

ROBERT ALLAN HILL
Dean of Marsh Chapel
Professor of New Testament and Pastoral Theology
University Chaplain, Office of Religious Life
Boston University
735 Commonwealth Avenue, or, 96 Bay State Road, #10
Boston, Massachusetts 02215
617-859-3750, or, 617-358-3359

PERSONAL: Born in Syracuse, New York, married to Janette Pennock Hill, three children - Emily, Benjamin, and Christopher

EDUCATION: MCGILL UNIVERSITY, Faculty of Religious Studies, Montreal, PQ, Canada
Doctor of Philosophy in New Testament (1991)
Dissertation: "An Examination and Critique of the Understanding of the Relationship between Apocalypticism and Gnosticism in Johannine Studies", (under Dr. F. Wisse)

UNION THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, New York City, New York
Master of Divinity (1979)
Thesis: "A Study of 1 Thessalonians 4:13" (w/distinction), Dr. J. L. Martyn

OHIO WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY, Delaware, Ohio
Bachelor of Arts (1976)
Phi Beta Kappa, Magna Cum Laude
Junior year abroad - Segovia, Spain
Theses: "El Anhelado de la Inmortalidad: Miguel de Unamuno" (Humanities)
"Man and Society in the Work of Ortega y Gasset" (Philosophy)

**TEACHING
EXPERIENCE:**

2006 - Present BOSTON UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY
Professor of New Testament and Pastoral Theology.
2007/8: "Church Renewal", "The Gospel of John" and "Integration of Theology and Practice". 2008/9: "The Gospel of John", "Pastoral Leadership" and directed MA/ThD studies on 1 John, The Gospel of John, Vocation, and Hermeneutics (Bernard of Clairvaux). 2009/10: "Introduction to Preaching", "Pastoral and Spiritual Formation", "The Gospel of John", directed studies in Exegesis, History and Theology in John, and D. Min. thesis in congregational development. 2010/2011: "The Gospel of John", "Introduction to Homiletics". 2011/2012: "The Gospel of John", and "Church Renewal". 2012/2013: "The Gospel of John", "Parish Preaching", "Montreal Urban Mission and Ministry", "BU Undergraduate Core Curriculum: John". 2013/2014: "The Gospel of John" (2x, summer and fall), "Pastoral Leadership".

1996 - 2006 COLGATE ROCHESTER CROZER DIVINITY SCHOOL
"The Practice of Ministry", "Church Administration", "The Elements of NT

Greek”

- 1991 - Present LEMOYNE COLLEGE, Syracuse, New York
"Religious Perspectives on the Human Situation", "The Pauline Epistles", "The Johannine Literature" (usually once each year, summer), and "The Synoptic Gospels"
- 1990 - 1995 MCGILL UNIVERSITY: PRESBYTERIAN COLLEGE, Montreal, PQ, Canada
Preaching ("Sermon Design", "Preaching for a New Age", and "After Twenty Years: A New Look at Propositional Preaching")
- 1999 NORTHEASTERN SEMINARY
"Minor Prophets", "The Historical Jesus"
- 1999 UNITED SEMINARY, BUFFALO EXTENSION
"Introduction to Homiletics"
- 1987 - 1995 EMPIRE STATE COLLEGE, Syracuse, New York
"METHODIST COLLEGE", (continuing education for clergy), Syracuse, New York
ENGLISH LANGUAGE INSTITUTE, Syracuse University--Occasional courses
- 1984 NORTH COUNTRY COMMUNITY COLLEGE, Malone, New York
"World Religions"
- 1981 - 1984 MCGILL UNIVERSITY, Faculty of Religious Studies, Montreal, PQ, Canada
Teaching Assistant in New Testament (under Dr. N. T. Wright and Dr. F. Wisse)
- Courses Taught/Assisted With:*
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|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Introduction to New Testament | Introductory and Intermediate Greek |
| Prolegomena to Theological Education | Gnosticism (w/F. Wisse) |
| New Testament Eschatology | New Testament Exegesis |
- 1975 - 1976 OHIO WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY, Delaware, Ohio
Staff, English Language Program

