

Susan Lynn Forshey

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Education

Boston University School of Theology

Ph.D. (ABD), Practical Theology and Spirituality, 2013 (expected)

Dissertation, "The Role and Practice of Prayer in Theological Education for Ministry"

St John's University (Collegeville, MN) School of Theology

Master of Divinity (Monastic Studies concentration)

Thesis, "Cultivating Identity, Delight, and Self-Care: Ascetic Practices for Women"

Western Washington University

B.A., History, Russian History concentration

Work Experience

Academic

2011-Present Program Instructor, *Museum Without Walls*

A Seattle non-profit organization which links participants with survivors of racial, ethnic and/or religious oppression to experience living history

2011 Adjunct Faculty, *Seattle Pacific University*

2007-2010 Coordinator, *Spiritual Formation and Church Life Project*

Center for Practical Theology, Boston University School of Theology

- Mentored students and provided spiritual companionship
- Created and facilitated weekly *Sabbath Space*, a creative arts and prayer space encouraging students to rest and build Sabbath practices into their week
- Created and facilitated *Monastery Reading Retreats*, an opportunity for students to study in a context of daily prayer, and experiment with *lectio divina* as a way of approaching their theological studies
- Created and facilitated *Saturday Reading Retreats*, a day for focused study on-campus, punctuated with morning, noon, and evening prayer, as well as talks on the practice of study
- Designed and gave lectures/workshops on spirituality, Sabbath-keeping, and contemplative prayer for the School of Theology
- Facilitated the School of Theology *Orientation Day* for new students

2009 Teaching Assistant, *Practical Theology Doctoral Proseminar*

Boston University School of Theology

- 2008** **Teaching Assistant, *Theology and Practice of Sabbath***
Boston University School of Theology
- 2006- 2008** **Teaching Assistant, *Theology II: Doctrine***
Boston University School of Theology
- Church**
- 2011-Present** **Liturgy Development Team**
St Paul's Church, Seattle
- 2011** **Liturgical Photography, Artist in Residence**
St Paul's Church, Seattle
- 2008-2009** **Chaplain Associate, *Marsh Chapel***
Boston University
- Spiritual director for MDiv student interns
 - Provided worship leadership for Sunday service
 - Taught adult Christian education classes
 - Provided spiritual care for students in crisis
- 2003** **Chaplain (CPE)**
Swedish Medical Center, Seattle
- 2003** **Pastoral Associate**
Bethany Presbyterian Church, Seattle
- Taught adult Christian education classes and workshops
 - Designed and facilitated seasonal Vespers services
 - Participated on Sunday music ensembles and as a worship leader
 - Co-led high school mission trip to West Virginia
- 1996-2000** **Director, *Seattle's Intentional Community Program***
University Presbyterian Church, Seattle
A one to two year program providing young adults with an urban ministry and Christian community-living experience.
- Recruited, supervised and mentored participants
 - Designed curriculum and facilitated house meetings
 - Designed and led workshops and retreats for the participants
 - Cultivated relationships with Seattle urban agencies, churches, and drop-in centers which partnered with the program
 - Planned and led six mission trips to the inner city of Chicago for participants to learn about racial reconciliation, urban poverty, and community organizing
 - Named in the list of "100 Things the Church is Doing Right," *Christianity Today*, Nov 17, 1997.

