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Luther Seminary
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Current Appointment

2003-present Associate Professor of Old Testament, Luther Seminary, Saint Paul, Minnesota

Education

1996-2000 Ph.D., Princeton Theological Seminary, Princeton, New Jersey
Dissertation: *Many Are Saying: The Function of Direct Discourse in the Hebrew Psalter*
(Advisor: Patrick D. Miller)
1987-1991 M.Div., Luther Seminary, St. Paul, Minnesota
1983-1987 B.A., University of St. Thomas, St. Paul, Minnesota

Other Teaching and Professional Experience

2000-2003 Assistant Professor of Religion, Augsburg College, Minneapolis, Minnesota
1998-2000 Assistant Editor, *Theology Today*; and Associate Editor, *The Princeton Seminary Bulletin*, Princeton Theological Seminary, Princeton, New Jersey
1997-2000 Teaching Fellow and Adjunct Instructor, Princeton Theological Seminary
1991-1996 Associate Pastor, Como Park Lutheran Church, St. Paul, Minnesota

Fellowships, Awards, Honors

2004 Northfield High School Distinguished Alumnus
2003 Wabash Center Summer Grant
2001-2002 Augsburg College Outstanding Faculty (Humanities Division; selected by students)
2002-2003 Wabash Center Workshop on Teaching and Learning for Pre-Tenure Religion Faculty Teaching at Church-Related Colleges and Universities Grant
1996-1998 Princeton Doctoral Fellowship, Princeton Theological Seminary
1987-1991 Minnie B. Lien Grant
1987 Aquinas Scholar, University of St. Thomas

Books

How to Interpret the Psalms. With Karl N. Jacobson. Grand Rapids: Baker, in process.

Crazy Book: A Not-So-Stuffey Dictionary of Biblical Terms. With Karl N. Jacobson and Hans H. Wiersma. Minneapolis: Augsburg, submitted, expected in March 2009.

Psalms. With Beth LaNeel Tanner and Nancy de Claisse-Walford. *The New International Commentary on the Old Testament.* Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, in process.

Crazy Talk: A Not-So-Stuffey Dictionary of Theological Terms (Editor). Minneapolis: Augsburg, 2008.

'Many Are Saying': The Function of Direct Discourse in the Hebrew Psalter. JSOTSupp 397. London: T & T Clark, 2004.

Articles and Chapters

"Psalms: Introduction and Study Notes." In *The Lutheran Study Bible*, ed. Scott Tunseth. Minneapolis: Augsburg

- Fortress, forthcoming.
- “Psalms.” In *New Interpreter’s Bible One Volume Commentary*. Ed. David Peterson and Beverly Gaventa. Nashville: Abingdon, forthcoming.
- “Chapter 6: Sacred Words, Stories, Writings, and Books.” With Karl N. Jacobson. In *An Introduction to the Study of Religion*. Paul Myhre, ed. Winona, MN: St Mary’s Press, forthcoming.
- “A Rose by Any Other Name: Iconography and the Interpretation of Isaiah 28:1-6.” In *Prophecy and Iconography in Ancient Eastern Mediterranean*. Martti Nissinen, ed. Göttingen: Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, 2009, forthcoming.
- “Bread, HB/OT.” In *Encyclopedia of the Bible and its Reception*. Ed. Leong Seow, et al. de Gruyter, forthcoming.
- “Psalm 2,” “Psalm 8,” “Psalm 17,” “Psalm 19,” “Psalm 23,” “Psalm 90,” and “Psalm 100.” In *The Psalms Lectionary Commentary*, ed. Brent Strawn. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, forthcoming.
- “How Do Students Experience the Teacher? Knowing who you are as a teacher (and knowing that your students do not).” In *Teaching Reflectively in Theological Contexts: Promises and Contradictions*. Mary Hess and Stephen Brookfield, eds. San Francisco: Krieger Press, 2008, 76-92.
- “‘The Altar of Certitude’: Reflections on ‘Setting’ and Rhetorical Interpretation of the Psalms.” In *My Words Are Lovely: Studies in the Rhetoric of the Psalms*. David Howard and Robert Foster, ed. London: Continuum, 2008, 3-18.
- “Is the Automobile Essential to Freedom? Yes!” *Word & World* 28:3 (Summer 2008) 315, 17.
- “What Every Christian Should Know about Amos and Hosea.” *Word & World* 28:2 (Spring 2008) 182-191.
- “How Can I Keep from Laughing?” *Lutheran Forum* (Winter 2007) 9-12.
- “The One Who Will Be Born: Preaching Isaiah’s Promises in a Harry Potter World.” With Karl N. Jacobson. *Word & World* 27:4 (Fall 2007) 426-435.
- “‘Stewards of God’s Mysteries’: Stewarding as a Model for Congregational Ministry” *Word & World* 26:3 (Summer 2006) 249-58.
- Four articles in *Teaching the Bible: Practical Strategies for Classroom Instruction*, ed. Mark Ronance and Patrick Gray (2005).
- “Exegesis: Lamentations 1:1-6,” “Exegesis: Joel 2:23-32,” “Exegesis: Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4,” “Exegesis: Isaiah 35:1-10,” “Exegesis: Isaiah 65:15-25,” and “Exegesis: Jeremiah 23:1-6.” *Lectionary Homiletics* (October-November 2004).
- “Biblical Perspectives on Education,” *Journal of Lutheran Ethics* (July 2004) Vol. 4, no. 7. (<http://www.elca.org/scriptlib/dcs/jle/>).
- “Teaching Students to Interpret Religious Poetry (and to Expand their Avenues of Thinking),” *Teaching Theology & Religion* (January 2004) 38-44.
- “Texts in Context: Preaching the David Story,” *Word & World* 23:4 (Fall 2003) 430-38.
- “A Freedom That Is No Freedom: Jeremiah 34 and the Sabbatical Principle.” *Word & World* 22:4 (Fall 2002) 396-405.
- “Exegesis: Isaiah 41:1-9,” and “Exegesis: Isaiah 49:1-7,” *Lectionary Homiletics* (January 2002) 17-18, 25-26.

