

**Ellen F. Davis**

Amos Ragan Kearns Professor of Bible and Practical Theology

Duke Divinity School

Box 90967

Durham, NC 27708-0967

(919) 660-3561 (o)

(919) 416-4731 (h)

Fax: (919) 660-3473

email: edavis@div.duke.edu

**Education**

Yale University, Ph.D., with distinction, 1987

Church Divinity School of the Pacific, M.Div., Honors, 1983

Oxford University, Certificate in Theology, Honors, 1982

University of California, Berkeley, A.B., Honors 1971

Hebrew University, Jerusalem, 1969-70

**Research Grants (Selected Listing)**

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|-----------|--|
| 2007      | Faculty Fellowship<br>Association of Theological Schools                         |
| 2006 - 07 | Christian Faith and Life Grant<br>Louisville Institute                           |
| 1995 - 96 | Research/Travel Grant<br>Conant Fund, Board of Theological Education (Episcopal) |
| 1994      | Research/Travel Grant<br>Association of Theological Schools                      |
| 1991      | Research/Travel Grants<br>Pattillo Foundation and the Conant Fund                |
| 1985 - 86 | Shalom Hartman Institute Fellowship<br>Jerusalem                                 |
| 1984 - 87 | Graduate Fellowship<br>Episcopal Church Foundation                               |

**Academic Awards and Honorary Degrees**

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| 2017 | Doctor of Humane Letters<br>Seminary of the Southwest |
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- 2013 Doctor of Humane Letters  
Virginia Theological Seminary
- 2010 Scholar/Teacher of the Year, Duke University (an award granted each year to “one outstanding faculty member for his or her dedication and contribution to the learning arts and to the institution”)
- 2009 Doctor of Humane Letters  
Berkeley Divinity School at Yale University Divinity School
- 2003 Doctor of Humane Letters  
Wycliffe College, University of Toronto
- 2002 Doctor of Humane Letters  
The Church Divinity School of the Pacific, Graduate Theological Union

### **Academic Appointments**

#### Honorary appointments:

- 2005-2006 Hulsean Lecturer, Cambridge University  
2006 Visiting Fellow, Clare Hall, Cambridge  
2007- Life Member, Clare Hall, Cambridge

#### Regular appointments:

- 2015-2016 Interim Dean, Duke University Divinity School  
2012-2013 Interim Director of the Anglican Episcopal House of Studies,  
Duke Divinity School  
2009- Amos Ragan Kearns Distinguished Professor of Bible and  
Practical Theology, Duke Divinity School  
2008-11 Associate Dean for Faculty Development  
Duke Divinity School  
2004- Founder and Co-Director of the Renk (Sudan) Visiting  
Teachers Program; see details at  
[www.divinity.duke.edu/programs/initiatives/renk/](http://www.divinity.duke.edu/programs/initiatives/renk/)  
2004-2009 Professor of Bible and Practical Theology  
Duke Divinity School  
2001-2004 Associate Professor of Bible and Practical Theology  
Duke Divinity School  
1999 - 2001 Professor of Old Testament & Language  
Virginia Theological Seminary

- 1996 - 1999 Associate Professor of Old Testament  
Virginia Theological Seminary
- 1991 - 1996 Associate Professor of Old Testament  
Yale Divinity School
- 1989 - 1991 Assistant Professor of Old Testament  
Yale Divinity School
- 1987 - 1989 Assistant Professor of Old Testament  
Union Theological Seminary (New York  
City)

## PUBLICATIONS

### Books

*Open My Eyes: Reading Israel's Scriptures*; Oxford University Press; forthcoming 2019.

*Preaching the Luminous Word: Biblical Sermons and Essays*, Eerdmans, 2016.

Reviewed in *Presbyterian Outlook*, May 31, 2018 <https://pres-outlook.org/2018/05/preaching-the-luminous-word-biblical-sermons-and-homiletical-essays/>; *The Living Church*, May 28, 2017.

*Biblical Prophecy: Perspectives for Christian Theology, Discipleship, and Ministry*, Interpretation Resources Series, Westminster John Knox, 2014.

*Scripture, Culture, and Agriculture: An Agrarian Reading of the Bible*, Cambridge University Press, 2008. The essays are based on the 2005/06 Hulsean Lectures, delivered to the Divinity Faculty of Cambridge University. A session was devoted to this book at the 2008 Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature. It was reviewed twice in *Review of Biblical Literature*, by Philip Esler (2009.09.19) and Robin Branch (2010.02.26); in *Journal for the Study of Religion, Nature and Culture* 3:3 (2009), 428-30, by Anna Peterson; in *America* 202/7 (March 8, 2010), 26, by Daniel J. Harrington; in *The Bible and Critical Theory* 5/3 (2009), by Christine Mitchell. A Korean language version of *Scripture, Culture, and Agriculture* was published in conjunction with Cambridge University Press.

*Wondrous Depth: Preaching the Old Testament*, Westminster John Knox, 2005. The essays are based on the 2003 Beecher Lectures, Yale Divinity School.

*The Art of Reading Scripture*, a volume of essays co-edited with Richard Hays, Eerdmans, 2003. The essays (which include four of my own) were

written by members of the Scripture Project, a project of the Center of Theological Inquiry, Princeton. Named in fourth place on the Academy of Parish Clergy Top Ten Books of the Year for 2004. Translated into Japanese, 2006.

*“Who Are You, My Daughter?”: Reading Ruth through Image and Text*, my translation and commentary, with woodcuts by Margaret Adams Parker, Westminster John Knox Press, 2003.

*Getting Involved with God: Rediscovering the Old Testament*, Cowley Publications, 2001.

*Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and The Song of Songs: A Theological Commentary*, in the Westminster Bible Companion Series, Westminster John Knox Press, April 2000.

*Imagination Shaped: Old Testament Preaching in the Anglican Tradition*, Trinity Press International, 1995.

*Swallowing the Scroll: Textuality and the Dynamics of Discourse in Ezekiel’s Prophecy*, Almond Press, 1989; reissued by the Open Library, 2009.

