

MARCIA J. BUNGE, Ph.D.

Professor of Humanities and Theology W.C. Dickmeyer Professor

Christ College -- The Honors College
Valparaiso University
Valparaiso, IN 46383

December 2011
Office: 219-464-6966; Cell: 816-812-9563
Email: Marcia.Bunge@valpo.edu

EDUCATION

- Ph.D. The University of Chicago, 1986 (Religion and Literature)
Doctoral Thesis: *The Restless Reader: Johann Gottfried Herder's Interpretation of the New Testament*
Brian Gerrish, Michael Murrin (Advisers); David Tracy (Reader)
- M.A. The University of Chicago, 1979 (Divinity)
- B.A. St. Olaf College, 1976 (English, Music)

STUDIES AND RESEARCH ABROAD

- Franckesche Stiftungen*, Halle, Germany, 2000 (Research)
- University of Bonn, West Germany, 1986 (Research)
- Herzog August Bibliothek, Wolfenbüttel, West Germany, 1984 (Research)
- University of Tübingen, West Germany, 1979-81 (Graduate Studies in Philosophy and Theology)
- Cambridge University, England, 1975 (Undergraduate Studies in Romantic Poetry and Music)

PROFESSIONAL WORK ABROAD (see "Teaching Experience," "Lectures," "Consultations" below)

Australia, Bahamas, Belgium, Canada, Costa Rica, Denmark, Dominican Republic, England, Ethiopia, Finland, Germany, Israel, Kenya, Malaysia, Norway, Scotland, Singapore (also traveled to China, France, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Mexico, Romania, Sweden)

RESEARCH PROJECTS AND INSTITUTIONAL GRANTS

- Co-Director, Project on "Child Theologies: Perspectives from World Christianity" (\$35,321 grant from Compassion International, 2010-present)
- Director, Project on "The Child in Religion and Ethics" (\$538,000 grant from the Lilly Endowment, 2004-2008)
- Co-Director, National Meeting on "Vocation and Lutheran Higher Education," with representatives from the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and Lutheran Institutions that received Lilly Endowment grants for youth programs (\$20,000 grant from Programs for the Theological Exploration of Vocation, 2003)
- Co-Director, Project on "Renewable Energy, Social Justice, and Vocation" (University grant, 2003-2004)
- Director, Planning Grant, Project on "Theological Exploration of Vocation at Valparaiso University" (\$50,000 Planning Grant, 1999-2000; \$1,965,150 project from the Lilly Endowment, 2000-2005)
- Director, Project on "The Child in Christian Thought" (\$127,501 grant from the Lilly Endowment, 1998-2000)
- Director, Institutional Renewal Grant for Faculty Orientation at Valparaiso University (funded by the Rhodes Consultation on the Future of the Church-Related College, 2000)
- Regional Director, "Rhodes Consultation on the Future of the Church-Related College" (funded by the Rhodes Consultation on the Future of the Church-Related College, 1998-1999)
- Co-Director, Campus Recycling Grant (funded by the Porter County Solid Waste Management District, 1998-1999)

HONORS AND RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS

- Summer Research Fellowship for World Christianity Consultation (funded by Valparaiso University, 2011)
- Faculty Development Awards (funded by the Valparaiso University Alumni Association, 2002 and 2010)
- Wheat Ridge Grant for Faculty Research (2002-2004)
- Nominee, Distinguished Teaching Award (Valparaiso University Alumni Association, 2002)
- Christian Faith and Life Sabbatical Grant (\$40,000 grant from the Louisville Institute, 2000-2001)
- Summer Research Grant for Study in Halle, Germany (funded by Valparaiso University, 1999)
- Fellow for "Rhodes Consultation on the Future of the Church-Related College" (1996-1997)
- Fellow for "Project on Risk, Institutions, Science and Knowledge" (FIPSE Grant, University of Iowa, 1993)

Scholar-in-Residence through the Joyce Foundation Award (Luther College, 1993)
Sears Foundation Grant (1991)
Overseas Fellowship (Division for Global Missions, The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America 1989)
Award for Theological Scholarship and Research (Association of Theological Schools, 1986)
Charlotte W. Newcombe Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship (1984-1985)
Overseas Fellowship (The University of Chicago, 1984)
Research Assistant: The University of Chicago (Bible, History of Christianity, Religion and Literature, 1983-1984)
World Council of Churches Fellowship for Study Abroad (1979-1981)
Ellen Johnson Music Award (St. Olaf College, 1975-1976)
Magna cum laude (1976)
Phi Beta Kappa (elected 1976)
Drama Scholarship (Colorado Women's College, 1972-1973)
National Merit Scholar (1972)