"Burning our Lamps with Borrowed Oil: The Liturgical Use of the Psalms and the Life of Faith." In *Psalms and Practice: Worship, Virtue, and Authority*. Stephen Reid, ed. Collegeville, MN: Liturgical Press, 2001, 90-98.

"The Costly Loss of Praise" *Theology Today* 57:3 (2000) 375-85.

"Unwelcome Words from the Lord: Isaiah's Messages." *Word & World* 19:2 (Spring 1999) 125-32.

Lectureships

Luther Seminary, Midwinter Convocation (Jan 9-11, 2008)

Augsburg College, Christianson Symposium Lecturer (Sep 24-25, 2007)

Academic Lectures and Presentations

"The Faithfulness of the Lord Endures Forever: The Central Theological Witness of the Psalter." Paper delivered at the 2008 national annual meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, Book of Psalms Section.

"The Experience of Disability and the Theology of the Psalms." Paper delivered at the 2008 national annual meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, Theology of the Hebrew Scriptures Section.

"Teaching with, against, and to Faith." Presenter and panelist at the 2007 national annual meeting of the American Academy of Religion, special topics forum sponsored by the Teaching and Learning Committee.

"Teaching Reflectively in Theological Contexts: Promises and Contradictions." Panelist at a joint session of the 2007 annual meeting of the American Academy of Religion and the Society of Biblical Literature.

"I Hear a Voice I Had Not Known." Paper delivered at the 2006 national annual meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, Hebrew Poetry Section.

"Fearfully and Wonderfully Made: Theological and Exegetical Implications of the Lyric Nature of Poetry." Paper delivered at the 2004 national annual meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, Book of Psalms Section.

"The Authority of God in Psalms 89 and 91." Paper delivered at the 2001 national annual meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, Book of Psalms Section.

"The Costly Loss of Praise." Paper delivered at the 1999 national annual meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, Book of Psalms Section.

"Burning our Lamps with Borrowed Oil: The Liturgical Use of the Book of Psalms." Paper delivered at the "Psalms and Practice" conference, Austin Theological Seminary, May 1999.

"Many Are Saying: First and Third Person Quotations in the Psalter." Paper delivered at the 1997 national annual meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, Book of Psalms Section.

Bible Studies, Video and Other Media, and Popular Writing Projects

Workingpreacher.org (frequent contributor and sermon brainwave host)

OpenTheBible.com (design consultant and contributor; online Scripture project of Luther Seminary)

Faith Out Loud: Talking about What Matters Most (designer and host, Luther Productions DVD curriculum, 2007)

No Experience Necessary: Bible Study, Unit Eight, with Kelly Fryer; textbook and DVD. Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress, 2007.

No Experience Necessary: Bible Study, Unit Seven, with Kelly Fryer; textbook and DVD. Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress, 2007.

No Experience Necessary: Bible Study, Unit Six, with Kelly Fryer; textbook and DVD. Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress, 2007.

Multiple Articles in *The Lutheran Handbook 2*. Kristofer Skrade, ed. Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress, 2007.

Leader writer, *Akaloo: Adult Year Handbook*. Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress, 2006.

Multiple Articles in *The Lutheran Handbook for Pastors*. Kristofer Skrade, ed. Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress, 2006.

Multiple Articles in *The Lutheran Handbook for Marriage*. Kristofer Skrade, ed. Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress, 2006.

No Experience Necessary: Bible Study, Unit Five, with Kelly Fryer; textbook and DVD. Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress, 2006.

No Experience Necessary: Bible Study, Unit Four, with Kelly Fryer. Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress, 2005.

No Experience Necessary: Bible Study, Unit Three, with Kelly Fryer. Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress, 2005.

Multiple Articles in *The Christian Handbook*. Kristofer Skrade, ed. Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress, 2005.

"Sacred Writings," in *Windows of Faith: The Catechumenate for a New Generation*, (<http://www.elca.org/windowsofffaith>). ELCA and Lutheran Campus Ministries 2005.

No Experience Necessary: Bible Study, Unit Two, with Kelly Fryer. Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress, 2005.

