

Samuel L. Adams

Mary Jane and John F. McNair Chair in Biblical Studies
Union Presbyterian Seminary
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EDUCATION

Ph.D., Yale University, Religious Studies (specialization: Hebrew Bible), 2006
M.Div., University of Chicago Divinity School, 1999
B.A. (*cum laude*), Davidson College, 1993 (major: History)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Mary Jane and John F. McNair Chair in Biblical Studies (2019-present)

Director of Community Engagement, Union Presbyterian Seminary (2021-present)

Professor of Biblical Studies, Union Presbyterian Seminary, Richmond, VA (2017-present)

Associate Professor of Biblical Studies, Union Presbyterian Seminary, Richmond, VA (2011-2017)

Assistant Professor of Biblical Studies, Union Presbyterian Seminary, Richmond, VA (2006-2011)

Courses taught include the following:

Old Testament Interpretation I and II (year-long survey and exegesis course)

Wisdom Literature of the Old Testament

The Song of Songs

Death and the Afterlife in Ancient Judaism and Early Christianity

The Bible and Film

The Bible and American Politics

Preaching the Old Testament

Wealth and Poverty in the Bible and Beyond

Aramaic

Introduction to the Dead Sea Scrolls

Issues and Methods in Old Testament Scholarship (doctoral seminar)

Literature of the Old Testament (doctoral seminar)

Readings in Biblical Hebrew (doctoral seminar)

Lands of Faith and History (Middle East travel seminar)

Travel Seminar to India

Additional Teaching Experience:

Instructor, Introductory Biblical Hebrew, Yale College (2004-2005)

Instructor, Introductory Biblical Hebrew, Yale Divinity School (Summer 2004)

Teaching Fellow, Old Testament Interpretation, Yale Divinity School (2002-2004)

Teaching Fellow, Introduction to the Hebrew Bible, Yale College (Fall 2003)

English Instructor, Bishop Heber College, Tiruchirappalli, India (1995): courses included American Literature and English as a Second Language

ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL/PASTORAL EXPERIENCE

Parish Associate, Second Presbyterian Church, Richmond, VA, 2012-2018

Interim Pastor, First Presbyterian Church, New Haven, CT, 2005

Associate Pastor for Young Adult and Youth Ministry, Fourth Presbyterian Church, Chicago, IL, 2000

Volunteer Coordinator, Habitat for Humanity in Atlanta, 1996 (supervised the building of 100 homes in honor of the Centennial Olympic Games in Atlanta)

Press Secretary and Legislative Aide, Lieutenant Governor of Virginia, The Honorable Donald S. Beyer, Jr., 1993-1995

SERVICE TO UNION PRESBYTERIAN SEMINARY

Co-Facilitator – Hybrid Degree Task Force (2020-present)

Chair, search committee for Professor of Old Testament (2020)

Search committee member for two faculty positions in Ethics and Theology (2019)

Special Assistant to the President (fundraising)

Chair, Committee on Academic Programs (2017-2019)

Faculty representative, Board of Trustees (2015-2017)

President's Strategic Planning Committee (2013)

Admissions Committee (chair, 2011-2013, 2020-2021)

Technology Committee (2009-2010)

Advisor to the “Company of New Pastors” group (with funding from the Lilly Foundation: 2010-2017)

Advisor to “Communities of Learning” initiative for entering students (with funding from the Lilly Foundation: 2011-2015)

EDITORIAL/ACADEMIC SERVICE

Editor, *Interpretation: A Journal of Bible and Theology* (2017-present)

Co-Editor, *Interpretation: A Journal of Bible and Theology* (2014-2017)

Editorial Board, *Interpretation: A Journal of Bible and Theology* (2012-present)

Editorial board, *Interpretation Commentary* series, Westminster John Knox Press (2017-present), with Brian Blount, Beverly Gaventa, and Jacqueline Lapsley

Steering Committee, “Wisdom in Israelite and Cognate Traditions,” program unit for the Society of Biblical Literature (2012-2019)

Convener and Co-Chair, “Economics in the Biblical World,” program unit for the Society of Biblical Literature (2010-present)

BOOKS

Ben Sira: A New Translation with Introduction and Commentary (with Eric Reymond)
(Currently under contract for the Anchor Bible series with Yale University Press; expected completion date for first volume: fall 2022).

The Oxford Handbook to Economics in the Biblical World (Editor with Roger Nam; Oxford University Press: expected publication date: 2023).

