

## **CHRIS BOESEL, MTS, PhD**

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### **CURRENT POSITION**

Associate Professor of Christian Theology  
Drew University, Theological School and Graduate Division of Religion  
2002–

### **EDUCATION**

Ph.D., Emory University, Graduate Division of Religion, 2002  
Graduate Diploma in Jewish Studies, University of Oxford, UK, 1998  
Diploma with distinction  
M.T.S., Candler School of Theology, 1995  
Summa cum laude  
B.A., Westmont College, 1984  
Magna cum laude

### **PUBLICATIONS**

#### **Single Authored Monographs**

*Reading Karl Barth: A Guide to the Perplexed Progressive Evangelical* (Eugene, OR: Cascade Books, Cascade Companions series, under contract, projected publication, 2021)  
*In Kierkegaard's Garden with the Poppy Blooms: Why Derrida Doesn't Read Kierkegaard When He Reads Kierkegaard* (Lanham, MD: Lexington Books/Fortress Academic, Forthcoming, projected publication, 2021)  
*Risking Proclamation, Respecting Difference: Christian Faith, Imperialistic Discourse, and Abraham* (Eugene, OR: Cascade Books, 2008)

#### **Edited Volumes**

Co-editor with Wesley Ariarajah, *Divine Multiplicity: Trinities, Diversities, and the Nature of Relation* (New York, NY: Fordham University Press, 2014)  
Co-editor with Catherine Keller, *Apophatic Bodies: Negative Theology, Incarnation, and Relationality* (New York, NY: Fordham University Press, 2010)  
Editor, *Where Once We Feared Enemies: Inclusive Membership, Prophetic Vision, and the American Church*, sermons by Gibson Stroupe (Lima, OH: CSS Publishing, 2005)

#### **Articles and Chapters**

“Faith as Immunity to History? Rethinking Barth and Fackenheim”, in *Karl Barth and Comparative Theology*, ed. Martha Moore-Keish and Christian Collins Winn (New York, NY: Fordham University Press, 2019)  
“Editor’s Forward” and “Editor’s Afterword”, in *Deeper Waters: Sermons for a New Vision*, sermons by Nibs Stroupe, ed. Collin Cornell (Eugene, OR: Wipf & Stock, 2017), reprinted by permission from, *Where Once We Feared Enemies: Inclusive*

- Membership, Prophetic Vision, and the American Church*, sermons by Gibson Stroupe, Chris Boesel ed. (Lima, OH: CSS Publishing, 2005).
- “Greater News Hath No Evangelical than This: Barth, Election, and the Recovery of the Gospel from Evangelicalism’s Territorial Disputes”, in *Karl Barth and the Future of Evangelical Theology*, ed. Christian Collins Winn and John L. Drury (Eugene, OR: Cascade Books, 2014)
- “Divine Relationality and (the Methodological Constraints of) the Gospel as Piece of News: Tracing the Limits of Trinitarian Ethics”, in *Divine Multiplicity: Trinities, Diversities, and the Nature of Relation*, ed. Chris Boesel and Wesley Ariarajah (New York: Fordham University Press, 2014)
- “Introduction: The Whence and Whither of Divine Multiplicity”, co-written with Wesley Ariarajah, in *Divine Multiplicity: Trinities, Diversities, and the Nature of Relation*, ed. Chris Boesel and Wesley Ariarajah (New York: Fordham University Press, 2014)
- “News”, in *Prophetic Evangelicals: Envisioning a Just and Peaceable Kingdom*, ed. Bruce Ellis Benson, Malinda Elizabeth Berry, and Peter Goodwin Heltzel (Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2012)
- “Theological Themes: Psalm 40:1-11; Isaiah 9:14” in *Lectionary Homiletics*, volume XXII, no. 1 (December 2010)
- “The Apophasis of Divine Freedom: Saving ‘the Name’ and the Neighbor from Human Mastery”, in *Apophatic Bodies: Negative Theology, Incarnation, and Relationality*, ed. Chris Boesel and Catherine Keller (New York: Fordham University Press, 2010)
- “Introduction” to *Apophatic Bodies*, co-written with Catherine Keller, in *Apophatic Bodies: Negative Theology, Incarnation, and Relationality*, ed. Chris Boesel and Catherine Keller (New York: Fordham University Press, 2010)
- “Standing Again at Lessing’s Ditch”, in *Theo Spirit*, a publication of Drew Theological School, summer, 2006
- “Rupture and Context: The Ethical Dimensions of a Post-Holocaust Biblical Hermeneutic”, in *Strange Fire: Reading the Bible after the Holocaust*, ed. Tod Linafelt (New York: NYU Press; Sheffield, UK: Sheffield Academic Press Ltd., 2000)

