

# ANDREW ROOT

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## VITA JUNE 2008

### PERSONAL DETAILS

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Date of Birth: December 1, 1974  
Marital Status: Married to Kara Kristen Root, B.A., MDiv  
Children: Owen Andrew (three years) Maisy Lydia (one year)

### PRESENT POSITION

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*Associate Professor of Youth and Family Ministry Luther Seminary, St. Paul Minnesota*

### EDUCATION

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2006                    **Doctor of Philosophy** (Princeton Theological Seminary)  
Department: Christian Education, Practical Theology  
Comprehensive Exams:  
-History and Theory of Practical Theology  
(Schleiermacher, Browning, Heitink, Anderson, and  
methods of interdisciplinarity)  
-Dogmatic Theology and Practical Theology  
(the theology of Dietrich Bonhoeffer)  
-History and Theory of Christian Education  
(the catechism in the Reformation era, 20<sup>th</sup> century  
Christian Education theory, and social psychological  
perspective on the family)  
-Social Theory and Practical Theory  
(Gramsci and Marxist thought, Freire, Ricoeur)  
-Psychology and Practical Theory  
(Erikson and postmodern understandings of the life cycle)

Dissertation Topic: A Critical and Constructive Examination of  
Relational/Incarnational Youth Ministry: Toward a Social  
Relational Practical Theology

Dissertation Committee: Kenda Dean (chair), Richard Osmer,  
Gordon Mikoski

- 2001            **Master of Theology** (Fuller Theological Seminary)  
Area: Practical Theology  
Supervisor: Ray S. Anderson  
Thesis: "Pop Culture: Friend or Foe a Theological Anthropological  
Hermeneutic."
- 2000            **Master of Divinity** (Fuller Theological Seminary)  
Concentration: Adolescence, Family and Culture
- 2001            **Bachelor of Art** (Bethel College, St. Paul Minnesota)

## **DENOMINATIONAL AFFILIATION**

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- Member of the Presbyterian Church (USA), membership at Witherspoon Street Presbyterian Church, Princeton, New Jersey

## **MINISTRY AND WORK EXPERIENCE**

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- 2006- 2007            **High School Leader** (Volunteer)  
Grace Trinity Community Church, Minneapolis, Minnesota
- 2004- 2006            **Research Fellow** (Faithful Practices Project)  
Princeton Theological Seminary, Princeton, New Jersey
- 2004- 2005            **Confirmation Teacher** (volunteer)  
Witherspoon Presbyterian Church, Princeton, New Jersey
- 2001-2002            **Gang Prevention Counselor**  
Asian Youth Center, Multi-Cultural Program,  
Gang Prevention Unit, San Gabriel, California
- 1998-2000            **Youth Outreach Associate** (Junior and Senior High)  
Glendale Presbyterian Church, Glendale, California
- 1998-1999            **Young Life Staff, Urban Junior High Leader**  
Glendale, California
- 1994-1997            **Young Life Staff, Junior High Director**  
Woodbury, Minnesota

## BOARDS, PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND AWARDS

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- Finalist *Revisiting Relational Youth Ministry* for outreach book of the year (youth outreach category), *Outreach Magazine*
- Advisory Board *The Journal of Student Ministries*
- Editorial Board, *Word and World*
- Academic Board, *Journal of Youth and Theology* (International)
- Editorial Board, *Connect: Journal of Youth and Family Ministry* (ELCA Youth Ministry Network)
- Member *International Association for the Study of Youth Ministry*
- Member *International Bonhoeffer Society*
- Member *Association of Youth Ministry Educators*
- Member *ELCA Youth Ministry Network*
- Th.M. Thesis awarded superior rating

## PRIOR TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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### **Adjunct:**

- 2004                      Princeton Theological Seminary (Princeton, NJ)  
Course: Theological Foundation of Ministry with Youth
- 2004                      Wesley Theological Seminary (Washington, D.C.)  
Course: Youth Culture (Adolescent World)

