

# CURRICULUM VITAE

Jana L. Childers

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## EDUCATION

- 1992                      Ph.D. Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley, California  
In co-operation with University of California, Berkeley  
Comprehensive Exams passed *with Distinction*  
Homiletics
- 1982                      M.Div. Princeton Theological Seminary  
Princeton, New Jersey
- 1976                      B.A. Wheaton College, Wheaton, Illinois  
Graduated with honors. Speech Communication

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2019- 2021              Dean of the Graduate School of Theology, University of Redlands  
Home of San Francisco Theological Seminary  
Professor of Homiletics and Speech-Communication

2013-2019,  
2002-2009              Dean of the Seminary and Vice President for Academic Affairs,  
San Francisco Theological Seminary  
Professor of Homiletics and Speech-Communication

### **Selected Special Projects:**

- Transition to University registration, budgeting, student housing and other educational program systems
- Transition to the use of 16 new software platforms
- Creation of new SFTS Board of Directors
- Oversight of PCUSA relations, including COTE conflict, social media campaign, GA advocacy and mediation
- SFTS 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

1999-present            Professor of Homiletics and Speech-Communication,  
San Francisco Theological Seminary

### **Selected courses:**

- Introduction to Homiletics
- Performance Studies and Preaching

## CURRICULUM VITAE

JANA CHILDERS

- Advanced Homiletical Theory
- Preaching the Gospel of Mark
- Reformed Worship
- Preaching as Theatre
- Speech for the Preacher

1993-1999	Associate Professor, Homiletics and Speech-Communication San Francisco Theological Seminary
1993-1994	Acting Dean and Associate Professor, Homiletics and Speech-Communication, San Francisco Theological Seminary
1987 - 1993	Assistant Professor, Speech-Communication and Homiletics, San Francisco Theological Seminary
1985-1987	Instructor in Speech and Homiletics, San Francisco Theological Seminary
1982-1985	Assistant Pastor, Pluckemin Presbyterian Church, Pluckemin, New Jersey
1982-1985	Adjunct Faculty in Speech and Preaching Princeton Theological Seminary, Princeton, New Jersey
1981	Intern Pastor, Grace Presbyterian Church Wichita, Kansas
1978-1979	Director, Three J's East Concert Management Princeton, New Jersey
1977-1978	Director of Public Affairs, WPOW Radio New York, New York

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### **ORDINATION**

Ordained to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament, June 4, 1982  
Elizabeth Presbytery, The United Presbyterian Church

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### **PUBLICATIONS**

#### ***Books Authored and Edited***

*New Interpreter's Handbook of Preaching*, Associate Editor. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2008.  
Awarded the Preaching Book of the Year by the Academy of Homiletics 2009.

*Performance in Preaching: Bringing the Sermon to Life*, Co-editor with Clay Schmit. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Baker Academic, 2008.

*Purpose of Preaching*, Editor. St. Louis: Chalice Press, 2004.

*Birth of the Sermon: Women Preachers on Creative Process*, Editor. St. Louis: Chalice Press, 2001.

*Performing the Word: Preaching as Theatre*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1998.

*Women's Preaching Annual Series I, Volume 3*, Co-editor with Lucy Rose. Nashville: Abingdon 1998.

*Women's Preaching Annual Series I, Volume 2*, Co-editor with Lucy Rose. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1997.

*Women's Preaching Annual Series I, Volume 1*, Co-editor with Lucy Rose. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1996.

### **Articles and Book Chapters**

“Preaching in the Age of the Holy Spirit” in *Imagining a Way: Exploring Reformed Practical Theology and Ethics*. Clive Pearson, ed. (Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 2017).

Pentecost, Trinity Sunday, Proper 4 and Proper 5, Essays and resources on lectionary texts, with Gregory Anderson Love in *Abingdon Theological Companion to the Lectionary: Preaching Year A*. Paul Scott Wilson, ed. (Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2013).

“Fins on the Left, Fins on the right: Reading Context in Seminaries” in *C(H)AOS THEORY: A Handbook for Chief Academic Officers*. Kadi Billman and Bruce Birch, eds. (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans Press, 2011).

“It Takes A Cloud” in *Reclaiming the Imagination: The Exodus as Paradigmatic Narrative for Preaching*. David Fleer and Dave Bland, eds. (St. Louis: Chalice Press, 2009).

