

The Reverend Susanna J. Singer, Ph.D.

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ACADEMIC BACKGROUND

Education

- 2007** Interdisciplinary Ph.D, Theology and Education, Institute of Religious Education and Pastoral Ministry, Boston College. Dissertation: *“Under Construction:” Educational Strategies for Forming Adult Christian Religious Identity in the Context of Postmodern Pluralism.*
- 1989** Master of Divinity, Church Divinity School of the Pacific, Berkeley, CA.
- 1979** Bachelor and Master of Arts (with honors), English Literature, Girton College, Cambridge, England.

Academic Teaching Experience

- 7/10–present** Associate Professor of Ministry Development, Church Divinity School of the Pacific
- 7/07–6/10** Assistant Professor of Ministry Development, Church Divinity School of the Pacific.
- Courses taught: “Foundations for Ministry,” “Postmodern Christian Education” (in-class and online formats), “Children’s Faith Formation,” “Adults as Practical Theologians,” “Issues in Ministry,” “Cross Cultural Ministries,” “Research Methods and Thesis Writing,” “Twenty-First Century Evangelism,” “Education for Social Engagement.” Developed introductory Intersession course in community organizing taught by the Industrial Areas Foundation, and new first-year Foundations in Ministry course. Led faculty discussions on hybrid and online education. Took a key role in coordinating the redesign of the Master of Divinity curriculum in 2015-16.
- Serve as advisor to MDiv, MTS, and MA students, chair and serve on thesis committees. Chair faculty committee on Worship. Served on Admissions Committee and Student Services Team (2008-10). Serve as CDSP’s Accreditation Coordinator (2011-present), coordinated and wrote self-study for ten-year ATS re-accreditation (2014).
- Co-chair Search Committee for Academic Dean/Faculty position (current), chair search committee for Dean of Chapel/Professor of Homiletics position (current), chaired Search Committee for Pastoral Theology and Women’s Ministries faculty position (2009). Faculty representative on Dean and President Search Committee (1/09-6/09). Participated in summer school (keynote speaker at international Godly Play conference, summer 2008) and January Epiphany West conference workshops. Participated in development of new academic programs (Low-Residency Certificate of Anglican Studies and MDiv). Taught

Practical Theology and Leadership in the summer Certificate of Anglican Studies Immersion program; served as Director summer 2012 and 2014. Served on Board of Trustees Community Life committee and as faculty representative to Board of Trustees (2010-2012 and 2014-2017). Served on Board Task Force for Structural Change (2010-12). Preach and preside regularly at community worship. Supervised Godly Play program 2008-11, organized Godly Play training initiatives for students. Worked with diocesan Youth and Young Adult minister and CALL Director to develop annual youth ministry symposium at CDSP (2013 – present).

- 7/06–13** Director, Doctor of Ministry programs, Church Divinity School of the Pacific. Worked collaboratively with Pacific School of Religion on the shared CDSP/PSR residential DMin program. Developed and directed the joint DMin program in Congregational Development with Seabury-Western seminary. Recruited students and coordinated academic programs for both degrees, taught required research methodology and thesis writing seminars in each program, supervised adjunct faculty, advised students, chaired thesis committees.
- 7/05–7/07** Instructor of Ministry Development, Church Divinity School of the Pacific.
- Fall 2004** Teaching Assistant, “Foundations of Pastoral Theology.” Principal instructor, Professor Colleen Griffith, Boston College.
- Spring 2004** Assisted with course planning and teaching, “Youth, Meaning and the Dynamics of Difference.” Principal instructor, Professor Helen Blier, Boston College.
- 1996-2002** Faculty Member, School for Deacons, Diocese of California, teaching “Introduction to Christian Education.”
- 2001** Instructor, Graduate Theological Union Summer Session, “How To Grow Christians.”
- 1993-1995** Spiritual formation small group leader, School for Deacons, Diocese of California.

Service to the Episcopal Church

- Ongoing** Serve as consultant to congregations and dioceses in the areas of ministry development and Christian Formation. Clergy conference and Diocesan Convention keynote addresses, Vestry retreat leadership, consultation with individual clergy and leadership teams.
- 9/15–6/18** Chair, General Convention Task Force on Clergy Leadership for Small Congregations. Coordinated design and execution of national field research on the needs of small congregations, coordinating data analysis and final report with recommendations to General Convention, resulting in two resolutions with funding.

