

CATHLEEN CHITTENDEN BASCOM

PROFESSIONAL HISTORY

Assistant Professor of Religion and Philosophy – August 2014 and currently
Waldorf University, Forest City, Iowa

I teach biblical literature and world religions to undergraduate students at a small liberal arts college that is changing its focus from a regional to national and international learning institution. Special areas of biblical focus include *Genesis*, *Psalms*, and the Synoptic Gospels.

Dean, Cathedral Church of St. Paul, Des Moines, Iowa – March 2007 to June 2014

Creative vision and collaborative leadership with downtown cathedral community included sacramental care, preaching, and civic partnerships around environmental issues, food security, and flood recovery. We witnessed regeneration with younger members & new spirituality programming. A successful capital campaign to install garden and outdoor chapel was completed through grant-writing and private gifts. Lead gifts for building & program recruited. \$2 million total.

Rector, St. Stephen's Church, Newton, Iowa – June 2001 to February 2007

Leadership in this lively pastoral-sized parish involved seeking God's transformation of worship, youth & children's ministries. Cure covered time of corporate down-sizing and pull-out (Maytag.)

Diocesan College Work and Vicar at Kansas State University – August 1993 to May 2001

Ministry included planting university faith community & purchasing student center.

Assistant Rector, St. Gregory's, Deerfield, Illinois – August 1990 to August 1993

One of two priests on staff in a program-sized, growing church in a suburb of Chicago.

Coordinator Arts and Sciences Program

Advent/Nuestra Señora Parishes, Chicago. Outreach to first-generation and new immigrants.

PUBLICATIONS AND SERMONS Found at www.greenstuff-bascom.com

“An Apologia for the Postage Stamp Prairie”, *Waldorf Literary Review*, 2016.

“Riding the Light Rail with Pope Francis: Reflections on *Laudato Si'*”, Lenten Blogpost, Episcopal Diocese of Iowa, March 2016.

A Hungry Heart” in *Disorganized Religion: The Evangelization of Youth and Young Adults*
Cowley, 1998.

“Expressions of Religious Experience in The Chronicles of Narnia” in *C.S. Lewis' The Chronicles of Narnia: A Study Guide and Workbook for Groups and Individuals*, St. Mark's Press, 1998.

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=F1U6PwWwwBY> video-taped sermon (2002-3)

EDUCATION

Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing and Environment

Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa. December 2017

In this course I honed pieces for publication that highlight the near extinction of the U.S. tallgrass prairie and portray Episcopal spirituality and creation stewardship in both fiction and nonfiction.

Doctorate of Ministry in Preaching

Hill School of Theology (United Methodist) Denver, Co. August 2005

Dissertation: *Talking God with George Harrison and Jesus: Preaching and Praying with the Children of the Beatles*

Master of Divinity

Seabury-Western Theological Seminary, Evanston, Illinois. May 1990

Areas of focus: biblical studies, liturgy, preaching, and urban mission models

Honors: H.N. Moss Book Award for academic achievement (1988 and 1990)

Master of Arts in English Literature

University of Exeter, England. July 1991

Honors: Exchange Scholar, full scholarship

Master's Thesis: *Expressions of Religious Experience in the Fiction of C.S. Lewis*

Bachelor of Arts in English Literature

University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas. May 1984

Honors: Graduated with Distinction, honors project in Creative Writing

SERVICE AND LARGER CHURCH

Director of Episcopal Iowa Creation Stewards – 2015-present

Diocesan Service includes Board of Directors (2 terms) **and Standing Committee** (1 term)

Deputy to the National General Convention of the Episcopal Church – (4 times)

Founder, Cathedral and Neighbors' Rain Garden Project – Des Moines, Iowa

Hosted monthly environmental education at cathedral garden for youth and children from nearby public school, subsidized housing area, and youth service NGO.

Board Member and President – Capstone Behavioral Health Services – Newton, Iowa

Low-residency faculty, Kansas School for Ministry – Diocese of Kansas

I taught week-end courses in Spirituality for those seeking ordination in the Episcopal Church.

PERSONAL

I am married to author and creative writing professor Tim Bascom. We have two sons Conrad (age 25) and Luke (age 21). I love to garden and am very interested in efforts to restore and preserve tall grass prairie. We also enjoy travel to the West Country in England & East Africa.