The Pursuit of Wisdom and Human Flourishing: Sirach and Its Contexts (A Virginia Conference)(Editor with Greg Schmidt Goering and Matthew J. Goff; JSJSup 196; Leiden: Brill, 2021).

The Wiley-Blackwell Companion to Wisdom Literature (Editor with Matthew J. Goff; Blackwell Companion Series; Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley and Sons, 2020).

Social and Economic Life in the Second Temple Period (Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, July 2014).

For book reviews, see *Catholic Biblical Quarterly* 78 (2016): 339-45; *Review of Biblical Literature* 07/2016; *Religious Studies Review* 42 (2016): 39-40; *Review and Expositor* 113(2016): 121-122; *Biblical Interpretation* 24 (2016): 268-270; *Interpretation* 69 (2015): 473-475; *Revue d'histoire et de philosophie religieuses* 95 (2015): 369; *The Christian Century* 132 (2015): 41-42; *Bulletin for Biblical Research* 25 (2015): 386-88; *Currents in Theology and Mission* 42 (2015): 63-64.

Wisdom in Transition: Act and Consequence in Second Temple Instructions (JSJSup 125; Leiden: Brill, 2008).

For book reviews, see *Journal for the Study of Judaism* 40 (2009): 366-67; *Catholic Biblical Quarterly* 71 (2009): 597-598; *Interpretation* 63 (2009): 294-296; *Revue d'histoire et de philosophie religieuses* 89 (2009): 379-80; *Journal for the Study of the Old Testament* 33/5 (2009): 1; *Bijdragen* 70 (2009): 118-119.

ARTICLES

“Economic Aspects of Wisdom and Apocalypticism,” in *The Cascade Companion on*

- Bible and Economics* (Cascade Press, forthcoming).
- “Wisdom of Jesus ben Sira,” in *Ancient Literature for New Testament Studies, Volume 1, LXX and OT Apocrypha* (Zondervan Press, forthcoming).
- “Where is Ezra? Ben Sira’s Surprising Omission and the Selective Recitation in the Praise of the Ancestors and Related Sources,” in *The Pursuit of Wisdom and Human Flourishing: Sirach and Its Contexts (A Virginia Conference)*, ed. S. L. Adams, G. S. Goering, M. J. Goff (JSJSup 196; Leiden: Brill, 2021), 151-166.
- “Wisdom Literature in Egypt,” in *The Wiley-Blackwell Companion to Wisdom Literature*, ed. S. L. Adams, M. J. Goff (Blackwell Companion Series; Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley and Sons, 2020), 310-327.
- “The Book of Ruth as Social Commentary in Early Judaism,” in *Figures Who Shape Scripture, Scriptures that Shape Figures: Essays in Honour of Benjamin G. Wright III*, ed. G. G. Xeravits, G. S. Goering (DCLS 40; Berlin; de Gruyter, 2018), 127-139.
- “Reassessing the Exclusivism of Ben Sira’s Jewish Paideia,” in *Second Temple Jewish Paideia in Context*, ed. G. Boccaccini, J. M. Zurawski (BZBW 228; Berlin: de Gruyter, 2017): 47-58.
- “Post-Colonialism, Hybridity, and the Dead Sea Scrolls,” in *The Dead Sea Scrolls and the Study of the Humanities; Method, Theory, Meaning: Proceedings of the Eighth Meeting of the International Organization for Qumran Studies (Munich, 4-7 August, 2013)*, ed. P. B. Hartog, A. Schofield, S. I. Thomas (STDJ 125; Leiden: Brill, 2018): 28-52.
- “Benevolence and Justice in Extraction Economies: A Response to Roland Boer, *The Sacred Economy of Ancient Israel*,” *Horizons in Biblical Theology* 38 (2016): 167-72.
- “The Social Location of the Scribe in the Second Temple Period,” in *Sibyls, Scriptures, and Scrolls: John Collins at Seventy*, vol. 1. ed. J. Baden, H. Najman, E. J. C. Tigchelaar (Leiden: Brill, 2016): 22-38.
- “The Justice Imperative in Scripture,” *Interpretation* 69 (2015): 399-414.
- “Sage as Prophet?: Allusion and Reconfiguration in Ben Sira and Other Second Temple Wisdom Texts,” in *Rethinking the Boundaries of Sapiential Traditions in Ancient Judaism, Third International Symposium on Jewish and Christian Literature from the Hellenistic and Roman Periods*, ed. H. Najman, J.-S. Rey, E. J. C. Tigchelaar (JSJSup; Leiden: Brill, 2016), 89-105.
- “The Reformed Encounter with Scripture,” *Institute for Reformed Theology Bulletin* 9 (Winter 2011): 4-9.

