

Curriculum Vitae

The Rev. Dr. Carol Marie Bechtel

Current Position:

Professor of Old Testament, Western Theological Seminary, July 1994 - present

Courses:

Old Testament Introduction
Introduction to Hebrew Language and Exegesis
Seminar in Psalms
Seminar in Wisdom Literature
Seminars in Esther, Ruth, and Jonah
Tuned for Praise (Music and Worship)

Education:

Ph.D., Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut, May, 1993.
M. Div., Western Theological Seminary, Holland, Michigan, May, 1984.
B.A., Hope College, Holland, Michigan, May, 1981.

Additional Professional Experience:

Assistant Professor of Biblical Studies, Presbyterian School of Christian Education,
Richmond, Virginia, 1991 - 1994.

Interim Pastor, Turn of River Presbyterian Church, Stamford, Connecticut, 1988 - 1989.

Instructor, Yale Divinity School, 1988.

Teaching Fellow, Yale Divinity School, 1985 - 1988.

Publications:

Books

Touching the Altar: The Old Testament and Christian Worship. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2007 (forthcoming), editor of volume and author of chapter, "Knowing our Limits: Job's Wisdom on Worship."

Esther: A Commentary for Teaching and Preaching. Interpretation Series. James L. Mays and Patrick D. Miller, editors. Louisville: Westminster/John Knox Press, 2002. Italian translation (Torino: Claudiana, 2005).

Life after Grace. Louisville: Westminster/John Knox Press, 2003

Glimpses of Glory. Louisville: Westminster/John Knox Press, 1998.

Curricula

Above and Beyond: Hearing God's Call in Jonah and Ruth. Horizons 2007-2008 Bible Study.
Louisville: Presbyterian Women, Presbyterian Church (USA), 2007 (forthcoming).

Job and the Life of Faith: Wisdom for Today's World, Resource Book and Leader's Guide. Pittsburgh: The Kerygma Program, 2004.

Sowing Tears, Reaping Joy: The Bible and Brahms' Requiem, Resource Book and Leader's Guide. Pittsburgh: The Kerygma Program, 1997.

Hallelujah! The Bible and Handel's Messiah, Resource Book and Leader's Guide.
Pittsburgh: The Kerygma Program, 1995.

Column

Monthly Bible study column for *Presbyterians Today* (formerly *The Presbyterian Survey*),
June 1994 - 2000.

Articles

"Teaching the 'Strange New World' of the Bible," *Interpretation*, October, 2002, pp. 368-367.

"Life After Grace: Preaching from the Book of Numbers," *Interpretation*, July, 1997.

"Psalm 125," *Interpretation*, July 1994, vol. 48, no. 3, pp. 272-275.

"Is History a Thing of the Past?" *Reformed Review*, Spring 1994, vol. 47, no. 3, pp. 197-206.

Selected Public Speaking and Preaching

International Reformed Theological Institute (IRTI), Seoul, South Korea, July 2005. Paper title:
"Salt, Yeast, Lamps, and Gadflies: Biblical Guides for Christian Identity and Civil Society."

Tenth Anniversary Celebration of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, Pretoria, South Africa,
March 2005. Workshop title: "Sowing Tears, Reaping Joy: The Bible and Brahms' *Requiem*."

Church-Wide Gathering 2000, Presbyterian Women, Louisville, Kentucky (Keynote Bible
Study Leader), July 15-19, 2000.

Worship and Music Conference (Presbyterian Association of Musicians), Montreat, North
Carolina (Preacher and Worship Planning Team; Workshop Leader: Psalms), June 19-30, 2000.

Reformed Church in America, General Synod Opening Worship (Preacher), June 9, 2000

Montreat Christian Education Conference (Keynote Speaker), Montreat, North Carolina,
August 9-13, 1999.

Triennial for National Association of Presbyterian Clergywomen, Kansas City, Missouri
(Keynote Speaker), April 16-19, 1999.

Church Involvement:

Ordained as a Minister of the Word and Sacrament by the Classis of Illinois, Reformed Church in America, 1988.

Installed as a General Synod Professor of Theology of the Reformed Church in America by the 1998 General Synod.

Member of Hope Church (RCA), Holland, Michigan.

Member of the Commission on Christian Worship, Reformed Church in America, 1995-2001.

Community Involvement:

Member of the Holland Chorale, 2004-present.

Harpist for local events, hospitals and nursing homes.

Biographical Summary:

The Rev. Dr. Carol M. Bechtel is a native of Fulton, Illinois. She attended Hope College and Western Theological Seminary in Holland, Michigan, and then went on to receive her Ph.D. from Yale University in New Haven, Connecticut. Carol is currently Professor of Old Testament at Western Theological Seminary. She teaches courses in Old Testament, Hebrew, and Worship. She lives in Holland with her husband, Tom. They have four children: Elyssa, Andrew, Ian and Ellen. She enjoys cooking, gardening, singing, and playing the Celtic harp.