COMMITTEES AND BOARDS

Steering Committee Member, Children in the Biblical World, the Society of Biblical Literature (2008-present)
Editorial Board Member, *Journal of Childhood and Religion* (2010-present)
International Board of Directors, Child Theology Movement (2004-present)
General Advisory Board Member, *The Cresset* (2002-present)
Consultant, Interdisciplinary Consultation on the Advisability and Feasibility of Creating Exhibits on World Religions at Children's Museums, sponsored by The Children's Museum of Indianapolis (2009-2011)
Steering Committee Member, Consultation on Childhood Studies and Religion, American Academy of Religion (2008-2010)
Theological Advisor, Center for Spiritual Development in Childhood and Adolescence of the Search Institute (2006-2010)
Director of Theological Inquiry, Center for the Theology of Childhood (2002-2010)
Planning Team Member, "Children's Spirituality Conference: Christian Perspectives," an international conference held in Chicago every three years and initially funded by the Louisville Institute (2001-2010)
Co-Chair and Founding Member, Consultation on Childhood Studies and Religion, the American Academy of Religion (2003-2008)
Member of the "National Task Force on Education for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America" (2003-2007), which helped to draft the ELCA's social statement, "Our Calling in Education" (adopted 2007)
Leader for Course Development, Valparaiso's Theological Exploration of Vocation Project (2003-2006)
Steering Committee, Valparaiso's Theological Exploration of Vocation Project (2000-2006)
Consultant, Children's Environmental Health Network in Washington DC, directed by Daniel Swartz (2002-2004)
Consultant, Project on Developing Child Specific Practices of Faith in the Family, Ada Bible Church (2002-2004)
Consultant, Enhancing the Literature on the Theological Exploration of Vocation, directed by Kim Maphis Early and funded by the Lilly Endowment, Inc. (2002)
Member of the Editorial Board, *Dialog* (1992-2001)
Network Editor, *Religious Studies Review* (1994-1998)
Member of the Steering Committee, Nineteenth Century Theology Working Group of the AAR (1991-1995)
Member of the Editorial Board, *Word and World* (1987-1988, 1989-1990)
Member of the Executive Board and Founding Member, International Herder Society (1985-1990)

TEACHING AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

W.C. Dickmeyer Professor (2010-present)
Professor of Humanities and Theology: Christ College, Valparaiso University, Valparaiso, IN (2003-present)
Visiting Professor for annual "Compact Seminar" (two days) on "Theologies of Childhood": Heidelberg University, Germany (2006-2009)
Associate Professor of Theology and Humanities: Christ College, Valparaiso University (1997-2003; tenured 1997)
Associate Professor, Dept. of Religion: Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter, MN (1995-1997)
Assistant Professor, Dept. of Religion and Philosophy: Luther College, Decorah, IA (1990-1995; tenured 1994)
Professor and Leader for Study Abroad Course in Germany for Students at Valparaiso University (2003); Gustavus Adolphus College (1996); and Luther College (1993)

Visiting Professor of Systematic Theology: *Theologisches Seminar Leipzig*, Leipzig, East Germany (Fall 1989)
Assistant Professor, Dept. of Systematic Theology: Luther Seminary, St. Paul, MN (1985-1990)
Visiting Assistant Professor of Religious Studies: Knox College, Galesburg, IL (Spring 1985)
Organist: Bond Chapel (1982-84), United Church of Hyde Park (1983-84), University Church (1982)
English Teacher: Laurentius Gymnasium, Neuendettelsau, West Germany (1976-77)

PRIMARY AREAS OF TEACHING COMPETENCE

Undergraduate Core Courses in the Humanities (focusing on writing skills and the close reading of primary texts)
Christianity (including the History of Christianity; World Christianity; Systematic and Historical Theology)
Contemporary Theology and Ethics (primarily Feminist Theologies; Environmental Ethics; and Hermeneutics)
Religious Understandings of Children and Childhood
Inter-religious Dialogue and Interfaith Relations (with particular attention to Judaism, Christianity, Islam)
Vocation and Church-Related Higher Education
Luther and Lutheranism

COURSES CURRENTLY TEACHING IN CHRIST COLLEGE (the Honors College)

“The Freshman Program”: an interdisciplinary team-taught eight credit core course that fulfills first year distribution requirements and focuses on writing skills and the close reading of primary texts
“The Christian Tradition”: an introduction to central developments and themes in Christian history and theology that focuses on the close reading and discussion of primary texts
“Study Abroad Course” (in Germany): “Work, Love, and Vocation: Exploring Lives of Faith and Lutheran Perspectives on Vocation”
“Upper Level Honors Seminars” on a variety of topics, including:

1. World Christianity
2. Children and Childhood: Biblical and Theological Perspectives
3. Children, Childhood, and Religious Ethics: Jewish, Christian, Muslim Perspectives
4. Interfaith Dialogue: Jews, Christians, and Muslims
5. Environmental Ethics

PRIMARY AREAS OF RESEARCH

Religious Understandings of Children and Childhood
Vocation and Church- Related Higher Education
Contemporary Theology (primarily Feminist Theologies and Environmental Ethics)
J. G. Herder and 19th Century Theology

PUBLICATIONS

Published Books

1. *Children and Childhood in World Religions: Primary Sources and Texts*. Edited and introduced by Don Browning and Marcia J. Bunge. New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press: 2009. Paperback edition, 2011.
2. *The Child in the Bible*. General Editor: Marcia J. Bunge. Co-editors: Terence Fretheim and Beverly Roberts Gaventa. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2008.
3. *The Child in Christian Thought*. Edited and introduced by Marcia Bunge. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2001.
4. *Against Pure Reason: Writings on History, Language, and Religion* by J. G. Herder. Edited, translated, and introduced by Marcia J. Bunge. Minneapolis, MN: Fortress Press, 1993.

