

CURRICULUM VITAE

Dori Grinenko Baker, PhD

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Portfolio includes thought leadership, facilitation design, seminary teaching, research and writing in the areas of congregational leadership, vocational discernment, feminist approaches to theology, and multicultural diversity

EDUCATION

2000

Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois
Doctor of Philosophy in Religious and Theological Studies
Joint Program with Garrett –Evangelical Theological
Seminary

Areas of Emphasis: Practical Theology with specialization in Religious Education, Christian Formation/Practices, Youth & Young Adult Ministry, and Feminist Theologies; emphases in cultural studies, critical race theory, and ethnography.

1990

Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary
Master of Divinity

1985

University of South Florida
Bachelor of Arts, Journalism
Magna cum laude

CURRENT POSITION

Senior Fellow, The Forum for Theological Exploration (FTE) (since 2008)

- Provide thought leadership on public and practical theology through FTE's multiple platforms, especially through the creation and editing of a book series that expands the literature of vocation within communities of color and for young pastoral leaders
- Evaluate and design annual Discernment Retreats for young adults exploring vocations of pastoral leadership; collect and disseminate these learnings through resource creation
- Teach an Observer Cohort (at FTE's national young adult discernment retreats) for faculty, seminary personnel, denominational leaders and campus ministers who wish to lead vocational discernment at their home institutions

- Provide ongoing learning and evaluation across all organizational areas, including a four-city listening tour on Christian innovation and consultations on supporting doctoral students of color, building leadership networks, and resourcing the Lilly Endowment's networks for Youth Theology and Campus Ministry Theological Exploration of Vocation
- Designed and directed a 2-year multi-cultural ethnographic project involving six researchers. Edited the resulting book, *Greenhouses of Hope: Congregations Nurturing Young Adults who Will Change the World* (2010), which makes an original contribution to the literature on Christian practices of leadership development
- Developed and led major portions of the VocationCARE and Calling Congregations initiatives aimed to awaken congregations to practices of vocational formation
- Refine, adapt, and contextualize a method for communal theological reflection on life stories published as *The Barefoot Way* (2012)

Independent Scholar and Consultant

- Serve as Research Director of Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary's Young Adult Innovation Hub. My signature contribution to the project included equipping "spiritual *and* religious" young adults to use ethnographic tools in learning from their "spiritual *but not* religious" peers as a first step toward innovating new ministries for congregations.
- Provide facilitation consultation to faith-based organizations on multi-cultural competency, equity and diversity

PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES & ACCREDITATION

Ordained Elder, Virginia Conference, United Methodist Church
 Association of Clinical Pastoral Educators, Advanced Standing
 Editorial Board, *Horizons in Religious Education*
 Religious Education Association, former board member
 American Academy of Religion, member
 Association of Practical Theology, member

SEMINARY TEACHING

Course competencies include: *Vocation and The Christian Life, The Church and Social Innovation, Teaching Ministries of the Church, Ethnography for Research and Ministry, Living and Leading Change for Good, Youth and Young Adult Culture, Spirituality of Adolescent Girls.*

Experience includes teaching through traditional formats, one and two-week intensives, independent studies, web-based formats, and providing PhD and DMin advising.

- 2009-present **Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary**, PhD advising and dissertation committee member
- 2017 Faculty and design consultant for *Something More* and *Formation*, gatherings of spiritual innovators, coordinated by **Harvard Divinity School** ministry innovation fellows Angie Thurston and Casper ter Kuile
- 2014-2016 **Virginia Theological Seminary** DMin & PhD advising
- 2010-2012 **Wesley Theological Seminary**, Adjunct Faculty teaching *Ministry with Youth*; **Union Presbyterian Seminary**, consultant on interfaith, youth, and young adult issues for DMin committees.
- 2001-2009 Independent scholar and/or affiliate faculty at the following: **Union Theological Seminary-PSCE**, Richmond, Virginia; **Wesley Theological Seminary**, Washington, D.C.; **Memphis Theological Seminary**, Memphis, Tennessee; **Methodist Theological Seminary of Ohio**, Columbus, Ohio; **Garrett Evangelical Theological Seminary**, Evanston, Illinois. Independent studies taught at DMin/PhD level for Lexington Theological Seminary, Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary and Union-PSCE.
- 2004-2009, 2010-2012 Faculty for **Princeton Theological Seminary**, Institute for Youth Ministry

