

## Matthew J. Burgess

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### Education

- 2008- **Doctor of Philosophy, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Virginia**  
Concentration: Judaism and Christianity in Antiquity
- 2005-2008 **Master of Arts in Religion, Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut**  
*summa cum laude*  
Concentration: Biblical Studies
- 2000-2004 **Bachelor of Arts, Centre College, Danville, Kentucky**  
*magna cum laude; Phi Beta Kappa; The William A. Davis Memorial Prize*  
Concentrations: History; Religious Studies

### Selected Teaching Experience

- 2008- **University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Virginia**  
*Teaching Fellow, Department of Religious Studies*  
Joined with Professor Ann Duncan to teach an introductory undergraduate course (“Introduction to Western Religious Traditions”) during the fall semester of 2008. Administered three discussion sections, each containing 20 students, which explored material from the lectures in a more interactive environment and also introduced additional topics. Responsible for the preparation and execution of lesson plans; the grading of written assignments and exams; and the compilation of final grades. Currently joining with Professor Harry Gamble to teach another introductory course (“Introduction to the New Testament and Early Christianity”).
- 2007-2008 **Christ Church United Methodist, Louisville, Kentucky**  
*Small Group Lecturer/Facilitator*  
In the summer of 2007, organized and led a four-part adult education course (“Jouette Bassler’s *Navigating Paul: A Four-Week Study*”) on Paul, directing the participants’ close reading and discussion of a recent introduction to Pauline theology and thought. In the summer of 2008, organized and led another four-part course (“Jesus at the Movies”) devoted to the depiction of Jesus and his world in various films.
- 2001 **Centre College, Danville, Kentucky**  
*Teaching Assistant, Department of Humanities*  
Assisted Professor Jane Joyce with a standard undergraduate course (“An Introduction to the Humanities”) during the fall semester. Supervised the preparation of group presentations, participated in the formal evaluation of those presentations, and offered editorial and other support to individual students as they prepared written assignments.
- 1999-2000 **duPont Manual High School, Louisville, Kentucky**  
*Student Aid/Teaching Assistant*  
As an outstanding senior student, selected by Ms. Phyllis Goff to teach two units of a tenth-grade World Civilizations course, covering the English Wars of the Roses and the Second World War., at a high school recognized at the state and national levels as a School of Excellence. Prepared and executed lesson plans for multiple sections; also responsible for the grading of selected assignments.

### Selected Vocational Experience

- 2006-2008 **Yale Divinity School Student Book Supply, New Haven, Connecticut**  
*Sales Clerk; Receiving Clerk*  
As Sales Clerk (2006-2007), assisted in the day-to-day operation of a religious bookstore serving Yale Divinity School and the greater community. Upon promotion to Receiving Clerk (2007-2008), processed all incoming shipments, managed the store’s inventory database, and conducted monthly financial reconciliations of the store’s accounts with various publishers and other creditors.
- 2001-2005 **Hawley-Cooke Booksellers/Borders Books and Music, Louisville, Kentucky**  
*Bookseller; Inventory Supervisor*  
As Bookseller (2001-2004), provided award-winning customer service for a local bookstore and the national retailer which subsequently purchased it, in a location of 26,000 square feet with annual sales of approximately \$14-16 million. Upon promotion to Inventory Supervisor (2004-2005), managed the inventory needs and processes of another location of 12,000 square feet with annual sales of approximately \$7-8 million. Permanently supervised a team of 3-5 individuals, and frequently supervised others while administering the sales floor. Reconfigured the store’s warehouse for more efficient receiving and processing, assisted in the creation of weekly schedules, and conducted various other managerial tasks.