#### **Articles/Essays**

“Thirsting for God: Psalms 42-43,” an on-line art exhibition curated for the *Visual Commentary on the Bible*, King’s College, London; forthcoming November 2018.

“The Land: Our Life,” in *Unsettle the Word: Biblical Experiments in Decolonization*, edited by Steve Heinrichs (Mennonite Church, Canada; Treaty 1 Territory/Manitoba, 2018).

“The Practical Value of Old Testament Exegesis,” *Stone-Campbell Journal* 20/2 (Fall 2017), 227-36.

“Identity and Eating,” *Studies in Christian Ethics* (journal of the Society for the Study of Christian Ethics) 30:1, February 2017, 1-12.  
<http://sce.sagepub.com/content/early/2016/10/19/0953946816674145.full.pdf?ijkey=BNLEEI2LfFeicJT&keytype=finite>

“Trying Something: Walter Brueggemann as Essayist,” essay for a volume edited by Brent Strawn and Davis Hankins, forthcoming, Eisenbrauns, 2018.

“Land as Kin: Renewing Our Imagination,” in *Rooted and Grounded: Land Theology and Christian Discipleship*, ed. Ryan Harker and Janeen Bertsche Johnson, Pickwick/Wipf & Stock, 2016.

“Wisdom Knows Its Place,” *The Bible in Transmission* (online), November 2015.

(co-authored with Mary Eubanks) “A New Model for Sustainable Agriculture and Food Security in Africa,” *The African Business Review*, May-June 2015 (print and online editions).

“A Sudden Scholar” (autobiographical essay), in *I (Still) Believe*, ed. John Byron and Joel Lohr, Zondervan, 2015, 43-54.

“Reading the Bible as Agrarian Literature,” in *Celebrate Her for the Fruit of Her Hands: Essays in Honor of Carol L. Meyers*, ed. Susan Ackerman, Charles Carter, and Beth Nakhai, Eisenbrauns, 2015, 167-85.

“The Binding or Sacrifice of Isaac (Genesis 22:1-19),” for the SBL Bible Odyssey Website and their electronic newsletter, *Teaching the Bible*, Fall 2013.

“Heart Language,” Duke *Divinity Magazine*, March 2013.

“Dominion among the Non-Human Creatures (Gen. 1:1-2:4a),” for the SBL Bible Odyssey Website and their electronic newsletter, *Teaching the Bible*, August 2012.

“Witnessing to God in the Midst of Life: Old Testament Preaching,” *Expository Times* 124.1 (October 2012), 1-8.

“Singing for the Peace of Jerusalem: Songs of Zion in the Twenty-First Century,” in *The Bible and Spirituality: Exploratory Essays in Reading Scripture Spiritually*, ed. Gordon McConville, Wipf & Stock/Cascade, 2013, 75-94.

“Prophecy and the Power of Life: Reading the Elijah Story Historically,” in *The Bible: Culture, Community and Society*, ed. Neil Messer and Angus Paddison, T&T Clark, 2013, 47-63.

“The Bible in the Life of the Sudanese Church,” in *Anglican Approaches to the Bible* (a volume commissioned by the Anglican Consultative Council), ed. Clare Amos, SCM/Canterbury Press, 2012.

“God the Good Farmer,” *Sojourners* 41/5 (May 2012), 18-21.

“A Future of Hope,” *Divinity* (Duke University), Spring 2012, 14-17.

“Commentary on Genesis 1,” in *Science and Religion: Christian and Muslim Perspectives*, ed. David Marshall, Georgetown University Press, 2012.

“What Makes Richard Hays Richard Hays?,” *Theologian of the Year* project of Colloquium Books, Kiev, Ukraine; published online at [http://ty.colbooks.net/?page\\_id=56](http://ty.colbooks.net/?page_id=56) (Russian).

“Tikkun of the Fertile Soil,” a short article for the 25<sup>th</sup>-anniversary edition of *Tikkun: A Bimonthly Critique of Politics, Culture & Society*, Jan/Feb, 2011.

“A Living Creature: A Biblical Perspective on Land Care and Use,” *The Bible in Transmission* (magazine of Bible Society, UK), Winter 2010, 5-7.

“Our Proper Place: The Poetry of Care and Loss,” *The Christian Century* 127/12 (June 15, 2010), 28-31.

A new translation of The Song of Solomon for *The Common English Bible*, Abingdon Press, 2011, available also at <http://www.commonenglishbible.com/>.

“Being a creature means you eat: Reading Genesis One in the 21st century,” posted on the Global Food Crisis website of the Presbyterian Church USA, Summer 2009; [www.pcusa.org/foodcrisis/archive/september/index.htm](http://www.pcusa.org/foodcrisis/archive/september/index.htm) and the North Carolina Council of Churches sermon database ([www.nccouncilofchurches.org/2009/10/being-a-creature-means-you-eat/](http://www.nccouncilofchurches.org/2009/10/being-a-creature-means-you-eat/))

“Surprised by Wisdom: Preaching Proverbs,” *Interpretation* 63/3 (July 2009), 264-77.

“Learning Our Place: The Agrarian Perspective of the Bible,” *Word and World* 29/2 (Spring 2009), 109-120.

“Just Food: A Biblical Perspective on Culture and Agriculture,” in *Living Beyond Our Means: Christian Perspectives on Environmental Unsustainability*, edited by Robert White, Hilary Marlow, and Jonathan Moo, SPCK, 2009, 122-36.

“Reading the Bible after Darwin: Creation and a Culture of Restraint,” in *Theology after Darwin* edited by Michael Northcott and R. J. Berry, Paternoster Press, 2009, 57-72.

“Reading the Bible as Agrarian Literature,” forthcoming in a Festschrift for Carol Meyers, ed. Karla G. Bohmbach and Charles E. Carter, Eisenbrauns, 2009.

“The Agrarian Perspective of the Bible: A Response to James A. Nash, ‘The Bible vs. Biodiversity’,” *Journal for the Study of Religion, Nature and Culture* 3/2 (June 2009; online).