“Finding the Power to Preach When You're Exhausted” in *Best Advice for Pastors and Preachers*. William J. Carl III, ed. (Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2009).

“Introduction to Part 6: The Preacher's Performance”; “The Preacher's Creative Process”; “The Use of the Pulpit”; and “Weekly Sermon Preparation Using the Handbook of Preaching” in *New Interpreter's Bible Handbook of Preaching*. Paul Scott Wilson, ed. (Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2008).

“Preaching the Word: Text and Interpretation,” in *The Papers of the Han Shin Presbyterian Church Conference* (Seoul, The Republic of Korea, 2008). Published in Korean and English.

“The Preacher's Creative Process: Reaching the Well” in *Performance in Preaching: Bringing the Sermon to Life*. (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic Press, 2008). Jana Childers and Clayton Schmit, eds.

“Seeing Jesus: Preaching as Incarnational Act” in *Purposes of Preaching*. Jana Childers, ed. (St. Louis: Chalice Press, 2004).

"Preaching as Incarnational Act," *The Pastor's Guide to Effective Preaching*, (Kansas City, MO: Beacon Hill Press, 2003) 133-143.

"Wanting the Best: Wayne Shaw and the Academy of Homiletics," *Preaching Through Tears: Essays in Honor of Wayne Shaw*, ed. John D. Webb and Joseph D. Grana II, (Lincoln, IL: Lincoln Christian College Press, 2000) 19-23.

"Lectionary Messages," *The Minister's Manual 2001*, ed. James W. Cox (San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 2000.) 185-187, 191-192, 196-198, 201-203.

"With Both Ears Tingling," *Patterns of Preaching: A Sermon Sampler*, ed. Ronald J. Allen (St. Louis: Chalice Press, 1998) 117-123.

"The Future of the Church," *The American Organist*, Vol 29, No.10, Oct.1995, 38-42.

"P.T. Forsyth," *The Concise Encyclopedia of Preaching*, ed. Richard Lischer and William Willimon (Westminster/John Knox Press, 1993.)

"One Stone Upon Another," *Blessed Is She: Sermons by Women*. ed. David Farmer and Edwina Hunter (San Francisco: Harper and Row, 1990.)

### ***Selected Articles on Lectionary Texts***

*Connections: A Lectionary Preaching and Worship Resource, Year C*  
(Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox 2020)  
Connecting the Reading to the World,  
Proper 11, 12, 13

*Feasting on the Word: Preaching the Revised Common Lectionary, Year A, Volume 3*, David Bartlett and Barbara Brown Taylor, eds. (Louisville: Westminster John Knox 2010)  
Homiletical Perspective, Day of Pentecost  
Homiletical Perspective, Trinity Sunday  
Homiletical Perspective, Proper 3

*Lectionary Homiletic*, David Howell, ed. (Midlothian, VA)  
Preaching the Lesson, Sundays in February 2011  
Preaching the Lesson, Sundays in June 2003  
Preaching the Lesson, Sundays in February 200  
Preaching the Lesson, Sundays in October 2000  
Preaching the Lesson, Sundays in February 2000  
Preaching the Lesson, Sundays in May 1999  
Preaching the Lesson, Sundays in August 1996

*Word and Witness*, Paul Scott Wilson, ed. (New Berlin, WI: Liturgical Press) Lectionary Passages,  
December 21, 1997  
Lectionary Passages, July 1, 1991  
Lectionary Passages, January 14, 1990  
Lectionary Passages, November 11, 1990

Lectionary Passages, July 6, 1986

### ***Selected Ecclesial Publications***

*Horizons*, “That Our Joy May Be Complete”, May/June 2019, pp.4-6

Celebrate the Gifts of Women Resource, Women’s Sunday March 3, 2019  
A Publication of the Presbyterian Church (USA)

<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/wp-content/uploads/2019-Celebrate-the-Gifts-brochure.pdf>

*Horizons*, “The Grace of God Has No Boundaries”, November/December 2018, pp.23-25

Regular Columnist *Presbyterian Outlook* magazine’s “Benedictory” column 2008-present  
Associated Church Press Awards, Honorable Mention 2012

