

Rebecca Abts Wright  
School of Theology  
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### Education

1969 B.A. (Religion), The American University, Washington, DC  
1976 M.Div., *summa cum laude*, Wesley Theological Seminary, Washington, DC  
1989 Ph.D. (Old Testament), Yale University

### Ecclesiastical History

1974 Ordained Deacon, Baltimore Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church  
1977 Ordained Elder, Baltimore Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church  
Current status: Full member of the Baltimore-Washington Annual Conference under Appointment Beyond the Local Church to the School of Theology

### Related Employment

1976-78 Minister, Sleepy Creek Charge (United Methodist), Sleepy Creek and Cherry Run, WV  
1978-81 Minister, Wesley United Methodist Church, Hampstead, MD  
1980-81 Supervising Pastor (Candidacy program), Baltimore Northwest District  
1979-present Teacher, Course of Study School, Wesley Theological Seminary  
First year course [required]: "The Pastor as Interpreter of the Bible"  
Fourth year course [required]: "Word of God: Old Testament -- Genesis, Jeremiah, Deutero-Isaiah, Job, Psalms"  
Supervisor for the Enrichment Program in years 3, 4, and 5  
1980-81 Field Education Staff Supervisor, Wesley Theological Seminary  
1982-85 Teaching Assistant, Yale Divinity School  
1982-84 Introduction to the Old Testament  
1984-85 Elementary Biblical Hebrew  
Intermediate Hebrew: Poetry  
1983-84 Interim Co-Minister: Windham County Country Parish [5 UM Churches], North Grosvenordale, CT  
1985-88, 90-91 [Unofficial] Co-Minister: Portland and Moodus United Methodist Churches, Portland and Moodus, CT  
1988-90 Co-Minister: Portland and Moodus United Methodist Churches, Portland and Moodus, CT  
1989-90 Adjunct Assistant Professor of Hebrew Bible, Fairfield University, Fairfield, CT  
1990-94 Assistant Professor of Old Testament, School of Theology, University of the South, Sewanee, TN  
1994-2001 Associate Professor of Old Testament, School of Theology, University of the South, Sewanee, TN  
2001-present Professor Old Testament, School of Theology, University of the South, Sewanee, TN

### Publications

1989 *Biblical Hebrew: A Text and Workbook* New Haven: Yale University Press. With Vicki Hoffer, based in part on work with Bonnie Pedrotti Kittel.  
1989-95 Exegetical essays for *Exegetical Review* -- 2 to 4 each quarter.  
1990 Review of Paul Hanson, *The People Called: The Growth of Community in the Bible*, in *Exegetical Resource* 18.  
1992 "Inclusive Language: Why Does it Matter Now?" *INCITE Journal* 1: 60-2.  
1993 "The Holiness of the Ordinary," *Sewanee Theological Review* 36:391-5.  
1994 "A Jewish and Christian Reading of Jonah: How (Dis)Similar?" *Sewanee Theological Review* 37:144-150. With Vicki Hoffer.  
1994 *Journey Through the Bible*. Vol 2: Exodus-Deuteronomy. Nashville: Cokesbury. Adult education curriculum: student's book and leader's guide.  
1994-95 Interim editor, *Exegetical Resource*.  
1995-98 Exegetical section [continuation of *Exegetical Resource*] editor, *Australian Ministry Digest*  
1995-98 Exegetical essays for *Australian Ministry Digest* -- 2 to 5 each quarter: 15-25,000 words per year.  
1998 "History, Remembrance, and God's Future: Reinvigorating the Hebrew Bible Lectons for Lent," *Quarterly Review* 17:407-427.

- 1998-present Founding editor, *Tuesday Morning: A Journal of Bible and Church* 2 to 5 exegetical essays per quarter  
 1999 Revision study, "Hebrew Bible," Year 1 of *Education for Ministry*  
 1998-99 *International Lesson Annual*, Abingdon Press. 13 lessons: "In the Beginning."  
 1999-2000 *International Lesson Annual*, Abingdon Press. 13 lessons. "From Slavery to Conquest."  
 2019 3 essays in *Connections: A Lectionary Commentary for Preaching and Worship*.  
 Louisville: Westminster/John Knox. Pp 60-62, 77-79, 93-95.

