

# HEIDI MILLER YODER

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## EDUCATION

- PhD      The Catholic University of America, **Spirituality**, January 2011  
          **The Spiritual Practice of Ritually Enacted Narrative: Expanding Pilgram Marpeck's Understand of Action in the Lord's Supper**  
          Examination Fields: **Spirituality, Theology, Liturgical Studies**
- MDiv     Eastern Mennonite Seminary, focus in **Spiritual Formation & Worship**, 1997
- BA        Goshen College, Social Work, 1992

## EXPERIENCE SUMMARY

*Focus is on bridge-building between academia and the church, the church and the world.*

### TEACHING

- Taught more than 26 different courses over 11 years in a seminary and undergraduate context. Developed six new courses.
- Focused in areas of Worship, Spiritual Formation and Direction, Integrative Courses (theology, history, worship, ethics), Leadership Development and Supervision.
- Fostered biblically rooted, theologically grounded, historically attentive, and contextually relevant ways to teach Worship.

### ECUMENICAL CONSULTING AND LEADING

- Listened and envisioned with various churches who were in transition and/or crisis.
- Invited to preach among and resource multiple congregations and leadership groups.
- Asked to serve as keynote speaker for Canadian Mennonite Convention, 2011.
- Advised and oversaw worship for Mennonite Church USA conventions.
- Worked with primary worship gathering, the arts, and presenting at an ecumenical conference on *Worship, Art, Liturgy, and Preaching*

### SUPERVISION AND MENTORING

- Implemented student involvement and training for School for Leadership worship.
- Recruited and equipped promising students to join me in leading for the Believers Church conference, Augsburg Celebration, Church Conventions, Retreats, and Ecumenical Conference.
- Initiated orientation, debriefing, and case study work for ministry internships.

### PROFESSIONAL PUBLICATIONS, PRESENTATIONS, AND CREATIVE WORK

- Keynote presenter at recent Pilgram Marpeck Conference with deliberate attention to implementing the practical theology of Marpeck's work on the Lord's Supper.
- Invited to write essays for two different books in the areas of worship and ritual.
- Wrote litanies, dramatic readings, and dramas for worship settings.
- Writing coach. Academic Ladder – support for higher education academicians.

### PASTORAL/CONGREGATIONAL MINISTRY

- Served in congregational leadership roles for over 20 years, including pastor. Oversaw the implementation and development of worship planning teams. Designed curriculum for congregational discernment regarding worship.

## EXPERIENCE DETAIL

### TEACHING

Bible and Religion Department, Eastern Mennonite University (EMU), Harrisonburg, Virginia. **Assistant Professor of Spiritual Formation and Ministry**, 2000–present

Courses taught:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| ▪ Spiritual Formation (developed as new course)   | ▪ Congregation and Youth Ministry Practicum          |
| ▪ Church Leadership (emphasis on preaching and worship)                                       | ▪ Ethics in the Way of Jesus                         |
| ▪ The Congregation and Its Ministries   | ▪ Youth Ministry Practicum                           |
| ▪ Youth Ministry in the Congregation  | ▪ Introduction to Bible Faith and Christian Heritage |
| ▪ Directed Studies in Advanced Study Of Christian Spirituality and Faith Development in Youth |  |

Eastern Mennonite Seminary (EMS), Harrisonburg, Virginia.

**Instructor**, 1999–present, **Teaching Assistant/Tutor**, 1996–97

Courses taught:

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|--|---|
| ▪ Introduction to Spiritual Guidance   | ▪ Healing Within Worship (developed as new course)                    |
| ▪ Spiritual Direction Seminary I and II                                      | ▪ Worship Arts and the Pathways of the Soul (developed as new course) |
| ▪ Spiritual Formation in the Congregation                                    | ▪ Spirituality of the Lord's Supper (developed as new course)         |
| ▪ Formation in Personhood  | ▪ Worship and Spiritual Development (developed as new course)         |
| ▪ Formation in Ministry  | ▪ Worship Arts  |
| ▪ Christian Tradition I and II / Faith Tradition I and II                    | ▪ Introduction to Greek   |
| ▪ Practice of Christian Worship  | ▪ Spiritual Disciplines in Life and Practice                          |
| ▪ Formed and Transformed in Christ through Worship (developed as new course) |   |

### ECUMENICAL CONSULTING AND LEADING

Consultant for worship commission leaders & Preaching. Big Spring Mennonite Church, Bergton, VA. Anticipated January 2011.