“Poverty and ‘Otherness’ in Second Temple Instructions,” in *The ‘Other’ in Second Temple Judaism: Essays in Honor of John J. Collins*, ed. D.C. Harlow et al. (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2011): 189-203.

“Reevaluating the Relationship between Ben Sira and 4QInstruction,” *Revue de Qumran* 96 (October 2010): 555-583.

ENCYCLOPEDIA ARTICLES

The Oxford Encyclopedia of the Bible and Ethics (Oxford University Press, 2015)

- “Wealth and Poverty”
- “Fool, Foolishness, Folly”
- “Philanthropy” (with Robert Brawley)

The Dictionary of Early Judaism (Eerdmans, 2010)

- Proverbs (pp. 1102-3)
- Qoheleth/Ecclesiastes (pp. 1125-26)

New Interpreters Dictionary of the Bible (Abingdon, 2007)

- Shorter entries on 19 different topics

BOOK REVIEWS

Sidnie White Crawford, *Scribes and Scrolls at Qumran* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2019), *Interpretation* 75 (2021): 335.

Gale Yee et al., *The Old Testament and Apocrypha: Fortress Commentary on the Bible* (Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2014), *Interpretation* 72 (2018): 448.

Ibolya Balla, *Ben Sira on Family, Gender, and Sexuality* (Deuterocanonical and Cognate Literature Series 8. Berlin: de Gruyter, 2011), *Dead Sea Discoveries* 22 (2015): 123-25.

Erhard S. Gerstenberger, *Israel in the Persian Period: the Fifth and Fourth Centuries B.C.E.*, trans. Siegfried S. Schatzmann (Atlanta: Society of Biblical Literature, 2011), *Interpretation* 68 (2014): 92-93.

Conleth Kearns, *The Expanded Text of Ecclesiasticus: Its Teaching on the Future Life as a Clue to Its Origin*, ed. Pancratius C. Beentjes (Deuterocanonical and Cognate Literature Studies 11; Berlin: De Gruyter, 2011), *Journal for the Study of Judaism* 45 (2014): 120-21.

Stuart Weeks, *An Introduction to the Study of Wisdom Literature* (New York: T&T Clark, 2010), *Interpretation* 66 (2012): 120-21.

- Timothy H. Lim and John J. Collins, *The Oxford Handbook of the Dead Sea Scrolls* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2010), *Interpretation* 66 (2012): 214-15.
- John Kampen, *Wisdom Literature* (Eerdmans Commentaries on the Dead Sea Scrolls; Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2011), *Dead Sea Discoveries* 19 (2012): 221-23.
- Jon Levenson and Kevin Madigan, *Resurrection: the Power of God for Christians and Jews* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2008), *Interpretation* 63 (2009): 424.
- Richard A. Horsley, *Scribes, Visionaries, and the Politics of Second Temple Judea* (Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2007), *Interpretation* 63 (2009): 91-92.
- Lawrence W. Wills, Benjamin G. Wright, eds., *Conflicted Boundaries in Wisdom and Apocalypticism* (SBLSymS 35; Atlanta: Society of Biblical Literature, 2005), *Journal of the American Oriental Society* 128 (2008): 170-71.
- Ralph W. Klein, *1 Chronicles: A Commentary* (Hermeneia; Fortress: Minneapolis, 2006), *Interpretation* 62 (2008): 328-30.
- Katharine J. Dell, *The Book of Proverbs in Social and Theological Context* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2006), *Interpretation* 62 (2008): 99-100.

ADDITIONAL ESSAYS/CHURCH-RELATED ARTICLES

“Pride, Politics, and Our Post-Election Dilemma,” *Journal for Preachers* 40 (2016): 15-20.

“A Matter of Justice,” *Journal for Preachers* 34 (2011): 47-52.

“Between Text and Sermon” (Ezekiel 34:11-19), *Interpretation* 62 (2008): 304-6.

