

Jordan Minnich Kjesbo

7500 W President St  
Sioux Falls, SD, 57106  
(605)201-0050  
jordan@vermillionfirst.com  
jkjesbo@kairos.edu

## **EDUCATION**

Sioux Falls Seminary/Kairos University — Doctor of Ministry (ABD and currently on hiatus)

Sioux Falls Seminary — Master of Arts in Bible and Theology 2016 (Thesis: *The Gospel of John... Lennon: The Good News of Finding a Deconstructed Gospel of Jesus in an Unorthodox Source*)

The Institute of Production and Recording — Associates of Arts in Audio Production and Engineering 2007

University of the Nations/Youth With A Mission — Discipleship Training School 2002

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS**

### **Kairos Affiliate Faculty, Kairos University (Formerly Sioux Falls Seminary); Sioux Falls, SD — 2018-Present**

Kairos is a competency-based approach to theological education that is contextual and experiential. Kairos Affiliate Faculty mentor and direct students academically as they work to fulfill the outcomes necessary for students to obtain their degree from Sioux Falls Seminary. This role is both academic and mentoring. Currently, I serve students who are actively engaged in various ministry contexts around the world. The students I work with come from a diverse group of denominations including American Baptist Churches USA (ABCUSA), North American Baptist (NAB), Converge (Formerly known as the Baptist General Conference or BGC), Christian Reformed Church in North America (CRCNA or CRC), and Reformed Church in America (RCA). Currently, I am serving as a Faculty Mentor of students in four different graduate programs including:

- Master of Arts in Christian Leadership (M.A.C.L.)
- Master of Arts in Bible and Theology (M.A.B.T.)
- Master of Divinity (M.Div)
- Doctor of Ministry (D.Min)

**United Methodist Course of Study Professor, Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary; Evanston, IL — 2021, 2022**

I taught COS121 Bible I: Introduction for the Summer 2021 and Spring 2022 Course of Study sessions. These courses were fully online and utilized both synchronous and asynchronous work. The course focused on interpreting scripture and contextual the Bible's divine truths for the students unique ministry contexts. The books explored in this course include Genesis, Hosea and Amos, Mark, and Philippians.

**Adjunct Instructor, Messiah College; Grantham, PA — 2016-2018**

Beginning Spring Semester of 2016 I taught in the QuEST (General Education) and BRS (Bible and Religious Studies) departments at Messiah College. Classes taught include:

- Created and Called for Community (CCC)  
CCC is the second half of Messiah's First Year Curriculum and looks at the College's spiritual foundations (Anabaptism, Wesleyanism, and Pietism) through the lenses of creativity, vocation, and community. Students read a wide range of sources from authors including Martin Luther King Jr., Alice Walker, Albert Schweitzer, Henri Nouwen, Plato, Desmond Tutu, and others along with multiple readings from the Bible. I taught 1 section of CCC spring 2016, 3 sections spring 2017, 1 section (online) summer 2017, and 1 section spring 2018.
- First Year Seminar (FYS)  
FYS is the first half of Messiah's First Year Curriculum. Unlike CCC, FYS courses cover a range of topics and focus on critical thinking and academic reading and writing. My FYS course was titled "Pop Culture Christianity" and involved students exploring echoes of the Gospel in various spheres of Popular Culture including music, literature, film, television, sports, politics, and science. I taught 2 sections of FYS Fall 2016, 2 Sections Fall 2017, and 1 section Fall 2018.
- Encountering the Bible  
Encountering the Bible is Messiah's introductory Bible class that all students are required to take. This course is tasked with providing students with an introduction to academic study of the Bible by considering the translation and transmission of the text, historical and cultural context of the original audience and authors, the literary context and genre of various books, and the challenges for an invitation to modern readers of this ancient near eastern text. I taught 1 section of Encountering the Bible January 2017, 2 sections Fall 2017, 1 section January 2018, 1 section Spring 2018, and 2 sections Fall 2018. Additionally, I taught a variation of this course Fall 2018 that focused on the New Testament rather than the entire Bible.

- **Human Rights Awareness Chapel Series: Toppling the Golden Calf**  
During the Spring 2018 semester, I worked alongside students from Messiah's Human Rights Awareness student organization to develop and deliver a 5-week chapel series exploring the topic of idolatry as it relates to contemporary life. I was primarily responsible for the topics looking at the biblical understanding of idols, idols of knowledge, and exploring how we can move from idols to icons.

Messiah limits adjuncts to 6 courses (18 credits) per academic year. For the 2016-2017 and 2017-2018 academic years, I worked the maximum load allowed for adjuncts. Additionally, during Summer 2017 and Fall 2018 I was granted a special exemption from the Office of the Provost to teach an additional course above the normal adjunct limit. Along with my teaching, I have been involved with Professional Learning Communities during the spring and fall semesters of 2017. All course syllabi are available by request.

#### **Teaching Assistant, Sioux Falls Seminary; Sioux Falls, SD — 2015**

I worked as a teaching assistant for Dr. Larry Caldwell's Mission of the Church Course at Sioux Falls Seminary during the spring semester of 2015. I assisted Dr. Caldwell by working with the online students including grading their course work, Dr. Caldwell also asked me to TA for his Ethnohermeneutics class in the fall of 2015, however, the enrollment for his class didn't necessitate my involvement.

#### **Student Chaplain, Sioux Falls Seminary; Sioux Falls, SD — 2014**

I was selected to serve as the Student Chaplain at Sioux Falls Seminary for the 2014-2015 academic year. However, an unexpected move to the East Coast meant that I was unable to complete the year. As Chaplain, I worked with a faculty adviser to plan weekly chapel services and our fall retreat.

#### **Ministry Experience — 2001-Present**

Since 2001, I worked in a wide range of ministry contexts and roles in both full-time and bi-vocational capacities. My ministry roles have included missions, youth, and young adult ministry, worship leadership, creative arts, technical direction, teaching/preaching, and discipleship. My ministry contexts have been international/cross-cultural (Hong Kong and China), urban (Denver, CO), and suburban (Sioux Falls, SD, and Carlisle, PA). Additionally, my work at Messiah College provided me with the unique opportunity of walking alongside students as they asked big questions about faith. This led to countless conversations in my office or the halls of the college and discussions over lunch or coffee where my ministry skills were put to use. During my time serving with the United Methodists I have cared for two very different Congregations in South Dakota. Fusion in Mitchell (3/1/20-5/31/22) and Vermillion First United Methodist (8/1/21-present).

**Paper and Presentation, Evangelical Missiological Society North Central Regional Conference; Chicago, IL — 2017 and 2021**

I presented a paper at the Evangelical Missiological Society's North Central Regional Conference, held in Chicago in March of 2017, titled *John Lennon and the Unknown God*. My paper used Lennon's Song *Imagine* in a way similar to Paul's use of Athens' own poets in Acts 17. My paper and presentation were well received. Conference attendees gave my work high marks for creativity and originality.

I was again invited to present for the 2021 meeting (this time held via Zoom). The time of my presentation, titled *Ted Lasso: How (Not) to Communicate Cross-Culturally*, explored the challenges and invitations of cross-cultural communication as illustrated in the acclaimed Apple TV+ show *Ted Lasso*.