**Almeda Michelle Wright**

Yale Divinity School

409 Prospect Street

New Haven, CT 06511

[*almeda.wright@yale.edu*](mailto:almeda.wright@yale.edu)

(203) 432-3240

**Educational Background**

**Emory University,** Ph. D. in Religion, December 2010

**Concentration:** *Persons, Communities and Religious Life*

Practical Theology with an emphasis on African American Religious Practices,

Religious Education, Adolescent Spiritual Development, and Race Identity Development

**Harvard University Divinity School,** M. Div., 2004

**Simmons College,** M.A. in Teaching, 2001 and Massachusetts Teacher Certification in Math, 2000

**Massachusetts Institute of Technology,** B. S. in Electrical Engineering, Minor in Spanish Language and

Literature, 1999

**Universidad de Granada,** January-June 1998

**Professional Experience**

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

Associate Professor of Religious Education, tenured (July 2023-Present)

Associate Professor of Religious Education, on term (July 2018-June 2023)

Assistant Professor of Religious Education (July 2013-June 2018)

**Pfeiffer University,** Misenheimer, NC

Assistant Professor of Religion and Youth Ministry (2009-2013)

**Emory University,** Atlanta, GA

Religious Education Faculty and Teaching Assistant (2004-2009)

Wisdom of Youth Project Program Director (2005-2006)

**Youth Theological Initiative,**Candler School of Theology, Atlanta, GA

Assistant Director (2008-2009), Research Coordinator (2007-2009), Summer Academy Residential Coordinator (2007, 2008), Exploratory Leader (2006), Mentor (2005)

**Young Achievers Math and Science Academy,** Boston, MA

Math and English Instructor; summer remediation program, grades 6-8. July-August 2000-2004

**Martin L. King, Jr. Open School,** Cambridge, MA

Lead Teacher, Fifth and Sixth grade, September 1999- June 2001

**Publications**

***Books:***

*Teaching to Live: Black Religion, Activist-Educators, and Radical Social Change.* Oxford University Press, 2024. pp. xi+236.

*The Spiritual Lives of Young African Americans,* Oxford University Press, 2017*.* pp. ix+334.

Reviews:

Little, Lahronda Welch. (2020). *Journal of Pastoral Theology.*

White, C. Vanesa. (2019).  *Spiritus: A Journal of Christian Spirituality* 19(1), 156-157. Johns

Hopkins University Press.

King, Kishundra. (2019)*. Reading Religion: A Publication of the American Academy of Religion.*

Jackson, Robert. (2018). *Journal of Religious Education.* 65. 10.1007/s40839-018-0050-3.

Moniz, Erin. (2018) *Anglican Multi-ethnic Network.*

*Children, Youth, and Spirituality in a Troubling World*. Ed. with Mary Elizabeth Moore. Chalice Press, 2008. pp. vii+277.

***Edited Journal Issues:***

*Religious Education.* Conference Issue: “Gender, Sexuality, and Wholeness: Religious Education for

Confrontation and Healing,” (December 2021) 116:5, DOI: [10.1080/00344087.2021.1994208](https://doi.org/10.1080/00344087.2021.1994208)

*Religious Education.* Conference Issue: Papers from 2019 Toronto, (July 2020) 115:3.

*Religions Journal*. Special Issue: “Re-envisioning Religious Education” (October 2018).

<http://www.mdpi.com/journal/religions/special_issues/education>

*Practical Matters Journal.* Issue 2: Youth, (Fall 2009). Issue Editor. <http://practicalmattersjournal.org/category/issue-2/>

***Articles in Refereed Journals:***

“Whose voice counts? Gender, power, and epistemologies in the seminary classroom.” *Teaching Theology*

*and Religion* 22, no. 3 (2019): 176-190.  <https://doi.org/10.1111/teth.12489>

“Mis-education, A Recurring Theme? Transforming Black Religious and Theological Education,” *Religious Education* 112, no. 1 (2017): 66-79.

Reprinted in: *The Wiley Blackwell Reader in Practical Theology,* edited by Bonnie Miller-McLemore, 209-222. Hoboken: Wiley Blackwell, 2019.

“Unknown, but Not Unimportant! Reflecting on Teachers Who Create Social Change,” *Religious*

*Education* 111, no. 2 (2016): 262-268.

