



DIETRA WISE BAKER

Assistant Professor of Community Leadership
Director, Walker Leadership Institute
Faculty Director, Center For Lived Faith and Organizing

CONTACT INFORMATION

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EDUCATION

DOCTOR OF MINISTRY IN PREACHING, 2014
AQUINAS INSTITUTE OF THEOLOGY-ST. LOUIS

MASTER OF DIVINITY, 2006 EDEN
THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE, 1997
HOWARD UNIVERSITY

EXPERIENCE

EDEN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT &
DIRECTOR CONTEXTUAL EDUCATION, 2020- 2024

VISITING PROFESSOR OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT &
DIRECTOR CONTEXTUAL EDUCATION, 2020

VISITING PROFESSOR OF PREACHING, 2019-2020

INTERIM DEAN OF THE CHAPEL, SPRING 2018

ADJUNCT PROFESSOR, 2006-2018

ACTING DIRECTOR, HEARTLAND ACTION OF MISSOURI, 2024-Present

METROPOLITAN CONGREGATIONS UNITED, 2017-PRESENT
SENIOR ORGANIZER

NATIONAL BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION, 2015-2020
PROGRAM COORDINATOR, ADVOCACY AND ACTIVISM

LIBERATION CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST), 2007-2016
PASTOR AND FOUNDER

EPISCOPAL CITY MISSION FOR INCARCERATED YOUTH, 2005-2017
CHAPLAIN AND PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

VARIOUS CHRISTIAN CHURCHES, 2003-2007
YOUTH MINISTER

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE, 1997-2003
OFFICER

DIETRA WISE BAKER

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PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

ASSOCIATION FOR THEOLOGICAL FIELD EDUCATION 2020-2023

AWARDS AND HONORS

2018 INJUSTICE ANYWHERE AWARD LIBERATION CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DOC)

2016 LIBERATOR AWARD FROM THE NATIONAL CONVOCATION OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DOC)

2014 EMERGING LEADER FROM THE NATIONAL CONVOCATION OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DOC)

2012 COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD: STOP THE KILLING INITIATIVE, MUHAMMAD MOSQUE#28

2011 YOUNG LEADERS AWARD FROM THE ST. LOUIS AMERICAN

2010 TORCH AWARD, EDEN BLACK ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

2006 SENIOR PREACHER AWARD FROM EDEN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

2003 NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

2000 AIR FORCE ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL W/1 OAK LEAF CLUSTER

1998 AIR FORCE COMMENDATION MEDAL W/1 OAK LEAF CLUSTER

PUBLICATIONS

CHAPTER, PREACHING RACIAL JUSTICE
ORBIS PRESS 2023.

CONTRIBUTOR FERGUSON, AFTER FAITH, RESILIENT LEADERSHIP IN PURSUIT OF RACIAL JUSTICE,
CHALICE PRESS 2022

CONTRIBUTOR FERGUSON AND FAITH; SPARKING LEADERSHIP AND AWAKENING COMMUNITY
CHALICE PRESS 2015

CONTRIBUTOR 99 PRAYERS, YOU DIDN'T KNOW YOU NEEDED
CHALICE PRESS 2018

CAN ANYTHING GOOD COME FROM NAZARETH: A WOMANIST HERMENEUTIC OF PREACHING
THESIS 2014

PRESENTATIONS

Lexington Theological Seminary, "Reclaiming Black Radical Imagination", April 2024

Presenter, Christian Church Disciples of Christ, Black Ministers Retreat, March 2024

First AME Las Vegas Women's Conference, March 2024

Jewish Relations Community Council, "Do We Want Power," October 2023

Keynote, Kansas City Disciples of Christ Inaugural Racial Justice Summit, 2023

Presenter Educational Intensive: A Case for Black Reparations, UCC General Synod, 2023

Sermon and Liturgy Submission, Stewardship Project for the UCC-DOC, 2022

Closing Keynote, "The Non-Profit Industrial Complex", CHHSM 83rd Annual Gathering, 2021

Walk Justly Conference Workshop Presenter, "Organizing for Congregations" 2021

NBA Peer Group Gathering, "Equity & Justice Games", 2021

Panelist, Revolutionary Love Conference 2021

Sermon and Liturgy Submission, Stewardship Project for the UCC-DOC, 2022

Keynote, National Convocation of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ,) 2016

Keynote General Assembly (DOC) Reconciliation Ministry Breakfast, 2017

Panelist, Revolutionary Love Conference 2021

Keynote, Heartland Regional Conference, 2018

Black Lives Matter: Challenges & Responsibilities for Catholics: Aquinas Institute of Theology, 2018

Ending the Cradle to Prison Pipeline in Missouri: St. Louis Crisis Nursery, 2018

School to Prison Pipeline, Illinois Wisconsin Regional Gathering DOC, 2016

TRAINING

Collegetown Institute Writing Retreat for Mystic Activists, July 2024

PROMO, Healing the Hurt Project (Organizing at the Intersections of Race, Gender, and Sexuality), 2024

Great River Region Christian Church Disciples of Christ, (Caste, Race and Structural Oppression), August 2024

Black Women In Leadership Experience, NBA Christian Church (Disciples of Christ,), 2023

Restorative Justice, National Benevolent Association (NBA) of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ,), 2022

CORE Trainer, Gamaliel National Leadership Training, 2019-Present

Core Trainer, Upper Midwest Region's Ministers Institute on Anti-Racism, 2019

"Anti-Racism and Publishing," Wipf and Stock Publishers, 2022

"When They See Us" Mass Incarceration and Supervision, St Louis Ethical Society, 2019

COURSES

The History of Faith and Social Movements, Fall 2024

Racial Justice for Congregations and Organizations, Spring 2023

Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) History & Polity, Spring 2023

The State of Faith and the Movement, Spring 2023

Not Called to Pastor: Discerning an Alternate Path in Ministry, Spring 2022

Intersections of Race and Caste in South Asia and America, Spring 2021

Faith-Based Community Organizing, Summer 2020

Womanist Preaching, Fall 2016

Imagining Beyond White Christian Nationalism, Spring 2023

Structural Oppression and Healing Strategies, Fall 2023

Progressive Christian Leadership Seminars, Fall 2020-2023

Progressive Leadership Seminars, Fall 2020-2023

Race and Power Summit Fall 2022, 2024

Proctor Conference, Spring 2020, 2021, 2022

COMMUNITY & CHURCH LEADERSHIP

Centennial Christian Church Transformation Team

Washington University, HomeGrownSTL Personal Safety Committee Member

Board Member, Disciples Home Mission (Christian Church Disciples of Christ)

Trainer, Mid-America (Christian Church Disciples of Christ) Racial Justice Ministry