

# Curriculum Vitae

## Charles Scott Kinder-Pyle ~ MDiv, DMin

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### Education:

Eastern Washington University	Master of Fine Arts, Poetry	2013
Columbia Theological Seminary	Doctor of Ministry	2008
Princeton Theological Seminary	Master of Divinity	1988
Pennsylvania State University	Bachelor of Arts, English	1985

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### Related Professional Experience:

Teacher (Instructor) Eastern Washington University	Cheney, WA	2012
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Dr. Justin Young, the chair of the English Composition Program at Eastern Washington University, contacted me at the end of winter quarter and asked me to consider teaching a section of English 101 in the spring. I'm glad he asked and that I accepted. Many of the participants in the class are first generation college students, and as such, they bring the proverbial satchel bag of energy, enthusiasm and curiosity to their writing every day. The plan for the quarter includes a Diagnostic Essay, which I have entitled *Where Does It Hurt?* as well as an Essay Exam section in which the students read various scholarly articles, identify the respective thesis statements, key words, indexical concepts and then prepare to join the academic conversation in response to what they've read... Also on the agenda is an Autobiographical Essay and a Persuasive Essay in which many of these students will access their own primary sources for the first time in their lives... It's all very exciting for them and for me, as they will deliver their completed portfolios by the last day of classes and perhaps look upon this work as the springboard for future writing projects. My passion, I've recognized, is to equip them and to imagine them as peers in the mutual journey that we share toward an honest, authentic and communal life.

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Teacher (Intern)

Eastern Washington University

Cheney, WA

2012

Humanities 215 is an Introduction to Religion course that I taught three days a week and for which Dr. Logan Greene and I chose the following textbooks: *A Translation and Commentary on Genesis* (Robert Alter); *Fear And Trembling* (Soren Kierkegaard); *Essential Writings* (Thich Naht Hahn) and *Studying Religion* (Gary Kessler). My responsibilities have included the crafting of an in-depth syllabus, establishing grading criteria as well as lecturing and leading discussions. The beauty of this class is that we have divided the 45 students into nine groups, in which each group may flesh out the differences and similarities in the religious traditions we discuss. I use contemporary film clips and hands-on exercises to heighten the cultural familiarity that students already have with the basic concepts. For example, in discussing how Kierkegaard wants his readers to maintain the tension of “faith,” I connect that concept with the story of Jacob, wrestling the angel, show a scene from *Eternal Sunshine On The Spotless Mind* and pretend to do a little arm-wrestling with a student whose willing and eager to take on his/her instructor. It’s all very fun, and yet so compelling that the entire class laughs as one. We then wonder together about the dangers of collapsing the tension too quickly: dangers that include intolerance and perhaps the possibility of settling for easy answers.

Teacher (Intern)

Eastern Washington University

Cheney, WA

2011

English 170 is a literature survey course with nearly 300 students in attendance. My primary focus consisted of overseeing 25 of them, meeting them face to face and primarily facilitating on-line (Blackboard) discussions. There were also opportunities to facilitate larger and smaller group conversations around *Beowulf*, *Moby Dick* and other works. Finally, I lectured and led discussion for an entire class, filling in for Instructor Polly Buckingham (after she notified me that day of her inability to teach because of a personal emergency). Using film clips, audio recordings as well as a student’s recitation of a poem by Sharon Olds, I engaged the students on the subject of *Poetry of Witness*. Langston Hughes and Sherman Alexie also provided plenty of material which I parsed while inviting the students to identify areas of social conflict that they saw in the poetry and may have experienced themselves.

Organizing Pastor

Latah Valley New Church Development

Spokane, WA

2006-2011

In starting a new church, there are many opportunities to teach, and for nearly five years, this became the pivot point of my work. That is, I taught while preaching and allowing times for questions and conversations that followed a worship service. I visited coffee shops and hosted art shows, outdoor picnics and parties in which the religiously curious could come and simply ponder the larger purposes of their lives and the potential of forming an intentional community of faith. I performed pastoral care, drew up annual budgets, discerned leaders, created promotional brochures, website content and wrote the script for video-presentations.