### **Online Platforms**

- “Teaching Barth at a Progressive Methodist Theological School at the Beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century”, The Center for Barth Studies, *Syllabi Repository*, Princeton Theological Seminary, Princeton, NJ, <http://barth.ptsem.edu/research/teaching-barth-at-a-progressive-methodist-theological-school>, 2015

### **Book Reviews**

- Kierkegaard and Political Theology*, ed. Roberto Sirvent and Silas Morgan (Eugene, OR: Wipf & Stock/Pickwick, 2018), in *Reading Religion*, AAR’s online book review forum (October, 2018)
- The Spirit of God and the Christian Life: Reconstructing Karl Barth’s Pneumatology*, JinHyok Kim (Minneapolis, MN: Fortress Press, 2014), in *Interpretation: a Journal of Bible and Theology*, volume 71, issue 1 (January 2017)
- Engaging Karl Barth: Contemporary Evangelical Critiques*, David Griffin and Daniel Strange, eds. (New York and London: T&T Clark, Continuum International Publishing Group, Inc, 2008), in *Dialogue: A Journal of Theology*, volume 53, no. 2 (Summer 2014)

- Another Reformation: Postliberal Christianity and the Jews*, by Peter Ochs (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2011), in *Interpretation: a Journal of Bible and Theology*, volume 66, issue 4 (October 2012)
- Perspectives on Our Father Abraham: Essays in Honor of Marvin R. Wilson*, ed. Steven A. Hunt (Grand Rapids, MI: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 2010), in *Studies in Christian Jewish Relations*, volume 7, no. 1 (2012)
- Crossover Queries: Dwelling with Negatives, Embodying Philosophy's Others*, Edith Wyschogrod (New York, NY: Fordham University Press, Perspectives in Continental Philosophy Series 2006), in *Reviews in Religion and Theology*, volume 15, issue 4 (September 2008)
- The Experience of God: A Postmodern Response*, ed. Kevin Hart and Barbara Eileen Wall (New York, NY: Fordham University Press, 2005), in *Reviews in Religion and Theology*, volume 14, issue 2 (March 2007)
- "Losing My Deconstruction: The 'Turn' to Religion as Return of Modernity?" a review of *Religion with/out Religion: The Prayers and Tears of John D. Caputo*, ed. James H. Olthuis (London and New York: Routledge, 2001), in *Sophia: International Journal for Philosophy of Religion, Metaphysical Theology and Ethics*, Volume 46, no. 2 (July 2007)

## **LECTURES, PRESENTATIONS, CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION**

- "Drew Theological School, a Divided World and a Third Alternative", Matriculation address, Drew Theological School, Fall, 2019
- "Incarceration: Before, During, After", a panel discussion, St. James Presbyterian Church, New York, NY, October, 2018
- "Religious Extremism: From One Religious Extremist to Another . . . ." The Presbyterian Church of Chatham Township, Chatham, NJ, October, 2017
- Moderator and presenter, series on "Black and Presbyterian", St James Presbyterian Church, New York, NY, 2017
- "Karl Barth: Why the News Is Good and How It Changes Everything", Brick Presbyterian Church, New York, NY, April, 2016
- Moderator and presenter, "The New Jim Crow", Adult Education Seminar, St James Presbyterian Church, New York, NY, 2016
- "Being in Solidarity with Black Lives Matter: Christian and Wesleyan Resources", UMC, Capital District, Black Lives Matter rally in Trenton, NJ, November, 2016
- Moderator and presenter, "The Belhar Confession", Adult Education Seminar, St James Presbyterian Church, New York, NY, 2015
- "Christian Faith, Determinate Religion, and Abridged Versions of Deconstruction: A Response", American Catholic Philosophy Association annual meeting, Indianapolis, IN, November, 2013.
- "Karl Barth: Reformed Theologian and Doctrinal Innovator", Central Presbyterian Church, Summit, NJ, October, 2010
- "The Perils of a Divine Aesthete after the Holocaust", Theology and Religious Reflection Section, AAR Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA, 2010
- "The Risk of Forgiveness: A Christian Theological Perspective", Forgiveness: Interfaith and Interdisciplinary Perspectives, a panel sponsored by the Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies, Drew University, Madison, NJ, 2008
- "Contextualizing that by which We Are Contextualized: The Aporetic Predicament of