“Unicorns” *Outlook*, December 2020

“Expectations” *Outlook*, August 2020

“Isaiah 40” *Outlook*, December 2019

“John 12” *Outlook*, June 2019

“It Takes a Cloud” *Outlook*, November 2018

“Retiring the Elephants” *Outlook*, July 2017

“That Our Joy May Be Complete” *Outlook*, December 2016

“Tag Lines” *Outlook*, August 2015

“Real Life” *Outlook*, March 2015

“The New and the Young” *Outlook*, December 2014

“Speaking from the Heart” *Outlook*, May 2014

“Tenderness” *Outlook*, September 2011

“Our Best Thoughts” *Outlook* (Vol. 192, No.8) September 6, 2010

“Clumsiness” *Outlook* (Vol. 192, No. 7) April 5, 2010

“From Med School Atheism to Faith” *Outlook* (Vol. 191, No.38) November 16, 2009

“Beloved Browne Barr,” *Outlook* (Vol. 191, No.28) August 17/24, 2009

“Anomie,” *Outlook* (Vol. 191, No. 17) May 18, 2009

“Of Weather and Worship,” *Outlook* (Vol. 191, No.6) February 23, 2009

“Gratitude and Attitude,” *Outlook* (Vol. 190, No.39) November 24, 2008

“Finding the Preacher’s Voice,” *Outlook* (Vol.190, No.28) September 1, 2008

“A Guiding Hand,” *Outlook* (Vol. 190, No.17) May 19, 2008

“Getting Too Far from Luke” *Outlook* (Vol. 190, No.6) February 25, 2008

“Prayer Changes Things,” *Thirty Good Minutes Program Guide*, September 2003, 1-2

“It Doth Not Yet Appear,” *Covenant Connection*, Vol. 5, No. 1, April 2002, 6-7

“The City” *The Living Pulpit*, Vol. II, No. 2, April-June 2002, 37

### ***Television and Video Performances***

Lecture Series, Iona National Curriculum for Preachers, Episcopal Preaching Foundation,  
Filmed January 2020, Austin, TX

“The Kyphotic Woman,” A Sermon preached on *Thirty Good Minutes* (The Chicago Sunday Evening Club, Chicago, IL) WTTW, Channel 11, February 2005.

"Simplicity," Three Meditations on *America at Worship*, (Faith and Values Media), *The Hallmark Channel*, December 2002.

"Saying Grace," A Sermon preached on *Thirty Good Minutes* (The Chicago Sunday Evening Club, Chicago, IL) *The Odyssey Channel*, March 1, 2001.

"With Both Ears Tingling," A Sermon preached on *Great Preachers* (Odyssey Productions) *The Odyssey Channel*, April 11, 2000.

"A Shameless Path", A Sermon preached on *Thirty Good Minutes* (The Chicago Sunday Evening Club: Chicago, IL) *The Odyssey Channel*, 1999.

### **PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS AND ACTIVITIES**

- |              |                                                                                                                                                               |
|--------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1985-present | Academy of Homiletics<br>President 2010-2011<br>Executive Committee 1993-2007; 2008-2013<br>Treasurer 1993-2007                                               |
| 1985-present | Society of Biblical Literature<br>Member                                                                                                                      |
| 1997- 2002   | Associate Editor, <i>Journal of Communication and Religion</i><br>Publication of the Religious Speech Communication Association                               |
| 2000- 2003   | Editorial Board, <i>Word and Witness</i><br>Published by Liturgical Press (New Berlin: Wisconsin)                                                             |
| 1985-present | Religious Communication Association.<br>Chairperson: Oral Interpretation and Theater 1990-1992<br>Vice-Chairperson: Oral Interpretation and Theater 1989-1990 |

### **COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES**

- |           |                                                                                                              |
|-----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1996-2002 | Co-host (on air talent), "Mosaic" television program<br>Public Affairs programming<br>KPIX-TV, San Francisco |
| 1994-2005 | Host (on air talent), Marin Women's Hall of Fame broadcast,<br>Marin Access Cable TV                         |
| 1995-1997 | Marin Abused Women's Services, Public Relations                                                              |