Academic Conference Presentation

- 2008 *Reading Life: Lectio Divina as a Framework for Practical Theological Research*, Association of Practical Theology Biennial Conference, St John's University, Collegeville, MN

Publications

- 2012 (upcoming) Book review, *The Practice of Contemplative Photography*, Andy Karr and Michael Wood, *Spiritus: Journal for the Study of Christian Spirituality*
- 2008 Claire Wolfeich and Susan Forshey, "Making Time for Reflection," *Focus*, Boston University School of Theology.
- 2007 Susan Forshey and Karen Meridith, Study Guide for Claire Wolfeich, *Lord, Have Mercy: Praying for Justice with Conviction and Humility*, San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 2006. On-line at www.practicingourfaith.org, *Valparaiso Project on the Education and Formation of People in Faith*.
- 2003 Book Review, *Why God?* Rea McDonnell, *Conversatio*, St John's University.
- 2001 Young Adult Bible Study Curriculum, *Pentecost Offering*, Presbyterian Church (USA)
- 1995-2000 Advocacy Articles, *Real Change Homeless Newspaper*, Seattle

Retreat and Workshop Leadership

Boston University School of Theology

- 2011 The Practice of Joy, Annual Clergy Retreat, MA United Church of Christ
- 2010 Your Brain on Study Workshop
- 2010 Cultivating Sabbath Space Workshop
- 2008- 2010 Saturday Reading Retreat (monthly): *Study time interspersed with praying the Liturgy of the Hours*
- 2007-2010 Monastic Reading Retreat (twice yearly): *Student study weekend at a local monastery*
- 2007-2009 Pastoral and Spiritual Formation Fall Orientation Retreat

Bishop's Day for Passionate Spirituality, Rolling Ridge Retreat Center, Massachusetts

- 2010 Cultivating Sabbath Space Workshop
- 2008 Sabbath Practices Workshop

Bethany Presbyterian Church

- 2011 Lenten Day of Prayer: *Praying with Joy*, Bethany Presbyterian Church
- 2003-2005 Benedictine Spirituality Retreat, St Gertrude's Monastery, Idaho
- 2004 Advent Day of Prayer, Dominican Reflection Center
- 2004 Listening Prayer Workshop
- 2003-2004 Cultivating Delight-An Introduction to Spiritual Disciplines

Seattle Pacific University

- 2000 Workshop Presenter: Stages of Community for Residence Hall Advisors

Other Ministry Experience

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| 2011-Present | Eucharistic minister and cantor, <i>5pm Liturgy</i> , St Paul's Church, Seattle |
| 2010-Present | Presider team, <i>Evening Prayer</i> , St Paul's Church, Seattle |
| 2010-Present | Ensemble musician, <i>Sunday services</i> , Bethany Presbyterian Church, Seattle |
| 2010 | Cantor, <i>Wednesday Compline</i> , Boston University School of Theology |
| 2009-2010 | Cantor, <i>Contemplative Sunday Eucharist</i> , Parish of the Epiphany, Boston |
| 2008-2010 | Cantor, <i>Taize Prayer</i> , Boston University School of Theology |
| 2001-2002 | Cantor, <i>Wednesday Taize Prayer</i> , St John's University |
| 2000-2002 | Chair, <i>Ecumenical and Interfaith Committee</i> , St John's University |
| 1994-2000 | Instructor, <i>Adult Christian Education</i> , Bethany Presbyterian Church |
| 1995-2000 | Leader Team, <i>College & Career Fellowship</i> , Bethany Presbyterian Church |

Community Involvement

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| 2010 | Photographer, <i>Wellspring Family Services</i>, Seattle <i>A non-profit organization which helps families struggling with homelessness or domestic violence to achieve self-sufficiency.</i> |
| 1999-2000 | Board, <i>Real Change Homeless Newspaper</i>, Seattle |
| 1994-2000 | Journalist, <i>Real Change Homeless Newspaper</i>, Seattle |
| 1998-1999 | Volunteer, <i>New Horizons Ministries</i>, Seattle |

Honors

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| 2005-2008 | Center for Practical Theology Doctoral Fellowship , Boston University |
| 2005-2008 | Merit Tuition Scholarship , Boston University School of Theology |
| 2000-2003 | Master of Divinity Scholarship , St John's University, Collegeville, MN |

Professional Affiliations

Association of Practical Theology
Society for the Study of Christian Spirituality
Spiritual Directors International
Association of Contemplative Mind in Higher Education