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In November of 2007, I worked with Dr. Tim Dolan at Whitworth University to organize a conference entitled, *Emergent--Mainline Dialogue*. I contacted and worked out the logistics to secure four nationally renowned speakers who presented on the postmodern paradigm shift, and over two-hundred church leaders and college students attended.

Pastor

Crossroads Presbyterian Church

Limerick, PA

1996-2006

For over a decade, my spouse and I served as Co-Pastors of another new church development in the northwest suburbs of Philadelphia, PA. My primary responsibilities there included casting the vision for the congregation and providing forums for *spiritual formation*, which is the ecclesial way of saying *I taught*. And I taught in ways consistent with both my seminary training as well as the hands-on relationships I had built to that point. Sermon topics and small group forums revolved around confusing contradictions in the biblical text in addition to the existential angst of young families groping for something beyond the formula. Crossroads received a major denominational award, became an officially chartered church in 1999 and built a multi-million dollar facility in which the congregation worships to this day.

Pastor

First Presbyterian Church

Ada, OH

1991-1996

The seeds of the teaching to which I aspire now took root in Ohio, just south of Toledo, in a small college town where there were farmers, faculty, staff and students. I cannot distinguish my pedagogy in the pulpit there and now from what I'd like to do here and now; all that's left out are the prayers and the creed. Essentially, Sunday after Sunday I took in strays -- men and women from around the country who came to Ohio Northern University for an education, but who didn't want to jettison their minds when they came to church.

Associate Pastor

First Presbyterian Church

Spokane, WA

1988-1990

Directly out of seminary, I worked with youth and college-age individuals in a large-staff congregation with approximately 2,000 people on the membership roles. I developed programs, which responded to the special needs of Spokane's emerging generations, taught theology and mentored leaders who also worked with a student population. Many who attended this church came from Whitworth University and Gonzaga University.

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## Guest Lectures:

English 170  
Eastern Washington University

November, 2011

On this occasion I lectured and led discussion on *Poetry of Witness*; I filled in for regular instructor, Polly Buckingham, who informed that very day of her inability to teach the class for personal reasons. See letter (attached).

English 387  
Eastern Washington University

February 8, 2012

Knowing of my interest in literary criticism of the Bible, Dr. Garrett Kenney invited me to share for thirty minutes on the “Akedah” or the binding of Isaac in Genesis 22. See his observations for Eastern Washington faculty (attached).

Philosophy 101  
Eastern Washington University

May 9, 11, 2012

Dr. Kevin Decker, in Eastern’s Philosophy Department, has invited me to lecture on Existentialism for two sections of the course he teaches in the spring of 2012.

## Community Service:

New Church Development Coach  
*Common Table*, Bend, Oregon

2009--2010

Annual Conference for New Church Development  
Chairperson, Organizing Committee  
Tampa, Florida

2011

*The Fig Tree* Board Member  
(an ecumenical religious publication)  
Spokane, WA

2007--2010

*Ham On Regal*, Director & Script Co-Chair  
Ferris High School Annual Production  
Spokane, WA

2007--2012

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## Peer-Reviewed Poetry Publications:

“Edict,” *Sojourners Magazine*, July 2011 (40:7).

“Dialogues Overheard About Business,” *Catalyst*, March-April, 2011 (7:2)

“The Plaque of the Girl Who Drowned,” *Journal for Preachers*, Lent, 2007 (30:2)

“On The Day of Graduation,” *The Rolling Coulter*, Fall, 1991 (3:2)

“The Study of Geysers In The Garden,” *Word & Image*, Winter, 1991 (4:12)

## Editorially-Selected Poetry Publications:

“Homesteader Ex Nihilo,” *Stone Hobo*, February 2012

“What Happened To The Kayak,” *RiverLit*, January 2012

“What My Wife’s Ex-Boyfriend Said...,” *Cybersoleil*, January, 2012

## References:

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