Translations of Published Books and Articles

Spanish translation of selected chapters of *The Child in Christian Thought: Los niños: en el pensamiento evangélico*. Buenos Aires, Argentina: Ediciones Kairos, 2008.
German translation of article on the children and the image of God: “Kinder, das Bild Gottes und die Christologie. Theologische Anthropologie in Solidarität mit Kindern,” *Evangelische Theologie* 71 (2011), 165-178.

Forthcoming Book (with contract)

Children, Adults, and Shared Responsibilities: Jewish, Christian, and Muslim Perspectives. Edited and introduced by Marcia J. Bunge. Cambridge, England: Cambridge University Press, 2012.

Books in Progress

1. *The Vocations of Parents and Children: Sacred Vision and Practical Guidelines.*
2. *Child Theologies: Themes and Perspectives from World Christianity* (met with contributors August, 2011).

Edited Conference Papers

Views of God and Nature in 19th Century Theology and Literature in Papers of The Nineteenth Century Theology Working Group (1994). Edited by Marcia Bunge and Sheila Briggs. Published at the Graduate Theological Union (Berkeley, CA).

Religion and Gender in 19th Century Literature in Papers of the Nineteenth Century Theology Working Group (1990). Edited by Marcia Bunge and Gerda Schmidt. Published at the Graduate Theological Union (Berkeley, CA).

Edited International Booklets on Child Theology

Editor of a Series of Booklets on Child Theology published by *The Child Theology Movement Limited* (based in London):

1. *Experimenting Together: One Way of Doing Child Theology* by Haddon Willmer (2007).
2. *Child Theology for the Churches in Asia: An Invitation* by Sunny Tan (2007).
3. *An Introduction to Child Theology* by Keith J. White and Haddon Willmer (2006).

Contributor to *Toddling to the Kingdom: Child Theology at Work in the Church.* Edited by John Collier (2008).

Articles/Book Chapters: Religious Understandings of Children and Childhood

“Jewish and Christian Views of Childhood,” in *Oxford Bibliographies Online: Childhood Studies*, edited by Heather Montgomery (New York: Oxford University Press, forthcoming).

“Practices for Nurturing the Best Love of and by Children: A Protestant Theological Perspective” in *The Best Love of the Child: Being Loved and Being Taught to Love as the First Human Right*, edited by Timothy P. Jackson (Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2011), 226-250.

“Conceptions of Children and Our Obligations to Them: Multifaceted Perspectives from Judaism and Christianity,” in *Negotiating Childhoods* (papers from the 2010 “1st Global Conference: Childhood” held in Oxford), edited by Lucy Hopkins, Mark Macleod, and Wendy C. Turgeon, volume 143 of “Probing the Boundaries” series (Oxford: Inter-Disciplinary Press, 2011), 53-63.

“Childlikeness, Spirituality,” *The Dictionary of Christian Spirituality*, edited by Glen G. Scorgie (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2011), 350-351.

“Child, Children: Greco-Roman-Antiquity and New Testament,” *The Encyclopedia of the Bible and Its Reception* (EBR), edited by Kristina Dronsch (Berlin, Germany: Walter de Gruyter, forthcoming).

“Childhood, Children,” *The New Westminster Dictionary of Christian Theology*, edited by Dawn DeVries and Brian Gerrish (Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, forthcoming).

“The Vocation of Children and Parents: Sacred Vision and Spiritual Practices,” in *Children’s Voices. Children’s Perspectives in Ethics, Theology and Religious Education*, edited by Annemie Dillen and Didier Pollefeyt (Leuven, Belgium: BETL, Peeters-Publishing, 2010), 329-356.

“Christianity,” chapter co-edited with John Wall in *Children and Childhood in World Religions: Primary Sources and Texts*, edited and introduced by Don Browning and Marcia J. Bunge (New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press: 2009), 83-149.

“Children, the Image of God, and Christology: Theological Anthropology in Solidarity with Children,” in *Who is Jesus Christ for Us Today?*, edited by Andreas Schuele and Günter Thomas (Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox, 2009), 167-184.

“Biblical and Theological Perspectives on Children, Parents, and ‘Best Practices’ for Faith Formation: Resources for Child, Youth, and Family Ministry Today,” in *Dialog* 47 (Winter 2008):348-360. Sections of this article were also republished in *Lutheran Partners* 25.4 (July/August, 2009):16-21.