**PASTORAL
MINISTRY:**

- 2006 - Present MARSH CHAPEL BOSTON UNIVERSITY, Boston, Massachusetts
(University Interdenominational Protestant Community)
United Methodist Minister – University Preacher and Chaplain to the University
(Boston University, fourth largest private research University in the US,
population approximately 40,000; Marsh staff of 40; 8 University Chaplaincies
29 Religious Life Groups; Deans’ Council, University Leadership Group; NPR
Sunday Service (wbur.org) broadcast to 70,000 in New England, with 25,000
additional by podcast).
Memberships: New Haven Theological Discussion Group; The Harvard Club;
Boston Ministers Club; New England Annual Conference United Methodist
Foundation Board; Board of Visitors, The Learning Project, Back Bay, Boston;
Harvard Memorial Church, Harvard University Board of Visitors; Cram and Ferguson

Historical Committee, Boston.

- 1995 – 2006 ASBURY FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, Rochester, New York
(Urban Regional Church - 2,300 members, \$7M Endowment, \$6M Building Campaign 2004-6, 55 Staff, \$25M Campus, \$2M annual operation)
United Methodist Minister - Pastor in Charge
2000 Jurisdictional Conference (Amherst, Mass.)
2004 General (Pittsburgh), Jurisdictional (Syracuse)* Conferences
*Endorsed for Episcopacy by WNY and NCNY conferences, UMC
Member, The Gathering, Senior Pastors of Large UMCUSA Churches
- 1995 (Jan-May) DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT DESIGNATE
Central Lakes District
North Central New York Conference, UMC
(Urban/Rural District, 70 churches)
- 1993 (Jan – June) ORAN COMMUNITY CHURCH, Oran, New York
Temporary Supervising Pastor (Suburban Community Church – 300 members)
- 1984 - 1995 ERWIN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, Syracuse, New York
(Urban Church - 450 members)
United Methodist Minister
Elected as Delegate to May 1992 General Conference of the United Methodist Church, Louisville, Kentucky, and to 1996 Jurisdictional Conference, Amherst, Massachusetts
- 1981 - 1984 BURKE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, Burke, New York
CONSTABLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, Constable, New York
(Both Rural Churches - 200 members each)
United Methodist Minister
- 1979 - 1981 FOREST HOME CHAPEL, Ithaca, New York
(Village Church - 150 members)
United Methodist Minister
- 1978 WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES, Geneva, Switzerland
Intern (Under Rev. George Todd, Office of Urban/Industrial Mission)
(Participant in W.C.C. Assembly, Vancouver, 1983)
- 1976 SCOTT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, Scott, New York
NEW HOPE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, New Hope, New York
(Both Rural Churches - 100 members each)
United Methodist Minister

PUBLICATIONS:

BOOKS:

The Courageous Gospel: Resources for Teachers, Students and Preachers of the

Fourth Gospel (Eugene, Oregon: Wipf and Stock, 2013), ISBN: 978-1-61097-3748

God's Hand to You: Sermons Preached by Rev. Irving G. Hill (private publication, edited with Nelson Family, 2013)

Signs of Hope in United Methodism (2013, E. Mellen electronic, currently also in electronic form at bu.edu\chapel)

In the Depths of the Depression: Sermons, Erwin United Methodist Church (Eugene, Oregon: Wipf and Stock, 2011) ISBN: 978-1-61097-156-0

A Village Green: Sermons from Asbury First UMC (Eugene, Oregon: Wipf and Stock, 2011) ISBN: 978-1-61097-228-4

Seeing with the Heart: Devotions from Marsh Chapel (San Diego: Cognella, 2010) ISBN: 978-1-935551-96-6

Renewal: Thought, Word, and Deed (Lanham, MD: Rowan and Littlefield\Hamilton, 2009) ISBN: 0-7618-4691-3