“Fountain of Life,” a meditation on Genesis One for *The Gift of Creation, Images of Scripture and Earth*, photographs by Thomas Barnes, edited by Norman Wirzba, Acclaim Press, Fall 2009, 40-50.

“The Poetics of Generosity,” in *The Word Leaps the Gap: Essays on Scripture and Theology in Honor of Richard B. Hays*, ed. A. K. Grieb, K. Rowe, R. Wagner, Eerdmans, 2008, 626-45.

“Biblical Perspectives on Divine Justice and Political Authority,” and “Two Psalms,” in *Justice and Rights: Christian and Muslim Perspectives* (the proceedings of the Archbishop of Canterbury’s 2006-2007 Building Bridges conferences), ed. Michael Ipgrave (Georgetown University Press, forthcoming 2009).

“Speaking to the Heart” (an ecological reading of the Prophets), in *Building a Better Bridge: Muslims, Christians, and the Common Good* (the proceedings of the Archbishop of Canterbury’s 2005-2006 Building Bridges conferences), ed. Michael Ipgrave (Georgetown University Press, 2008), 153-60.

“And the Land I Will Remember” (Lev.26:42): Reading the Bible through Agrarian Eyes in *Wendell Berry and Religion: Heaven’s Earthly Home*, ed. Joel Shuman, University Press of Kentucky, 2009, 115-30.

“Hebrew without Whining: Teaching Biblical Languages in Sudan,” *Christian Century* 126/1 (January 13, 2009), 30-35.

“Becoming Human: Biblical Interpretation and Ecological Responsibility,” *Virginia Theological Seminary Bulletin*, Fall 2008, 38-43.

“Knowing Our Place on Earth: Learning Environmental Responsibility from the Old Testament,” introductory essay in the *The Green Bible* (HarperOne, 2008), 58-64.

“Reasoning with Scripture,” *Anglican Theological Review* 90/3 (Summer 2008), 513-519. My article is a response to Richard Norris’s work on the church’s controversy regarding committed same-sex relationships.

“Propriety and Trespass: The Drama of Eating,” *Ex Auditu* 23 (2007), 74-86. Another version of the essay will appear also in *Reading Genesis after Darwin*, ed. Stephen C. Barton and David A. Wilkinson, Oxford University Press, 2009 203-16. An earlier version of this essay is published on the

website of *The Thoughtful Christian*, an electronic imprint of the Presbyterian Publication Corporation  
([www.witherspoonsociety.org/2006/thoughtful\\_christians.htm](http://www.witherspoonsociety.org/2006/thoughtful_christians.htm)). A translation appeared in the *Journal* of the Indonesian Bible Society (Lembaga Alkitab Indonesia), September 2007.

“Entering the Story: Teaching the Bible in the Church,” in *Sharper than a Two-Edged Sword: Preaching, Teaching, and Living the Bible*, ed. Michael Root and James J. Buckley, Eerdmans, 2008, 44-62.

“The Language of Creation,” *Faith and Form, the Interfaith Journal of Religious Art and Architecture*, Fall 2007 (40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Issue).

“The Soil that Is Scripture,” in *Biblical Authority: Perspectives on the Bible as Scripture*, ed. William P. Brown, Westminster John Knox, 2007, 36-44.

“Report *This* from Sudan,” an essay on interfaith cooperation in Sudan, distributed as part of the Common Ground News Service series on apostasy and proselytism; October 9, 2007. Reprinted by eleven news services in English (including the Daily News Egypt, the Arab American News Wire, and the Washington Post/Newsweek On Faith), Arabic (Tharwa Community), French (EMarrakech), Indonesian (Koran Tempo), and Urdu (Pakistan Tribune).

“Esther and the Hermeneutics of Preaching on Genocide,” *Gatherings* 5/1 (Summer 2007), Duke Office of Black Church Studies, 1-2, 7.

“And in Him All Things Hold Together” (sermon on Col.1:17), pp.142-147 in *Preaching What We Practice: Proclamation, Formation, Moral Discernment*, ed. Timothy F. Sedgwick and David J. Schlafer, Morehouse Publishing, 2007; and pp. 127-34 in *The Earth and the Word: Sermons on Ecology, Creation, Nature, and Justice*, ed. David Rhoads, Continuum Press, 2007.

Three essays: “Beginning with Ruth: An Essay on Translating,” “Reading the Song Iconographically,” “All That You Say, I Will Do” (a meditation on Ruth), pp.3-19, 172-84 in *Scrolls of Love: Reading Ruth and the Song of Songs*, ed. Peter S. Hawkins and Lesleigh Cushing Stahlberg, Fordham University Press, 2006. “Reading the Song Iconographically” also appears in the *Journal of Scriptural Reasoning*, June 2003 (on-line).

“The Tabernacle Is Not a Storehouse: Building Sacred Space,” *Sewanee Theological Review* 49/3 (Pentecost 2006), 305-319.



“Taste and See,” a meditation on Psalm 34, pp.9-17 in *I Have Called You Friends* (FS Bishop Frank Griswold), ed. Barbara Braver (Cambridge, Mass.: Cowley Publications, 2006).

“Poised: A Response to Bonaventure’s *The Soul’s Journey into God*” (“Crossing Boundaries” series), *Theology Today* 63 (2006): 59-63.

Three pieces (sermons on Psalm 40 and Isaiah 6, and an essay, “Christians Hearing Isaiah”), in *Preaching from Psalms, Oracles, and Parables (Sermons That Work, volume XIV)*, edited by Roger Alling and David J. Schlafer. Harrisburg, PA: Morehouse Publishing, 2006, pp.1-5, 91-113. A shorter version of the essay is featured in the e-journal of the Academy of Homiletics, Spring 2006 ([http://www.homiletics.org/homiletix\\_e-journal.shtml](http://www.homiletics.org/homiletix_e-journal.shtml)).

“I Thirst,” a sermon on Psalm 42, *In Trust* 17/1 (Autumn 2005).