“The Kids are Alright: Rethinking Problem-based Approaches to Adolescent Spirituality,” *Journal of*

*Youth and Theology* 14, (2015): 91-110.

“Varieties of Black Queer Religious Experiences,” *Black Theology: An International Journal* 10, no. 3 (2012): 275-291.

“What is Salvation for Adolescents?” *Koinonia Journal* XVIII (2006): 19-25.

***Book Chapters:***

“Children and Youth Reimagining Their Future in a Troubling World.” In *Religious Diversity at School:*

*Educating for New Pluralistic Contexts*., edited by Ednan Aslan and Marcia Hermansen, 195-209.  Germany: Springer VS, 2021.

“Agency: The Joy of Activism.” In *Joy: A Guide to Youth Ministry.,* edited by David White and Sarah F.

Farmer, 179-196. Nashville: Wesley’s Foundery Books, 2020.

“When You Grow Up? Adolescents and a Call to the Way of Life Abundantly.” In *Faith Forward, Volume*

*3: Launching a Revolution through Ministry with Children, Youth and Families.*, edited by David

Csinos, 178-192. Kelowna, BC: Woodlake Publishers, 2018*.*

“Image is Everything? The Significance of the *Imago Dei* in the Development of African American

Youth.” In *Albert Cleage Jr. and the Black Madonna and Child,* edited by Jawanza Eric Clark, 171-188. New York: Palgrave MacMillan, 2016.

“Reflective Youth Ministry: Youth Ministry as Ongoing, Critical, Communal Reflection.” In *Adoptive Youth Ministry: Foundations for Youth Ministry*, edited by Chap Clark, 85-96. Ada, MI: Baker Academic, 2016.

“Personal Jesus, Public Faith: Cultivating a Generation of Young Public Theologians.” In *Faith*

*Forward: A Dialogue on Children, Youth, and New Kind of Christianity*, edited by David Csinos

and MelvinBray, 167-182. Kelowna, BC: Woodlake Publishers, 2013*.*

“The Power of Testimonies.” In *Children, Youth and Spirituality in a Troubling World*, edited by Mary

Elizabeth Moore and Almeda Wright, 182-195. St. Louis, MO: Chalice Press, 2008*.*

***Scholarly Essays:***

“Kinship and Difference: Relationships aren’t easy.” In *Nurturing Faith: A Practical Theology for*

*Educating Christians,* by Fred P. Edie and Mark A. Lamport, 401-404. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2021.

“Transformative Covenant Communities” *The Thread*, Institute for Youth Ministry, Princeton

Theological Seminary. 2019.

“Introductions to Exodus, Leviticus, Deuteronomy, Joshua, and Judges,” *Common English Bible Student*

*Bible*. Nashville: Common English Bible, 2015.

“Introduction to Romans,” *Common English Bible Student Bible*. Nashville: Common English Bible, 2015.

“The Ministry of Questioning Everything,” *Reflections Magazine.* Issue Title: Seeking the Light: A New

Generation, Spring 2014.

***Book Reviews:***

Review of *Church in Color: Youth Ministry, Race and the Theology of Martin Luther King, Jr.,* by

Montague R. Williams,(Waco, Baylor University Press, 2020). *Interpretation: A Journal of Bible*

*and Theology.* 76, no. 4(September 26, 2022): 369-385.

Review of *Reset the Heart: Unlearning Violence, Relearning Hope,* by Mai-anh le Tran. (Nashville,

Abingdon Press 2017). *International Journal of Practical Theology* 25, no. 2 (2021): 326-328. <https://doi.org/10.1515/ijpt-2021-0045>

Review of *Between Sisters: Emancipatory Hope out of Tragic Relationships,* by Evelyn L. Parker,

(Eugene, OR, Cascade Books, 2017) *Religious Education.* Feb. 22, 2018.

Review of *Varieties of Personal Theology: Charting the Beliefs and Values of American Young Adults,* by David T. Gortner (Ashgate, 2013). *The Journal of Pastoral Theology.* Issue 24:1,

Summer 2014.

**Endowed and University Lectures**

“Religion, Gender, and Social Change: Re-imagining Public Theological Icons,” Emory Law Center for

Civil Rights and Social Justice Fall Symposium, Emory University, October 2023.

“Sketches from a Teacher’s Notebook: The Black Church, Education, and Social Change,” *The Anna*

*Julia Cooper Lecture,* Candler School of Theology, Emory University, March 2022.

