

Mark Parker

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Ministry Focus

My passion is helping people be more like Jesus by helping them connect to God more deeply. My experiences in preaching, teaching, mentoring, and spiritual formation have given me the opportunity to see God connect with his followers in diverse venues.

Education

- Doctor of Ministry (ABD, expected completion 11/2011), Harding Graduate School
- Master of Divinity (2005), Harding Graduate School
- Certificate of Completion, Croatian Language (1996), University of Zagreb
- Master of Arts, English (1990), University of Idaho
- Bachelor of Arts, English (1988), Oklahoma Christian University

Current Ministries

- Assistant Vice President, Harding University Graduate School of Religion, Memphis, Tenn., school web page: www.hugsr.edu/parker
- Teacher, CrossWalk Bible class, Church of Christ at White Station.
- Conference speaker and retreat presenter of areas of spiritual formation and leadership

References

Earl Manning

Former Elder, Church of Christ at White Station
(901) 685-5610 • writerearl@aol.com

Dr. Rodney Plunket

Minister, Church of Christ at White Station
901.761.2007 • rplunket@cocws.org

Dr. Dave Bland

Professor of Homiletics, Harding Grad School
901.761.1356 • dbland@hugsr.edu

Leisa Kinnin

VP Risk Management, First Tennessee Bank
901.680.9581 • lkinnin@comcast.net

Relevant Experience

- Assistant Vice President, Harding University Graduate School of Religion, Memphis, Tennessee, 2001-present
- Interim preacher, Oxford (Mississippi) Church of Christ, 2002-2003
- Involvement minister, Ross Road Church of Christ, Memphis, 1998-2003
- Associate minister, McKellar Ave Church of Christ, Memphis, 1996-1998
- Missionary, Zagreb, Croatia. 1991-1996.
- Columbia Christian Schools, English teacher, Portland, Ore., 1990-1991

Additional Information

Personal

- Married to [Christine](#) 19 years in 2011
- Two sons, 15 and 11
- Hobbies: growing roses, camping, swimming

Select Seminars and Presentations ([view/hear selected](#))

- May 2011, Pepperdine Bible Lectures, “Sharing the Mantle: Tapping the Leadership Potential of Young Adults,”
- January 2011, Varaždin and Zagreb, Croatia, “Christ in You—The Hope of Glory”
- 2010 National Campus Ministry Seminar: “Leaders Leading Leaders”
- 2009 National Campus Ministry Seminar: “Spiritual Formation”
- 2009 Campus Encounter, Stillwater, Okla., “Spirituality in Ephesians”

Recent Retreats

- “Real World. Real Faith” Fall 2010, Pacific Northwest Collegiate Retreat
- “Love: The Drama,” Spring 2010, Mississippi Collegiate Retreat
- “Spirituality for University Students,” Spring 2010, Louisiana State University campus ministry retreat
- “Godly Living. Godly Leading,” Fall 2008, Elders’ workshop, Oxford, Mississippi,
- “Making a Good Marriage Great,” 2006 (Oxford Church of Christ) 2009 and 2010 (Church of Christ at White Station) marriage enrichment retreat/class (with Christine Parker)

Expanded List of Experience

May 2001 to Present

Assistant Vice President, Harding University Graduate School of Religion

Identify and motivate future graduate ministry students through the ministry discernment process. Lead administrative staff and campus management personnel toward improved customer service. Edit quarterly newsletter, [The Bridge](#). Develop and implement marketing strategy. Strong emphasis on relationship-building with students as mentor (both with ministry students and, along with my wife, couples). Faculty supervisor for two campus ministry apprentices. Initial administrative contact for behavioral health interventions..

July 2003 to May 2004

Interim Pulpit Minister, Oxford Church of Christ, Oxford, Mississippi

Preached stimulating sermons designed to promote church unity, providing a sense of stability in the face of changes during preacher transition. Served as a spiritual and professional resource to elders and ministry leaders. Continued involvement: pre-marital counseling with several couples, 2005 campus ministry retreat, 2007 marriage enrichment workshop, 2008 elders’ retreat and performing a wedding and funeral.

February 1998 to May 2001

Involvement Minister, Ross Road Church of Christ, Memphis, Tennessee

Recruited and trained adult class teachers and small group leaders. Spearheaded outreach and in-reach programs. Developed deacon organization and training. Initiated Adopt-A-School program. Coordinated strategic planning. Weddings and funerals. Administered health care benefits. Developed marketing materials.

September 1996 to February 1998

Associate Minister, McKellar Avenue Church of Christ, Memphis, Tennessee

Taught high school class, preached, drove church van into inner-city to pick up riders for services of this predominately African American congregation.

July 1991 to June 1996

Missionary in Zagreb, Croatia

Served in refugee-support ministry during Croatian War. Implemented team-based fundraising and secured broad-based financial support. Conceptualized, developed, and administered the adult education ministry Zagreb Bible School. Designed and published Croatian hymnal. Led small groups program targeting personal evangelism and leadership.

Church Involvement

Church of Christ at White Station

Current: Sunday morning adult class teacher; Audio/visual team member, along with my sons. Mentor to other teachers and men.

Previous: Deacon of Marriage Mentoring. "Life Support" (family life) ministry team member. Guest preacher. Congregational magazine editor.

Book Reviews

- [December 2009 Christian Chronicle](#): *The Great Emergence*, Phyllis Tickle; *Saving Jesus from the Church*, Robin Meyers; *Death by Church*, Mike Erre
- [March 2009 Christian Chronicle](#): *Into the Dark: Seeing the Sacred in the Top Films of the 21st Century*, Craig Detweiler; *Images of the Word: Hollywood's Bible and Beyond*, ed. David Shepherd
- [August 2008 Christian Chronicle](#): *Falling Away: Why Christians Lose Their Faith and What Can Be Done about It*, Brian Simmons

Articles

"The Power of Generations." *21st Century Christian Magazine* 73:4 (July/August 2010): 16-19.