“Feeling Your Way: Preaching the Psalms,” *The Clergy Journal* 82/2 (November/December 2005), 3-5.

“Wise and Holy Work: The Case for Building Green Churches,” *Faith and Form* 38/3 (September 2005), 6-8.

“‘My Devoted Friend,’ the Prophet as the Intimate of God,” in *Bearing the Word: Prophecy in Biblical and Qur’anic Perspective*, ed. Michael Ipgrave (London: Church House Publishing, 2005), 59-66.

“No Explanations in the Church” (on preaching from the Prophets), in *Touching the Altar: Connecting the Old Testament and Worship*, ed. Carol Bechtel and Jon Witvliet (Eerdmans, 2005), 95-121.

“Under the Gargoyle”, an article on the Bible and agrarianism for *Duke Magazine*, January/February, 2005.

“Stargazers,” in *Sermons from Duke Chapel*, ed. William Willimon (Duke University Press, 2005), 337-341.

“Salvific Surprise: The Shared and Complementary Tasks of Exegetical and Critical or Constructive Theologians,” in *Reconsidering the Boundaries Between Theological Disciplines*, ed. Michael Welder and Friedrich Schweitzer (Münster: LIT Verlag, 2005), 35-44.

“Godly Friendship,” *Interfaith Education Initiative: A Manual on Interfaith Dialogue*, ed. Sonia Omulepu (Interfaith Education Initiative, Episcopal Church USA, 2004), 36-37.

“The Bible and Our Topsoil,” *Tikkun* (July/August 2004; 67, 76). A shorter version of this article appeared in *The Land Report* 75 (Spring 2003), 13, a publication of The Land Institute, Salina, KS.

“The Art of Reading Scripture: Theses and Questions,” co-authored with Richard Hays, *Christian Century*, April 20, 2004, 23-27.

Sermon on Psalm 103, in *Biblical Texts in Community: Jewish and Christian Textual, Liturgical, and Artistic Traditions*, eds. Harold Attridge and Margot Fassler (Atlanta: Society of Biblical Literature [Symposium Series], 2003), 403-406.

“Reading the Bible Confessionally in the Church,” *Anglican Theological Review* 84/1 (Winter 2002) 25-35.

“Preserving Virtues: Renewing the Tradition of the Sages,” in *Character and Scripture: Moral Formation, Community, and Biblical Interpretation*, ed. William P. Brown (Eerdmans, 2002) 183-201. A shorter version of this essay appears in *Studies in Christian Ethics* 14.2 (Autumn 2001) 14-22.

Sermon for Earth Day, *Virginia Seminary Journal* (July 2001) 10-13.

“Jacob and Job: The Integrity of Faith,” in *The Whirlwind: Essays on Job, Hermeneutics, and Theology in Memory of Jane Morse* (JSOT Supp. 336), ed. Stephen Cook, Corrine Patton, James Watts, Sheffield Academic Press, 2001, pp.100-120. An earlier version appears in *Reading Between the Texts: Intertextuality and the Hebrew Bible*, edited by Danna Nolan Fewell, Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 1992, pp.203-224.

“Slaves or Sabbath-Keepers? A Biblical Perspective on Human Work,” *Anglican Theological Review* 83/1 (Winter 2001) 25-40.

“Critical Traditioning: Seeking an Inner Biblical Hermeneutic,” *Anglican Theological Review* 82/4 (Fall 2000) 753-771.

“Wisdom and Desire,” *The Living Pulpit* 9/3 (July 2000) 8-9.

“Losing a Friend: The Loss of the Old Testament in the Church,” *Pro Ecclesia* IX/1 (Winter 2000) 73-84. This essay also appears in *Jews, Christians and the Theology of the Hebrew Scriptures*, edited by Alice Ogden Bellis and Joel Kaminsky, Society of Biblical Literature (Symposium Series), 2000, 83-94.

“Romance of the Land in the Song of Songs,” *The Anglican Theological Review* 80/4 (1998) 533-546.

“Sabbath: The Culmination of Creation,” *The Living Pulpit*, Spring/Summer 1998.

“And Pharaoh Will Change His Mind” (Ezek.32:31): Dismantling Mythical Discourse,” *Theological Exegesis: Essays in Honor of Brevard S. Childs*, edited by C. Seitz, and K. Greene-McCreight, Eerdmans, 1999, 224-239.

“And in Him all things hold together” (sermon on Col.1:17), *Virginia Seminary Journal*, December 1997, 2-6.

“Reading Leviticus in the Church,” *Virginia Seminary Journal*, Winter 1996-97, 30-34.

“Romance of the Land in the Song of Songs,” *The Anglican* 25/2 (October 1996) 23-29.

“Exploding the Limits”: Form and Function in Psalm 22,” *Journal for the Study of the Old Testament*, vol. 53 (1992) 93-105. Republished in *The Poetical Books: A Sheffield Reader*, edited by D. J. S. Clines, Sheffield Academic Press, 1997, 135-146.

“Serving in the Shadows,” *Reflections*, New Haven: Yale Divinity School, 89 (Wtr./Spr. 1994) 12-14.

“Holy Preaching: Ethical Interpretation and the Practical Imagination,” in *Reclaiming Faith*, edited by E. Radner and G. Sumner (Eerdmans, 1993), 197-224.

“Jacob and Job: The Integrity of Faith,” in *Reading Between the Texts: Intertextuality and the Hebrew Bible*, edited by Danna Nolan Fewell, Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 1992, pp.203-224. As noted above, revised and reprinted in *The Whirlwind: Essays on Job, Hermeneutics, and Theology in Memory of Jane Morse*, ed. Stephen Cook, Corrine Patton, James Watts, Sheffield Academic Press, 2001.

“Psalm 98,” *Interpretation* 46 (April 1992) 171-75.

“Self-Consciousness and Conversation: Reading Genesis 22,” *Bulletin of the Institute for Biblical Research* 1/1 (Fall 1991) 27-40.

“A Strategy of Delayed Comprehension: Isaiah liv 15,” *Vetus Testamentum* XL/2, 1990.