“Unlikely Radicals: Stories of Faith, Calling, and Educating for Social Change,” *The Margaret*

*M. Cummings Conversations on Faith, Learning and Service,* Maryville College, April 2021.

“The Spiritual Lives of Children and Youth: Reflecting on Violence, Joy, Resistance, and Hope,” Child

Study Center Grand Rounds, Yale School of Medicine, February 2021.

“On Youth Spirituality in a Troubling World,” *Religions at School*, University of Vienna, November

2019.

“No Leaders Here,” *Princeton Lectures on Youth, Church and Culture*, Forum on Youth Ministry,

Princeton Theological Seminary, April 24, 2019.

“Movement to Movements,” *Princeton Lectures on Youth, Church and Culture*, Forum on Youth

Ministry, Princeton Theological Seminary, April 23, 2019.

“Discerning Vocation in Adolescence,” *Barbara Chafin Endowed Lecture.* Baylor University, Waco, TX. March 2016.

“Re-Imagining Youth Leadership: Theologically Reflective, Publicly Engaged Adolescents.” *RENEW*

*Conference*, Knox College, University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada, November 4-6, 2014.

**Other Invited Lectures and Keynote Addresses**

“…Before my feet could touch the floor”: Gospel Music as Intergenerational, Communal Faith

Development.” Presented for the *Eternal Gain Symposium with Dr. Mattie Moss Clark and the Clark Sisters.* Music and Black Church Initiative of the Institute of Sacred Music, Yale University, April 2023.

“Creativity, Joy, and the Embodied Prophetic Witness of Youth,” Conference Keynote Address,

*Association of Youth Ministry Educators,* Dallas, TX, October 2021.

“Youth Ministry at the Margins,” *Association of Youth Ministry Educators,* Virtual Conference, October

2020.

“Churches and Back to School: Remembering and Reimagining,” *Massachusetts Council of Churches,*

August 2020.

“Young, Active and Faithful: On Joy and Agency in Adolescence,” Lecture for the Youth Ministry

Institute, Yale Center for Faith and Culture, May 2, 2018.

“Do you Believe? Positive Youth Development and Engaged Citizenship,” Plenary Speaker, Gathering of

*High School Youth Theology Institutes*, Hosted by the *Forum for Theological Exploration,* Crown

Plaza, Indianapolis, IN, January 31, 2018.

“Memory and Joy,” Lecture for the Youth Ministry Institute, Yale Center for Faith and Culture, May 3, 2017.

“Called to Live!” *The Society for Children’s Spirituality*, Lipscomb University, Nashville, TN. June 2016.

“From Florida to Ferguson: Youth, Violence, and a Theology of Abundant Life,” *Faith Forward*

*Conference.* Chicago, IL. April 2015.

“The Kids are Alright! Re-imagining the starting assumptions of ministry with youth.” and “Cultivating

Positive Youth Spiritual Development” Keynote addresses for *The Blaze*, Montreat, NC, January 2014.

“Taking the Limits Off: Adolescents and the Good News of Abundant Life.” Presented for the Trinity

Institute: The Good News Now, Trinity Church Wall St., New York, November 2013.

“Personal Jesus, Public Faith: Cultivating a Generation of Public Theologians.” Keynote address for the

*Children, Youth, and New Kind of Christianity Conference.* Washington, D.C. May 2012.

**Paper Presentations and Panels (Selected)**

Presider, “Teaching Across Career and in the Contemporary Academy,” *Teaching Religion Unit,*

American Academy of Religion, San Antonio, TX. November, 2023.

“Young, Active, and Faithful: The Justice Movements of Ordinary, Everyday Leaders”, Presented for the

*Children’s Defense Fund Samuel DeWitt Proctor Institute for Child Advocacy Ministry*. CDF Alex Haley Farm, Clinton, TN. July 2023.

Moderator, Panel on “Earth Honoring Youth Ministry and Ecological Models of Parenting”, International

Academy of Practical Theology, Seoul, Korea, June 2023.

Presider, “Pandemic Pedagogy.” Panel for the Teaching Religion Unit of the *American Academy of*

*Religion*, Annual Meeting, Denver, CO. November 2022.

“Towards a Pedagogy of Joy,” Presented for the Women of Color Activism and Teaching Group of the

*American Academy of Religion*, Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX. November 2021.