- 2006–present** Represent CDSP at Living Stones and the Ministry Developers’ Collaborative ministry formation initiatives. Attend annual meetings as member of the CDSP/Diocese of California team. Write and present reflection documents. Member of the Ministry Development Collaborative steering group, participated in development of the MDC national Ministry Development Certificate.
- 2009-10** Designed individualized education programs and served as consultant to the Commission on Ministry, and academic coordinator for two locally-trained students in the Diocese of Northern California, 2009-10.
- 2008-10** Assisted with Area Ministry Development in the Diocese of California, including teaching classes, creating curriculum, presenting diocesan keynote addresses and training.

Academic Publications

Book review: *Church for Every Context: An Introduction to Theology and Practice*. By Michael Moynagh with Philip Harrold (London: SCM Press, 2012) for *Anglican Theological Review*, Spring 2017.

Book review: *Theological Reflection across Religious Traditions: The Turn to Reflective Believing*. By Edward Foley (Lanham, Md: Rowman & Littlefield, 2015) for *Anglican Theological Review*, Spring 2016.

Book review: *Opening the Field of Practical Theology: An Introduction*. Edited by Kathleen A. Cahalan and Gordon S. Mikoski. (Maryland, Plymouth UK: Rowman & Littlefield, 2014) for *Anglican and Episcopal History*, June 2016.

“Supervisory Practice in a Distance Learning Program of Formation for Ministry.” *Reflective Practice: Formation and Supervision in Ministry*, Volume 31, 2011 (online journal, Berkeley, CA).

Book review, *The Church in Anglican Theology: A Historical, Theological and Ecumenical Exploration*. By Kenneth A. Locke. (Farnham, Surrey, England: Ashgate 2009) for *Anglican and Episcopal History*, March 2010.

“Educating for Commitment: Insights from Postmodernity,” *Religious Education* Summer 2005.

Professional Publications

Guest editor, *Pacific Church News* June 2007. Editorial and lead article “Transformation: It’s in our DNA.” Reprinted in Diocese of Nevada *The Desert Spirit*, February 2011.

“Sowing with Spiritual Ecology” in *Preaching through the Year of Matthew: Sermons that Work*, Roger Alling and David J. Schlafer, eds., Morehouse Publishing, Harrisburg, PA, 2001.

Who Says So? Encountering the Authority of Scripture and *Let It Shine! An Intergenerational Curriculum for Epiphany*, LeaderResources, 2000.

Conferences, Seminars and Addresses

“Turning Outwards: How does the Church Carry Forward God’s Mission in the World,” a keynote address for the Living Stones Collaborative , February 2018; a day retreat for Christian educators in the Diocese of Northern California, April 2018.

“Christian Education After Christendom: An Ecological Approach,” a day retreat for Christian educators in the Diocese of Northern California, April 2017.

“Beautiful Authority 50 Plus,” a conference for women clergy leaders over 50; co-leader May 2016.

“Lifelong Christian Formation” workshop for the PNEUMA conference, Fall 2015.

“Numbers and Stories: Measuring Vitality and Effectiveness in Ministry,” theme address to the Gathering of Leaders 2015.

Two webinars on Leadership in Ministry for the Diocese of Michigan, Spring 2014.

"The World is Charged With the Grandeur of God: The Parables of Jesus, the Poetry of Gerard Manley Hopkins, and the Life of Faith" Retreat for the Associates of the Order of the Transfiguration, September 2013.

GTU Colloquium on Best Practices in Online Teaching, August 2013.

“Signs for the World: Engaging Sacramental Theology and Practice,” clergy conference for the clergy of the Anglican Provinces of the Central Interior, British Columbia, June 2013.

“Signs for the World: From Sacraments on Sunday to Sacramental Living Every Day” workshop for Lay Ministers of Word and Sacrament of the Anglican Provinces of the Central Interior, British Columbia, June 2013.

“In the Sure and Certain Hope... Hope as a Theological Virtue in Changing Times,” keynote theological address to the Gathering of Leaders, March 2012.

“Christianity – So What?” Talk presented to the young adult group at the Pyramid Alehouse, January 2012.

“New Forms of Leadership for a Changing Church,” address at Arizona Business of God luncheons, November 2011.

“Christian Formation for Discipleship and Leadership,” Keynote speaker and conference leader, Diocesan Clergy Conference, Diocese of Northern California February 2011

“New Form of Leadership for Ministry Development,” Congregational Forum, St Mark’s Episcopal Church, Berkeley CA, January 2011.

