

# GINA A. S. ROBINSON

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## EDUCATION

**Garrett-Evangelical School of Theology, Evanston, IL—May 2022**

*Doctor of Philosophy, Christian Education and Congregational Studies*

- Dissertation: “Saving Her Self: Practicing Self-knowing and Self-formation as Womanish Ways of Living”
- Committee: Evelyn Parker, Mai-Anh Le Tran, Almeda Wright, and Reginald Blount (Chair)

**Yale Divinity School, New Haven, CT—May 2017**

*Master of Sacred Theology, Practical Theology*

**Candler School of Theology at Emory University, Atlanta, GA—May 2016**

*Master of Divinity, Leadership and Administration Concentration, Religious Education and Black Church Studies Certificates*

**Emory University, Atlanta, GA—May 2009**

*Bachelor of Arts, African American Studies and Political Science*

**Oxford College of Emory University, Oxford, GA—May 2007**

*Associate of Arts*

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

**Samuel Dewitt Proctor School of Theology at Virginia Union**

**University; Richmond, VA — January 2021-June 2021**

*Adjunct Professor*

- Teaching *Education in Context*—Winter 2021
- Teaching *Youth Ministry: Companionship Youth on Spiritual Journeys*—Summer 2021

**Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary; Evanston, IL—September 2018-Present**

*Teaching Assistant*

- *Methods, Models and Tools for Social Change*—Fall 2021
- *Integrated Seminar in Pastoral Theology*—Fall 2020
- *Introduction to Theological Education*—Spring 2020
- *Educating Christians for Social Change*—Fall 2019
- *Introduction to Youth Ministry*—Spring 2019
- *Introduction to Theological Education*—Fall 2018

**St. John African Methodist Episcopal Church; Aurora, IL—  
January 2019-Present**

***Facilitator for Continuing Education Workshops and Bible Studies***

- “Making Memories: Stories, Symbols and Faith Development”—a training for children’s church volunteers
- “Step-by Step: Journeying with God’s People”— a training for adult small group and Bible study volunteers
- “The Book of James”— a young adult Bible study
- “Passage: The Journey of Joseph and the African American Experience”— an adult Bible study for Black History Month

**PEDAGOGICAL TRAINING**

**Garrett- Evangelical Theological Seminary**

- Certificate in Teaching

**Theater of the Oppressed**

- Facilitator training at the 2018 Association of Practical Theology Conference

**RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

**Publications**

**Urban Ministries, Incorporated; Chicago, IL—June 2018-Present**

***Freelance Adult Sunday School Lesson, Study guide and Sermon Outline  
Writer***

- “The Word Resurrects the Dead” in *UrbanFaith June Quarter 2022* (July 17, 2022)
- “The Word Heals” in *UrbanFaith Magazine June Quarter 2022* (July 10, 2022)
- “God Offers Deliverance” in *UrbanFaith Magazine June Quarter 2022* (June 26, 2022)
- “God Foretells of Redemption” in *UrbanFaith Magazine June Quarter 2022* (June 12, 2022)
- “Freedom and the Law” in *UrbanFaith Magazine March Quarter 2022* (May 15, 2022)
- “Freedom in Christ Jesus” in *UrbanFaith Magazine March Quarter 2022* (April 24, 2022)
- “The Passover with the Disciples” in *UrbanFaith Magazine March Quarter 2022* (April 10, 2022)
- “Lest We Forget” in *UrbanFaith Magazine March Quarter 2022* (March 27, 2022)
- “What Makes Our Faith Come Alive” in *Precepts for Living: Pastor’s*

*Edition 2020* (August 16, 2020)

- “Leaving a Divine Legacy” in *Precepts for Living: Pastor’s Edition 2020* (January 12, 2020)
- “Love and Worship God” in *Precepts for Living: The UMI Annual Commentary 2018-2019* (December 16, 2018)
- “Choose to Love and Serve God” in *Precepts for Living: The UMI Annual Commentary 2018-2019* (December 9, 2018)
- “Jesus Teaching about Transforming Love” in *Precepts for Living: The UMI Annual Commentary 2018-2019* (July 21, 2018)
- “Jesus Teaches about Right Attitudes” in *Precepts for Living: The UMI Annual Commentary 2018-2019* (June 30, 2018)