Prophetic Protestant Sermons on America's War in Iraq (Lewiston: Edwin Mellen Press, 2009) ISBN: 0-7734-3751-7

Snow Day: Reflections on the Practice of Ministry in the Northeast: (Lanham, Md: University Press of America, 2003) ISBN: 0-7618-2492-8

An Examination and Critique of the Understanding of the Relationship Between Apocalypticism and Gnosticism in Johannine Studies (Lewiston: Edwin Mellen Press, 1997) ISBN: 0-7734-2282-X

Pastoral Preaching (Syracuse: Church Center Printing, 1993).

ARTICLES AND CHAPTERS:

"Narrative Preaching for Advent and Christmas", Boston University School of Theology e-magazine, STH Connect, December 2011.

"Faith and Reason" (w. Katherine C. Hawkins), Research at Boston University, 2011 (or bu.edu/research)

"The Embodied Theory-Praxis Relationship: Two Voices on Vocation as a Practical Theologian and Pastor" (w/S Cady, Boston APT conference, April 10, 2010)

MOTIVES e-magazine, the annual on-line publication of Marsh Chapel Boston University, Volumes 1 (2009: Iraq) and 2 (2010: Darwin), RA Hill, general editor; bu.edu/chapel/motives

"Remembering Chalmers", Boston University School of the Theology FOCUS, December, 2009

"The Last Best Hope", in MOTIVES e-magazine, the annual on-line publication of Marsh Chapel, Boston University, April 2009

“Response to Virginia Tech: Religion and Ethics Weekly April 20, 2007 PBS\NYC

“Hymns of the Heart” (4 Psalms) in Quarterly Review (winter 2004): Toward a Feminist Wesleyan Theology (Nashville: Abingdon, 2004). ISSN: 0270-9287.

“Generosity”, in First Fruits: 14 Sermons on Stewardship (Nashville: Abingdon, 2003, ed. Mosser, Bauknight), ISBN: 0687-02512-5

“Theological Education and the Renewal of the Church”, Festschrift for Dr. Frederik Wisse (in honor of his 2004 retirement), (Montreal: McGill 2006)

"Help from United Methodist Colleges for United Methodist Preacher's Kids" in Circuit Rider (United Methodist Publishing House), 6/92.

"An Examination and Critique of the Understanding of the Relationship between Apocalypticism and Gnosticism in Johannine Studies" in McGill ARC, 10/87.

"Five Questions about EMLC" in The Circuit Rider (United Methodist Publishing House), 3/87.

REVIEWS:

Evangelism After Christendom, Bryan Stone (2007, Circuit Rider Web Reviews, Ken Carter)

The End of Words, Richard Lischer (2006, Circuit Rider Web Reviews, Ken Carter)

The Logic of Renewal, William J. Abraham in Quarterly Review (winter, 2005) (Nashville: Abingdon, 2005).

Abortion and Divorce in Western Law, M. A. Glendon in Circuit Rider (United Methodist Publishing House), 3/90.

The First Urban Christians, W. Meeks in McGill ARC, 11/83.

The Fate of the Earth, J. Schell in McGill ARC, 5/83.

Book Cover Endorsements: W. Lawrence, Ordained Ministry in the United Methodist Church; A.J. Fitz-Gibbon, Secular Monasticism: A Journey; F. Rich, Christian Nation; C. Garner, As the Spirit Moves: Daily Devotional.