Feasting on the Word (Lectionary Commentary Series), Barbara Brown Taylor and David Bartlett, eds. (Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2008-2013). Essays on the following biblical passages:

- Psalm 25:1-9 (Sunday between September 25-October 1)
- Psalm 31:9-16 (Sixth Sunday in Lent, Liturgy of the Passion)
- Psalm 90:12-17 (Proper 23)
- Psalm 103(1-7), 8-13 (Sunday between September 11-September 17)
- Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 (Sixth Sunday in Lent)
- Psalm 119:9-26 (Fifth Sunday in Lent)
- Psalm 145:1-8 (Sunday between September 18-September 24)
- Isaiah 43:16-21 (Fifth Sunday in Lent)
- Isaiah 50:4-9a (Liturgy of the Passion)
- Amos 5:6-7, 10-15 (Proper 23)
- John 11:1-6

- John 11:7-16

“Servant Leadership and the Earth (Philippians 2:1-13),” *Journal for Preachers* 31 (2008): 29-33.

“Seeking Wisdom,” *As I See It Today* (Union Presbyterian Seminary publication), October 2006.

SELECT ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

Webinar facilitator (Union Presbyterian Seminary) on the value of “Wisdom” as a category when examining biblical and other ancient literature, April 27, 2021

“Ben Sira as a Window into the New Testament? Challenges and Unexamined Possibilities,” SBL SE Regional Meeting, March 2021

“Apologetics or Innovation: Ben Sira’s Ambiguous Exploration of Theodicy,” SBL National Meeting, San Diego, November 2019

“‘A Word in its Season’: Persuasive Speech in Wisdom Instructions, Prophetic Works, and Our Fractured Political Moment,” inaugural lecture as the Mary Jane and John F. McNair Chair in Biblical Studies, Union Presbyterian Seminary, April 23, 2019

“The Book of Ruth as Social Commentary in Second Temple Judaism,” Yale Divinity School Old Testament Fall Lecture, October 25, 2018

“The Use and Function of Allegory in Wisdom Literature,” International SBL Meeting, Berlin, July 2017

“The Economic Aspects of Wisdom and Apocalypticism,” SBL National Meeting, Boston, November 2017

“Writing a Commentary on Ben Sira” (invited paper), SBL National Meeting, Boston, November 2017

Respondent to papers at Dead Sea Scrolls session, International SBL Meeting, Seoul, July 2016

Respondent to Roland Boer: *The Sacred Economy of Ancient Israel* (Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2014), SBL National Meeting, Atlanta, November 2015

“Where is Ezra? Ben Sira’s Surprising Omission and the Selective Recitation in the Praise of the Ancestors and Related Sources,” SBL National Meeting, Atlanta, November 2015

“Reassessing the Exclusivism of Ben Sira’s Jewish Paideia,” Fifth Enoch Seminar: Nangeroni Meeting, University of Naples (Italy), July 2015

“The Economics of Marriage in the Second Temple Sources,” Louisiana State University, March 2015

“The Ethics of Wealth and Poverty in the Second Temple Sources,” University of Richmond, February 2015

“The Social Location of the Scribe in the Second Temple Period,” SBL National Meeting, San Diego, November 2014

Respondent to the commentary of Matthew J. Goff, *4QInstruction* (Wisdom Literature from the Ancient World 2; Atlanta: Scholar’s Press, 2013), Wisdom and Apocalypticism Program Unit, SBL National Meeting, San Diego, October 2014

“Sage as Prophet?: Allusion and Reconfiguration in Ben Sira and Other Second Temple Wisdom Texts,” conference on “Rethinking the Boundaries of Sapiential Traditions in Ancient Judaism, Third International Symposium on Jewish and Christian Literature from the Hellenistic and Roman Periods,” Metz, France, October 2014

“The Ethics of Wealth and Poverty in the Second Temple Sources,” University of Virginia, October 2014

“The Relevance of Post-colonial Theory for Understanding the Dead Sea Scrolls,” International Organization for Qumran Studies (IOQS), Munich, August 2013

“The Contributions of Daughters at the Household Level during the Second Temple Period,” SBL National Meeting, Chicago, November 2012

“The Hortatory Value of Ben Sira’s Praise of the Fathers in Light of Parallel Evidence,” International SBL Meeting, Amsterdam, July 2012

“The Role of Bribery and Usury in Transactions during the Second Temple Period,” Duke University, March 2012

“The Ethics of Wealth and Poverty in Proverbs (and Subsequent Instructions),” SBL National Meeting, San Francisco, November 2011

