

Stephen G. Ray Jr., Ph.D.
9010 Loch Lea Lane
Louisville, Kentucky 40291
(502) 239-8141
sray@lpts.edu

- Education: Ph.D. Religious Studies-African-American Studies Joint Degree Program, Yale University, 2000.
M.Div. summa cum laude, Yale Divinity School, 1993.
B.S. Charter Oak State College, Newington, Connecticut, 1989.
Certificate, Hartford Seminary Black Ministries Certificate Program, 1986.
- Experience: Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary, Associate Professor of Theology and Philosophy, 1999 to present.
- Hartford Seminary. Lecturer, "Where is God? Christian Reflection on Evil And Suffering," Summer 1998.
- Yale Divinity School. Lecturer, United Church of Christ Polity, 1995-1996; 1996-1997.
- Farmington Historical Society. Consulting scholar, "Black and White in a New England Town, " 1996 - 1998.
- The Hartford Black History Project. Project historian, 1995-1997; Curator, "A Struggle From the Start": museum exhibitions at the Connecticut Historical Society and the Charter Oak Cultural Center, 1996.
- Honors: Yale Divinity School, Hooker Fellowship for Excellence in Theological Studies, 1993.
- Yale University, university fellowship, 1993-1998.
- Charter Oak State College, Distinguished Alumni Award, 1998.
- Kentuckiana Metroversity, Distinguished Teacher of Adult Learners, 2002

Areas of Teaching Competence:

Theology

African-American Theology

Black Theology

Constructive Theology

Postmodern Theology

Process Theology

Systematic Theology

African-American Studies

African-American Critical Thought

Slave Narratives

African-American History

Critical & Historical Race Theory

Books:

A Struggle from the Start: The Black Community of Hartford, 1639-1960 Hartford: The Connecticut Historical Society 1996.

Silenced By the Night: A Constructive Reconstrual of the Protestant Doctrine of Sin. Ph.D. thesis, Yale University, 2000.

Do No Harm: Social Sin and Christian Responsibility, Minneapolis: Fortress Press 2002

contributor, *Constructive Theology: A Contemporary Approach to Classical Themes*, Serene Jones and Paul Lakeland eds. Minneapolis: Fortress Press (forthcoming November 2004).

Chapters:

"The End of Man: Human Rights, Christian Theology and The Rights of Human Persons," in *Human Rights: Christian Influences and Issues*, Frances Adeney and Arvind Sharma eds. Albany, NY: SUNY Press (forthcoming)

Articles and Reviews:

"Truth or Tale: African-American Women's Experience as Theological Source." *PRISM-Theological Journal of the United Church of Christ*, Spring 1996.

"The Remembrance of Integrity African-American New England Congregationalists and the Politics of History." *PRISM - A Theological Journal of the United Church of Christ*, Spring 1999.

Review, *A House Divided: Bridging the Generation Gaps in Your Church*. Whitesel, Bob and Kent R. Hunter. (Nashville: Abingdon Press 2000), for *Family Ministry: Empowering Through Faith*.

Review, *Mastering Theology*. Michaela Davey. Hampshire, England: Palgrave, 2002. for *Teaching Theology and Religion*, V 6 N 2 - April 2003.

Review, *James Baldwin's God: Sex, Hope, and the Crisis in Black Holiness Culture*. Clarence E. Hardy III. The University of Tennessee Press 2003, for *Religious Studies Review* (forthcoming).

Review, *The Fall and Sin: What We Have Become as Sinners*. Marguerite Shuster. William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company 2004, *The Scottish Journal of Theology* (forthcoming) .

Lectureships:

2003 Beacon of Life Lecturer, Muskingum College: *The End of Man: Martin Luther King, Jr., Christian Theology, and the Rights of Human Persons*.

2004 Black History Month Lectures, Memphis Theological Seminary: *The Faithful Remnant: African-Americans, Christianity and the Contest for the Soul of the Faith in America*.

Papers Delivered:

Race and Christian Identity: A Consideration of Bonhoeffer's Treatment of the Jewish Question. The Bonhoeffer Group, the American Academy of Religion, New Orleans, November 26, 1996.

The Importance of Recognizing Ethnicity and Race When Doing African-American Religious Studies and Theology. Conference on Race, Ethnicity, and Migration, Yale University, April 11, 1998.

Not All Black and White: African-American Christian History and the Politics of Historical Identity. The Afro-American Religious History Group, the American Academy of Religion, Nashville, November 19, 2000.

Making Peace in Canaan: African-American Congregationalists in the Antebellum North. Annual Meeting of the Congregational Christian Historical Society, Providence, May 19, 2001.

Response: *Better People? Eugenics and the Church in Us*. History, Ethics Section and Religion and Disability Studies Group, the American Academy of Religion, Atlanta, November 22, 2003.

Response: *Discussion of Stephen G. Ray's Do No Harm: Social Sin and Christian Responsibility*, Theology and Religious Reflection Section, the American Academy of Religion, Atlanta, November 23, 2003.

E-Racing the Faith: Toward the Beloved Community. Rhodes College, February 23, 2004.

Grants Received:

2003 Wabash Summer Grant Program: *A Solomonic Dilemma: Must Sin-Talk Be Cleaved?* - an investigation of the theoretical and rhetorical cleavage between discourses about sin in its personal and social dimensions.

Current Projects:

Not All Black and White: African-American Christian History and the Politics of Historical Identity, University Press of Florida (projected manuscript completion: September 2004).

Co-author, *Making It Plain: An Interdisciplinary Approach to Black Church Studies*. Nashville: Abingdon Press 2007.

Memberships:

American Academy of Religion
Black Religious Scholars Group - Executive Committee
Society for the Study of Black Religion
Workgroup on Constructive Theology

Journal Review Boards:

Conversations in Religion and Theology, January 2003 to present

Other Activities:

Clergy, United Church of Christ:
Assistant Minister, Faith Congregational, U.C.C. 1990-1993
Pastor, Black Church at Yale 1993-1996
Interim Pastor, Imani Fellowship Community Church, U.C.c. 1998
Interim Pastor, Plymouth Congregational, U.C.C. 2000-2001
member, Committee on Ministry, New Haven Association, Connecticut Conference, United Church of Christ 1995 - 1998
member, executive committee, Office of Church Life and Leadership, Connecticut Conference, United Church of Christ 1992-1996
Evaluator, Lilly Sabbatical Grant Program for Indiana Clergy, 2001, 2002
Workgroup on Race: Lilly Project on Lived Theology 2000-2003 Wabash Center 2002-2003 Workshop for Pre-Tenured AfricanAmerican Faculty .

