

Reverend Debra J. Mumford, Ph.D.

Rev. Debra J. Mumford was born in Kinston, North Carolina. She is the daughter of Rev. J. A. Mumford and Ms. Hazel B. Mumford. Debra attended Howard University in Washington, DC where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering. After working with Corning Incorporated in Parkersburg, West Virginia she moved to Oakland, California to work with the Clorox Company. While working with Clorox, she began to feel that there was call on her life.

In 1994 she answered her call to the ministry and began seminary at the American Baptist Seminary of the West. While in seminary, Debra served as Youth Minister, Assistant Pastor, and Interim Pastor at the Church By the Side of the Road in Berkeley, California. Upon graduation from ABSW with a Master of Divinity degree, she worked as a Youth Outreach Coordinator for the Chaplaincy to the Homeless in Berkeley. Debra subsequently served as the Director of Operations for the Allen Temple Baptist Church in Oakland, California, preacher for youth at the Formosan United Methodist Church in San Leandro, California, Director of Recruitment and Admissions at the Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley, California, and Director of Recruitment at the American Baptist Seminary of the West in Berkeley, California.

Debra earned a Master of Arts in Biblical Languages and a Ph.D. in Homiletics and New Testament from the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley. She currently serves as the Frank H. Caldwell Professor of Homiletics and is Director of Money Matters for Ministry (a program that teaches students financial literacy and administrative knowledge and skills) at the Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky. She also served as Associate Academic Dean for five years.

ORDINATION

American Baptist Churches, USA

RECOGNIZED CLERGY

Alliance of Baptists

BOOK

- *Exploring Prosperity Preaching: Biblical Health, Wealth, & Wisdom*, Judson Press. May, 2012. This book is a critical analysis of Prosperity Gospel in African American contexts.

BOOK CHAPTERS

- "The Gospel of Prosperity: Jesus, Capitalism, and Hope" in David Schnasa Jacobsen (Ed.), *Homiletical Theology: Theologies of the Gospel in Context*, Cascade Books, Forthcoming.
- "Students are What is Most Right About Preaching" in Mike Graves (Ed.), *What is Right About Preaching*, Westminster John Knox Press, Forthcoming.

ARTICLES/PUBLICATIONS

- "Preaching at Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary" in *Mosaic*, Fall 2008
- "Jeremiah Wright and Black Prophetic Preaching" for *The Thoughtful Christian*, April, 2008
- "Prosperity Gospel: Will Jesus Make You Rich?" for *The Thoughtful Christian*, May, 2008
- "Mark 15:33-41" for *African American Lectionary*, Spring, 2009
- "Total Praise: A Vision for Holistic and Interconnected Christian Lives." *Call to Worship: Liturgy, Music, Preaching, and the Arts*, Volume 42.4, (2009).
- "Do Segregated Churches Imply Racism" for *The Thoughtful Christian*, August, 2009
- "Acts 11:1-18," "John 14:23-29," "Luke 24:44-53," "Acts 2:1-21," "Psalm 8," for "Preaching the Lesson" in *Lectionary Homiletics*, May 2010.
- Homiletical Perspective for "Psalm 50," "Psalm 100," "Psalm 31" *Feasting on the Word: Preaching the Revised Common Lectionary*, Year A, Volume 3, Westminster John/Knox Press, 2011.
- "Rich and Equal in the Eyes of Almighty God! Creflo Dollar and the Gospel of Racial Reconciliation" for *Pneuma, The Journal for the Society of Pentecostal Studies*, August, 2011.
- "Preaching on Homosexuality in the Black Church" for the *African American Lectionary*. View article at <http://www.theafricanamericanlectionary.org/dialoguecorner.asp>
- "Preaching and Plagiarism" for *The Presbyterian Leader*, May, 2011.
- Homiletical Perspective for "Psalm 84," "1 Kings 8" *Feasting on the Word: Preaching the Revised Common Lectionary*, Year A, Volume 3, Westminster John/Knox Press, 2011.
- "Prosperity Preaching and African American Prophetic Preaching," *Review and Expositor: A Consortium Baptist Theological Journal*, vol. 109, no. 3, Summer 2012.
- Homiletical Perspective for "Luke 14," "Luke 13," *Feasting on the Gospels*, Westminster John/Knox Press, 2013.

- “2 Kings 5,” “Luke 10,” “Amos 8,” “Colossians 2” for “Preaching the Lesson” in *Lectionary Homiletics*, May 2013.
- “Trayvon Martin: A Tragic Catalyst for Change” for *The Thoughtful Christian*, August, 2013.
- “Obamacare: the Good, the Bad, and the Hope for the Future” for *The Thoughtful Christian*, May, 2014.
- “Slave Prosperity Gospel” in *Homiletic* Vol. 41, No. 1 (2016)