Panelist for special session to celebrate the career of Michael Fox and the publication of his two volumes on the book of Proverbs (Anchor Yale Bible series), SBL National Meeting, Atlanta, November 2010

“Economics in the Biblical World: Family Life,” SBL National Meeting, Atlanta, November 2010

“The Social Background for the Condemnation of Surety in Proverbs,” SBL National Meeting, New Orleans, November 2009

“Poverty and ‘Otherness’ in Second Temple Instructions,” Amherst College Conference in Honor of John J. Collins, Amherst, MA, April 2008

“Rethinking the Use of God-Language in Proverbs,” SBL National Meeting, San Diego, November 2007

“Ben Sira’s Apologetic Response,” SBL National Meeting, Washington, DC, November 2006

“Wisdom Literature in Ancient Egypt,” Yale University Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations Department Roundtable Lecture, May 2005

“Act and Consequence in Egyptian Instructions,” SBL National Meeting, San Antonio, November 2004

“The World of the Dead Sea Scrolls” (lecturer and docent for a special museum exhibit), Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago and Field Museum of Chicago, Spring 2000

SELECT CHURCH-RELATED PRESENTATIONS

“All Too Human: Navigating Relationships in the Old Testament and Today” (series), First Presbyterian Church, Richmond, VA, February 2022

“Wonder through Sports,” weekend retreat, River Road Church, Baptist, Richmond, VA, February 25-27, 2022

“Reading Isaiah during Advent” (series), Ginter Park Presbyterian Church, Richmond, VA, December 2021

Duerr Lecture Series, St. Philip Presbyterian Church, Houston, TX, “Effective Speech in the Bible and in Our Age of Polarization,” February 21, 2021

“‘A Word in Its Season’: *Effective Speech in the Bible and Our Fractured Political Moment*,” SC5 (Presbytery of the Foothills) Presbyteries Minister/Educator Retreat, October 2020

“Healing and Wholeness in the Midst of Uncertainty” (series), St. John’s Episcopal Church, Richmond, VA, March 2020

Faith Seeking Understanding Lecture Series, “A Word in Its Season,” Reed Memorial Presbyterian Church, Augusta, GA, January 26-27, 2020

“Wrestling with ‘Biblical’ Values” (series), Second Presbyterian Church, Richmond, VA, November 2019

“Wealth and Poverty in the Bible and Today” (series), River Road Church, Baptist, Richmond, VA, November 2019

“Faithful Discourse in the Age of Polarization,” First Presbyterian Church, Virginia Beach, VA, October 30, 2019

“Faithful Discourse in the Age of Polarization,” Mt. Vernon Presbyterian Church, Alexandria, VA, October 23, 2019

“The Bible and Homosexuality,” Reveille United Methodist Church, Richmond, VA, September 29, 2019

“Reading the Psalms during Lent” (series), Second Presbyterian Church, Richmond, VA, March 2019

“The Bible and American Political Discourse,” First Presbyterian Church, Richmond, VA, February 2019

“Aging and Reconciliation in the Bible” (keynote address), Retired Pastors/Elders of the Presbytery of the James, Camp Hanover, September 28, 2017

“Wealth and Poverty in the Bible and Today” (lecture series), Laurinburg Presbyterian Church, Laurinburg, NC, October 22-24, 2017

Theologian in Residence, Davidson College, “The Complex Vision for Justice in the Bible and Our Current Political Moment,” February 22-26, 2018

“Jesus’s Lenten Journey through the Psalms,” Offterdinger-Williamson Preaching Series, First Presbyterian Church of Lynchburg, VA, March 3, 2018

“Faithful Discourse in an Age of Polarization: the Bible, Politics, and Rebuilding Community” (series), Second Presbyterian Church, Richmond, VA, October 2016

“The Dead Sea Scrolls and the New Testament” (series), First Presbyterian Church, Richmond, VA, April 2016

Stetson University Pastors’ School (with Tom Long and Diana Butler Bass), “Faithful Discipleship and Communication in the Age of Social Media,” February 2-4, 2016

“The Biblical Texts of Exile” (series), St. Paul’s Ivy Episcopal Church, Charlottesville, VA, January 2016

“Reading the Old Testament during Advent” (series), Second Presbyterian Church, Richmond, VA, December 2015

Groover Lecture Series, Bethesda Presbyterian Church, “Wealth and Poverty in the Bible,” Bethesda, MD, October 8-9, 2014