## **SELECTED LECTURES and SERMONS**

- 2021 Festival of Homiletics, Lecture and Workshop
- 2021 Broad Street Presbyterian Church, San Francisco
- 2020 Guest lecture, Women in Preaching, Austin Presbyterian Seminary
- 2020 Chinatown Presbyterian Church, San Francisco
- 2019 Valley Presbyterian Church, Portola Valley, CA  
Workshop for liturgists
- 2019 Episcopal Preaching Foundation Conference
- 2018 Synod School preacher, Storm Lake, Iowa
- 2018 Denver Presbytery Pastors Training Event, preacher and lecturer
- 2018 Florence, Oregon Ecumenical Lectures Series, preacher and lecturer
- 2017 Seventh Avenue Presbyterian Church, San Francisco, preacher
- 2016 Luther Seminary Preachers' Conference, preacher and lecturer  
St. Paul, Minnesota
- 2015 Preacher, Riverside Drive Church, NY, NY
- 2015 The Big Tent, National PC(USA) Conference
- 2014 Silliman University Chapel, Dumaguete, Philippines, Preacher
- 2014 Florida Winter Pastors' School, Keynote Speaker  
Stetson University, DeLand, FL
- 2013 Toronto Festival of Preaching, Preacher and Keynote Speaker
- 2013 Chinese Church Pastors Fellowship of San Diego, Retreat Speaker
- 2013 United Church of Canada, Annual Conference on Worship  
Saskatoon, Canada, Keynote Speaker
- 2011 Annual Lectures in Preaching, Presbyterian Theological College and Seminary,  
Seoul, Korea
- 2011 Keynote speaker, Western National Leadership Training, Jackson Hole, WY
- 2011 Berger Lectures in Preaching, Dubuque Theological Seminary, Dubuque, IA
- 2011 Kaleidoscope Conference on Stewardship, Keynote Speaker, Phoenix, A

- 2010 Bast Lectures in Preaching, Western Theological Seminary, Holland MI
- 2010 Proclaiming the Text Conference Preacher, Montreat Conference Center, North Carolina
- 2009 Fellowship of United Methodists in Music and Worship Arts (FUMMWA) Annual Conference Preacher
- 2009 Wardlaw Lectures in Preaching, Association of Chicago Theological Schools
- 2009 Han Yang University, Seoul, Korea  
70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Symposium, Keynote Speaker “Love in Truth and in Deed”
- 2008 University of Auckland, New Zealand  
School of Theology, Lecture “The Preacher’s Creative Process”
- 2008 Hanshin Presbyterian Church Conference for Pastors, Keynote Speaker  
Three lectures on hermeneutics and preaching
- 2008 Sydney, Australia, Education for Life and Ministry Center Conference,  
Keynote Speaker; Two lectures on preaching and performance
- 2008 Melbourne, Australia, Centre for Theology and Ministry Conference  
Keynote Speaker; Three lectures on women in ministry
- 2006 The Donald Macleod Lectures in Preaching, Princeton Theological Seminary
- 2006 Ocean Grove Association, The Great Auditorium, Preacher. Ocean Grove, New Jersey
- 2006 Wilshire Baptist Church, Dallas, TX Conference on Preaching, Keynote Speaker
- 2005 The T.J. and Inez Raney Preaching Series, Little Rock, Arkansas
- 2005 Exodus or Exile Conference on Preaching, Salt Lake City, Keynote Speaker
- 2004 The Leslie R. Smith Lectures in Preaching, Lexington Theological Seminary  
Lexington, Kentucky
- 2004 Center of Theological Inquiry, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2003 Barton College, Wilson, NC, Sprinkle Lectures in Preaching, Keynote Speaker
- 2003 Festival of Homiletics, Atlanta, GA, Keynote Speaker and Preacher
- 2002 The Goodson Academy of Preaching, Blackstone, VA, Conference of United Methodists, Keynote Speaker
- 2002 Ocean Grove Association, The Great Auditorium, Preacher.  
Ocean Grove, New Jersey
- 2002 Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church, New York, NY. Preacher



- 2001 Princeton Theological Seminary, Conference on Preaching, Preacher and Speaker
- 2001 Phillips Theological Seminary, Annual Pastors' Conference, Keynote Speaker and Preacher
- 2001 Kirkridge Retreat and Study Center, Bangor, PA. Conference Keynote Speaker
- 2001 Festival of Homiletics, Washington, D.C. Keynote Speaker and Preacher
- 2000 Western National Leadership Conference, Jackson Hole, WY, Preacher

The above is a brief sample of recent lectures and presentations.

A complete list is available in the Dean's Office, University of Redlands, Graduate School of Theology/  
San Francisco Theological Seminary.

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