MINISTRY EXPERIENCE

- 2012-2014 **College Chaplain, Sweet Briar College**
Supervised 10 interns and coordinated interfaith spiritual offerings and justice-related campaigns for a 650-member female student body.
- 2009-2019 **Guest Preacher** on regular basis at churches engaged in vocational formation of young adults across the US and Canada
- 1991-1994 **First United Methodist Church**, Arlington Heights, Illinois
Associate Pastor to a 2,000-member congregation with duties involving preaching, youth/young adult ministry, Stephen's Ministry and design and implementation of an innovative worship service called "Sacred Circle"

1990-1991 **Rush-Presbyterian-St. Luke's Medical Center**, Chicago, Illinois
Five-quarter CPE residency in pediatrics, neo-natal care, and oncology at a religiously diverse, inner-city medical center

AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS & HONORS

2004-2006 Research Fellowship, Youth Theological Initiative, **Candler School of Theology**, Emory University

2006 Recipient of an individual grant from the **Lane Foundation** for research on the lives of working class white girls

2004 Recipient of an individual **Valparaiso Project Grant** (in association with the Lilly Foundation) for a project entitled Girls, Women, and the Practice of Testimony

1998-2004 Co-wrote and received a \$1.3 million grant for **Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary** from the Lilly Foundation to develop FaithPassage, a summer youth theology initiative

1998 **American Association of Women American Fellowship**
Given to women whose scholarship promises to advance their distinct disciplines.

1996,1997 **Dempster Fellowship**
Given to United Methodist clergy persons in doctoral programs who show promise as effective teachers and contributive scholars at the graduate level

PUBLICATIONS

Books

2020 *Another Way: Living and Leading Change On Purpose*, Chalice Press, co-authored with Stephen Lewis and Matthew Wesley Williams, foreword by Parker J. Palmer

2005, 2020

Doing Girlfriend Theology: God-Talk with Young Women, The Pilgrim Press, foreword by Dr. Rosemary Radford Ruether, (originally published in 2005, second edition forthcoming)

2020

Tru Colors: A Guide for Discerning Call with Youth, with Anne Walker, General Board of Higher Education and Ministry.

2019

A Guide to Discernment Retreats, with Darlene Hutto, www.fteleaders.org

2012

The Barefoot Way: A Faith Guide for Youth, Young People and the Adults Who Walk with Them, Westminster John Knox (Named a Top Five seller for WJK in *The Christian Century*)

2010

Editor, *Greenhouses of Hope: Congregations that Grow Young Leaders Who Will Change The World*, The Alban Institute

2007

Lives to Offer: Accompanying Youth on the Quest for Vocation, The Pilgrim Press, co-authored by Joyce Ann Mercer with epilogue by Dr. James W. Fowler

Book Chapters

2016

“Clearness Committee Revisited: Gathering Young Adults for Contemplative Discernment,” co-authored with Callid Keefe-Perry “in *Prophetic Voice and Making Peace*, by Matthew Charlton and M. Kathryn Armistead, General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, The United Methodist Church.

2015

“Miriams, Moseses, and Monarch Migrations: Teaching for Redemptive Community” in *Educating For Redemptive Community: Essays in Honor of Jack Seymour and Margaret Ann Crain*, Wipf and Stock.