#### **Academic Presentations**

##### **Religious Education Association, Virtual Conference—July 2021**

- “Sacred Friendships, Sacred Workings, Sacred Spaces”—Panel discussion with co-authors of a book that is in the proposal phase and currently being shopped to different publishers

##### **American Academy of Religion Annual Conference, San Diego, CA—November 2019**

- “Digging Deep Wells: Ella Baker as a Model of Academic Apprenticeship”—panel presentation

##### **Cátedra Paulo Freire Annual Conference, Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary—March 2019**

- “We Who Believe in Freedom Cannot Rest: Ella Baker’s Liberatory Pedagogy”—paper presentation

##### **Religious Education Association Annual Meeting, Washington, DC—November 2018**

- “‘I Belong Here’: A Theo-sociopolitical Examination of Black Bodies in White Spaces”—paper presentation

##### **Association of Practical Theology, New Haven, CT—April 2018**

- “A Practical Theological Exploration of *A Seat at the Table*”—paper presentation

##### **Religious Education Festival, Candler School of Theology—April 2015**

- “Bridge”—a weekend retreat curriculum for high school seniors transitioning from youth to adult church—electronic poster presentation

#### **Research Assistant**

**Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, Evanston, IL  
—September 2017- May 2018**

*Research Assistant to Dr. Reginald Blount*

- Assisted with event coordination and provided hospitality to over ten congregations in the midwest region, denominational leaders, and scholars involved in Young Adult Initiative grant funded by the Lily Endowment
- Served as the event notetaker during the trainings, listening sessions and roundtables
- The Young Adult Initiative is concerned with researching the faith formation of young adults as well as supporting young adult ministries in over ten congregations in the Chicagoland area

*Research Assistant to the Garrett-Evanston Freedom Schools Program*  
—Summer 2020

- Analyzed polls and interviews of parents, community partners and Servant Leader Interns to determine the impact of the Garrett-Evanston Freedom Schools program over the last four years.

**Yale Divinity School, New Haven, CT—October 2016-May 2017**

*Research Assistant to Dr. Eboni Marshall Turman*

- Prepared complete primary bibliography of and pulled all sources for M. Shawn Copeland's work
- Prepared complete primary and secondary bibliographies for Paul Tillich and James Cone
- Researched all aspects of the arrest and death of Sandra Bland
- Attended to all personal and administrative needs of Dr. Turman

**FELLOWSHIPS**

**Forum for Theological Exploration—September 2019-Present**

*Pre-Dissertation and Dissertation Fellow*

- An award of financial support for doctoral students of African descent, who have completed the course work stage of their Ph.D. or Th.D. program in religion, theological studies or biblical studies.

**Columbia University: Center on African American Religion, Sexual Politics and Social Justice—July 2021-July 2022**

*Research Fellow*

- Conducting oral history interviews with Black LGBTQ and allied leaders of religious movements or open/affirming Black LGBTQ congregations.

**SERVICE**

**Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, Evanston, IL**

*Event Curator*—March 2020

- “Looking Back, Stepping Forward: An Interactive Photo Exhibition” in celebration of The Center for the Church and the Black Experience’s 50 year anniversary at Garrett

*Video Host and Voiceover Narrator*—February 2020

- Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary’s Plagiarism Tutorial

*Webinar Facilitator*—September 2019

- “Curating and Cultivating Community” for the Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary Young Adult Initiative webinar continuing education series