Multiple articles in *The Lutheran Handbook*. Kristofer Skrade, ed. Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress, 2005.

"Helping Youth Use the Certainty of Christ in an Uncertain World." In *Can This Be The Christ? Youth Ministry Planning Guide*, ed Carol Throntveit, Susan R. Niemi, and William Congdon.

Selected Church Lectureships

Reformation Festival Lecturer, Northern Texas-Northern Louisiana Synod (2008)

LBI California Bible Study Leader (2008)

Reformation Lecturer, Zion Lutheran Church, Kent Washington (2008)

Southwest Minnesota Synod Fall Conference Keynote Speaker (2008)

Mt. Olivet Lutheran Church (Minneapolis) Bible-in-Life Event Speaker (2008)

Eastern North Dakota Pastors' and Spouses Conference Keynote Speaker (2008)

Saint Paul Synod Assembly Speaker (2008)

South Dakota Synod Pastors' Conference Keynote Speaker (2008)

Eastern North Dakota Synod Assembly Keynote Speaker (2007)

Montana Synod Pastors' Conference Keynote Speaker (2006)

LBI California Bible Study Leader (2006)

Book Reviews

Many book reviews in journals such as *Interpretation*, *Word & World*, *Theology Today*, *Koinonia Journal*, *The Princeton Seminary Bulletin*, and the like.

Teaching Areas and Interests

The Psalms	The Prophets
Hebrew Language and Exegesis	Pastoral Leadership
Biblical Theology	Jewish and Christian Dialogue
The Ten Commandments	Law and Gospel

Professional Affiliations

Ordained Pastor, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)
Society of Biblical Literature
The Fleshpots of Egypt

Languages Read

Biblical Hebrew, Aramaic, Ugaritic, Akkadian, Koine Greek, German, French

Selected Recent Service within Luther Seminary

2006-2007 Strategic Planning Process, Committee Chair
Associate Editor, *Word & World*
Member, Faculty Concerns Committee
Member, Old Testament Studies Professor Search Committee
Member, Luther Productions advisory committee
Member, Committee convening the conversation on teaching worship
Member, “Called and Sent” Campaign Partnership Gifts Committee
Contributor, Western Mission Cluster 2005 Advent/Christmas Devotional
Reader for Ph.D. entrance exams, Milton Prize papers
Department—helped plan and arrange department retreat
Speaker for opening week, previews, convocation, partnership dinner, leadership circle, etc.
Thesis advisor for D.Min and M.A students
Point person for OT MA students
Co-convener, junior faculty teaching and learning cohort
Offered peer review for colleagues by attending class and offering feedback
Frequent adult forum speaker

Selected Service to Church, Community and Academy

2007-present	Board of Regents, Augsburg College
2005-present	Chair, Society of Biblical Literature Book of Psalms Section
2007-2008	Staff, Wabash Center Pre-Tenure Workshop
2004-2007	Board Member and Development Chair, Oak Hill Montessori
2004-05	Member, Internship Committee for Luther Seminary intern Matt Williams
2004	Paper presenter to the ELCA Task Force for a social statement on Education
1998-present	Member, Society of Biblical Literature Book of Psalms Section
2000-present	Frequent adult forum presenter and guest preacher at ELCA congregations
2002	Confirmation Teacher, St. Andrew Church, Eden Prairie
2002-03	Member, Internship Committee for Luther Seminary intern Gale Reitan
2001	Keynote Speaker, Southwestern Minnesota Synod (ELCA) Youth Gathering
2000-present	Member, David Preus Leadership Award Sponsoring Committee
1999-2000	Chair, Stewardship Committee (Abiding Presence Lutheran Church)
1999	Keynote Speaker, Western North Dakota Synod (ELCA) Youth Gathering
1996-2002	Luther Seminary Alumni/ae Council (President of Council 1999-2001)
1997-1999	Chair, Koinonia Graduate Student Fellowship, Princeton Theological Seminary
1997	Voting Member, Churchwide Assembly, ELCA (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania)
1996	Keynote Speaker, Minnesota Metro Area Youth Gathering, ELCA (St. Cloud, Minnesota)

1996 Keynote Speaker, Western States Youth Gathering, ELCA (Anaheim, California)
1994-1996 Dean, South-Central Conference, St. Paul Area Synod, ELCA
1994-1996 Member, St. Paul Area Synod Council, ELCA
1995-1996 Member, Governor's Select Committee on Insurance Redistribution, State of Minnesota (appointed by Governor Arne Carlson)
1994-1996 Member, Ramsey County Bar Association Fee Arbitration Committee, Ramsey County, Minnesota
1995 Keynote Speaker, Minnesota Metro Area Youth Gathering, ELCA (St. Cloud, Minnesota)
1995 Guest Speaker, Minnesota Cancer Society Annual Meeting
1994 Keynote Speaker, Minnesota Metro Area Youth Gathering, ELCA (St. Cloud, Minnesota)
1994 Guest Lecturer, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota
1993 Voting Member, Churchwide Assembly, ELCA (Kansas City, Missouri)