

KERRY REX BUTTS

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“Committed to Christ and Christian Ministry”

Experience in preaching and teaching; small group and one on one bible study, mentoring, and counseling; congregational leadership development; worship planning; ministry among low-income, urban poor, and marginalized segments of society; ministry to the youth; cooperative ministry initiatives with other local churches (both in and outside of the Churches of Christ).

Education

Northern Seminary, Lombard, IL **June 2013 - June 2019**

- Doctor of Ministry, student
- Contextual Theology Cohort

Harding School of Theology, Memphis, TN **Aug 2002 - May 2007**

- Master of Divinity, 2007
- Emphasis: Theology and Christian Doctrine

Harding University, Searcy, AR **Aug 1999 - May 2002**

- Bachelor of Ministry, 2002
- Certificate, Harding School of Biblical Studies, 2001

Additional Education

Catalyze Coaching, Dallas, TX **April 2021 - April 2022**

Mission Alive, Dallas, TX **Oct 2012 - Mar 2015**

Full-Time Ministry Experience

Newark Church of Christ, Newark, DE **April 2018 - Present**

- Duties: Preaching & Teaching, Vision & Mission Development, Pastoral Care
- Manage daily church operations.
- Assist with Blue Hens for Christ campus ministry.
- Reflect Campus Missions: Board Member

Chillicothe Church of Christ, Chillicothe, MO **Oct 2016 - Aug 2017**

- Duties: Preaching & Teaching, Develop Young Families Ministry, Pastoral Visitation

Columbia Church of Christ, Columbia, MD **Oct 2011 - June 2015**

- Duties: Preaching & Teaching, Oversight of Vision, Mission, & Ministry Development
- Assist ministry leaders, communications with regional Churches of Christ
- Development of a new church website.
- Initiated a church partnership with Mission Alive for purpose of church renewal.
- Initiated effort with Grassroots Crisis Center and Howard County Advocacy Group Against Slavery and Trafficking to help women rescued from human trafficking.

Other Vocational Ministry Experience: Randolph, NJ; Kandiyohi, MN; Ithaca, NY.

Ministry Accomplishments

Books

- *Gospel Portraits: Reading Scripture as Participants in the Mission of God*, Eugene, OR: Wipf and Stock Publishers, 2022.
- "Lost Son, Finding Hope," in *Surrendering To Hope: Guidance For The Broken*, ed. John Mark Hicks, Christine Fox Parker, and Bobby Valentine, Abilene, TX: Leafwood Publishers, 2018.

Special Presentations

- "Jesus Goes to College: Ministry in the Secular University Context," Harbor-Pepperdine Bible Lectures, May 3, 2023.
- "God's Masterpiece: The Church as the Magnum Opus of God," Pepperdine Bible Lectures, May 2, 2013.
- "Pentecost Today: When the Church Welcomes this Message (Acts 2.32-42)," Keynote Address, Hearts of Fire Retreat, Denver Metro House Churches, May 22, 2010.

Selected Published Articles

- "Preaching for Formation as Participants in the Mission of God," in *Missio Dei* 12.1 (Winter-Spring 2021).
- "The Truth that Sets Us Free," in *Wineskins* 24 (September 2021).
- "The Church: We Are The Priesthood," in *Wineskins* 24 (May 2021).
- "Finished: The Irony of the Cross," in *Wineskins* 23 (April-June 2020).
- "Mourning With Those Who Mourn," in *Wineskins* 19 (October 2016).
- "Acts 2 and Pentecost: Our Story, Our Way," in *Wineskins* 19 (April 2016).
- "Disband with Dignity" in *Christian Chronicle* 72 (April 2015).
- "I Still Believe in the Church" in *Wineskins* 17 (April 2014).
- "Living The Way of Jesus" in *Wineskins* 16 (March 2013).
- "Repentance and Baptism...and the Jesus Movement" in *Wineskins* 15 (June 2012).
- "Incarnational Living" in *Wineskins* 15 (January 2012).
- "The Future of the Churches of Christ," in *Wineskins* 14 (January-February 2010).

Published Book Reviews

- "Speaking By The Numbers: Enneagram Wisdom for Pastors, Teachers, and Communicators," by Sean Palmer, *Teleios* 3:1 (Winter 2023): 264-269.
- "Seven Disciplines Can Help Us Reach Our Shifting Culture," *Christians Chronicle* 74 (April 2017).
- "Transforming Conversions: Rethinking the Language and Contours of Christian Initiation," by Gordon T. Smith, *Restoration Quarterly* (2011).
- "Pastor: The Theology and Practice of Ordained Ministry," by William H. Willimon. *Restoration Quarterly* 49 (First Quarter 2007): 57-58.

Personal

Family: Married to Laura J. Butts since August 8, 1998; three children.

Hobbies: Reading, Hiking, Guitar

References available separately.