

Tara K. Soughers
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Education and Awards

Boston University School of Theology

PhD Candidate (A.B.D.)

Dissertation: "Spiritual Companionship with Saints: A Practical Theological Reading of Teresa of Avila as a Spiritual Companion"

Doctor of Theology Fellowship

Wentworth Scholarship

Society for the Study of Christian Spirituality Founders' Circle Prize for Emerging Scholars- 2012

Association for the Contemplative Mind in Higher Education

"Summer Session on Contemplative Pedagogy," Summer 2012

Graduate Consortium of Women's Studies

"Feminist Classroom Workshop," Spring 2012

Shalem Institute for Spiritual Formation

Spiritual Guidance Program Certificate, 2008

Clergy Spiritual Leadership Program Certificate, 2003

Virginia Theological Seminary

MDiv, Cum Laude

Rice University

MA in Biochemistry

Thesis: "Study of the Effect of DNA Secondary Structure on Reactivity of Hedamycin and Analysis of Systems for Directed Mutagenesis"

New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology (now New Mexico Tech)

BS in Biology with High Honors

Tech Scholar

New Mexico Tech Research Fund Scholarship

Undergraduate Honors Program

Ordination Status (Episcopal Church, USA)

Ordained Priest January 9, 1991

Ordained Deacon June 17, 1990

Employment History

Research Assistant (for Claire Wolftich), Boston University, Spring 2012, Spring 2011, Summer 2010

Research Assistant (for Phillis Sheppard), Boston University, Fall 2011

Teaching Assistant (for Courtney Goto) for "Introduction to Christian Education," Boston University, Fall 2010

Rector, Trinity Episcopal Church, Wrentham, MA, 2005-2009

Rector, Trinity Episcopal Church, Portland, CT, 2000-2004

Rector, St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, Moravia, NY, and Calvary Episcopal Church, Homer, NY, 1992-2000

Lead Rector, 1995-2000 and Associate Rector, 1992-1995, Tri-County Cluster, Diocese of Central New York

Assistant Rector, All Saints Episcopal Church, Salt Lake City, UT, 1990-1992

Research Associate, Department of Medical Microbiology, University of Kentucky, 1985-1987

Graduate Research Assistant (for George Bennett), Biochemistry Department, Rice University, 1983-1985

Teaching Assistant for "Introductory Biochemistry," Biochemistry Department, Rice University, Fall 1982

Research Assistant, New Mexico Bureau of Mines, 1978-1981

Research Assistant, Psychology Department, New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology, Summer 1979

Church, Community, and Volunteer Work

Education for Ministry Program, School of Theology, University of the South
Trainer, 2000-present

Diocesan Coordinator, Diocese of Central New York, 1994-2000

Mentor, 1985-1986, 1990-2000, 2004-2008

Fresh Start Facilitator

Diocese of Massachusetts, 2005-2008

Diocese of Connecticut, 2001-2003

Diocesan Coach and Priest-in-Charge Consultant (for Congregational Development and Transition Issues), Diocese of Massachusetts, 2006-present

Spiritual Director, 1991-present

Transition Ministries Task Force, Diocese of Connecticut, 2001-2003

Bishop and Diocesan Executive Board, Diocese of Connecticut, 2003-2004

Bereavement Support Group Facilitator, Cortland, NY, 1996-1998

Diocesan Board, Diocese of Central New York, 1995-1997

Board Member, Children's and Family Services, Salt Lake City, UT, 1990-1992

Standing Committee, Diocese of Indianapolis, 1975-1978

Membership in Professional Organizations

Society for the Study of Christian Spirituality

Association for Practical Theology

Spiritual Directors International

Association for the Contemplative Mind in Higher Education

American Academy of Religion

Publications

Books

Soughers, Tara. *Treasures of Darkness: Finding God When Hope is Hidden*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2009.

———. *Fleeing God: Fear, Call, and the Book of Jonah*. Lanham, MD: Cowley Publications, 2007.

———. *Falling in Love with God: Passion, Prayer, and the Song of Songs*. Cambridge, MA: Cowley Publications, 2005.

Other Publications and Presentations

Perry, Robert D., Pryce Haddix, Edward B. Atkins, Tara K. Soughers, and Susan C. Straley.
"Regulation of the V Antigen and Outer Membrane Proteins in *Yersinia Pestis*." *Contributions in Microbiology and Immunology* (1987): 9173-9178.

Soughers, Tara K. "Friendship with Teresa of Avila: Spiritual Companionship Across Time and Space." Society for the Study of Christian Spirituality Annual Meeting and 20th Anniversary Celebration, Chicago, IL. November 16, 2012.

———. "The Use of Contemplative Pedagogy in the Teaching of Religious Figures." Presentation, Association for the Contemplative Mind in Higher Education Annual Meeting, Amherst, MA. September 23, 2012.

———. "What's a Practical Theologian to Do? Teresa of Avila's Response to the Banning of Sacred Texts in *The Way of Perfection*." Presentation, Association of Practical Theology Biennial Meeting, Princeton, NJ. April 14, 2012.

———. "To Equip the Saints." An Intergenerational Curriculum for Small Churches. Privately distributed. 1984-1987.

———. Review of *Meister Eckhart: Master of Mystics*, by Richard Woods. *Reviews in Religion and Theology*, forthcoming 2012.

———. Review of *Saving Desire: The Seduction of Christian Theology*, eds. F. LeRon Shults and Ján-Olav Henriksen. *Reviews in Religion and Theology*, forthcoming 2012.

———. Review of *Ravished by Beauty: The Surprising Legacy of Reformed Spirituality*, by Beldan C. Lane. *Reviews in Religion and Theology* 19, no. 3 (2012): 339-341.

———. Review of *The Artifice of Love: Grotesque Bodies and the Song of Songs*, by Fiona C. Black. *Reviews in Religion and Theology* 18, no. 3 (2011): 382-384.

———. Review of *The Embrace of Eros: Bodies, Desires, and Sexuality in Christianity*, ed. Margaret D. Kamitsuka. *Reviews in Religion and Theology* 18, no. 2 (2011): 295-297.

Soughers, Tara K. and Frank Etscorn. "A Learned Preference Effect in the Mouse using Potassium Deficiency as the Induced Need State." *Bulletin of the Psychonomic Society* 16, no. 1 (1980): 62-64.