Consultant for deeper practice of the Lord's Supper & worship. Shalom Mennonite Church, Tuscon, AZ. Anticipated February 2011.

Consultant. Bloomingdale Church. Ontario, Canada. 2010-current.

One-on-one conferring with pastor, engaging congregational conflict through gathered worship

Consultant/ Advisor. Glade United Church of Christ. Blacksburg, Virginia. 2010.

Served as a senior consultant, advisor, and instructor for a mediator working with a congregation in crisis.

- Consultant and retreat leader. Glade Mennonite Church. Glade, Maryland 2008 and 2009.  
Conferred with pastor, met with visioning team and elder team, congregational retreat and speaking. 2008 and 2009.
- Retreat leader. Community Fellowship, Halifax, Pennsylvania. 2008.  
Planned, implemented, and led worship. Faculty conference, *Creation, Christ and the Classroom*, EMU. 2008.
- Consultant for worship team training. Ridgeway Mennonite Church, Harrisonburg, Virginia. 2007.
- Retreat leader. Big Spring Mennonite Church, Bergton, Virginia. 2007.
- Consultant and chair of worship committee for Mennonite Church USA (MC USA) Convention. San Jose, California. 2006–07.  
Led worship committee, trained worship leaders (adult/youth), finalized and oriented speakers; teamed with musicians, a/v persons, video/film crew, worship leaders, drama group, stage managers, prayer leaders, artists, convention leaders.
- Planned and led worship. Annual School for Leadership Training. EMS. 2001–07.
- Planned worship sessions. MC USA/Canada Youth Convention. 2004–05.
- Helped to plan and lead worship. Committee member. Believers Church Conference; *God, Democracy, and U.S. Power*. EMU and Bridgewater College. 2004

## SUPERVISION AND MENTORING

### SUPERVISION

- Supervision of home-based practicum in Worship, Spiritual Direction and Congregational Leadership, Summer Institute for Spiritual Formation, EMS. 2002–present.
- Spiritual Director. Registered and in good standing within the Mennonite Church since 1996.
- Supervision of Spiritual Formation group leaders. Initiated “shoulder tapping” and equipping advanced Spiritual Direction students from EMS for small group leadership at EMU. 2003–present.
- Supervision and instruction. School for Christian Spiritual Formation, Virginia Mennonite Conference. Directed retreats, trained people to become spiritual directors, served in mutual consultation with other instructors throughout Virginia and North Carolina. Provided course instruction for those seeking seminary credit. 1998–2000.

### MENTORING

- Supervisor for teaching assistants in courses of Worship, Spiritual Formation, Church Leadership, Youth Ministry in the Congregation, and Faith and Christian Heritage, EMU. 2000–present.
- Supervisor of Mentor Program. Developed for Church Leadership course, EMU.
- Mentor for undergraduate and graduate students at EMU and EMS. Mentored undergraduate fellow for Fund for Theological Education, mentored one-on-one using Lilly Endowed Funds as well as unfunded one-on-one. Group debriefing in crisis situations.
- Recruited and equipped promising students to join me in worship leading and development for the Believers Church Conference, Augsburg Celebration, Youth

Ministry Council, MC USA Conventions, Retreats for Virginia Mennonite Conference, and Ecumenical Conference. 2000–present.

- Internship/practica director. Ministry Inquiry Program, Bible and Religion Department, EMU. Placement and supervision for students who are exploring ministry. 2001–present.
- Supervisor of Congregation and Youth Ministry practica, EMU. 2001–present.
- Supervisor of pastoral interns. Immanuel Mennonite Church. 1997–98.