- a Systematic Treatment of Sin”, Systematic Theology Section, AAR Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA, 2007
- “The Apophasis of Divine Freedom: Saving ‘the Name’ and the Neighbor from Human Mastery”, Alexander Robertson Lecturer and Visiting Fellow, University of Glasgow, Glasgow, UK, 2007
- Respondent to Mark Wallace, “Sacred-Land Theology: Green Spirit, Deconstruction, and the Question of Idolatry in Contemporary Earthen Christianity”, Drew Transdisciplinary Theological Colloquium: Ecospirit, Drew University, Madison, NJ, 2007
- “Standing Again at Lessing’s Ditch”, Matriculation Address, Drew Theological School, Madison, NJ, February, 2006
- “But What if God Wants to Be Known? The Freedom and Mystery of Divine Self-giving”, Drew Transdisciplinary Theological Colloquium: Apophatic Bodies, Drew University, Madison, NJ, 2006
- “‘Thus Sayeth the Lord...’: Prophetic Voice, Evangelical Theology and Social Change”, co-written/presented with Christian Collins Winn, Theology and Religious Reflection Section, AAR Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA, 2005
- “Theology and the Symbolic”, Annual Lecture Series, United Methodist Church, Demarest, NJ, 2005
- “I’m not Spiritual, but I’m Really into Organized Religion:’ Religion and Spirituality”, co-presented with Dr. Terry Todd, Tipple-Vosburg Lectures: Workshop, Drew Theological School, Madison, NJ, 2003
- Respondent to Richard Kearney, “The Shulamite’s Song: Divine Eros, Ascending and Descending”, Drew Transdisciplinary Theological Colloquium: Eros, Drew University, Madison, NJ, 2002
- “(Re)Drawing Lines in the Sands of Ambiguity: Deconstruction and Theology, Provisionality and Sacrifice”, Theology and Religious Reflection Section, AAR Annual Meeting, Nashville, TN, 2000
- Panel Moderator, Theology and Continental Philosophy Section, AAR Annual Meeting, Orlando, FL, 1998
- “Derrida and Deconstruction: Remedy or Poison for the Church-Related College in a Postmodern Age?”, The Church-Related Conferences Postmodern Opportunity, Rhodes College, Memphis, TN, 1997
- “Heidegger, Levinas, and Walker Percy: The Future Possibility of Christian Existential Fiction in a Postmodern World”, The Trace of the Other, Westminster College, Oxford, UK, 1996
- “Can Barth’s ‘Word’ Be Mended? Following Fackenheim into a Confrontation with the Holocaust”, International Society for the Study of European Ideas, Utrecht, Netherlands, 1996
- “Reading Schüssler Fiorenza Reading Williams: A Model of Difference, Postionality, and the Distribution of Theological Labor”, Philosophy of Religion Section, AAR Regional Meeting (Southeast), Columbia, SC, 1996

### **Online Platforms**

- “Easter Theology and COVID 19”, Drew Theological School,  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SPpksKbbkct&t=31s>, Spring, 2020
- “Karl Barth: Why the News Is Good and How It Changes Everything”, Brick Church Events,

<https://www.brickchurch.org/event/karl-barth-why-the-news-is-good-and-how-that-changes-everything/>, April, 2016

## **SCHOLARLY SERVICE**

Peer review of articles for academic journals

*Journal of Reformed Theology; Modern Theology; Theology Today; Literature and Theology* (Oxford University Press)

Peer review of monographs for publishers

Baylor University Press; Lexington/Fortress Academic; Bloomsbury/T&T Clark  
Steering Committee, Exploratory Group on Barth, 2014-2016; sponsoring Wild Card Session, “Re-engaging Barth on Race, Gender and Sexuality”, AAR Annual Meeting, San Antonio, 2016

## **TEACHING**

Associate Professor of Christian Theology, Drew University, 2002 –

### **Courses Taught**

*Drew Theological School*

Transforming Theologies (required “gateway” course); Systematic Theology; Doctrines of Revelation; Christology in the Jewish-Christian Context; Doctrine of God and the Trinity; Election, Salvation and the Other; Liberation Theologies; Religion and Incarceration; Reformed Theology: Reading the Confessions; Kierkegaard: The Offense of Christianity in Modernity and Postmodernity (cross-listed with the GDR); The Theology of Karl Barth (cross-listed with the GDR)

*PREP (Partnership for Religion and Education in Prison), taught at Northern State Prison, Newark, New Jersey*

Letters and Sermons from Prison (Barth, Bonhoeffer, MLK, Malcom X); Jesus and Justice: Progressive Evangelicalism?; Reconciliation and Liberation; Doctrines of Revelation: Scripture; Religion and Incarceration

*Graduate Division of Religion*

Theories and Methods in Philosophical and Theological Studies; Theology and Derrida

### **Other Experience**

Guest Lecturer, “The Bible, Theology and Incarceration,” The Bible and Social Transformation, Drew Theological School, 2019