“Christian Education and Formation,” Diocesan Convention Keynote Address, Diocese of Nevada, October 2010.

“Imagining Our Future: Emerging Models of Ministry,” Clergy Conference, Diocese of California, September 2011. Conference leader, with Tom Brackett and Paula Nesbitt co-leading.

“Compassion,” Lenten lecture, All Souls’ Church, Berkeley, February 2010.

“I Live My Life in Widening Circles: Vocation as Call and Question,” Seminar, Guild for Psychological Studies, February 2010.

“Weaving the Tapestry of Vocation,” Address, NAECED Conference, Menlo Park, January 2010.

“Do This and You Will Live: Living into Identity, Meaning and Possibility,” Seminar Series on the Synoptic Gospels, Grace Cathedral, Guild for Psychological Studies, September 2009.

“The Promise and Challenge of Area Ministries in the Diocese of California,” keynote address, Diocesan Formation Day, June 2009.

“Spirituality and Raising Children,” address to Resurrection Church, Pleasant Hill, March 2009.

“I Don’t Want to Talk About It! Uncovering Shame, Discovering Ourselves as Beloved,” Seminar, Guild for Psychological Studies, March 2009.

“Emerging Soul: A Journey Through Science and Culture,” a Guild for Psychological Studies four-session class, Spring 2008.

“The Big Shift,” Address to Province VIII Christian Educators, December 2008.

“Coming Home to Yourself,” Seminar for women, Guild for Psychological Studies, October 2008.

“Life-Long Christian Formation: Opening Doors and Windows for Faith,” Keynote Address, International Godly Play Conference, CDSP, July 2008.

“Women and Ministry in the Episcopal Church: Three Extraordinary Sisters,” Address to St George’s Antioch and St Alban’s Brentwood women’s groups, May 2008.

“Postmodernity and its Consequences for Religious Education,” Address to the Board of Forward Movement Publications, April 2008.

“Ritual in the Home,” Seminar at St Bede’s Church, Menlo Park, February 2008.

“Finding Voice, Bringing to Birth: Hannah’s Story,” Women’s Retreat for Christ Church, Lake Oswego, February 2008.

Commission on Ministry, Diocese of California, Keynote Address at annual retreat on new models of ministry, January 2008.

“Home Churching,” Seminar at St Thomas’ Church, Sunnyvale, September 2007.

“Adult Education: Who, What and How,” Seminar at Diocese of California education conference, August 2007.

“Pastoral Ministry with Youth,” Seminar at Patriarch Athenagoras Institute Conference on Children and Youth, June 2007.

“Under Construction: Youth, Identity and the Commitment to the Common Good,” Seminar co-taught with Dr. Helen Blier, Harvard Divinity School, June 2004.

Vestry Retreat, Church of the Advent, San Francisco, February 2002.

“The Theological and Historical Background of Lay Eucharistic Ministry,” Keynote Address, Diocese of California LEM Training, 2000-2002.

“Faith Development in Children,” keynote address, and “Adapting Curriculum,” Seminar, Diocese of California Christian Educators’ Training, February 2002.

“Context, Culture and Mission,” Keynote Address, Diocese of California Vestry Enrichment Day, February 2002.

“Is Sunday School Dead? A Holistic Approach to Faith Formation” Workshop at Kanuga Christian Education Conference, June 2000, and Episcopal Diocese of Spokane Educators’ Conference, October 2000.

“Integrating our Spiritual Selves: Martha and Mary as Icons,” Seminar at Christ Church, Los Altos, March 2000.

Professional Memberships

Religious Education Association.

Living Stones and Ministry Developers’ Collaborative (steering committee member)

MINISTRY EXPERIENCE

Spiritual Director and Retreat Leader

Ongoing since 1990

St Gregory of Nyssa Church, San Francisco

August 2013 – present: Associated Clergy

Preach and teach on a regular basis.

St Cyprian’s Church, San Francisco

July 2009 – June 2013: Non-Stipendiary Associate

Preached and presided, served as consultant to the North of Market Area cluster of ministries.

Grace Cathedral, San Francisco

July 2005 – June 2009: Non-Stipendiary Associate

Preached and presided, taught in the Godly Play program, assisted with pastoral care and adult education.

All Saints Parish, Brookline

September 2002 – June 2005: Pastoral Associate (non-stipendiary)

Led high school youth ministry, taught adult Inquirers' classes, planned liturgies and trained liturgical ministers, assisted with preaching, educational and pastoral ministries.