SERMONS AND OTHER:

“The Wall of Fame Award”, Nottingham High School, Syracuse, NY, October, 2013

“Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Board of Preachers Induction”, Morehouse College, Atlanta, Georgia, April 2013

“An Embraceable Variant: John 17:3”, Sermon, Trinity United Methodist Church, Albany, NY, June 2012

“The View from Ellis Island”, Sermon, Concord MA Trinitarian Congregational Church, September 2011

“An Embraceable Variant”, Sermon, New Hartford First UMC, July 2011

“Young Man Jesus “, Sermon, Harvard Memorial Church, Cambridge, MA, January 2011

“Diversity”, RIM Annual Celebration Address, Old South Church, Boston MA, May 2010

“The Embodied Theory-Practice Relationship: Two Voices on Vocation as Practical Theologian and Pastor” (w/S Cady), Paper Presented, The Association For Practical Theology, Boston, MA, April 2010

“A Call to the Ministry”, Sermon, Chicago Temple UMC, Chicago ILL, March 2010

“An Improvisational Gospel”, Conference Sermon, 2009 Baltimore Washington Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church, Baltimore, June 2009.

“The Day’s Own Trouble”, The Garrett Evangelical Theological Seminary, Commencement Address, Evanston First UMC, May 2009.

“Thoughts on Theological Education and Pastoral Excellence”. The Boston Ministers’ Club Monthly Paper, March 2008.

"Cold Mountain", "Three Shades Of Joy", "The Spirit Of Truth: Consecration", [GoodPreacher.com 2008](#) (an Internet preaching resource that is affiliated with *Lectionary Homiletics*.)

“Two Kinds of Battles”, [Lectionary Homiletics \(2008\)](#)

“Two Kinds of Christmas” [Lectionary Homiletics \(2008\)](#)

“Response to Karen Armstrong”. The Noble Lectures, Harvard Memorial Church, November 15, 2007

“Two Kinds of Confidence” [Lectionary Homiletics \(2007\)](#)

“Sermon the Mound”, Foundry United Methodist Church, Washington DC. July 2007

“Our Space: Toward A Constructive Theology of Common Ground”, Asbury First United Methodist Church, *Robert Allan Hill Lecture Series*, Rochester NY, May 2007

[Abingdon Preacher’s Almanac \(2006, 2009\)](#). ed. D. Mosser, six sermons.

“Psalms: Hymns of the Heart”, Four Lectures, Grand Island Trinity United Methodist Church, Grand Island, NY, March 2004.

“Theological Education and Church Renewal”, address, St Paul School of Theology, Kansas City, March 2003.

“A Famine of the Word?”, sermon, Bloomington First United Methodist Church, Bloomington, IN, June 2000.

“A Tradition of Principled Resistance”, sermon, San Diego First United Methodist Church, San Diego, January 2000.

Sermon Series at Asbury First, Rochester, NY : Valediction (2006); Empire Spirit (2005); Twilight Gospel (2004); An Addressable Community (2003); Once More to the Lake: (2002); Promise of the Gospel (2001); A Village Green: (2000); The Fruit of the Spirit (1999).

Voices for a New Day: An Introduction to Homiletics
(D. Moore video, Syracuse New York, 1999)

“The New Creation”. Four Lectures on Galatians. Western New York Conference Teacher, Houghton College, June 1999

“The Voice of an Angel”, North Central New York Conference Clergy Session, Syracuse, May 1999.

“The Stranger”, sermon, North Central New York Pastors’ School, Watson Homestead, NY, September 1997.

Editorial Page Column: Democrat & Chronicle (Rochester, NY), 1997 – 2006.

In the Depths of the Depression (Syracuse: Erwin Publishing, 1993)

The UMC in the 21st Century (Syracuse: Erwin Publishing, 1992)

"Humility", Circuit Rider Sermon Series, June 1989 (United Methodist Publishing House).

“Signs of Hope in Methodism”, sermon, Syracuse District Clergy Gathering, October 1988

Newsletter: Epworth News: A Quarterly Student Newsletter in the Wesleyan Tradition (NCNY Conference, BHEM, 1985-1989).

A Guide for New Members (Syracuse: Church Center Printing, 1986).

See also: BU Today, 2006-2013, various articles and interviews, including pieces on The Gospel of John, on Methodism and Gay People, on the history of Methodism and Boston University.

See also: collected sermons and occasional writings, 1998-present at:
deanhill.blogspot.com.