Public Lectures and Teaching (selected: preaching not listed)

- October 1991 Otey Episcopal Church, Sewanee, TN  
 3 sessions: "Psalms"
- December 1991 St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Chattanooga, TN  
 2 sessions: "Psalms"
- March 1992 Otey Episcopal Church, Sewanee, TN  
 3 sessions: "Creation"
- 1992-present Weekly lay Bible study group, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Chattanooga, TN  
 1998-present A second weekly group was added at St. Paul's  
 2012-present Weekly lay Bible study group, St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, Signal Mountain, TN  
 2013-present Weekly lay Bible study group. Good Shepherd Episcopal Church, Lookout Mountain, TN
- Lent 1992 Thorne Sparkman School of Religion, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Chattanooga, TN  
 5 sessions: "Insiders and Outsiders in the Old Testament"
- May 1992 St. Ann's Episcopal Church, Nashville, TN  
 "Creation"
- August 1992 Chautauqua Institution, Chautauqua, NY (Religion Lecturer)  
 5 lectures: "Insiders and Outsiders in the Old Testament"
- October 1992 Franklin District, Western Pennsylvania Annual Conference, United Methodist  
 Annual Clergy Study Day  
 "Preaching and Teaching from the Minor Prophets"
- November 1992 Grace Episcopal Church, Chattanooga, TN  
 "Homosexuality and the Bible"
- December 1992 Otey Episcopal Church, Sewanee, TN  
 2 sessions: "Old Testament Lessons for Advent"
- December 1992 St. John's Episcopal Church, Marion, NC  
 Quiet Day: "Old Testament Lessons for Advent"
- February 1993 St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Chattanooga, TN  
 3 Sessions: "Creation"
- March 1993 Grace Episcopal Church, Chattanooga, TN  
 3 sessions: "Creation"
- March 1993 Diocese of Nebraska Education for Ministry Weekend, Omaha, NE  
 4 sessions: "Insiders and Outsiders in the Old Testament"
- March/April 1993 Grace Episcopal Church, Chattanooga, TN  
 2 sessions: "Old Testament Lessons in Lent"
- November 1993 School of Theology, University of the South, Ministry Weekend  
 "Form Criticism in the Old Testament"
- December 1993 Church of the Good Shepherd, Lookout Mountain, TN  
 3 sessions: "Isaiah and Jesus"
- February 1994 St. Thomas Episcopal Church, Birmingham, AL  
 5 sessions: "Insiders and Outsiders in the Old Testament"
- Lent 1994 Thorne Sparkman School of Religion, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Chattanooga, TN  
 5 sessions: "Modern Marcionites: Christians and the Old Testament"  
 St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Franklin, TN  
 2 sessions: "Psalms"
- March 1994 Grace Episcopal Church, Chattanooga, TN: "Homosexuality in the Bible"
- March 1994 Otey Episcopal Church, Sewanee, TN  
 3 sessions: "Old Testament Lections for Lent"
- April 1994 Episcopal Church Women of the Diocese of East Tennessee, Spring Conference "Biblical Leadership:  
 Learning to Trust"

June 1994 Brainerd United Methodist Church, Chattanooga, TN  
2 sessions: "Job"

September 1994 Brainerd United Methodist Church, Chattanooga, TN  
4 sessions: "The Ten Commandments"

Sept/Oct 1994 Theology PM, School of Theology, University of the South  
2 sessions: "Biblical Hebrew for Non-Language Majors"

October 1994 Diocese of Alabama, Senior High Weekend  
2 sessions: "The Apocrypha"

October 1994 St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Montevallo, AL  
2 sessions: "The Ten Commandments"

October 1994 Sewanee Elementary School 6th grade classes  
"Ancient Languages"

November 1994 School of Theology, University of the South, Ministry Weekend  
"Form Criticism in the Old Testament"

November 1994 St. Joseph's Episcopal Church, Mentone, AL ECW Fall Retreat  
3 sessions: "Genesis 1-3"

December 1994 St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Montevallo, AL  
2 sessions: "Old Testament Lessons for Advent"

December 1994 St. Thomas Episcopal Church, Birmingham, AL  
"Old Testament Lessons for Advent"

January 1995 Alabama Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church,  
Pastors' Study Week  
5 half-day sessions: "Preaching and Teaching the Old Testament Lessons for Lent"

February 1995 College of Preachers, Washington National Cathedral, Washington, DC  
Conference Leader: "Preaching the Familiar Stories of Genesis"

March 1995 Church of the Ascension, Episcopal, Knoxville, TN  
4 sessions: "Insiders and Outsiders in the Old Testament"

March 1995 St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Newport, AR  
5 sessions: "Insiders and Outsiders in the Old Testament"

January 1996 St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Franklin, TN  
2 sessions: "Jesus' Use of the Old Testament"

February 1996 St. Philip's Episcopal Church, Fort Payne, AL  
"Christians and the Covenant"

March 1996 St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Montevallo, AL; St. Thomas Episcopal Church, and Church of the Apostles,  
Birmingham, AL  
"Christians and the Covenant"

Spring 1996 Otey Episcopal Church, Sewanee, TN  
Co-taught 10 weeks on Ched Myers, *Who Will Roll Away the Stone?*

April 1996 Otey Episcopal Church, Sewanee, TN: ECW  
"St Paul, Flesh, and the World"

May 1996 Diocese of Atlanta, ECW groups  
"Christians and the Old Testament"

Fall 1996 Otey Episcopal Church, Sewanee, TN  
Co-taught 10 weeks on John Spong, *Rescuing the Bible from Fundamentalism*

Sept/Oct 1996 St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, Signal Mountain, TN  
5 sessions: "Insiders and Outsiders in the Old Testament"

November 1996 Otey Episcopal Church, Sewanee, TN: ECW  
"Judaism"

November 1996 The Sewanee Emeritus Association, Sewanee, TN  
"Jesus as Exegete"

December 1996 St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Franklin, TN  
3 sessions: "The Three Horizons of Advent"

Spring 1997 Otey Episcopal Church, Sewanee, TN  
Co-teaching 10 weeks on Genesis. (Weeknight 90 minute sessions.)