“Job and Jacob” The Integrity of Faith,” *Reflections* (Yale Divinity School), Fall 1990.

“Swallowing Hard: Reflections on Ezekiel’s Dumbness,” *Signs and Wonders* (Semeia Series volume on literary readings of biblical texts), ed. J. Cheryl Exum, 1988.

“Arguing for Authority: A Rhetorical Study of Jeremiah 1:4-19 and 20:7-18,” *Journal for the Study of the Old Testament* 32 (1985) 105-119.

“Jacob, A Paradigm of Choice,” *Church Divinity*, ed. John H. Morgan, Notre Dame, 1983.

### **Other Media/Formats**

A session of Krista Tippett’s *Speaking of Faith* (Minnesota Public Radio; radio program and/or online at [speakingoffaith.org](http://speakingoffaith.org)) has been devoted to my theological work on agrarianism, with Wendell Berry reading his poetry; aired June 10-16, 2010 (posted and archived at the program website ).

Webcast interview on “Christians and Creation” for the Duke News Office, “Office Hours,” April 9, 2010. See <http://ondemand.duke.edu/video/21638/ellen-davis-talks-environmenta>

“The Way of Manna,” short essays (by Davis) accompany a CD of musical settings of Psalms and other biblical texts, by Charles Pettee and Folkpsalm (issued December 2009). The album is partly inspired by my book, *Scripture, Culture, and Agriculture*.

An interview regarding agrarianism and the Bible (November 2009) is available at: <http://www.conservationrealestate.org/2009/11/25/special-thanksgiving-audio-podcast-with-dr-ellen-davis-author-of-scripture-culture-and-agriculture-an-agrarian-reading-of-the-bible/>

OpEd: “How will our garden grow? Not with the farming model we use now. It’s doing more harm than good”; April 2009, carried by the Durham Herald Sun and the Philadelphia Inquirer (<http://www.philly.com/inquirer/opinion/43409362.html>)

Interviewed on “The Niche Bible” (Minnesota Public Radio's "Midmorning"), February 2009. <http://minnesota.publicradio.org/display/web/2009/02/10/midmorning2/>

Interviewed on *The Green Bible*, Duke University News Service, November 2008, <http://www.duke.edu/today/> and <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eheBcompPN8>

Interviewed on *Morning Edition* (National Public Radio) series on climate change, August 2007.

*Holy Week at Duke Chapel* (a production of WUNC-TV), interviewed by Dr. William Willimon, April 2003.

*Disciple: Under the Tree of Life* (a video series produced by Abingdon Press); I wrote and taught the segment on *The Song of Songs*, November 2001.

### **Book Reviews**

Mark G. Brett, *Political Trauma and Healing: Biblical Ethics for a Postcolonial World* (Eerdmans, 2016), for *Scottish Journal of Theology*, 2017.

R. W. L. Moberly, *Old Testament Theology: Reading the Hebrew Bible as Christian Scripture* (Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2013), for *Scottish Journal of Theology*, 2014.

Patrick D. Miller, *Stewards of the Mysteries of God: Preaching the Old Testament—and the New* (Cascade Books, 2013), for *Interpretation* 69/1, Winter 2015.

Richard Bauckham, *The Bible and Ecology: Rediscovering the Community of Creation*, for *Christian Scholar's Review*, Volume XLI, Number 1 (Fall 2011).

Hilary Marlow, *Biblical Prophets and Contemporary Environmental Ethics* (Oxford University Press, 2009), *Interpretation* 65:4 (2011), 418-19.

Margaret Barker, *Creation: A Bible Vision for the Environment* (T & T Clark, 2010), reviewed for *Studies in Christian Ethics*, in 24/1 (February 2011): 92-95.

Edmée Kingsmill, *The Song of Songs and the Eros of God: A Study in Biblical Intertextuality* (Oxford University Press, 2009), reviewed for *Review of Biblical Literature*, July 2010 (<http://www.bookreviews.org/BookDetail.asp?TitleId=7342>); reprinted in the Winter 2011 issue of the *Fairacres Chronicle*, Sisters of the Love of God, Oxford, UK.

Kathryn Schifferdecker, *Out of the Whirlwind: Creation Theology in the Book of Job* (Harvard Theological Studies 61), Harvard University Press, 2008. In *Shofar*, 28/1 (Fall 2009); posted at [www.case.edu/artsci/rosenthal/shofar.htm](http://www.case.edu/artsci/rosenthal/shofar.htm).

Joel S. Kaminsky, *Yet I Loved Jacob: Reclaiming the Biblical Concept of Election*, Abingdon, 2007. In *Hebrew Studies Journal* 49 (2008), 101-06.

David Ford and Graham Stanton, *Reading Texts, Seeking Wisdom: Scripture and Theology*, Eerdmans, 2003. In the *Scottish Journal of Theology*, 2005.

William Holladay, *Unbound by Time: Isaiah Still Speaks*, Cowley, 2002. In *Theology Today* 60/2 (July 2003), 286.

Tremper Longman III, *Song of Songs*, Eerdmans, 2001. In the *Journal of Biblical Literature*, Fall 2002.

(On-line: [www.bookreviews.org/BookDetail.asp?TitleId=1641](http://www.bookreviews.org/BookDetail.asp?TitleId=1641))

Avivah Zornberg, *The Particulars of Rapture: Reflections on Exodus*, Doubleday 2001. In the *Anglican Theological Review* 84/1 (Winter 2002), 151-152.

Walter Brueggemann, *The Covenanted Self: Explorations in Law and Covenant*, Fortress, 1999. In *Pro Ecclesia*, 2001.

“A response to Walter Brueggemann, *Theology of the Old Testament*,” Fortress Press, 1997. In *Virginia Seminary Journal*, July 1999, pp.49-54.

Fleming Rutledge, *The Bible and the New York Times*, Eerdmans, 1998. In *Virginia Seminary Journal*, January 1999, pp. 77-78.