McPherson Lecture Series, First Presbyterian Church, Durham, NC, “Making Sense of the Biblical Witness on Wealth and Poverty,” February 24-25, 2013

“Wealth and Poverty in the Bible” (series), St. Mary’s Episcopal Church, Richmond, VA, May 2012

“Death and the Afterlife in the Biblical World” (series), Tabernacle Baptist Church, Richmond, VA, March-April, 2012

Duerr Lecture Series, St. Philip Presbyterian Church, Houston, TX, “The Biblical Witness on Wealth and Poverty,” February 25-29, 2012

Rogers Lecture Series, First Presbyterian Church, Bennettsville, SC, “Wealth and Poverty in the Bible,” January 22-24, 2011

Royster Lecture Series, First Presbyterian Church, Henderson, NC, “Wealth and Poverty in the Bible,” September 18-20, 2010

“Wealth and Poverty in the Bible” (series), Ginter Park Presbyterian Church, Richmond, VA, September 2010

“Biblical Resources for Public Engagement,” conference on politics and religion, Montreat Conference Center, Montreat, NC, August 2010

“The Formation of the Canon and Translation of the Bible” (series), River Road Presbyterian Church, Richmond, VA, April 2010

Presbyterian College Chaplains Association, annual meeting speaker: plenary on “Exegesis with Undergraduates” and a series of lectures entitled “Wealth and Poverty in the Bible,” Union Presbyterian Seminary, Richmond, VA, February 2010

“Biblical Perspectives on the Christian Encounter with Religious Plurality” (series), Salisbury Presbyterian Church, Richmond, VA, February 2010

Montreat Christian Education Conference, workshop leader (“Reading the Bible as a Spiritual Practice”), Montreat, NC, June 2009

“The Book of Psalms” (Lenten series), Salisbury Presbyterian Church, Richmond, VA, March 2009

“Wealth and Poverty in the Biblical Texts: Confronting the Economic Crisis” (series), First Presbyterian Church, Richmond, VA, February 2009

“The Wisdom Literature of the Old Testament” (series), Bon Air Presbyterian Church, Richmond, VA, September-October 2008

“Listening for God’s Voice during Lent” (series), Southminster Presbyterian Church, Richmond, VA, February 2008

“Celebrate, Tend, Nurture” (retreat weekend on Genesis and the environment), First Presbyterian Church, Asheville, NC, September 2007

“Genesis, Creation, and the Environment” (retreat), Central Presbyterian Church, Atlanta, GA, September 2007

“Where is God When Tragedy Strikes? (A Response to Virginia Tech),” First Presbyterian Church, Richmond, VA, May 2007

“Introduction to the Dead Sea Scrolls” (series), St. James Episcopal Church, Richmond, VA, March 2007

“Death and the Afterlife in the Biblical World” (series), First Presbyterian Church, Richmond, VA, January 2007

“The Christian Encounter with Religious Plurality” (series), Center for Faith and Life, First Presbyterian Church, New Haven, CT, Winter 2002

“Creation Stories of the Ancient Near East” (series), Center for Faith and Life, First Presbyterian Church, New Haven, CT, Summer 2001

HONORS

Yale University Doctoral Fellowship, 2000-2006

University of Chicago Divinity School Fellowship, 1996-1999

Charles Malone Richards Award (for academic excellence in religious studies and potential for Christian ministry), Davidson College, 1992

LANGUAGES

Hebrew

Aramaic

Ugaritic

Greek (Classical and Koine)

Egyptian (Middle and Late)
 French (reading and speaking) – completed intensive work at L’Institut de Touraine,
 Tours, France, 1991
 German (reading)

DENOMINATIONAL AFFILIATION

Ordained as Minister in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), 2001

CURRENT PROJECT

My current book project is a commentary on the book of Ben Sira for the Yale Anchor Series. I am also editing a volume on economics in the biblical world.

REFERENCES

The Honorable Donald S. Beyer, Jr., Congressman, Eighth District of Virginia

Brian Blount, President and Professor of New Testament, Union Presbyterian Seminary

Mike Cashwell, Chief Financial Officer, Union Presbyterian Seminary

John J. Collins, Holmes Professor of Old Testament Criticism and Interpretation, Yale Divinity School

Frances Taylor Gench, Herbert Worth and Annie H. Jackson Professor of Biblical Interpretation, Union Presbyterian Seminary

John Wells Kuykendall, President and Professor of Religion Emeritus, Davidson College