“Intersectionality in Youth Ministry: Responding to Montague Williams’ *Church in Color*” Author

Meets Critics Panel for the Theology of Martin L. King, Jr. Group of the *American Academy of Religion*, Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX. November 2021.

“Radical Ways of Knowing: Teaching about Gender and Sexual Trauma,” Presented for the

Transformative Scholarship, Teaching, and Activism Group of the *American Academy of*

*Religion,* Annual Meeting, Boston (online). December 2020.

“To Speak a True Word: Spoken Word, Communal Pedagogy and Public Theology,” *Association for*

*Practical Theology Biennial Conference,* Yale Divinity School, New Haven, April 2018.

Moderator, “New Songs in the Same Strange Land: Congregational Music for Worship and

Liberation in the Age of Hip Hop and Black Lives Matter,” Plenary for *Association for Practical*

*Theology Biennial Conference,* Yale Divinity School, New Haven, April 2018.

Panel Moderator, *Inspire: The Church in the 21st Century Conference*, Yale Divinity School, April 4-6,

2018.

“Magical, Radical, Improvisational Pedagogy: Reflecting on Black Women Teachers who Create Social

Change” Presented for the Womanist Approaches to Religion and Culture Group of the *American Academy of Religion*, Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX. November 2016.

Presider, “Albert Cleage, Jr. and Black Madonna and Child: 50 Years Later.” Panel for the Black

Theology Group of the *American Academy of Religion*, Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX.

November 2016.

“What do you see? Reality TV, Religion, and Performances of Gender” Presented for the Religion and

Culture Remix*,* Youth Theological Initiative 20th Anniversary Conference, Candler School of Theology, Atlanta, GA. July 2013.

“ ‘I see you, seeing me. I see the me, you think you see’: Racial Voyeurism and the Souls of Black Folk”

Presented for the Black Cultures and the Study of Religion section of the Southeastern Commission for the Study of Religion*,* Annual Meeting, Greenville, SC. March 2013.

“Diversity and Black Religious Experiences,” Presented for the (In) Visible Lives Panel of the Black

Theology Group of the *American Academy of Religion*, Annual Meeting, San Francisco. November 2011.

“Transforming Black Religious and Theological Education:From Mis-education to a Pedagogy of

*Somebodiness* and Epistemic Responsibility” Presented for a joint session of the Black Cultures and the Study of Religion and Teaching Religion sections of the Southeastern Commission for the Study of Religion*,* Annual Meeting, Louisville, KY. March 2011.

Presider and Organizer, “Religion Beyond the Boundaries” Public Lecture Series. Series Themes:

Religion and Pluralism in Atlanta. Graduate Student Committee of the *American Academy of*

*Religion*, Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA, October 2010.

Organizer, “Cracks in the Tower”: Barriers to Careers in Religion. Sponsored by the Graduate Student

Committee and the Job Placement Taskforce of the *American Academy of Religion*, Annual

Meeting, Montreal, Canada, November 2009.

“Personal Jesus-Public Faith: Youth Spirituality and Civic Engagement” Presented for the Religion and

Social Sciences Section of the *American Academy of Religion*, Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL. November 2008.

“Re-creating Womanish Spirit!: Womanist Approaches to Fragmented Adolescent Spirituality and

Pedagogy” Presented for the Womanist Approaches to Religion and Culture Group of the *American Academy of Religion*, Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL. November 2008.

“Youth as Public Theologians” Presented at the *Imagining America Conference,* Layers of Place,

Movements of People: Public Engagement in a Diverse America, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA. October 2008.

“The Power of Testimony: Implications for Adolescent Spiritual Formation and Ministering with Youth”

Presented at the *Children, Youth and Spirituality* Authors’ Seminar, Center for the Study of Law

and Religion, Emory University, Atlanta, GA. May 2006.

“Adolescent Centered Soteriology” Presented at the Koinonia Journal Annual Conference, Princeton

Theological Seminary, Princeton, NJ. April 2006.