- 2013 “Girls and God in When Everything’s Changing,” co-authored with Joyce Mercer in *Faith Forward: A Dialogue on Children and Youth in a New Kind of Christianity*, CopperHouse Publishing.
- 2012 “Where the Holy Resides: Life Story as a Source for Personal and Communal Transformation” in *Voices of Feminist Liberation: Writings in Celebration of Rosemary Radford Ruether*, edited by Emily Silverman, Dirk Von Der Horst and Whitney A. Bauman, Equinox
- 2006 “Love Letters in a Second-Hand Hope Chest: Working-class White Girls Delaying Dreams and Expanding Soul” in *The Sacred Selves of Adolescent Girls: Hard Stories of Race, Class and Gender*, edited by Evelyn L. Parker, The Pilgrim Press
- 2006 “Faith Communities and Adolescent Girls.” Entry in *The Encyclopedia of Women and Religion in North America*, edited by Rosemary Radford Ruether and Rosemary Skinner Keller, Indiana Press

Curriculum Resources and Major Reports

- 2020 forthcoming *Tru Colors: Congregations Cultivating Call in Youth*, General Board of Higher Education, The United Methodist Church
- 2019 *Guide to Discernment Retreats*, <https://fteleaders.org/pages/guide-to-discernment-retreats>, co-authored with Darlene Hutto
- 2013 *Time to Choose, Time to Change- A Report on the 2013 Consultation on Doctoral Education*, co-authored with Anne Joh

Scholarly Articles

- 2019 “Noticing Our Norms So We Can Change Them,” *Journal of Religious Education*, Volume 114, Number 3, May-June 2019, 342.
- 2014 “Christian Educators of the 21st Century: Jack Seymour,” http://www.talbot.edu/ce20/educators/protestant/jack_seymour/

- Fall 2011 "Calling Forth Our Best Selves: Prototyping Religious Education in a Globally-Connected, Multicultural and Pluralistic World," *Journal of Religious Education*, Volume 106, Issue 4.
- Fall 2008 "Reading *Terebithia* in Rural Southern Virginia: Forum on Film and Fiction in Christian Formation," *Journal of Religious Education*, Volume 103, Issue 3. Also broadcast on Public Radio WVTF, Roanoke, VA
- Spring 2008 "Key Resources in Youth Ministry," *Journal of Religious Education*, Volume 103, Issue 2
- Summer 2007 "Evoking Each Other's Truth: Testimony Re-Imagined," *Calling: A Journal For Leaders Who Nurture Vocation*. Vol 2 No 4 Summer 2007. The Fund For Theological Education. <http://www.thefund.org/ejournal>.
- Spring 2007 "An Alternative Curriculum of Vocation," *Calling: A Journal For Leaders Who Nurture Vocation*. Vol 2 No 3 Spring 2007. The Fund For Theological Education. <http://www.thefund.org/ejournal>.
- 2005 "Evoking Testimony Through Holy Listening: The Art of Interview as a Practice in Youth Ministry," *International Journal of Youth and Theology*, Volume 4, Number 2. 53-68
- Summer 2000 "Girlfriend Theology: God-Talk Across Religious Borders," *Journal of Religious Education*. Volume 95, Number 3. 320-339
- Summer 2001 "Future Homemakers and Feminist Awakenings: Auto/ethnography as Method in Theological Research," *Journal of Religious Education*. Volume 96, Number 3. 395-407

Selected Presentations and Lectures

- November 2020 *Setting the Table: Six Practices for Facilitation Mutuality Across Our Differences*, General Commission on Religion and Race, The United Methodist Church

September 2019 *Creating a Culture of Radical Hospitality with Young Adults*, webinar for Garrett-Evangelical Connectional Learning

September 2019 *Justice Evangelizes, Brunch Heals: Finding our Way to Young Adults through Social Action and Spiritual Practice*, webinar for Garrett-Evangelical Connectional Learning

April 2017 *Creating a Contemplative Culture of Call*, Keynote, the Association of Theological Schools Student Personnel Administrators Network, Orlando Florida

November 2015 *Miriams, Moseses and Monarch Migrations: Leading for Redemptive Community*, Plenary Presentation at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary lecture in honor of Jack L. Seymour's retirement