- “Theologies of Childhood and Child Theologies: International Initiatives to Deepen Reflection on Children and Childhood in the Academy and Religious Communities,” in *Dharma Deepika: A South Asian Journal of Missiological Research* 28 (July-December, 2008):33-53.
- “The Vocation of the Child: Theological Perspectives on the Particular and Paradoxical Roles and Responsibilities of Children,” in *The Vocation of the Child*, edited by Patrick McKinley Brennan (Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2008), 31-52.
- “The Vocation of Parenting: A Biblically and Theologically Informed Perspective,” in *Understanding God’s Heart for Children: Toward a Biblical Framework*, edited by Douglas McConnell, Jennifer Orona, Paul Stockley (World Vision: 2007), 53-65.
- “Beyond Children as Agents or Victims: Reexamining Children’s Paradoxical Strengths and Vulnerabilities with Resources from Christian Theologies of Childhood and Child Theologies,” in *The Given Child: The Religions’ Contribution to Children’s Citizenship*, edited by Trygve Wyller and Usha S. Nayar (Göttingen: Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, 2007), 27-50.
- “The Dignity and Complexity of Children: Constructing Christian Theologies of Childhood,” in *Nurturing Child and Adolescent Spirituality*, edited by Karen Marie Yust, Aostre N. Johnson, Sandy Eisenberg Sasso, and Eugene C. Roehlkepartain (Lanham, MD: Rowman and Littlefield, 2006), 53-68.
- “The Child, Religion, and the Academy: Developing Robust Theological and Religious Understandings of Children and Childhood,” *Journal of Religion* 86.4 (October, 2006):549-578.
- “Theological and Biblical Perspectives on Children: Rediscovering the Value of Children and Renewing Our Commitment to Them,” *The Complete Guide to Godly Play*, volume 5 (Denver, CO: Living the Good News, 2005).
- “Historical Perspectives on Children in the Church: Resources for Spiritual Formation and a Theology of Childhood Today,” *Children’s Spirituality: Christian Perspectives, Research, and Applications*, edited by Donald Ratcliff (Eugene, OR: Cascade Books: 2004):42-53.
- “A More Vibrant Theology of Children,” *Christian Reflection: A Series in Faith and Ethics* 8 (Summer 2003):11-19. Versions of this article also appear in the following: “Retrieving a Biblically Informed View of Children: Implications for Religious Education, a Theology of Childhood, and Social Justice,” *Lutheran Education* (Winter 2003):72-87; *Journal of Lutheran Ethics* (online journal, 2004); and “Rediscovering the Dignity and Complexity of Children: Resources from the Christian Tradition,” in *Sewanee Theological Review* 48 (Christmas, 2004):51-64.
- “Childhood,” *Encyclopedia of Protestantism*, edited by Hans Hillerbrand (New York, NY: Routledge, 2003).
- “Children, the Church, and the Domestic Church: Supporting Parents in the Task of Nurturing the Moral and Spiritual Lives of Children,” *New Theology Review* (August, 2001).
- “Nurturing the Moral and Spiritual Lives of Children: Resources From the Christian Tradition,” *The Cresset* (Easter 2001).
- “Education and the Child in 18th Century German Pietism: Perspectives from the Work of A. H. Francke,” *The Child in Christian Thought*, edited and introduced by Marcia Bunge. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans (2001).

Articles/Book Chapters: Vocation and Church-Related Higher Education

- “Our Calling in Education: Working Together to Generate a Strong Social Statement on Public Schools, Lutheran Schools and College, and the Faith Formation of Children and Young People,” *Intersections* (Summer 2006):6-14.
- “Religion and the Curriculum at Church-Related Colleges,” *Professing in the Postmodern Academy: Faculty and the Future of Church-Related Colleges*, edited by Stephen R. Haynes (Waco: Baylor University Press, 2002):247-266.
- “Renewing a Sense of Vocation at Lutheran Colleges and Universities: Insights from a Project at Valparaiso University,” *Intersections* (Summer 2002):11-18.
- “Introduction to Valparaiso University in the Context of Lutheran Higher Education,” *The Lutheran Reader*, edited by Paul Contino and David Morgan (booklet published by Valparaiso University, 1999), pp. 1-9.
- Introductory editorial for issue on “Faith and Learning,” *Dialog* (Spring 1997).

Articles/Book Chapters: Contemporary Theology and Ethics (Feminist Theologies; Environmental Ethics)

- Theological Reflections on Acts 7: 55-60 and John 14:15-21 for *GoodPreacher/Lectionary Homiletics* (May, 2011), 67-68, 76-77.

- “Christian Faith and Environmental Ethics: Martin Luther’s *The Freedom of a Christian* and Aldo Leopold’s *Sand County Almanac*,” *AGORA* (Spring 1994).
- “Biblical Views of Nature: Foundations for an Environmental Ethic,” *Care of the Earth*, edited by Tina B. Krause (Chicago: The Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, 1994).
- Materials for “Care of Creation,” *Our Children at Risk: Hope for Our Future Together*—an educational resource for the ELCA (Minneapolis: Augsburg-Fortress Press, 1991).
- “Modelle feministischer Bibelauslegung,” *Jahrbuch für biblische Theologie* 6 (1991):285-297.
- “The Church and the Cry for Freedom,” *Story* (Spring 1990).
- “The Church’s Key Role in East German Changes,” *The Metro Lutheran* (March, 1990).
- “Früchte des Mutes: Beobachtungen am Leipziger Ring,” *Evangelische Kommentare* (January, 1990).
- “Ethical and Theological Arguments for Peace: An Examination of the Roman Catholic and Methodist Statements of Peace,” *Peace and Justice: Toward an Ecumenical Peace Ethic*, edited by Götz Planer-Friedrich (Geneva: LWF Studies, 1990). Parallel issue in German: *Frieden und Gerechtigkeit: Auf dem Weg zu einer ökumenischen Friedensethik*, (München: Kaiser, 1989).
- “Feminism in Different Voices: Resources for the Church,” *Word & World* (Fall 1988).
- Two devotions for Advent in *The Better Part* (Lutheran Women’s Caucus, 1986).
- “Sisters in Germany,” *The Well Woman* (Winter/Spring 1985).
- “Classification of Religions,” *Encyclopedia Britannica Micropedia*, 1985.