### **Teaching Assistant/Preceptor:**

- 2004                      to Dr. Kenda Dean, Princeton Theological Seminary (Princeton, New Jersey) Course: Advance Studies in Youth, Church, and Culture
- 2004                      to Drs. Richard Osmer, Max Stackhouse, Princeton Theological Seminary (Princeton, New Jersey) Course: Social Theory, Education, and Ethics
- 2003                      to Drs. Kenda Dean, Gordon Mikoski, Princeton Theological Seminary (Princeton, New Jersey) Course: Introduction to the Teaching Ministry
- 2002                      to Drs. Richard Osmer, Kenda Dean, Princeton Theological Seminary (Princeton, New Jersey) Course: Introduction to Christian Education
- 2002                      to Dr. Ray S. Anderson, Fuller Theological

Seminary (Pasadena, California) Course: Karl Barth and Evangelicalism

2001

to Dr. Ray S. Anderson, Fuller Theological Seminary (Pasadena, California) Course: Dietrich Bonhoeffer: Theology and Life

## **PUBLICATIONS AND PAPER PRESENTATIONS**

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### **Books:**

*Revisiting Relational Youth Ministry: From a Strategy of Influence to a Theology of Incarnation.* Downers Grove, IL: IVP. 2007.

### **Articles and Chapters:**

“Is Jesus Magic? Healing and the Cross.” Amor Ministries (reprinted and adapted)

“The TV Show *Lost* and Eschatology.” *Next-Wave: Church and Culture Ezine*, Issue 114, June 2008. (featured on the Emergent Village community email)

“The Problem with Relational Ministry: Truly Entering into Kids’ Pains, Fears, Dreams, and Joys.” *The Journal of Student Ministries*, Vol 3, No 3, May/June 2008. pp. 10-13.

“What is Hip Hop?” *The Thoughtful Christian: Faithful Living in a Complex World.* Louisville: Westminster John Knox. April 2008. (Included written leaders guide)

“Youth Ministry as Discerning Christopraxis: A Hermeneutical Model.” *Journal of Youth and Theology*, Vol. 6, No. 1, April 2007. pp. 9-30.

“Discipleship: Is Sin Such a Bad Thing?” *Question for Life: Luke’s View* (Akaloo Series). Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress Press. 2007. (with Kara Root)

“Youth Ministry as an Integrative Theological Task: Toward a Representative Method of Interdisciplinarity.” *The Journal of Youth Ministry*, Vol. 5, No. 2, Spring 2007. pp. 33-50.

“Is Jesus Magic? Healing and the Cross.” *The Journal of Student Ministries.* Vol. 1, No 6, March/April 2007. Pp.44-47.

“Is Theologically Rigorous Youth Ministry an Oxymoron.” *The Journal of Student Ministries*, Vol. I, No 5, Jan/Feb 2007. pp. 30-33.

“Re-Examining Relational Youth Ministry.” *Connect: Journal of Youth and Family Ministry.* February 2007. pp. 3-5. (reprinted and abridged)

"The Doctrine of Sin: Death, Dehumanization, & Broken Community." *The Journal of Student Ministries*, Vol. I, No 3, Sept/Oct 2006. pp. 40-44.

"Practical Theology and Social Ethical Action in Christian Ministry: Implications from Emmanuel Levinas and Dietrich Bonhoeffer." *International Journal of Practical Theology*, Vol. 10, Issue 1/2006. pp. 53-75.

"Reexamining Relational Youth Ministry: Implications from the Theology of Bonhoeffer." *Word & World*, Vol. 26, No. 3, Summer 2006. pp. 269-276.

"Relationality as the Objective of Incarnational Ministry: A Reexamination of the Theological Foundations of Adolescent Ministry." *Journal of Youth and Theology*, Vol. 3, No. 1, April 2004. pp. 97-113.

### **Book Reviews:**

Book Review of Hastings, John Thomas. *Practical Theology and the One Body of Christ: Toward a Missional-Ecumenical Model*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans. 2007. in *Journal of Youth and Theology*, Vol 7, No 1, April 2008. p. 97-99.

Book Review of Swinton, John and Mowat, Harriet. *Practical Theology and Qualitative Research*. London: SCM Press. 2006. in *The Journal of Youth Ministry*, Vol 6, No 2, Spring 2008. p. 112-115.

Book Review of Wuthnow, Robert. *After the Baby Boomers: How Twenty- and Thirty-Somethings are Shaping the Future of American Religion*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press. 2007. in *Word & World*, 28/2, Spring 2008. p. 230-232.