**Selected Media and Interviews**

Kristen Verhulst (December 2021). “The Beautiful and Complex Lives of Young People”

Season 3. *Public Worship and the Christian Life.* Calvin Institute for Christian Worship. <https://worship.calvin.edu/resources/resource-library/almeda-m-wright-on-the-beautiful-and-complex-lives-of-young-people/>

Jennifer A. Guerra Aldana and Giovanny Panginda (September 2021). “Purpose as Ongoing Journey”

Season 3: Episode 4. *FYI on Youth Ministry.* Fuller Youth Institute. <https://fulleryouthinstitute.org/podcast/season-3-the-fyi-on-youth-ministry/almeda-m-wright-purpose-is-an-ongoing-journey-we-commit-to>

Lynne Westfield (2020). “Teaching like I never imagined: Almeda Wright” Episode 26. *Dialogue on*

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

<https://www.wabashcenter.wabash.edu/resources/podcasts/>

Ray Waddle, “Creating, Sustaining, and Persisting: An Interview with Almeda Wright.” *Reflections*

*Magazine.* Issue Title: Seeking the Light: Notes on Hope, Summer 2020.

<https://reflections.yale.edu/article/seeking-light-notes-hope/creating-sustaining-persisting-interview-almeda-wright>

Villarreal, Sandi. (2020). Interviewed for: “Raising the Coronavirus Generation: How will our

ongoing traumas affect the way our kids see the world, God, and faith?”

<https://sojo.net/magazine/septemberoctober-2020/raising-coronavirus-generation>

ABC News, Juneteenth Special Broadcast, June 19, 2020. <https://abcnews.go.com/US/black-church-rock-community-catalyst-change/story?id=71344308>

Everett, Laura. (2018). “Almeda Wright on the act of radical listening with Christian young

people.” *Can These Bones Live Podcast,* Duke Center for Faith and Leadership. <https://www.faithandleadership.com/episode-6-almeda-m-wright-act-radical-listening-young-christians>

Heim, David. (2018). Interview: “The Gifts of Black Youth”, *Christian Century.*

<https://www.christiancentury.org/article/interview/gifts-black-youth>

Nowlin, Nilwona. (2018). Interview: “How Young African Americans are Fusing Faith and

Activism,” *Christianity Today.* <https://www.christianitytoday.com/ct/2018/january-web-only/how-young-african-americans-are-fusing-faith-and-activism.html>

**Research Projects and Grants**

*Conectere: Restoring Connections with Caregivers and Faith*. Co-principal investigator with Sarah

Bixler, Eastern Mennonite University, Research Funded by the Lilly Endowment, Inc. ($1.25

million grant awarded July 2023-December 2028).

*Communitas: Yale Young Adult Innovation Hub* (Principal Investigator). Research Funded by the Lilly

Endowment, Inc. ($1.5 million grant awarded March 2022-December 2027).

*Black Women Teaching for Flourishing* (PI, Richelle White and Awa Jangha Co-investigators). Research

Funded by the Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning, ($7000 grant awarded July 2021-

July 2022).

*Repair & Renew: Mending & Quilting as Models for Christian Institutional Innovation* (consultant and

co-investigator with Laura Everett). Research Funded by the Louisville Institute, Pastoral Study

Grants. ($25,000 grant awarded December 2017-December 2018).

*Finding Joy in Adolescence: African-American Stories from the Past for the Present* (co-investigator with

Anne Wimberly). Research Funded by the John D. Templeton Foundation through the Yale Center for Faith and Culture. ($25,000 grant awarded June 2016-January 2017).

*Race, Religion, and Social Transformation: A History of the Radical Dimensions of African American Religion and Education.* (Archival Research supported by Yale Divinity School and conducted at the Avery Institute, Univ. of Charleston and the Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives and Rare Books Library, Emory University: January 2016-July 2016).

**Research Consultations and Advisory Boards**

Children’s Defense Fund, Garrett Evangelical Seminary Collaboration, Advisory Board, 2022-Present.

Religious Education Pedagogy Podcast, Scientific Advisory Board, University of Vienna, 2020-Present.

([https://relipedcast.org/](https://nam05.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Frelipedcast.org%2F&data=02%7C01%7Calmeda.wright%40yale.edu%7Ce9e95f8e211a42152b1808d822436397%7Cdd8cbebb21394df8b4114e3e87abeb5c%7C0%7C0%7C637297020133266043&sdata=fUud4MwBU9si0Ahbud8CxAiqqzXpzFijm00kSNb9Zv8%3D&reserved=0))

Character & Virtue Development in Youth Ministry Project, Fuller Youth Institute, Expert Advisory

Council 2019-Present

Faith and Relationships Advisory Team, Search Institute, Minneapolis, MN, December 2019

Dismantling White Supremacies in Practical TheologyConsultation, Columbia Theological Seminary,

Decatur, GA, March 2018.

