

Vita
The Rev. David W. Perkins, Th.D.
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Current Position

Supply priest, Emmanuel Episcopal, Buckingham, VA, beginning February 2021. Emmanuel is a family-size rural parish worshipping on first, third, and fifth Sundays and on major feast days and days of holy obligation. I will be their supply priest and on call for sacramental ministries and for emergencies.

Education

ABD, S.T.M. in Anglican Studies. School of Theology, University of the South, Sewanee, Tennessee.

Interim Ministry Network Training, 2001-2002.

Postdoctoral studies in comparative literature. Louisiana State University, 1993 and Emory University, 1987-1991

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

Th.D. in New Testament Studies. The major area of focus was Gospel studies and the minor was in Old Testament studies.

Th.M. The major focus areas were biblical languages and theology.

University of Louisiana at Monroe. B.S. in Biology

Previous Experience

Interim Rector, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Wellsboro, PA, March 2020-December 2020. St. Paul's is a pastoral-size parish in the Northern Tier of The Diocese of Central Pennsylvania. St. Paul's is the only parish in this convocation that can sustain full-time clergy and has the promise of being a resource parish for this region.

Priest in Charge, St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Amherst, VA, November 2018-February 2020. St. Mark's is a family-size rural parish (60 members) founded in 1748. They are a vibrant, strong, loving church seeking to reach their community and to expand their ministries, which include a thrift shop in Amherst, VA jointly run by them and Ascension Church, Amherst.

Priest in Charge, Episcopal Church of Our Savior, Martinez, GA, October 2016-May 2018. Our Savior is a pastoral size parish in a thriving area in west metro Augusta. We were challenged to end five years of decline and lead them to radical reengagement with their context, as well as

supporting a new joint Episcopal-Lutheran church start in the neighboring community of Grovetown.

Rector in the Interim, St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Newport News, VA, October 2014-September 2016. We expanded their lay leader base, introduced a team system, created a newcomer ministry, and designed a new website. St. Andrew's average Sunday attendance is 210.

Rector in the Interim, Trinity Episcopal Church, Asbury Park, NJ, 2012-2014. Trinity experienced remarkable growth from 2002-2010 but experienced conflict and decline during their first interim. I served as the second interim. We expanded their lay team structure, broadened their newcomer ministry, and focused on dealing with a history of growth followed by conflict. Average Sunday attendance was 201.

Interim Rector, The Episcopal Church of the Holy Comforter, Montgomery, AL, 2011-2012. Holy Comforter had suffered precipitous decline. We focused on reweaving the organization and reconnecting with the community and experienced modest growth in one year. Average Sunday attendance was 80.

Interim Rector, St. John's Episcopal Church, Versailles, Kentucky, 2010-2011. I reentered intentional interim ministry in April 2010 with this small-town congregation of 350 parishioners and an average Sunday attendance of 140. I completed this ministry July 31, 2011. Average Sunday attendance was 170.

Vicar, All Souls Episcopal Church, Mechanicsville, Virginia, 2002-2010. I answered a call from the bishops of The Diocese of Virginia in 2002 to plant a new church. We began public worship in November of 2003.

Interim rector, St. Margaret's Episcopal Church, Carrollton, Georgia, 2001-2002. St. Margaret's is a small-town congregation of 600 members with an average Sunday attendance of 180 at that time.

Associate Rector, St. James' Episcopal Church, Marietta, Georgia, 1998-2001. Responsibilities included preaching, presiding at Holy Communion, adult education, pastoral care, newcomer ministry, and singles ministry. St. James' is an urban parish with an average Sunday attendance of 540 and 1800 baptized members in 2001

Priest in Charge, St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, West Monroe, Louisiana, 1998. West Monroe is a fast-growing small city and St. Patrick's, a pastoral parish with an average Sunday attendance of 75 that year.

Vicar, Good Shepherd Episcopal Church, Vidalia, Louisiana, 1996-1998. This mission began in 1993 with constituents from Natchez (across the river) and the Louisiana delta. I began there as Lay Reader in Charge before feeling called into discernment regarding Holy Orders.

Speech and English Teacher, Wossman High School, Monroe, Louisiana, 1995-1998.

Associate Professor of Theology, Xavier University, New Orleans, Louisiana, 1994-95. I taught courses in Scripture survey and interpretation of individual biblical books.

Pastor of Baptist Congregations in Louisiana, Georgia, and Kentucky, 1976-1981 and 1988-1995. I served four Baptist congregations after seminary graduation, ranging in size from 400-1500 members, one in a small town and three in major cities.