William P. Brown, *Character in Crisis: A Fresh Approach to the Wisdom Literature of the Old Testament*, Eerdmans, 1996. In *Pro Ecclesia* 7/4 (1998): 495-496.

Alyce M. McKenzie, *Preaching Proverbs: Wisdom for the Pulpit*, Westminster/John Knox, 1996. In *Theology Today* 54/2 (July 1997): 288.

Foster McCurley, *Wrestling with the Word: Christian Preaching from the Hebrew Bible*, Trinity Press International, 1996. In *The Princeton Seminary Bulletin* 18/1 (1997): 103-105.

Craig Broyles, *The Conflict of Faith and Experience in the Psalms*, Sheffield Academic Press, 1989. In the *Jewish Quarterly Review*, Fall 1990.

Gordon Matties, *Ezekiel 18 and the Rhetoric of Moral Discourse*, Scholars Press, 1990. In the *Jewish Quarterly Review*, April 1995.

### **Professional Engagements (Selected Listing)**

October 12-13, 2017 – R. T. Orr lectureship, Huron University College, London, Ontario, “The Practical Value of Old Testament Exegesis.”

January 9-13, 2017 – Plenary lecture (“Ruth, a Book of Hope”) and seminar (“Reading the Prophets in the Trauma of War”) at the Great Lakes Initiative Leadership Institute, Kampala, Uganda.

November 7-8, 2016 – “Biblical Perspectives on Spiritual and Political Formation,” the 2016 Gross Lectures, Valparaiso University.

October 7, 2016 – “Envisioning Wholeness: A Scriptural Imagination for Health, in East Africa and Baltimore,” St Mary’s Ecumenical Institute, Baltimore.

September 12, 2016 – “The Wisdom of Lament,” address to the Community of St Anselm, Lambeth Palace, London.

September 9-11, 2016 – “Identity and Eating,” keynote address for annual meeting, Society for the Study of Christian Ethics (UK), on the topic “Christians and Other Animals.”

May 24, 2016 – “Lament in the Psalms,” Northeast Asia Reconciliation Initiative, Chinese University of Hong Kong.

November 18-21, 2015 – “Wisdom Knows Its Place,” keynote lecture at the International Conference on the Role of Christianity in Modern Society: Bible and the Environment, Shanghai, China, sponsored by the Shanghai Academy for the Social Sciences, the Center for the Studies of Religion and Culture, and the Shanghai Association of Ethics.

November 8-9, 2015 – “Prophetic Discipleship and the Struggle for Hope,” lecture series for the Bishop’s Conference, Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

October 12-14, 2015 – “Not as Simple as It Seems: The Biblical Short Story (Ruth and Jonah),” the 2015-16 H. Orton Wiley Lecture Series, Point Loma Nazarene University, San Diego.

August 9-15, 2015 – “Becoming Human: Poetry of Praise, Loss, and Hope” (seminar), Ring Lake Ranch, Dubois, WY.

April 7-8, 2015 – “Food and Faith,” Brueggemann and Kulenkamp Lectures, Eden Theological Seminary, St. Louis, MO.

February and March 2015: “Discipleship in a Sick Society,” lecture series at Christ Church Cathedral, Nashville; First United Methodist Church, Montgomery, Alabama; St Alban’s Episcopal Church, Washington, DC.

January 11-16, 2015: Great Lakes Initiative Leadership Institute (preaching, teaching a seminar, “Land and Community in Biblical Perspective: Envisioning the Renewal of Creation,” meeting of the Board of Directors).

December 9-10, 2014: “Embodying Our Faith, Living as Creatures: Jews and Christians Reading Leviticus,” public lectures jointly sponsored by Temple Israel and St. John’s Episcopal Church, Tallahassee, FL.

“Land as Kin: Renewing Our Imagination,” delivered as the keynote address at two conferences: 1. “Rooted and Grounded: Land Theology and Christian Discipleship,” Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Elkhart, Indiana (September 19, 2014) and The Prairie Festival 2014 (September 26, 2014), the Land Institute, Salina, Kansas.

“Thinking Prophetically in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century,” The Schaff Lectures, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, March 25-26, 2014.

“Destroyers of the Earth: Prophetic Critiques of Imperial Economics,” T. V. Moore Lecture, San Francisco Theological Seminary, April 4, 2014.

“Abraham and the Origins of Intercessory Prayer,” Willson-Addis Lecture, Truett Theological Seminary, Baylor University, April 8, 2014.

“The Bible and Agrarianism,” 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Sustainable Agriculture Conference, Carolina Farm Stewardship Association, November 16, 2013.

“Biblical Prophecy,” The DuBose Lectures, School of Theology, University of the South, Sewanee, TN, October 31, 2013.

“Biblical Prophecy and Contemporary Ministry,” an intensive master’s-level course at Vancouver School of Theology, July 1-5, 2013.

“Biblical Prophecy: Perspectives for Contemporary Ministry,” The Payton Lectures, Fuller Theological Seminary, April 24-25, 2013.

“Prophetic Perspectives on the Created Order,” a lecture at The National Cathedral, Washington, DC, March 12, 2013.

“The Bible and Practical Theology: What Good Should come from Reading the Bible (Critically?)” lecture/discussion at the 26<sup>th</sup> Annual International



Theology Conference, Shalom Hartman Institute, Jerusalem, February 21, 2013.

“The Way of Manna,” lecture to freshman interdisciplinary humanities course, Villanova Center for Liberal Education, Villanova University, September 11, 2012.

“Women of Spirit” lecture/panel (Judith Davidson Moyers Lecture), Union Theological Seminary, New York (on food and land use, with Dr. Vandana Shiva), March 22, 2012.

Sermon/lecture (Courtenay Wright Bass Lecture)/workshop on Care for Creation, sponsored by First Presbyterian Church, Annapolis and the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, March 11-12, 2012.

Sermon and lecture series, “Holy Fire: Igniting the Scriptural Imagination,” Christ Church Cathedral, Nashville, February 24-26, 2012.