*Conversation Moderator* —May 2019

- *The Purpose Path* Fireside Chat with Dr. Nicholas Pierce

**Candler School of Theology, Emory University—April 2015- April 2016**

*Student Body President of Candler Coordinating Committee (C3)*

- Preside over all general body meetings and give leadership to the student organizations at Candler.
- Appoint student leaders to faculty and University committees
- Plan and host the Fall Mixer for 150 students with the rest of the C3 Executive Board
- Serve as the face and voice of Candler at various meetings with students and administrators across Emory University campus
- Review and amend the current Constitution and By-laws for C3
- Create written policies and procedures for applying for leadership development funds, requesting money from C3, and attaining a charter for a new student organization
- Attend all Emory SGA meetings to voice the concerns and vote on behalf of Candler Students
- Serve on the Student Life Committee, which has proposed bills to Emory SGA to make Emory list-servs readily available to students, provide international students who will stay in the Atlanta area during Christmas break with funded MARTA cards, and to provide 250 Emory students with round-trip MARTA passes to get and from the airport during Christmas break
- Serve as the Student Life Committee liaison to the Greek Life Sub-Committee, which is working to make Emory greek life one of the best in the country.

## **WORK EXPERIENCE**

### **NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY**

**Office of Multicultural Student Affairs, Evanston, IL—September 2021-Present**

*Graduate Assistant*

- Content expert for African American/Black student community
- Work within and across communities to plan events for the major programming areas, which are Identity Engagement, Leadership & Education, and Institutional Navigation
- Plan “The Living Room Conversations,” which is a series of in-person and virtual dialogues about various topics related to experiences of Black students at Northwestern.

**St. John AME Church, Aurora, IL—August 2018-June 2021**

*Youth and Young Adult Minister*

- Design a worship script and delivered message each Sunday to middle and high school students
- Implement bi-monthly recreational activities for the youth
- Lead weekly “Wine and Word” bible study for young adults
- Coordinate monthly fellowship outings for young adults
- Coordinate quarterly community service activities for youth and young adult
- Serve on the Youth Ministry Parent Support committee

**Garrett-Evanston Freedom School, Evanston, IL— June 2018-August 2019**

*Site Coordinator*

- Serve as a Servant Leader Intern (SLI) during the Summer of 2018 by implementing Children’s Defense Fund’s Integrated Reading Curriculum for 3rd-5th grade scholars
- Promote to Site Coordinator during the Summer of 2019
- Hire and provide local training for all SLI’s
- Manage the daily operations and staff of the Freedom School, including scheduling guest readers, leading Harambee, coordinating afternoon activities, ensuring SLI’s have all books and supplies
- Observe SLI’s implement the Integrated Reading Curriculum and provide constructive feedback frequently
- Conduct daily debrief sessions, in an effort to maintain team moral and provide technical support/feedback

- Plan and facilitate parent support meetings
- Input child, parent and staff enrollment data in CDF's reporting system.

**Second Baptist Church, Evanston, IL—March 2017-September 2019**

*Lighthouse Young Adult Ministry*

- Serve on the Lily Endowment Young Adult Initiative Grant steering committee
- Plan an interactive interview with Dr. Nicholas Pierce of Kellogg Business School to discuss the contours, challenges and gifts of millennial leadership in the 21st century.
- Lead a four week bible study on servant leadership with young adults in the Northshore area
- Plan a networking event for young adults in the Northshore area

**Ebenezer Baptist Church, Atlanta, GA—June 2017-August 2017**

*Summer Intern*

- Assist the Executive Assistant to the Pastor with administrative tasks such as planning major events, booking flights and hotels for our guests, coordinating trips for the Pastor, etc.
- Design the job description for the Children's and Youth Pastor
- Design a summer intern program for seminary students
- Assist with the launch of the new church website and social media campaign by editing and reviewing content
- Participate in liturgy each Sunday by reading or saying one of the prayers
- Create a new events package for members and non-members who would like to host an event at the church
- Attend weekly staff meetings