Articles and Book Chapters: J. G. Herder and 19th Century Theology

- “J. G. Herder’s View of Religion,” *Religionsgeschichte und Gnosisforschung*, edited by Holger Preißler and Hubert Seiwert (Marburg: Diagonal, 1994). A similar version of this article is in *THEION: Jahrbuch für Religionskultur/Annual for Religious Culture* (1995).
- “Herder’s View of the Gospels and the Quest of the Historical Jesus,” *Johann Gottfried Herder: Geschichte und Kultur*, edited by Martin Bollacher. Würzburg: Verlag Königshausen and Neumann GmbH, 1994.
- “Herder and the Origins of a Historical View of Religion: An Informative Perspective for Historical Theology Today,” *Revisioning the Past: Prospects in Historical Theology*, edited by Mary Potter Engel and Walter E. Wyman, Jr. (Minneapolis: Fortress, 1992), 171-190.
- “Human Language of the Divine: Herder on Ways of Speaking about God,” *Herder Today: Contributions from the International Herder Conference at Stanford, California*, edited by Kurt Müller-Voller (Berlin/New York: Walter de Gruyter, 1990), 304-318.
- “Text and Reader in Herder’s Interpretations of the New Testament,” *Johann Gottfried Herder: Language, History and the Enlightenment*, edited by Wulf Koepke (Columbia: Camden House, 1990), 138-150.
- “Johann Gottfried Herder’s Auslegung des Neuen Testaments,” *Historische Kritik und biblischer Kanon in der deutschen Aufklärung*, edited by Henning Graf Reventlow, Walter Sparr, and John Woodbridge (Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz, 1988), *Wolfenbütteler Forschungen*, 41.
- “J.G. Herder’s Affirmation of Biblical Diversity and His Reassessment of Biblical Authority,” *Papers of the 19th Century Theology Working Group*, Vol. 10 (1984). Published at the Graduate Theological Union (Berkeley, CA).

Reviews

- Lisa Sowle Cahill’s *Family: A Christian Social Perspective* (Minneapolis: Fortress, 2000) in *Dialog* (June, 2001).
- Catharina J. M. Halkes’s *New Creation: Christian Feminism and the Renewal of the Earth* (Louisville: Westminster/John Knox, 1991) in *Word and World* (Fall 1993).
- Karl Morrison’s *I Am You: The Hermeneutics of Empathy in Western Literature, Theology, and Art* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1988) in the *Journal of Religion* (April, 1990).
- Anne Carr’s *Transforming Grace* (New York: Harper and Row, 1988) in *Interpretation* (January, 1990).
- Friedrich Hölderlin: *Essays and Letters on Theory*, translated and edited by Thomas Pfau (New York: State University of New York Press, 1988) in *Religious Studies Review* (January, 1990).
- Claude Welch’s *Protestant Thought in the Nineteenth Century*, Volume 2, 1870-1914 (New Haven: Yale University Press) in *Church History* (September, 1988).
- Michael Ferber’s *The Social Vision of William Blake* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1985) in *The Journal of Religion* (July, 1987).
- J.G. O’Flaherty’s *Johann Georg Hamann* (Boston: Twayne, 1979) in *The Journal of Religion* (June, 1983).

NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LECTURES AND PRESENTATIONS (selected)