Society of Biblical Literature, Theology of the Hebrew Scriptures session, “Deuteronomy 23 and the Economics of *Stabilitas*” (paper and panel discussion), November 22, 2011.

Sermon and education hour, Grace Cathedral, San Francisco, November 20, 2011.

“The Art of Prophecy, the Prophecy of Art,” Brehm Lectures (keynotes shared with painter Makoto Fujimura), the Brehm Center for Worship, Theology and the Arts at Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, California, November 3-4, 2011.

“Prophets and the Created Order,” The George Knight Lectures, Logsdon School of Theology, Hardin-Simmons University, October 31-November 1, 2011.

“Prophecy and the Power of Life: Reading the Elijah Story Historically,” keynote address to the Eastern Great Lakes Biblical Society and at the University of Winchester/Winchester Cathedral (UK), “The Bible: Culture, Community, and Society,” a conference held in recognition of the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Authorised/King James Version, March/July 2011.

“The Bible in the Life of the Sudanese Church,” 3 weeks of workshops and preaching for bishops, pastors, lay leaders, and seminarians of the Episcopal Church of Sudan and the Presbyterian Church of Sudan, Renk Town and Malakal, Sudan, May 19 to June 3, 2011; in conjunction with the Bible in the

Life of the Church project, sponsored by the Anglican Communion Office and the Anglican Consultative Council.

“Living by Exodus: Guidance for the Journey,” four lectures at South Main Baptist Church, Houston, January 23, 2011.

“A Living Creature: A Biblical Perspective on Land Care and Use,” the Tanker Lecture, Jewish Studies Program, Pennsylvania State University, State College, December 5, 2010.

“Scriptural Imagination, the Fire of Ministry,” a lecture at Seth Mokitimi Methodist Seminary, Pietermaritzburg, South Africa, November 19, 2010.

“Between Jerusalem and Jerusalem,” the Stern Lectures (3 lectures) at St. Matthew’s Episcopal Church, Pacific Palisades, August 14, 2010.

Leading the first annual Leadership Seminar of the Episcopal Church of Sudan; 33 theological educators, bishops, and representatives of 18 (out of 24 total) dioceses attended the 3-day conference on the topic, “The Bible and the Environment”; July 27-31, 2010.

Keynote lecture for “Heaven on Earth: An Agrarian Road Trip to the U.S. Social Forum,” Presbyterian Church Center, Louisville, June 24, 2010.

“The Way of Manna,” a presentation jointly sponsored by the Center for a Livable Future at Johns Hopkins University and the Institute for Christian and Jewish Studies, Baltimore, May 26, 2011.

Preached at Duke Chapel, April 11, 2010; the sermon is posted on the Duke Divinity School Faith and Leadership website:  
[www.faithandleadership.com](http://www.faithandleadership.com).

Participant/presenter in the Duke-Cambridge consultation, “The Arts, Scripture and the Future of Theology,” University of Cambridge, March 28 to April 1, 2010; delivered the Maundy Thursday sermon at King’s College.

Visiting Scholar (preaching and lecturing), First Baptist Church, Greensboro, NC, January 10, 2010.

Led retreat for the Bishops of Province I, The Episcopal Church, December 7-9, 2009.

“Just Food: A Biblical Perspective on Culture and Agriculture,” keynote address at the 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Faculties’ Convocation of the Washington Theological Consortium, September 28, 2009.

“The Poetry of Care and Loss,” a plenary lecture delivered at an international conference, “Reversed Thunder: The Art of the Psalms,” sponsored by the Institute for Theology and the Imagination in the Arts, St Andrews University (Scotland), August 31 to September 3, 2009. A section of this lecture has been web-published as “The Holiness of Place,” at the Duke Divinity School Faith and Leadership website: <http://www.faithandleadership.duke.edu/>

“Being a creature means you eat: Reading Genesis One in the 21st century,” keynote lecture at “Embracing God’s Call to Be Green,” the National Conference of the Presbyterians for Restoring Creation, Montreat, NC, July 7-11, 2009. [www.pcusa.org/foodcrisis/archive/september/index.htm](http://www.pcusa.org/foodcrisis/archive/september/index.htm)

Scholar-in-residence (preaching and teaching), Nassau Presbyterian Church, Princeton, March 8-9, 2009. Topic: Reading the Bible through Agrarian Eyes.

“Get Over Yourself, Elijah,” a sermon preached at Evensong, Westminster Abbey, Sunday 22 February 2009.

“The Danger of Abstraction,” keynote lecture at the conference, “Reading the Bible as Church,” Western Theological Seminary, November 6, 2008.

“Preaching Isaiah,” Kairos Continuing Education Seminar at Luther Seminary, and “Learning Our Place: The Agrarian Perspective of the Bible,” 16<sup>th</sup> Annual *Word and World* Lecture, October 13-15, 2008.

“Jerusalem,” a lecture series at the Wildacres Interfaith Conference, sponsored by the Great Carolina Association of Rabbis, July 28-31, 2008.

“Becoming Human: Biblical Interpretation and Ecological Responsibility,” The First Kreitler Environmental Lecture, Virginia Theological Seminary, April 22, 2008.

“Reading the Bible through Agrarian Eyes,” various series given: Theological Lectureship, Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Elkhart, IN, February 28-29, 2008; Bible Institute, Trinity Lutheran Seminary, Columbus, February 18, 2008; J. J. Theissen Lectures, Canadian Mennonite University, Winnipeg, October 15-16, 2007; and Nils W. Lund Lectures, North Park Theological Seminary, Chicago, September 27, 2007; another lecture was presented at the Symposium on the Theological Interpretation of Scripture (“Christianity’s Engagement with Culture”). Sermons on the same topic were presented in the Ronald Nelson Artists and Scholars Program at Northwestern College, Orange City, Iowa, October 1-2, 2007.

“Torah’s Vision of Holiness: Exodus and Leviticus,” an intensive course for clergy and seminarians at Renk Theological College, Renk Town, Southern Sudan, July 23 to August 3, 2007.