“African American Christian Young Adult Activism” Presented for the Young Adult Ministries

Consultation, Garrett-Evangelical Seminary, Evanston, IL, October 2017.

Scholar Practitioner Consultation, Yale Center for Faith and Culture, March 2017 and March 2018.

Lilly Endowment Inc., Religion Division Consultation on Christian Faith and Life, Indianapolis, IN. May 11-12, 2016.

The Vernal Season of Adolescence Consultation Participant, Yale Center for Faith and Culture, October

2014.

**Service to the Academy**

**Service to Yale Divinity School**

Ph.D. Taskforce, 2023-2024

Curriculum Committee, 2023-2024

Lectures Committee, 2022-2023

Professional Studies Committee, 2021-2022

Black Church Studies Committee, 2017-2018, 2020-2021

Diversity Committee, 2014-2015, 2019-2020

Yale Clergy Scholars Cohort, Summer Study Instructor, June 2018

Community Life Committee, 2016-2017

Ministerial Studies Committee, 2013-2014

Admissions Application Reviewer, for MAR in Black Religion in African Diaspora Concentration, 2014.

Summer Study Instructor: “Urban Youth Ministry”, 2014

Yale Center for Faith and Culture, *Joy and Adolescent Faith and Flourishing,*

Advisory Board Member, 2014-2019.

The Vernal Season of Adolescence Consultation Participant, October 2014

**Service to Pfeiffer University**

Quality Enhancement Plan: *Engaging Students to Think Critically*

Member, 2010-2012; Director 2011-2012

Faculty Learning Communities*,* Facilitator,2011-2012

General Education and Assessment Committee, 2010-2012

Sunday Night Alive, Youth Ministry Series for the Pfeiffer Village Church, Advisor

Gospel Choir, Faculty Advisor

**Other Academic Service**

**Reviewer and Fellowship Adjudication:** Forum for Theological Exploration**,** The Lilly Endowment, Inc., and The Louisville Institute

**Manuscript Reviewer:** Baylor University Press, Journal of Anglican Studies, Religious Education Journal, and Wabash Journal on Teaching

**Ministry and Ecclesial Service**

**Mt. Aery Baptist Church,** Bridgeport, CT, October 2016, October 2017, March-April 2018.

Women’s Ministry Facilitator and Facilitated the *Finding Joy* curriculum with youth and young adults.

**Community Baptist Church,** New Haven, CT, March 2014-May 2016

Youth Ministry Consultant and Women’s Ministry Facilitator.

**Friendship Missionary Baptist Church,** Charlotte, NC, January 2011-July 2013

Youth and Youth Adult Ministry Consultant and Workshop Facilitator.

**Victory for the World Church,** Stone Mountain, GA, February 2005- July 2009

Ministerial and Preaching Staff member and Christian Education Instructor for Adult and Adolescent courses

**United Church of Christ, Southeast Conference,** Atlanta, GA, September 2004-2006

*Theology among the People* Facilitator for “The Pentateuch and Christian Education” Course

**Union Baptist Church,** Cambridge, MAJuly 2001- August 2004

Ministerial Staff Member and Worship Leader, Advisor to Baptist Youth Fellowship, Middle School and High School Class Sunday School Teacher, and Women’s Retreat Facilitator.

Implemented: Rites of Passage Program—for 13-15 year old young women.

**Progressive National Baptist Convention,** June 2003, 2004

Eastern Region Congress of Christian Education, Instructor for “Missionary Education” Course

**Women’s Theological Center,** Boston, MA, August 2003-May 2004

Consultant for Spiritual Leadership Curriculum Development. Coordinator for *Taking Wing* Program – a group of women of African descent committed to building a community for girls and young women.

# 

**Sermons and Workshops (Selected)**

“It is well?” University Church in Yale and Black Church at Yale Joint Worship Service, February 12,

2023.

“Being Church Across Generations,” Bible Study Series, Ebenezer Baptist Church, Richmond, VA, May

2022.

“Going Deeper in the Bible,” Three-Week Adult Education Training, Union Baptist Church, Hartford,

CT, Fall 2020.

“The Little People,” Christian Education Sunday, Union Baptist Church, Montclair, NJ. October 2020.

