

R. Alexander (“Alex”) Tracy

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Education

- 2011 Ph.D., Religion, Vanderbilt University
Dissertation: *Preaching and the Holy Spirit: Postliberal Homiletics and Formation in a Pneumatologically Grounded Ecclesiology* (Prof. John S. McClure, Advisor)
- 2004 M.Div., Emory University
- 2001 B.A. summa cum laude, Philosophy and Latin, Emory University
Thesis: *Persona and Substantia: Metaphysical Problems in the Anthropological and Trinitarian Theology of Boethius* (Prof. Jack Zupko, Advisor)
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Ecclesial Standing & Employment

- Ordained Elder in Full Connection, The United Methodist Church
- 2020-Present Lead Pastor, Silver Spring United Methodist Church (Silver Spring, MD)
- 2020 Interim Pastor, Community United Methodist Church and Faith Cooperative Parish (Pasadena, MD)
- 2016–2018 Pastor, Trinity Chapel United Methodist Church (Tybee Island, GA)
- 2014–2016 Pastor, Lake Park United Methodist Church (Lake Park, GA)
- 2008–2014 Associate Pastor, Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church (Savannah, GA)
- 2004–2006 Bibliographer and Collections Development for Homiletics and Liturgics, Vanderbilt Divinity Library (Nashville, TN)
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Areas of Scholarly Interest

Contemporary Theology and Philosophical Theology
Homiletical Theology and Homiletic Theory
Patristic Theology and Philosophy
Philosophy of Language
Liturgics

Languages

Latin (reading and prose composition)
Biblical Greek (reading with dictionary)
Biblical Hebrew (reading with dictionary)
French (reading with dictionary)

Teaching

Classes Taught in Churches (including church-wide lecture series and small-group studies; sessions are 45 minutes to an hour each)

Biblical Studies: Basics of Biblical Exegesis (4 sessions); Genesis (9 sessions); Psalms (10 sessions); Isaiah (9 sessions); Introduction to the New Testament (9 sessions); The Gospel of Matthew (9 sessions); The Gospel of Mark (17 sessions); The Advent Story in the Gospel of Luke (5 sessions); Jesus' Parables (1 session); Acts (5 sessions); Romans (9 sessions); Galatians (6 sessions); James (5 sessions); Revelation (12 sessions)

Topics in Theology: Introduction to Theology (10 sessions); Cultural Hermeneutics (12 sessions); The Apostles' Creed (5 sessions); Basic Elements of Faith: Baptism, Bible, Communion, Prayer (5 sessions)

Methodist Studies: John Wesley's Theology and Practice (5 sessions); Confirmation (10 sessions); Sacraments in the United Methodist Church (5 sessions)

Ethics and Practices: Survey of Christian Practices (12 sessions); Theology and Social Issues (7 sessions); Conflict Resolution (5 sessions); Theology and Parenting (8 sessions); Growing a Healthy Spirituality (4 sessions)

Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee

Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Homiletics (Prof. John S. McClure, lead instructor)

Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Homiletics (Prof. Brad R. Braxton, lead instructor)

Articles

"The Healing Word for Lent 2," *Homily Service* 42, no. 2 (2009): 27–29.

Papers & Presentations

"Preaching Outside the Lines for LGBTQ+ Equality", a paper presented to The Post-Way-Forward Gathering of United Methodist Scholars, Dallas, TX (2019)

"The Other and (Post-)Subjectivity in Homiletics," a paper presented to the Theology and Preaching Working Group, The Academy of Homiletics, Minneapolis, MN (2007).

Reviews

Toward a Homiletical Theology of Promise ed. by David Schnasa Jacobsen in *Interpretation* 17, no. 4 pg. 416.

Rethinking Christian Identity: Doctrine and Discipleship by Medi Ann Volpe in *Homiletic* 38, no. 1 (summer 2013).

Phenomenology and Eschatology: Not Yet in the Now edited by Neal DeRoo and John Panteleimon Manoussakis on "The Church and Postmodern Culture: Conversation,"

<http://churchandpomo.typepad.com/conversation/2011/04/phenomenology-and-eschatology-a-review.html> (2011).

Speak to Me That I May Speak: A Spirituality of Preaching by Dow Edgerton in *Homiletic* 34, no. 2 (winter 2009).

Kindling Desire for God: Preaching as Spiritual Direction by Kay Northcutt in *Homiletic* 34 no. 2 (winter 2009).

Mapping Postmodernism: A Survey of Christian Options by Robert Greer and *The Cambridge Companion to Postmodern Theology* ed. by Kevin Vanhoozer in *Homiletic* 32, no. 1 (summer 2007).

Invited Speaking & Preaching Engagements

2020	Trinity United Methodist Church (Annapolis, MD)
2019	Covenant Presbyterian Church (Albany, GA)
2018	Clarkesville United Methodist Church (Clarkesville, GA)
2016	Porterfield Memorial United Methodist Church (Albany, GA)
2015	Porterfield Memorial United Methodist Church (Albany, GA)
2013	Trinity United Methodist Church (Savannah, GA)
2010	Ponte Sant' Angelo Methodist Church (Rome, Italy)
2010	Richmond Hill United Methodist Church (Richmond Hill, GA)
2009	Porterfield Memorial United Methodist Church (Albany, GA)

Ecclesial, University, & Community Service

2021-Present	Cluster Leader, Greater Washington District, Baltimore-Washington Annual Conference
2016–2018	Board of Managers, Georgia Pastors' School
2013–2020	Annual Conference Planning Committee, South Georgia Annual Conference
2012–2014	Savannah District Committee on Ordained Ministry
2011–2014	Board of Directors, The Matthew Reardon Center for Autism
2002–2004	Student Representative to the Divinity Library, Media, and Information Technology Committee, Emory University
1999–2001	Undergraduate Representative to the University Senate Library Policy Committee, Emory University

Honors & Awards

- 2007 Qualifying Examinations Passed with Honors (highest distinction), Vanderbilt University
- 2004 University Fellow, Vanderbilt University
- 2001 Woodruff Fellow, Emory University
- 2001 McCord Latin Prize, Emory University
- 2001 Hartshorne Prize in Philosophy, Emory University
- 2000 Phi Sigma Tau Honor Society for study in philosophy, Beta of Georgia, Emory University
- 2000 Eta Sigma Phi Honor Society for study in classics, Alpha Sigma Chapter, Emory University
- 2000 Phi Beta Kappa, Gamma of Georgia, Emory University

References

Academic

Thomas G. Long
Bandy Professor Emeritus of Preaching
Emory University

John S. McClure
Charles G. Finney Professor
of Preaching and Worship
Vanderbilt University

Robin M. Jensen
Patrick O'Brien Professor of Theology
University of Notre Dame

Ecclesial

Rebecca Iannicelli
Annapolis District Superintendent
Baltimore-Washington Annual Conference

M. Creede Hinshaw
Retired Elder
South Georgia Annual Conference UMC

Deborah Wight-Knight
Conference Pastoral Counselor
South Georgia Annual Conference UMC