Book Review of Brueggemann, Walter. *Mandate to Difference: An Invitation to the Contemporary Church*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox. 2007. in *Theology Today*, Vol. 65, No. 1, April 2008. p. 97-100.

Book Review of Volf, Miroslav. *The End of Memory: Remembering Rightly in a Violent World*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans. 2007. in *Word & World*, 28/1, Winter 2008. p. 114-118.

Book Review of Stepp, Laura Sessions. *Unhooked: How Young Women Pursue Sex, Delay Love and Lose at Both*. New York: Riverhead. 2007. in *Journal of Youth and Theology*, Vol. 6, No. 2, November 2007. p. 105-108.

Book Review of Anderson, Ray. *An Emergent Theology for Emergent Churches*. Dowers Grove, IL: IVP Press. 2006. in *Journal of Youth and Theology*, Vol. 6, No. 1, April 2007. p. 99-102. (with James Hampton)

Book Review of Bass, Diana Butler. *The Practicing Congregation: Imagining a New Old Church*. Herndon, VA: The Alban Institute. 2004. in *Word & World*, 27/1, Winter 2007. p. 118-120.

Book Review of Marquardt, Elizabeth. *Between Two Worlds: The Inner Lives of Children of Divorce*. New York: Crown Publishers. 2005. in *Journal of Youth and Theology*, Vol. 5, No. 2, November 2006. p. 91-93.

Book Review of Balmer, Randall. *Mine Eyes Have Seen The Glory: A Journey into the Evangelical Subculture in America* (4th edition). New York: Oxford University Press. 2006. In *Journal of Youth and Theology*, Vol. 5, No. 2, November 2006. p. 102-104.

Book Review of Osmer, Richard. *The Teaching Ministry of Congregations*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press. 2005. in *Word & World*, Vol. 27, No. 4, Fall 2006. p. 453-456.

Book Review of Webb-Mitchell, Brett. *Christly Gestures: Learning to be Members of the Body of Christ*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans. 2003. in *Journal of Youth and Theology*, Vol. 5, No. 1, April 2006. p. 99-101.

Book Review of Smith, Christian. *Soul Searching: The Religious and Spiritual Lives of American Teenagers*. London: Oxford Press. 2005. in *Journal of Youth and Theology*, Vol. 2 No. 2, November 2005. p. 111-114. (with James Hampton)

Book Review of Detweiler, Craig & Taylor, Barry. *A Matrix of Meaning: Finding God in Pop Culture*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books. 2003. in *Journal of Youth and Theology*, Vol. 2 No. 2, November 2005. p. 117-118.

Book Review of Smith, Christian. *Soul Searching: The Religious and Spiritual Lives of American Teenagers*. London: Oxford Press. 2005. in *Presbyterian Today*, July/August 2005 p. 28.

Book Review of Reid, Alvin L. *Radically Unchurched: Who They Are and How to Reach Them*. Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel Publications. 2002. in *Princeton Theological Bulletin*, Vol. XXIV, No. 3 pp. 396-398.

### **Presentation of Papers:**

“Youth Ministry as Discerning Christopraxis: A Hermeneutical Model,” Presented at the International Association for the Study of Youth Ministry Conference, Cambridge, England, January 2007.

“Youth Ministry as an Integrative Theological Task,” Presented at the Association of Youth Ministry Educators, Denver, Colorado, October 2006 (keynote).

“Adolescence and Social Relationality: Examining the Profundity of the Incarnation.”  
Presented at the International Association for the Study of Youth Ministry Conference,  
High Leigh, London, England, January 2005.

## REFERENCES

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The Reverend Dr. Kenda Creasy Dean  
Associate Professor of Youth, Church, and Culture  
Princeton Theological Seminary  
Princeton, NJ 08540  
(609) 497-7910

The Reverend Dr. Richard R. Osmer  
Thomas W. Synnott Professor of Christian Education  
Princeton Theological Seminary  
Princeton, NJ 08540  
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The Reverend Dr. Douglas John Hall  
Professor Emeritus of Theology  
McGill University  
Montreal, Quebec H3A 2T5  
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The Reverend Dr. Ray S. Anderson  
Senior Professor of Theology and Ministry  
Fuller Theological Seminary  
Pasadena, CA 91182  
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Assistant Professor Christian Education  
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