#### PROFESSIONAL PUBLICATIONS, PRESENTATIONS, CREATIVE WORK

- Essay in book for Anabaptist Convictions After Marpeck Conference. (Not yet published).
- *Practicing Rituals and Rites of Passages with Youth in Do Not Let Your Hearts Be Troubled*. (In press).
- *Worship and the Gathered Body in the Lord's Supper After Marpeck*. Keynote address for Anabaptist Convictions After Marpeck Conference. Bluffton University, Bluffton, Ohio. 2009.
- *Worship as Action*. Plenary forum for Spiritual Life Week at Bluffton University. 2007.
- Worship arts and biblical storyteller for MC USA Convention. San Jose, California. 2007.
- Director and author of dramas for MC USA Convention. Charlotte, North Carolina. 2005. Dramas sold by MC USA, Office of Convention Planning.  
*Risking* (based on Acts 4:13-18), *Petitioning* (based on Acts 4:13-18), and *Remembering* (based on Acts 3 and 4).
- *Drinking from the Well of the Liturgy: Confessions of an Anabaptist* and *The Great Story*. Created and led feature worship gatherings at the Worship, Art, Liturgy and Preaching Conference at Asbury United Methodist Seminary. Wilmore, Kentucky. 2005.

#### PASTORAL/CONGREGATIONAL MINISTRY

Harrisonburg Mennonite Church, Harrisonburg, Virginia

- Trained worship leaders and teams. Winter and Spring, 2009–2010.
- Sunday school teacher: *Healing Within the Scriptures*. Summer, 2008.
- Co-chair worship task force. *Developing a Covenant of Worship*, curriculum design and writing. 2006–08.
- Sermon, *What Kind of Hosanna Are We Singing*. 2006.
- Chair of worship commission. 2004–06.

Immanuel Mennonite Church, Harrisonburg, Virginia

- Pastoral team member/elder. 1996, 1999–2001.
- Associate pastor. Responsible for pastoral care, administration, facilitation of retreats, preaching, worship, and spiritual direction. 1997–98.
- Worship team. Responsible for planning, leading and implementing gathered worship. 1995–97.

**RECENT SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS (SINCE 2007)**

- Sermon. *Wandering in the Wilderness and Meeting Jesus*. Glade Mennonite Church, Accident, Maryland. 2009.
- Sermon. *The Spirit of God Poured Out Upon Us*. Ridgeway Mennonite Church, Harrisonburg, Virginia. 2009.
- Sermon. *The Cup of Suffering and the Bread of Revelation*. Community Mennonite Fellowship, Camp Hebron, Halifax, Pennsylvania. 2008.
- Sermon. *Crossing Over Jordan as Beloved People of God*. Glade Mennonite Church. Accident, Maryland. 2008.
- Sermon. *Releasing into God's Care*. Ordination for Rachel S. Gerber. First Mennonite Church, Denver, Colorado. 2008.
- Homily. *A Spring Rising Up*. Licensing for Mary Jo Bowman. Community Mennonite Church, Harrisonburg, Virginia. 2007.
- Speaking / resourcing. *Sexual Ethics*. Northern District Meeting, Virginia Mennonite Conference, Trissels Mennonite Church, Broadway, Virginia. 2007.
- Spiritual Life Week. Keynote speaker. Bluffton University, Bluffton, Ohio. 2007.

**MEMBERSHIPS**

American Academy of Religion  
Society for the Study of Christian Spirituality  
Spiritual Directors International  
Harrisonburg Mennonite Church  
Mennonite Spiritual Directors  
Licensed minister since 1997, Virginia Mennonite Conference

**AWARDS/HONORS**

John Quasten Scholarship. The Catholic University of America  
Biblical Interpretation Award, Eastern Mennonite Seminary  
Communication Scholarship, Goshen College

**REFERENCES FOR HEIDI MILLER YODER**

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