Religious Understandings of Children and Childhood

- Plenary speaker for an international and interdisciplinary conference on “Children and Religion” held at Aarhus University in Copenhagen, Denmark (May, 2011).
- Speaker for “Spotlight Panel” of an international and interdisciplinary conference on “Multiple Childhoods/Multidisciplinary Perspectives: Interrogating Normativity in Childhood Studies” held at Rutgers University (May, 2011). Other panelists included Sarada Balagopalan (Centre for the Study of Developing Societies, India), Robin Bernstein (Harvard University), and Roger Hart (City University). “Childhood and Formation.” Plenary address for a national consultation on “Christian Formation” sponsored by the National Council of Churches, Education and Leadership Ministries Commission (April, 2011).
- Opening speaker for an international and ecumenical “Theological Conference on Children” held in Nairobi, Kenya (March, 2011). Over one hundred participants from twenty-eight countries attended the conference. The conference uniquely brought together representatives from academic institutions, the World Council of Churches, and international faith-based organizations and networks that work with children at risk.
- “Conceptions of Children and Our Obligations to Them: Multifaceted Perspectives from Judaism and Christianity.” Presentation for the “First Global Conference: Childhood,” an interdisciplinary and international consultation directed by Rob Fisher, organized by David White, funded by “Inter-Disciplinary.Net,” and held in Oxford, England (July, 2010).
- Plenary speaker for an international and interdisciplinary conference on “Changing Childhoods” held at the University of Chichester, England (July, 2009).
- Plenary speaker for an international conference on “Children’s Spirituality: Christian Perspectives” held in Chicago, IL (June, 2009).
- Distinguished Lecturer on “Childhood and Faith Formation,” Bethel Seminary, San Diego (April, 2008).
- Invitations to speak at and participate in several international consultations on “Child Theology,” including consultations in Australia (2007), Malaysia (2004, 2006), Ethiopia (2006), and Houston, TX (2004).
- “The Sacred Callings of Parents and Children.” Plenary lecture for the EVOKE Summer Institute at Loyola University of Chicago (May, 2007).
- “The Vocation of Children and Parents. Sacred Vision and Spiritual Practices.” Presented at an international conference entitled “Children’s Voices: Children’s Perspectives in Ethics, Theology and Religious Education” held at the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven in Leuven, Belgium (January, 2007).
- “Theological Perspectives on Children in the Church: A Lutheran Understanding of the Vocation of the Child.” Workshop for the “Children’s Spirituality Conference” held in Chicago, IL (June, 2006).
- “Vocations of Children and Parents: Sacred Vision and Practical Guidelines; and Work, Faith, and Love: Blessings and Challenges of a Lutheran Theology of Vocation.” Plenary lectures for the Southwest Minnesota Synod Theological Conference (October, 2006).
- “The Vocation of Parenting: A Biblically and Theologically Informed Perspective.” Plenary address for the “International Cutting Edge Conference” held in Cirencester, England (September, 2005).
- “Perspectives on the Child from the History of Christianity: Resources for Spiritual Formation, Theologies of Childhood, and Children’s Rights Today.” Workshop paper for a session on “Religion and Spirituality of Children” at “Childhoods 2005: Children and Youth in Emerging and Transforming Societies” (an international and interdisciplinary conference attended by 1,000 participants from 92 countries around the world), held at the University of Oslo in Oslo, Norway (June, 2005).
- “Theological Perspectives on Children and Childhood.” Plenary lecture for a regional conference on “Religious Education,” sponsored by the Parish of All Saints Church and the Center for the Theology of Childhood and held at the Parish of All Saints Church, Belmont, MA (November, 2003).
- “The Child in Christian Thought.” Plenary lecture for the annual gathering of Godly Play Trainers, held at Waycross Episcopal Camp and Conference Center (June, 2003).
- “Historical Perspectives on Children in the Church: Resources for Spiritual Formation and a Theology of Childhood Today.” Plenary lecture for an international conference on “Children’s Spirituality: Christian Perspectives,” sponsored in part by the Louisville Institute and held in Chicago, IL (June, 2003).
- Three public lectures sponsored by the Nassau Methodist Church and the National Department of Education of the Bahamas and held in Nassau, Bahamas (March, 2003): “Let the Children Come: Rediscovering the Value of Children and Renewing Our Commitment to Them;” “John Wesley on Children and Education:

Implications for Our Treatment of Children Today;” and “Nurturing the Moral and Spiritual Lives of Children in Contemporary Culture.”

“Practicing Our Faith at Home: How the Church Can Help Parents in Their Task of Nurturing the Moral and Spiritual Lives of Children.” Plenary lecture for a conference entitled “Practicing Our Faith” at the Vancouver School of Theology, Canada (February, 2003).

“The Vocation of Parenting” and “Nurturing the Moral and Spiritual Lives of Children” Series of lectures held during a two week period at Holden Village Retreat Center in Washington State (August, 2002).

“Children, Sexuality, and the Church” Workshop. Presented at an annual Leadership Conference of the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago that focused on “Addressing Sexuality in the Church” (February, 2002).

Panelist, Session on “Children, Marriage, and the Family,” for the Marriage and the Family Interest Group of the Society of Christian Ethics (January, 2002).

Chair, Session on “Children and Childhood in the History of Christianity,” held at the American Society of Church History (January, 2002).

“Nurturing the Moral and Spiritual Lives of Children: Resources from the Christian Tradition.” Presented at the Conference entitled “Forming Life/Forming Youth,” Valparaiso University (September, 2000).

Vocation and Church-Related Higher Education

“Our Calling in Education: Working Together to Generate a Strong Social Statement on Public Schools, Lutheran Schools and Colleges, and the Faith Formation of Children and Young People.” Plenary lecture for “The Vocation of a Lutheran College,” held at Capital University (July, 2005).

“Work, Faith, and Love: Blessings and Challenges of a Lutheran Theology of Vocation.” Plenary lecture for a joint meeting of the Conference of all ELCA Bishops and selected members of the Association of Teaching Theologians in Chicago, IL (January, 2005).

“Work, Faith, and Love: Lutheran Perspectives on Vocation and Higher Education.” Public lecture scheduled within a special lecture series on Lutheranism and Higher Education, held at Lenoir Rhyne College, Hickory, NC (March, 2004).