Guest Lecturer, “Liberation Theology and Pastoral Care”, Pastoral Care, Drew Theological School, 2018

Guest Lecturer, “Capital ‘T’ and Small ‘t’: Theology in the Academy”, MA Seminar, Drew Theological School, 2014-1016

Guest Lecturer, “Jesus is Black! James Cone’s Christology”, Systematic Theology, Drew Theological School, 2013, 2017

Guest Lecturer, “Progressive Evangelicalism?”, the Urban Studies Program of Westmont College, 2010

Guest Lecturer, “The Colonial Realities of Christian Mission”, Religion and the Social Process, Drew Theological School, spring 2007

Guest Lecturer, “The Role of ‘Jesus is Victor’ in Barth’s Doctrine of Reconciliation”,  
Reformed Theology, NYTS, spring, 2007

Instructor, Theology after the Holocaust, Emory University, spring 2001

Graduate of the *Teaching Assistant Training and Teaching Opportunity* Program  
(TATTO), Emory University, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, 1998

### **Additional Areas of Teaching Competence**

Feminist, Womanist, and Liberation Theologies; Theodicy, Evil and Suffering; Post-Holocaust  
Theology; Continental Philosophy; Postmodern Philosophy and Theology

### **AWARDS AND HONORS**

Teacher/Scholar of the Year, Drew Theological School, 2016-2017

Alexander Robertson Lecturer and Visiting Fellow, University of Glasgow, spring 2007

Graduate School of Arts and Sciences Fellowship, Emory University, 1995-2000

Graduate Fellowship, Oxford Centre for Hebrew and Jewish Studies, Oxford University,  
UK, 1997-1998

M.T.S. Class Marshal/Valedictorian, Candler School of Theology, 1995

### **INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE**

#### **University**

##### *Leadership/Special Service*

Curriculum Transformation Committee 2.0, Graduate Division of Religion, Drew Theological  
School, 2019-2020

Chair of Committee on Faculty, Drew Theological School, 2017-2018; 2014-2015

Curriculum Transformation Committee, Drew Theological School, 2015-2018

Faculty Coordinator for the PREP (Partnership for Religion and Education in Prison)  
Faculty Committee, Drew Theological School, 2014-2016

Chair of the Contextual Learning Constellation, Drew Theological School, spring 2011-  
fall 2012

Faculty Coordinator for the Cross-Cultural Program, Drew Theological School, fall  
2011-2013

Academic Operations Committee, University Organizational Review, 2011-2012

Chair of the Dean’s Council, Drew Theological School, fall 2010-spring 2011

Convener of the Theological and Philosophical Studies Area, Graduate Division of  
Religion, DTS, 2004-2011

Acting Chair of the Graduate Division of Religion, DTS, fall 2007

Planning Committee, Dupont Grant for Prophetic Leadership, DTS 2006-2007

Chair of the University Senate, Drew University, 2004-2006

Faculty advisor to the Drew Community for Social Justice, DTS, 2005-2007

##### *Service on Standing Committees*

Drew Theological School: Committee on Faculty, Dean’s Council, PREP (Partnership for  
Religion and Education in Prison), Academic Standing Committee, Contextual Learning  
Constellation, Admissions Committee, Cross-cultural Committee, Chapel Committee,  
Search Committees, Lectures and Continuing Education

Graduate Division of Religion: Steering Committee, Academic Standing Committee,  
Prospectus Committee  
Drew University: University Senate, University Budget Committee, University Technology  
Committee, Technology Search Committee

### **Church**

Ruling Elder, St. James Presbyterian Church (USA), New York, NY, 2014–  
Moderator, Christian Education/Scholarship Fund, 2015–  
President, St. James Men’s Group, 2015-2016  
Ruling Elder, Old Bergen Church, Reformed Church of America/Presbyterian Church  
(USA), Jersey City, NJ, 2006-2007  
Trustee, Old Bergen Church, 2005-2007  
Nominating Committee, Old Bergen Church, 2006-2007  
Substitute Preacher, Old Bergen Church, 2006-2007

### **PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS**

American Academy of Religion

### **LANGUAGES**

German, French, Biblical Hebrew

### **PUBLISHED MUSIC**

“Mercy”, co-written with Kurt Stevenson and Patrick Winningham  
Recorded by Mare Winningham, original soundtrack, *Georgia*, 1996; Tender  
Mercies, 2011; Counting Crows, 2012; translated and recorded as “Nåde” by Helmers  
Hage, 2014  
“Wiseblood”, co-written with Kurt Stevenson and Patrick Winningham  
Performed by Counting Crows, 1993–; Recorded by Tender Mercies, 2011