Women’s History Month Sermon, Yale Divinity School, Marquand Chapel, March 2020

“Just Keep Swimming,” Sermon, Pastoral Anniversary, Trinity Presbyterian Church, Montclair, NJ. April

2018.

“The Unsettling Nature of Pentecost,” Lecture for the *Texas Youth Academy*, Austin Presbyterian

Seminary, July 2017.

“Are You Listening?” Commencement Worship, Yale Divinity School, May 2017.

“Lessons from an Un-named Woman,” Annual Women’s Day Preacher, Dixwell Congregational UCC,

New Haven, CT, April 2017.

“Celebration of Women,” Union Baptist Church, Hartford, CT, March 2017, 2018.

“Hope in the Midst of Despair,” University Church in Yale, Battell Chapel, February 2017.

“Reimagining Sisterhood,” Mt. Aery Baptist Church, Bridgeport, CT, September 2016.

“God’s Plans for Tomorrow,” Dixwell Congregational UCC, New Haven, CT, September 2016.

“The Spirit of Pentecost” Lecture for the *Texas Youth Academy*, Southwestern University, July 2016.

“A Mother’s Guide to Making A Way Out of No Way,” Bethel AME Church, Bridgeport, CT. May

2016.

Annual Women’s Day Preacher, Trinity Baptist Church, Florence, SC, September 2015.

“Pentecost and the Holy Spirit” Lecture for the *Texas Youth Academy*, Southwestern University, July 2015

Pastoral Anniversary Preacher, Community Baptist Church, September 2015.

“Run Tell That!” Ordination Sermon for Jamie Crumley, Community Baptist Church, May 2015.

“Dangerous Dreamers,” Yale Divinity School Commencement worship service, May 2014.

“The Kids are Alright,” Virginia Mennonite Conference Youth Worker’s Retreat, Williamsburg, VA,

January 2014.

“Lessons from the Point of No Return,” Union Baptist Church, Cambridge, MA, October 2013.

“What about Tomorrow?” Marquand Chapel, Yale Divinity School, September 2013.

“Day-Dreaming about the Beloved Kin-dom of God,”United Metropolitan Missionary Baptist Church,

Winston-Salem, NC, September 2012.

“Just Like Everybody Else,” Davidson Presbyterian Church, Davidson, NC, June 2012.

“Lessons in the Wind and Storms,” Friendship Missionary Baptist Church, Charlotte, NC, August 2011.

“Dry Brooks and Empty Cupboards,” First United Cornerstone, Winston-Salem, NC, April 2011.

**Professional Organizations and Societies**

American Academy of Religion,

Teaching Religion Unit, Steering Committee 2018-present, Co-Chair 2022-2023

Graduate Student Committee Member 2009-2012, Chair 2011-2012

Association of Practical Theology,

President-elect, April 2022-Present

International Association of Practical Theology

Religious Education Association

Finance Committee Member, 2021-Present

Horizon’s Book Series, Editorial Board Member, 2021-Present

Publications Committee Chair, 2019-2022

Religious Education in Academic Disciplines & Institutions, Standing Committee, 2018-2019

Society for the Study of Black Religion

**Fellowships and Awards Received**

Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning, Hybrid Teaching and Learning Workshop for Faculty of

African Diaspora, 2022.

Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning, Digital Salon for Mid-Career Faculty of African Descent,

2020-2021

Martin Luther King Jr. Collegium of Scholars, Inductee, Morehouse College, 2021.

Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning, Colloquy on Writing the Scholarship of Teaching in Theology and Religion, 2017-2018

*Inspiring Yale Honoree*, Sponsored by the Graduate and Professional Students Senate, Yale School of

Management, Spring 2015

Fund for Theological Education Fellow/Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning Workshop

Participant, March 25-27, 2010

The Louisville Institute Dissertation Fellowship (Honorary), 2009

The Fund for Theological Education Dissertation Fellow, 2008

The Fund for Theological Education Doctoral Fellow, 2004-2005

# The Ford Foundation Pre-Doctoral Fellowship, Honorable Mention, 2004

# Harvard Divinity School Billings Preaching Prize—First Place Winner, 2003

# American Baptist Churches, USA Seminarian Grant Recipient, 2003

**Denominational Affiliation and Status**

Ordained, American Baptist Churches, USA, October 2005

Licensed, Union Baptist Church, Cambridge, MA, July 2001