School of Divinity, 1999
Women of Excellence Award, Women in Ministry and Missions Consultation, 1995
Outstanding Author Award, Howard University, Office of the President, 1995
Minister of the Year Award, The Century Club of Washington, National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs, 1994
Black Doctoral Fellowship, Fund for Theological Education, 1980-1984
Benjamin E. Mays Fellowship, Fund for Theological Education, 1978-1980
Honor Scholarship, Hopkins Share, Harvard Divinity School, 1979-1980
American Bible Society Prize, Harvard Divinity School, 1979-1980

MINISTERIAL CREDENTIALS

Ordained and licensed by the Church of God (Anderson, Indiana)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Academy of Religion

American Theological Society

Association for the Study of African American Life and History

Chesapeake Delaware Potomac Ministerial Assembly of the Church of God

National Association of the Church of God

Society of Christian Ethics