Lent 2002 Church of the Epiphany, Guntersville, AL  
5 sessions "Creation and Liberation in the Old Testament"

Fall 2007	Diocese of East Tennessee Lay Ministries Training Program 6 Saturdays: Old Testament
Spring 2008	Diocese of East Tennessee Lay Ministries Training Program 6 Saturdays: New Testament
Fall 2010	Diocese of East Tennessee Lay Ministries Training Program 6 Saturdays: Old Testament
Spring 2011	Diocese of East Tennessee Lay Ministries Training Program 6 Saturdays: New Testament
Spring and Fall 2011	“Bible Breakfast” St. Mary’s Sewanee, Weekly 90 minute sessions
October 2011	Church of the Good Shepherd, Lookout Mountain, TN 3 sessions on “Families in the Old Testament”
November 2011	Church of the Good Samaritan, Knoxville, TN Adult Forum: “The Biblical Passages Concerning Homosexuality”
October 2012	Church of the Good Shepherd, Lookout Mountain, TN 2 session on “The Bible, the Land, and Food”
November 2012	St. Timothy’s Episcopal Church, Signal Mountain, TN 2 session on “Why Should Christians Bother with the Old Testament?”
Lent 2013	Church of the Epiphany, Guntersville, AL 5 sessions “Old Testament Backgrounds of Jesus’ Parables”
Fall 2013	Diocese of East Tennessee Lay Ministries Training Program 6 Saturdays: Old Testament
Spring 2014	Diocese of East Tennessee Lay Ministries Training Program 6 Saturdays: New Testament
February 2014	Thankful Memorial Episcopal Church, Chattanooga, TN 2 sessions on Job
February 2014	Good Shepherd Episcopal Church, Lookout Mountain, TN 2 sessions on Matthew 5
Lent 2014	Christ Episcopal Church, Chattanooga, TN 5 Sundays “Old Testament Lections for Lent”
October 2014	Good Shepherd Episcopal Church, Lookout Mountain, TN 2 sessions “Reading the Bible with Social Science Helps”
October 2014	St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, Franklin, TN “How Many Creations Stories?”
Fall 2014	Diocese of East Tennessee Lay Ministries Training Program 6 Saturdays: Old Testament
November 2014	St. Timothy’s Episcopal Church, Signal Mountain, TN 3 sessions “Old Testament Prophets Then and Now”
Spring 2015	Diocese of East Tennessee Lay Ministries Training Program 6 Saturdays: New Testament
Lent 2015	Thorne Sparkman School of Religion, St. Paul’s Chattanooga, TN 5 sessions: “Enough: Limits and the Old Testament”
Lent 2015	Christ Episcopal Church, Chattanooga, TN 5 Sundays on The Creeds of the Church
March 2015	Women of St. Timothy’s Signal Mountain, TN 3-day retreat “Praying the Psalms”
April 2015	St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, Chattanooga, TN 2 Sundays “Two Creation Stories and a Third”
Fall 2015	Diocese of East Tennessee Lay Ministries Training Program 6 Saturdays: Old Testament
Spring 2016	Diocese of East Tennessee Lay Ministries Training Program 6 Saturdays: New Testament
Fall 2016	Diocese of East Tennessee Lay Ministries Training Program 6 Saturdays: Old Testament
Spring 2017	Diocese of East Tennessee Lay Ministries Training Program 6 Saturdays: New Testament
Fall 2019	Diocese of East Tennessee Lay Ministries Training Program

## 6 Saturdays: Old Testament

### Other Professional Duties

- 1990- Member, various School of Theology Committees, including Curriculum and Program, Admissions, Committee  
1993-95 Member, University Grievance Committee, University of the South.  
1994-95 Chair, University Grievance Committee.  
November 1995 Member of ATS Evaluation Committee  
Notre Dame Seminary  
New Orleans, LA  
1995-2001 Member, University Sexual Harassment Advisory Committee, University of the South.  
1996-2009 Member, Center for Teaching Advisory Committee, University of the South.

### Honors

- 1982-83 Dempster Graduate Fellowship, United Methodist Church  
2006 Fortress Press Graduate School and Seminary Teacher of the Year for the United States and Canada