Keynote lecture (“Entering the Story: Reading Biblical Narrative”) and workshop (OT Preaching) at “Reclaiming the Text,” Conference, Montreat Conference Center, May 28-31, 2007.

“Propriety and Trespass: The Drama of Eating,” in the series, “The Legacy of Darwin,” Institute of Advanced Studies, University of Durham (U.K.), April 25, 2007. This lecture was also presented to the Association of Indonesian Biblical Scholars, Jakarta, May 2, 2007. Lectures related to this topic were delivered at Sanata Dharma University (Jogjakarta), Satya Wacana Christian University (Salatiga), and Cipanas Theological College (Cipanas), Indonesia, in May 2007.

“The Manna Economy,” a sermon preached at the Calvin Symposium on Worship, January 25/26, 2007.

“Remembering the Land: Reading the Bible through Agrarian Eyes,” a series of six lectures delivered for the Hulsean Lectureship, Cambridge University, October/November 2006. Public lectures and faculty seminars on this topic given at the Universities of Durham, Edinburgh, Gloucestershire, and Oxford, and Bangor Theological Seminary (Denio Lectures, January 2007).

“God’s House,” a sermon preached at Duke Chapel, July 23, 2006. The sermon has been placed in the audio archive of the Center for Excellence in Preaching at Calvin Seminary:  
<http://cep.calvinseminary.edu/thisWeek/podcastsArchive.php>.

“Entering the Story: Teaching the Bible in the Church,” at “Preaching, Teaching, and Living the Bible,” a conference sponsored by Duke University and the Center for Catholic and Evangelical Theology, May 22, 2006.

“Preaching Isaiah” (with the Revd Canon Roger Symon) a workshop at the College of Preachers (National Cathedral, Washington, D.C.), June 13-17, 2005.

“Speaking to the Heart: Christianity and Ecological Responsibility,” a lecture at the fourth “Building Bridges” seminar, a group of 25 Muslim and Christian theologians, convened and chaired by the Most Rev’d Dr Rowan Williams, Archbishop of Canterbury, Sarajevo, May 15-18, 2005.

“The Tabernacle Is Not a Storehouse: Constructing Sacred Space,” for *Holy and Beautiful: Greening Sacred Spaces*, Duke Divinity School, February 22-

23, 2005. Repeated for the DuBose Lectures Series, “Creating and Transforming Sacred Spaces: Theological Opportunities and Issues in Building and Renovating Churches St. Luke’s Theological School (Sewanee), November 3, 2005.

“The Poetics of Generosity: Reading and Ruling” (The Edward Bronfman Family Foundation Annual Lecture on Religious Pluralism), sponsored by the International Theology Colloquium of the Shalom Hartman Institute, Jerusalem, February 15, 2005.

“Do We All Worship the Same God?” (The Broun Lecture), Judea Reform Congregation, November 12, 2004.

“Rethinking Our Place in the World: The Bible and Ecological Responsibility” (The Henry Parsley Lectures), Christ Church, Charlotte, NC, October 11-12, 2004.

“Entering the Land of Rest,” a sermon preached at All Saints Cathedral, Khartoum, Sudan, June 13, 2004.

“The Vision of Isaiah,” a series of four lectures at Renk Bible School, Episcopal Diocese of Renk, Sudan, June 9-10, 2004.

“Preaching the Psalms,” a workshop at the College of Preachers (National Cathedral, Washington, D.C.), June 2-4, 2004.

“The Prophet as the Intimate of God,” a lecture at the third “Building Bridges” seminar on the interpretation of Scripture by Muslims and Christians, convened and chaired by the Most Rev’d Dr Rowan Williams, Archbishop of Canterbury, Georgetown University, March 30-April 2, 2004.

“The Art of Astonishing: Preaching from the Old Testament,” The Beecher Lectures, Yale Divinity School, October 2003.

### **Major Professional Responsibilities**

Vice-Chair, Search Committee for the President, Duke University, 2016.

Member of the Board of Directors for the Great Lakes Initiative, Kampala, Uganda, 2015-2017.

External elector for the selection of the new Oriel and Laing Professor of the Exegesis of Holy Scripture, Oxford University, Spring/Summer 2014.

Steering Committee member for the Society of Biblical Literature section, “Theological Hermeneutics of Christian Scripture,” 2011-

Director of the project, “Reading across the Communion: Toward a Fresh Model of Biblical Interpretation,” an international consultation for the Anglican Communion/Anglican Consultative Council, 2014-16.

Theological Consultant to the Steering Group of the “Bible in the Life of the Church,” a project of the Anglican Consultative Council, 2009-2012.

Member of the Leadership Team for “New Paths for Engaging Israel,” an educational project of the Shalom Hartman Institute, Jerusalem, 2011-13.  
Member of the Advisory Board, 2013-

Convener and Chair of the Sudan/Lambeth Palace Roundtable for the Episcopal Church of Sudan, London, 22-24 February 2009. The Roundtable is an action-oriented project, focusing on three areas of development: theological education, agriculture, and community health and nutrition.

Associate Editor (with Associate Editor Richard B. Hays and Senior Editor Patrick Miller) for *Interpretation: Resources for the Use of Scripture in the Church*, a series of volumes to be published (2009 - ) by Westminster John Knox Press.

Steering Committee member for the SBL section, “Theological Hermeneutics of Christian Scripture,” 2011-

Member of the Academic Advisory Panel, Center of Theological Inquiry, Princeton, 2009-2012.

Member of the Building Bridges Seminar, a group of Muslim and Christian Scripture scholars and theologians convened annually by Dr Rowan Williams, Archbishop of Canterbury, 2003 – 2009.

Member of the Advisory Board, Community of the Holy Spirit (an Anglican religious order for women), New York City, 1995-

### **Major Duke University Responsibilities**

Member of the Executive Committee of the Academic Council, 2014-15, 2018-2020.

Vice-chair of the search committee for election of the President, 2016.

Member of the search committee for election of the Provost, 2013-14.

Chair of the search committee for the Duke University Divinity School Dean, 2011-12.

Revised June 2018.