“Vocation, Liberal Arts, and Civic Responsibility.” Presented at a national conference on “Vocation and Liberal Arts Education,” organized by Transylvania University and the National Division of Higher Education of the Christian Church and funded by the Lilly Endowment, Milwaukee, WI (June, 2002).

Panelist, conference sponsored by the Lilly Endowment for those institutions that received grants for the project on “The Theological Exploration of Vocation” (September, 2001).

“Renewing a Sense of Vocation at Lutheran Colleges and Universities.” Plenary lecture for the “Vocation of a Lutheran College” (a national conference sponsored by the ELCA), Valparaiso University (August, 2001).

Contemporary Theology and Ethics (primarily Feminist Theologies and Environmental Ethics)

Respondent to Parchman Endowed Lecture by Jürgen Moltmann. Conference sponsored by the George W. Truett Theological Seminary and held at Baylor University (March, 2000).

“Lutheran Theology and Environmental Responsibility.” Presented at the Conference entitled “Luther for the Twenty-first Century,” St. Olaf College (July, 1996).

“Christian Faith and Environmental Ethics: Martin Luther’s *The Freedom of a Christian* and Aldo Leopold’s *Sand County Almanac*.” Presented in the “Seminal Text Lecture Series,” Luther College (March, 1994).

Participant in a panel on “Theology and Ecology” at the Regional AAR/SBL in St. Paul, MN (April, 1993).

“Feminism and Lutheranism.” Presented at Decorah Lutheran Church (1991), at St. Olaf Lutheran Church (February, 1992), and for Luther College’s Women’s Club (February, 1992).

“The Church and Environmental Responsibility and Lutheranism and Feminism: Perspectives from the First International Consultation of Lutheran Women Theologians.” Presented at the Northwestern Minnesota Synod Retreat (September, 1991).

“Theological Grounds for Environmental Responsibility.” Presented at the Northeast Iowa Synod Convention of Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (April, 1991).

“Feminist Perspectives: Resources for the Church and Changes in East Germany and the Role of the Church: An Eyewitness Account.” Presented at the Southeastern Minnesota Synod Retreat (May, 1990).

Five lectures on “Theology and the Arts.” Presented for a “Theoprobe Conference for Lutheran Clergy” in Winter Park, CO (February, 1990).

- “An American Professor in Leipzig, Fall 1989.” Presented for “Mid-Winter Convocation” at Luther Seminary, St. Paul, MN (January, 1990).
- “Changes in East Germany and the Church’s Involvement in Them.” Presented at several churches and conferences in the Midwest, including the Crosstown Conference Council in Minneapolis, MN (1990).
- “Aspekte feministischer Hermeneutik.” Presented at the “Sprachkonvikt” in East Berlin and at the Martin Luther University in Halle, East Germany (Fall 1989).
- Two lectures on “Feminism and the Church.” Presented at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Minneapolis, MN (April, 1989).
- “Theological Reflection on Ways of Speaking About God.” Presented at a conference on spirituality, College of St. Scholastica, Duluth, MN (April, 1989).
- Four Lectures on Arts and Theology: “Theology and Literature,” “Theology and Music,” “Theology and Painting,” and “Theological Criteria for Judging the Use of the Arts in Worship.” Presented at a conference entitled “Suffering, Hope, and Praise,” Pacific Lutheran University. The other two speakers were Johan Christiaan Beker and Jose Mignez-Bonino (July, 1988).
- “Feminist Perspectives on Interpretation” and “Theological Grounds for Peace: Toward an Ecumenical Consultation.” Presented at a continuing education seminar hosted by Luther Seminary entitled “Issues in Systematic Theology” (February, 1988).
- “Worship and the Arts” and “Recital with Reflections from Selected Theologians.” Presented at a continuing education seminar hosted by Luther Seminary entitled “Theology and the Arts” (November, 1987).
- “Religion and Literature: Tracing the Interfaces.” Presented at a continuing education seminar hosted by Luther Seminary entitled “The Interface of Literature and the Arts for Preaching” (February, 1987).
- “Currents in the Field of Religion and Literature.” Presented at a continuing education seminar hosted by Luther Seminary entitled “Across Disciplines: Issues and Update in Contemporary Theology” (January, 1986).
- “Religion and Literature: The Rise and Dispersion of a Field of Study.” Presented at a conference entitled “Faith, Imagination, and the Arts,” Central Missouri State University (April, 1986).
- “The Ethical and Theological Argumentation of the Documents on Peace Written by the National Conference of Catholic Bishops and by the United Methodist Council of Bishops.” Presented at an International Consultation entitled “Theology of Just Peace,” sponsored by the Lutheran World Federation, and held in Bad-Boll, West Germany (December, 1987).