November 2012 *Greenhouses of Hope*, Plenary Presentation at the Religious Education Association, Atlanta

June 2011 *Spa for the Girlfriend Soul*, Ring Lake Ranch, Dubois, WY

January 2010 *The New Convivencia: Living the Questions of Interfaith Practice*, Montreat Conference Center, The Blaze: A Conference on Vocation and Youth Ministry

October 2009 *The Art of Holy Listening* at The Fund for Theological Education, Fall Conference, Plenary Speaker

September 2009 *A Call-Watcher's Guide: Congregational Practices and the Next Generation of Leaders for the Church* at Candler School of Theology, Atlanta, GA

May 2009 *Look For God Always: A Method for Theological Reflection on Life Stories* at Duke Divinity School, Raleigh, NC

October 2008 *Greenhouses of Hope: A Panel Discusses Youth, Congregations and Vocation*, at Youth Theological Initiative Conference entitled "Re-Envisioning a Hope-Filled Future."

January 2008 Conference Preacher, The Blaze: A Conference on Vocation, sponsored by Project Burning Bush of Union-PSCE, Montreat, NC

- June 2007 *Shrek Theology* a presentation for teens at Youth 2007, global gathering of United Methodist youth in Greensboro, NC
- February 2007 *Eat Dark Chocolate and Call Me in the Morning*, Women's retreat at Maumee United Methodist Church, Maumee, OH
- November 2006 *Narrative Methods in Religious Education*, Plenary Presentation at the Association of Professors and Researchers in Religious Education/Religious Education Association, Atlanta, GA
- October 2006 *Guy-Friendly Theology: Bringing Girlfriend Theology to Boys' Worlds* at Christian Educators Fellowship of the United Methodist Church, Lake Junaluska, NC
- October 2006 *Voices of Vocation on the Adolescent Journey* at Fund for Theological Education, Calling Congregations Fall Conference, Evanston, IL
- April 2006 *The Art of Holy Listening with Children and Youth* at Welcoming Children, a national event of the Christian Church/Disciples of Christ in Kansas City, KA
- October 2005 *Spa for the Youthworker's Soul*, Keynote at annual Academy for Youth Workers, Virginia Annual Conference, United Methodist Church
- October 2005 *Ride It, Bend It, Walk It: Inviting Youth to Re-Gender Vocation through Narratives of Popular Culture* at the Association of Professors and Scholars in Religious Education, Toronto, Canada
- July 2005 *Spa for the Girlfriend Soul* at SoulFeast, annual Upper Room summer gathering, Lake Junaluska, NC
- August 2005 *Niche Ministry: Fostering Youthful Leaders for the Now and Future Church* at the United Methodist Scholars in Christian Education bi-annual meeting, Jekyll Island, GA
- October 2004 *Seeding Faith: Cultivating the Sacramental Appetite in Children* Keynote at Children & The Sacraments Colloquium, Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, Evanston, IL

Selected Blog Titles

www.faithandleadership.com	Holy Listening Helps Connect Young Adults; Intentional Communities Provide a Test Kitchen for Human Flourishing; Worried about the Church? Meet these Young Christian Leaders; Micro-Communities of Prayer and Action
www.fteleaders.org	What Role do Faith Communities Have in Shaping Public Life?; Can the Church Help End Violence and Injustice in our Communities?; Leading With Love in the Wake of Islamophobia
www.huffingtpost.com	Finding God and Health in the Experience of Storytelling

LOCAL VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

- Co-founded Central Virginia's first Children's Defense Fund Freedom School in 2019, raising more than \$85,000 from local congregations.
- Regularly lead youth and adult educational programs at First Presbyterian Church, Church of the Covenant and Peakland Avenue United Methodist Church
- Lead a monthly ecumenical contemplative prayer group (2008-present)
- Provide leadership for Lynchburg area clergywomen's group
- Chair the board of The Listening Inc, a 501-3c connecting performing arts with youth mental health