**Bay View Association, A Chautauqua on Lake Michigan—June 2015-August 2015; June 2016-August 2016**

*Summer Intern*

- Serve as the Youth chaplain for the Chautauqua community
- Spend three mornings a week in community with students at the Boys and Girls Club
- Deliver the Children's sermon to a crowd ranging from 700-1,000 people each Sunday
- Plan and facilitate Bible Study for middle school students every Wednesday evening
- Preach and serve as deacon during one of the weekly communion

services

**Candler School of Theology, Atlanta, GA—January 2016-March 2016**

*“Faith and Finance” Survey Student Coordinator*

- Hire and manage a team of students to conduct the “Faith and Finance” survey
- Develop a strategy to maximize participation of all Master of Divinity students, which included tabling daily, follow-up calls and emails, and distribution of financial literacy books as gifts
- Over 90% of the Master of Divinity students participated in the survey, which is the highest percentage to date

**Candler School of Theology, Atlanta, GA—September 2015-May 2016**

*Baptist Studies Program Student Assistant*

- Support the Baptist Studies Director with administrative tasks, such as creating a student profile packet, organizing Cooperative Baptist Fellowship Day, compiling a list of Baptist alumni, and planning the Senior Send-off Banquet for 40 people

**Elizabeth Baptist Church, Atlanta, GA—August 2013-May 2015**

*Administrator of Greenhouse Youth Ministry/Youth Leader of EBC Conyers*

- Track all attendance of over 1,000 children and teens on a weekly basis
- Plan and administrate each aspect of all events for the teen ministry, such as a lock-in for 200 teens, a Spring Break trip to North Carolina, the F.O.C.U.S Youth Conference, and the graduation worship service and banquet
- Provide direct administrative support to the Youth Pastors and Children Pastor by drafting letters, scheduling meetings, and running office errands
- Plan worship and preach for the students at EBC Confers
- Collaborate on the sermon and coinciding discussion questions for the teens on a weekly basis
- Develop curriculums to teach the teens during the Women’s, Marriage and Men’s Conferences.
- Volunteer in the College Prep Program, guiding four girls through the college application process



**Lutheran Refugee Services, Atlanta, GA—August 2013-April 2014**

*High School Tutor*

- Serve refugee students weekly at Clarkston High School by tutoring and helping them apply to college
- Visit two refugee detainees at Stewart Detention Center in Lumpkin, GA

**INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL EXPERIENCE**

**STUDY ABROAD IMMERSION TRIP, GERMANY—MAY**

**2016**

*Student*

- Selected as one of fifteen Candler students to travel throughout more than 10 cities to study the life's work of Martin Luther to learn about the Protestant, Jewish and Islamic influences on a predominately secular country
- Visit over fifteen churches to learn about their importance historically as well as in the current context
- Learn from a non-profit organization about their work in the current refugee crisis
- Develop a presentation that explored youth ministry in the Protestant context, highlighting youth engagement strategies for the 500th Reformation Celebration

**Study Abroad Immersion Trip, Seoul, South Korea—May 2015**

*Student*

- Selected as one of twelve Candler students to study moral leadership in the Korean context for ten days
- Visit the largest church in the world and learn from the Senior Pastor about leading in an ecclesial context
- Join in protest with the Korean Comfort Women outside of the Japanese Embassy
- Visit the United States Embassy to learn about moral leadership in the global political arena from ambassadors
- Develop a reunification plan that addressed the social, financial, political and religious divide in Korea as a final project

**2014 Elizabeth Baptist Church Mission Trip, Mandeville, Jamaica—**

**July 2014**

*Vacation Bible School Teacher*

- Teach VBS lessons for high school and young adult classes at two churches for one week
- Taught a Bible lesson and facilitated a craft with 40 children at an

orphanage

- Participated in a small worship service at a local nursing home

#### **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

- Religious Education Association
  - (Board Member—November 2018-July 2021)
- American Academy of Religion
- Association of Practical Theology

#### **MINISTERIAL CREDENTIALS**

- Licensed Baptist Minister seeking ordination in the American Baptist Denomination

#### **HOBBIES**

- Boxing, yoga, watching and playing sports, cooking, collecting vinyl albums, hiking, traveling, going to concerts, nurturing my plants, and hosting friends for meals