Diocese of California, San Francisco

January 1997 – June 2002: Education Program Coordinator

Congregational Consulting

Worked with individuals and groups in congregations to enhance Christian education and ministry development for all ages. Assessed congregational needs, provided resources, led meetings, analyzed issues and problems, and empowered leaders to discern future directions and plan strategy. Helped plan, design and implement programs. Collaborated with Department of Missions to develop Christian education and ministry development strategies for mission congregations.

Diocesan Program Design

Working with volunteer and staff teams, discerned education and ministry development needs in the diocese, designed and led trainings, workshops and retreats for Christian educators and other ministers, wrote curriculum, integrated Christian education and formation into the overall life of the diocese.

Collaborated with Executive Officer, Missioner and Youth and Young Adult Coordinator to set strategy and priorities for congregational development.

Designed and developed annual Congregational Leadership Day, including tracks for ethnic ministries. Initiated twice-yearly "To Equip the Saints" adult education day in collaboration with School for Deacons and Church Divinity School of the Pacific.

Conceived and developed "Center for Faith Formation" professional development program for Christian educators, in collaboration with Church Divinity School of the Pacific and School for Deacons. Designed course structure, developed advisory board, supervised personal discernment, course-work and field placements for six students, mentored on-line peer reflection group, planned and led integrative retreats.

Other

Supervised administrative assistant, Lay Eucharistic Ministry Training Coordinator, and Education for Ministry Coordinator. Managed annual budget of \$140,000. Managed and operated diocesan Resource Center. Wrote and produced education newsletter. Chaired diocesan initiative in Lay Ministry Development.

Designed and coordinated diocesan liturgies, including 150th anniversary celebrations. Served as Director of the Clergy in Training Program.

All Saints' Episcopal Church, San Francisco

January 1997 – August 2002: Pastoral Associate (non-stipendiary) and Priest-in-Charge

Presided and preached regularly at principal services. Initiated and supervised Church School (Godly Play) program, shared in design and leadership of parish adult education programs. Shared in pastoral care and visiting, liturgical planning and training of liturgical ministers. Led parish quiet days and retreat. Priest-in-Charge during the Rector's vacation periods and sabbatical.

Grace Cathedral, San Francisco

June 1994 – December 1996: Canon Liturgist
October 1990 – May 1994: Minor Canon for Family Ministries
(July 1993 – May 1994, also Liturgical Coordinator)

September 1989 – October 1990: Intern

September 1987 – June 1989: Seminarian in training

Christian Formation and Adult Education

Responsible for Adult Christian Formation from 1992 to 1996. Enhanced Catechumenate program, designed Inquirers' curriculum. Trained Lay Catechists, taught Inquirers' Classes and Catechumenate (average 40 people twice yearly), led retreats, provided pastoral care to new members. Shared in planning and leading Newcomer Orientation series and adult education programs. Formed and chaired Christian Education Commission. Developed lay vocational discernment tools.

Family Ministries

Led ministries for children, youth and families from 1987-96. Increased participation from 10 to 50 families. Supervised and trained Sunday School Director and teachers. Developed Family Ministries organizational structure. Provided pastoral care to families. Initiated annual family retreat and social events. Developed Infant Baptism curriculum. Included children in the liturgy. Initiated and expanded large-scale congregational events (Bishop's Christmas Pageant, Easter Parade and St. Francis' Day Celebration).

Liturgy

Responsible for cathedral liturgies from 7/93 to 12/96. Designed and produced cathedral, diocesan, national church and special-purpose liturgies in collaboration with clergy, liturgical guilds and music department. Chaired liturgical planning meetings, trained liturgical ministers, developed liturgical customaries, designed inclusive language liturgies. Preached and celebrated. Assisted with cathedral management through membership of Chapter and Board of Trustees. Managed annual budget of \$50,000.

Pastoral Care

Provided pastoral care (including AIDS ministry, crisis counseling and premarital counseling) to congregation members. Helped design and implement strategies for congregational growth.

1993 – 2002 Diocesan and National Church Positions

- 2017 – present** Board member, Episcopal Community Services
- 1998 – 2002** Director, Clergy-in-Training program, Diocese of California
- 1998 – 2002** Program Committee, Center for Anglican Learning and Life, Church Divinity School of the Pacific
- 1998 – 2002** Province VIII Representative, Episcopal Council for Christian Education
- 1996 – 2002** Board Member, Cathedral School for Boys, San Francisco
- 1993 – 1996** Chair of the Diocese of California Education Department