J. G. Herder and 19th Century Theology

- “Herder and the Historical Study of Religion.” Presented at a conference on the rise of disciplines in the nineteenth century sponsored by the University of Virginia (April, 1990).
- “Human Language of the Divine: Herder on Ways of Speaking about God.” Presented at an international, interdisciplinary conference entitled “Herder Today,” Stanford University (November, 1987).
- “Johann Gottfried Herders Auslegung des Neuen Testaments.” Presented at a conference entitled “Historische Kritik und biblischer Kanon in Deutschland im 18. Jahrhundert,” Herzog August Bibliothek, Wolfenbüttel, West Germany (December, 1985).
- “Textual Criticism in Herder’s Interpretation of the New Testament.” Presented at the “First National Conference on Johann Gottfried Herder,” sponsored by the Herder Study Group and held at the Monterey Institute of International Studies, Monterey, CA (November, 1985).
- “J.G. Herder’s Affirmation of Biblical Diversity and His Reassessment of Biblical Authority.” Presented at the Annual Meeting of the AAR, session of the 19th Century Theology Group (December, 1984).
- Lecture on Herder. Presented in Brian Gerrish’s course on 18th and 19th century Christian thought, The University of Chicago (Spring 1984).

SPECIAL INVITATIONS TO NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL CONSULTATIONS (selected)

- Campus Representative, White House-hosted event to kick-off President Obama’s “Interfaith and Community Service Campus Challenge.” Invited along with Mark Heckler (University President), Brian Johnson (Executive Director of Campus Ministries), and representatives from 250 other campuses (August, 2011).
- Participant and Presenter, Collegeville Institute Seminar on “Theology of Vocation,” directed by Kathleen Cahalan and held at Saint John’s University School of Theology (May, 2010).
- Participant and Presenter, “Consultation on the Study of Children, Youth, and Culture,” directed by Allan Cole and held at Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary (April, 2010).

Participant and Presenter, Pastoral Leadership Consultation, “The Well-Lived Pastoral Life,” sponsored by the Louisville Institute (March, 2008).

Participant, Ten Day Fact-Finding Trip to Israel/Palestine. One of eleven leaders of the ELCA invited to participate by “Christians for Fair Witness in the Middle East” (November, 2008).

Participant, Special joint meeting of the Conference of all ELCA Bishops and selected members of the Association of Teaching Theologians. Sponsored by the ELCA; held in Chicago, IL (2005 and 2008).

Participant and Presenter, “The Best Love of the Child” Interdisciplinary Consultation, directed by Timothy Jackson and held at Emory University (September 2006, September 2007).

Participant and Presenter, “The Vocation of the Child” Interdisciplinary Consultation, directed by Patrick Brennan and held at Emory University (August, 2005).

Participant, Series of discussions on “Nature, Polis, Ethics,” sponsored by the Hastings Center (1999-2003).

Participant and Presenter, “Consultation on Religion and Children,” directed by Robert Orsi (1999-2000).

Participant, ELCA’s national “Conference of Teaching Theologians.” Sponsored by the ELCA. Attended meetings held at Carthage College (August, 2001); Chicago, IL (August, 1996); and Chicago, IL (August, 1992).

Campus Representative, Conference on “Vocation of a Lutheran College.” Sponsored by the ELCA. Attended meetings held at Wittenberg College (August, 1998) and Augsburg College (August, 1996).

Participant, Conference on “Bible and Theology.” Sponsored by Princeton Theological Seminary, funded by a Lilly Grant, and held in Chicago (October, 1994).

Presenter, International Conference on J.G. Herder. Sponsored by the *Stiftung Weimarer Klassik* and the International Herder Society and held in Weimar, Germany (August, 1994).

LWF Representative, the “Global Assembly of Women and the Environment: Partners in Life.” International Conference organized in preparation for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, sponsored by the Senior Women’s Advisory Group to the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, and held in Miami, FL (November, 1991).

Participant and US Representative, First “International Conference of Lutheran Women Theologians.” Sponsored by the Lutheran World Federation and held in Helsinki, Finland (August, 1991).

Participant, “Caring for Creation.” National conference sponsored by the North American Conference on Religion and Ecology. Speakers included Jürgen Moltmann and Carl Sagan. Washington, D.C. (May, 1990).

Seminary Representative, International “LWF Working Group on Other Faiths.” Sponsored by the Lutheran World Federation and Dr. J. Paul Rajashekar (May, 1990).

Participant, Conference on “Peace and Politics.” Sponsored by Emory University and the Carter Library. Speakers included Jimmy Carter, Jürgen Moltmann, and Jose Miguez-Bonino. Held in Atlanta, GA (April, 1988).

LANGUAGES

Fluent: German

Studied: French, Latin, Greek (Koine)

MEMBERSHIPS

American Academy of Religion

Society of Biblical Literature

Society of Christian Ethics

International Herder Society

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

REFERENCES

Brian Gerrish, Martin Marty (The University of Chicago)

Terence Fretheim, James Limburg (Luther Seminary in Minneapolis, Minnesota)

Brad Hanson, James Martin-Schramm (Luther College in Decorah, Iowa)

Garret Paul (Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, Minnesota)

Jerome Berryman (Retired Director, Center for the Theology of Childhood)

Jürgen Moltmann, Michael Welker (Heidelberg, Germany)

Brian Johnson (Valparaiso University)

John Wall (Rutgers University)

Mary Ann Hinsdale (Boston College)