## **Selected Institutional/Ecclesiastical Governance and Service**

### **Yale Divinity School**

- 2007-2008 Master of Arts in Religion Representative, Community Life Committee  
Musical Director, Bible Belters Vocal Ensemble
- 2006-2008 Member, Yale Divinity School Methodist Society
- 2006-2007 Member, Yale Divinity School Gospel Choir

### **Centre College**

- 2003-2004 Vice President of Administration, Delta Chapter, Phi Kappa Tau (winner of the 2001, 2002 Maxwell Award as the best individual chapter of the fraternity; winner of the 2003 NIC Award of Distinction as the best individual chapter of any NIC member fraternity)

### **Christ Church United Methodist**

- 1999 Member, Volunteers in Mission Team, Roatan, Honduras
- 1999-2000 Member, Chancel Choir
- 1998-1999 Representative, Administrative Council
- 1997 Member, Volunteers in Mission Team, Alajuela, Costa Rica
- 1995-1996 Member, Minister of Youth Search Committee

## **Selected Publications, Papers, and Presentations**

- 2008 “The Boy Who Lived (and Died, and Rose Again): The messianic matrix of *Harry Potter*.” Paper presented at the American Comparative Literature Association Annual Meeting, Long Beach, California, April 27, 2008.  
“Splish, splash: The symbolism of water in the Book of Revelation.” Paper presented at the Society of Biblical Literature New England Regional Meeting, Newton, Massachusetts, April 18, 2008.
- 2007 “Finding your own ark.” Sermon given at Christ Church United Methodist, Louisville, Kentucky, July 15, 2007.  
“Lent: give something up, or take something on?” Sermon given at First & Summerfield United Methodist Church, New Haven, Connecticut, March 11, 2007.
- 2006- “Confessions of a Bible Junkie.” Online: <http://matthewburgess.blogspot.com/>. (Named one of the Top 100 Theology Blogs, christiancolleges.com, February 2009.)
- 2006 “Where did the Bible come from? A brief introduction to ancient manuscripts.” Lecture given at Christ Church United Methodist, Louisville, Kentucky, December 31, 2006.  
“Why won’t the Christians come out and play? Points of conflict between emerging Christianity and the Roman religious status quo.” Ninety-minute lecture given to fulfill the requirements of REL 669 (“Early Christian Identities”), Professor Diana Swancutt, Yale Divinity School, April 11, 2006. Grade: Honors (exemplary).  
“Am I my brother’s keeper? James ‘the Lord’s brother’ as a source of authority in early Christianity.” Paper presented at the Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, November 21, 2006.  
“Divinity School Student Reflects on ‘Da Vinci’ Debate,” in *The (Louisville) Courier-Journal*, June 5, 2006.

## **Professional Affiliations**

- 2007- American Comparative Literature Association
- 2005- American Academy of Religion  
North American Patristics Society  
Society of Biblical Literature

## **Academic References**

- John J. Collins, Holmes Professor of Old Testament Criticism and Interpretation, Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut  
(203) 432-2002 john.j.collins@yale.edu
- Adela Yarbro Collins, Buckingham Professor of New Testament Criticism and Interpretation, Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut  
(203) 432-1598 adela.collins@yale.edu
- Diana Swancutt, Assistant Professor of New Testament, Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut  
(203) 432-5327 diana.swancutt@yale.edu
- Michael F. Hamm, Ewing T. Boles Professor of History, Centre College, Danville, Kentucky  
(859) 238-5264 michael.hamm@centre.edu

## **Professional References**

- Lisabeth Huck, former Manager, Yale Divinity School Student Book Supply, New Haven, Connecticut  
(203) 432-5311 lisabeth.huck@yale.edu
- Constance Barlow, former General Manager/Sales Manager, Hawley-Cooke Booksellers/Borders Books & Music, Louisville, Kentucky  
(502) 585-5347 magicfan32@bellsouth.net
- Henry L. Carrigan, Jr, Senior Editor/Assistant Director, Northwestern University Press  
(847) 491-8112 h-carrigan@northwestern.edu
- Jack Keller, former Vice President of Publishing, Westminster John Knox Press  
jkeller@umpublishing.org