Associate Professor of New Testament and Greek, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, New Orleans, Louisiana, 1981-1989. I had taught for three years during doctoral studies as an adjunct and was invited to join the faculty four years after having received the doctorate. I taught Master of Divinity courses in Greek and New Testament and led doctoral seminars and advised students seeking Ph.D. and D.Min. degrees.

Baptist Interim ministries. I served three churches as interim pastor during graduate studies, 1972-76 and four as a seminary teacher, 1981-1989.

Adjunct Teaching

I have served as an adjunct teacher both as a doctoral student in seminary and while serving parishes. Those adjunct experiences involve a cumulative total of sixteen academic years of teaching. Institutions served (in chronological order) and subjects taught include: New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary (New Testament and Greek); Loyola University (Scripture study); Our Lady of Holy Cross College (English composition); Kennesaw State University (Bible as literature); Georgia Military College (English composition); Baptist Theological Seminary of Richmond (New Testament Greek). In 2012, I taught an online Old Testament Introduction class for Loyola University, New Orleans.

Denominational Service

Advisory Group on Church Planting, The Episcopal Church, 2015-2018. I am continuing in an advisory capacity and as a grant reader.

Training Team for Missio Engage, a national initiative in parish redevelopment, 2011-2013. Served as a mentor for a new priest in The Diocese of Lexington, 2010-2011.

Co-chaplain and Plenary Presenter, Solo Flight Episcopal Singles Ministry, 2001-2010.

Chairperson of the Committee on the Diaconate and Director of the Diaconal Formation Institute, the Diocese of Virginia, 2006-2010.

Small group leader, Mid Atlantic Training Program, 2006, 2008. Led a small group of seminarians doing summer internships.

Kairos Prison Ministry in Louisiana and Virginia, 1997-98, 2006-2007.

Teacher, School of Theology, The Diocese of Western Louisiana, 1996-1998.

Writings and Publications

- “Episcopal and Baptist Governance,” Episcopal Vial Practices, May 2012.
 Two reflections on the experience of divorce in *Divorce: A Month of Meditations*.
 Forward Movement, 2010.
- “Reflections on Reverie: Gaston Bachelard’s Poetics of Reverie.” 2008.
http://www.nimblespirit.com/html/on_gaston_bachelard.html (website now inactive)
- "A Conflict of Visions: 2 Corinthians 10-13." *The Theological Educator*. Fall 1989.
- "The Wisdom We Need." *The Theological Educator*. Fall 1987.
- "Introduction to Colossians." *Disciple's Study Bible*. Holman 1987.
- "Models for Ministry." *The Theological Educator*. Spring 1987.
- "A Call to Pilgrimage: The Challenge of Hebrews." *The Theological Educator*, Fall 1986.
- "Superspirituality in Corinth." *The Theological Educator*. Spring 1985.
- "Paul's View of Civil Authority." *Search*. Summer 1984.
- "Simon Rock: An Appraisal of Peter in the New Testament Witness." *The Theological Educator*. Fall 1982.
- "The Portrait of Jesus in Mark's Gospel." *The Theological Educator*. Fall 1978.

Articles for denominational publications. Several units of biblical commentary for adult teachers and articles on pastoral care and Christian living.

Unpublished:

"The Johannine Son of Man." Th.D. dissertation. New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, 1977.

In Process:

Books on the theology of evangelism and on Jesus’ teaching in the Sermon on the Mount relative to Lent. Article on the psychological and spiritual fallout from dealing with the darker side of human nature and experience in ministry.

Personal

Children.

Benjamin David (b. 1977). Ben was a vocal performance major at Georgia State University. He and his wife, Jennifer, live in Philadelphia where he is a vocal musician and high school music teacher. He recently completed his masters in music education at University of the Arts in Philadelphia. He serves as a paid soloist at the Episcopal cathedral in Philadelphia. Jenny has her masters in choral conducting and serves as a high school choral conductor in Philly. She is pursuing a Ph.D. in music education at Temple University.

Leigh Katherine (b. 1981). Katie majored in French horn performance at the University of Southern Mississippi. She completed an MLS at The University of South Carolina (2013) and an Ed.D. at Lynchburg University (2020). She serves as electronic resources librarian at Lynchburg University in Lynchburg, VA. Her husband John has completed his master’s in French horn and is completing a Ph.D. in education at Old Dominion University. John teaches French horn as an adjunct at Lynchburg University and has private horn students. Both play French horn professionally.

Hobbies. Camping, hiking, fly fishing, reading, writing, cooking.