**KAIYA ANSORGE**

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**Education**

Ph. D., Religion, Graduate Division of Religion, Emory University.

*Dissertation*: “On the Nature of Miracle”

The dissertation explores the choice of evidence and interpretive options—supplied by David Hume, Friedrich Schleiermacher, and Francis of Assisi—for the concept of “miracle,” as well as the theological, cosmological, perceptual, and epistemological ramifications of these various approaches.

*Doctoral Comprehensive Exams*: History of Christian Thought, Method of Philosophical Theology, Franciscan Spirituality and Theology, Environmental Ethics and Environmental Thought

*Doctoral Director*: Dr. Mark Jordan, Richard Reinhold Niebuhr Professor of Divinity

Professor of Studies of Women, Gender, and Sexuality

Harvard University

M.A., Doctrine and Theology, Luther Seminary.

*Thesis*: “The Relationship between the Word and the Thing”

The master’s thesis explored the Hebrew word *dabar* as a theological, perceptual, and epistemological concept.

B.A. Psychology (magna cum laude), Texas Lutheran University.

*Thesis*: “Creativity and Sleep Habits”

The study investigated the relationship between levels of creativity and sleep habits.

**Teaching Experience**

Human Relations, Adjunct Faculty, University of South Dakota, Vermillion, South Dakota.

Lifespan Development, Adjunct Faculty, University of South Dakota, Vermillion, South Dakota.

Truth, Reality, and Perception, Honor’s Thesis sequence, Adjunct Instructor, University of South

Dakota, Vermillion, South Dakota.

The American Environmental Imagination, Instructor, Saint Michael’s College, Colchester,

Vermont.

Religion, Ecology, and Spirituality, Adjunct Instructor, University of New Mexico,

Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Senior Symposium: Critiques of Religion, Teacher’s Assistant, Emory University, Atlanta,

Georgia.

Religion and Ecology, Teacher’s Associate, Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia.

Ethics, Adjunct Instructor, Cardinal Stritch University, Minnesota.

**Presentations, Talks, and Workshops**

“Manifesting Your Perfect Life: Transforming Social Distance into Connecting with Our Soul,” Lost & Found Organization, Facebook Live Series.

“Finding Your Truth: Transforming Social Distance into Connecting with Our Soul,” Lost & Found Organization, Facebook Live Series.

“Soul Abundant: Transforming Social Distance into Connecting with Our Soul,” Lost & Found Organization, Facebook Live Series.

“Valentine’s Chakra Meditation,” Exhale Wellness Spa, Vermillion, SD.

“Writing as Meditation,” New Braunfels Public Library, New Braunfels, TX.

“Writing as Meditation,” Westside Community Center, New Braunfels, TX.

“Writing as Mindfulness Practice,” Sioux Falls Public Library, Prairie West, Sioux Falls, SD.

“Chakra Meditation: Connecting to the Self through Love,” Edith B. Siegrist Vermillion Public Library, Vermillion, SD.

“Writing as Meditation,” Raudal, Merida, Mexico.

“Christmas Meditation,” St. Luke’s Episcopal Church, Merida, Mexico.

“Writing as Mindfulness Practice,” Merida English Library, Merida, Mexico.

“Writing as Meditation,” Vermillion Public Library, Vermillion, SD.

“On Writing,” NaNoWriMo Support and Writing Event, Vermillion Public Library, Vermillion, SD.

“Meditation for the Distracted Mind,” Om Sweet Om, Vermillion, SD.

“Fall Chakra Meditation,” Soul Story Yoga, Yankton, SD.

“Summertime Chakra Meditation,” Zem Yoga, Rome, Italy.

“Practicing Miracles,” Online Workshop.

“Power,” Audio Presentation via Soundcloud.

Meditation for *Because*, Art Opening and Event to discuss sexual trauma, Vermillion, SD.

“New Year’s Chakra Meditation,” HK Yoga Studio, Seguin, Texas.

“Holiday Chakra Meditation,” Two Rivers Yoga Studio, New Braunfels, Texas.

“Purity and Purification,” Audio Presentation via Soundcloud.

“The Secret to Joy,” Video Presentation.

“Transformation,” Video Presentation.

“Epiphany of a Headache,” Video Presentation.

“On Breath,” Guest Presentation on Your Motivational High Five, Hosted by Phil Larson.

“Play,” Video Presentation.

“Spontaneity,” Video Presentation.

“Chakra Meditation,” Om Sweet Om, Vermillion Public Library, Vermillion, South Dakota.

“Flexibility,” Audio Presentation via Soundcloud.

“Chakra Meditation,” Yoga Studio of Austin, Minnesota.

“Acupuncture, Acupressure, and EFT,” Om Sweet Om, Vermillion Public Library, Vermillion,

South Dakota.

“Daoism,” Guest lecture, University of South Dakota, Vermillion, South Dakota.

“Spirit and Soul Care in Our Daily Lives,” Vermillion Public Library, Vermillion, South Dakota.

**Academic Conference Papers and Presentations**

“Wild Koinonia: Ethologies of Non-human Otherness in Three Nature Writers,” Saint Michael’s

College Conference on Ethics, Spirituality and the Environment, Colchester, Vermont.

“Schleiermacher’s Ambivalence Towards Miracles,” Upper Midwest American Academy of

Religion Meeting, St. Paul, Minnesota.

“Towards a Theology of Miracle,” Upper Midwest American Academy of Religion Meeting,

St. Paul, Minnesota.

“Hume and Miracles: Can Hume Be Converted?” Upper Midwest American Academy of

Religion Meeting, St. Paul, Minnesota.

“The Miraculous Structure of Immediacy: Poverty as Orientation and (Con)figuration in the Life

and Writings of St. Francis of Assisi,” Upper Midwest American Academy of Religion

Meeting, St. Paul, Minnesota.

“Psuedo-Dionysius’ Silence and Deception in the Name of the Unknown God,” Upper Midwest

American Academy of Religion Meeting, St. Paul, Minnesota.

Moderated the panel “Witnessing the Other in Religious Speech” for the Levinas Conference at

Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia.

“Anomaly and Miracle: An Application of Thomas Kuhn's Key Term ‘Anomaly’ to

Schleiermacher’s Understanding of Miracle,” North Carolina Religious Studies

Association, North Carolina.

**Publications**

“Dawn,” (recently submitted).

“Anamnesis,” (recently submitted).

“Chase of the Fairies,” (recently submitted).

“Doxology of the Wallet,” (with editor).

“How to Use the 7 Chakras to Get in Touch with Personal Vitality and Flourishing,” Daily Cup of Yoga, September 2018.

*Wrath*, Funnel Books, December 2015.

“Ascension: A Different Kind of Gravity,” Theology Today, October 2004.

**Grants and Scholarships for Advanced Study**

The Writer’s Institute, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America Scholarship.

Glen Workshop for Image: A Journal of the Arts and Religion, St. John’s University, Santa Fe,

NM.

Evangelical Lutheran Church of America Educational Grant.

Graduate Fellowship, Emory University.

Spanish Language Study in Quetzaltenango, Guatemala at Projecto Linguistico.

Theological Studies in Harare, Zimbabwe, based at Dambashawa House.

German Language Study in Murnau, Germany, Goethe Institute.

**References**

Dr. Mark Jordan

Andrew W. Mellon Professor of Christian Thought

Professor of Studies of Women, Gender, and Sexuality (Faculty of Arts and Sciences)

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Dr. Terence E. Fretheim

Elva B. Lovell Professor

Professor Emeritus

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St. Paul, MN 55108

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