

CURRICULUM VITAE

Profile

I am a Methodist presbyter with nearly twenty years' experience of ministry in various contexts – Circuit-based (rural and urban), chaplaincy, academia, theological education and reconciliation. In each context, I have been responsible for initiating new work or injecting new life and direction. I bring to my work a keen strategic eye for connections coupled with a passion for building relationships and nurturing potential.

Work/project history:

Pastoral Ministry

As an ordained presbyter (priest or pastor), my central vocation remains the ministry of Word, Sacrament and Pastoral Care. I entered Circuit in 1999, and have been stationed in Circuits in rural south Lincolnshire and urban Leicester. Whilst engaged in appointments outside the Church, I have continued to offer voluntary pastoral support in Circuits in inner-city London and Birmingham. The focus of my pastoral work has been the nurture of lay vocations (including candidates for authorised ministries), worship and preaching, and building inclusive and outward-looking Christian communities, coupled with a strong commitment to Christian education. To that end, I have also served as District Sabbaticals Officer, Youth Officer, and as part of the Reconciliation Team.

Education & Research

I have made a significant contribution to chaplaincy work in the Higher Education sector over a period of nearly fifteen years, including as Coordinating Chaplain at two universities in London. This involved building and leading two multi-faith teams and re-establishing services where they had ceased or been reduced.

Teaching has also been a major part of my career and I have undertaken a significant amount of teaching for courses validated by the Universities of Cambridge, London, Leicester and Durham. This has included the development of a diverse number of modules, e.g. *Death & Dying in Leicester*, an undergraduate module for Leicester Medical School; *Worship & Liturgy in Jewish-Christian Relations*, an MA course for the Woolf Institute, Cambridge, and; *Religion & Conflict in Global Perspective*, an MA module for the Queen's Foundation, Birmingham and Durham and Newman Universities.

After four years as a Lecturer (Grade 7) at City, University of London (2008-12), I took on a leadership role as Director of the Global Christianity Programme at the Queen's Foundation. This has involved creating a new Programme and recruiting staff, designing MA modules (and a period as MA Programme Leader) and developing a parallel programme of intercultural learning, contextual theological reflection and support for those engaging in British Higher Education from the Global South. It has also involved a substantial engagement with Heads of Partner Churches and external funding and scholarship bodies. As President of the Methodist-related Theological Schools in Europe (MTSE), I have worked with a Europe-wide Coordinating Group to build the association, including organising two international gatherings: an academic & student Conference on reconciliation and a Seminar on the Church in Europe.

www.cassowary.eu

07706 586860

samuel.mcbratney@methodist.org.uk

1 Joanna Drive, Coventry CV3 6QE

Reconciliation

Experience has come through involvement in two distinct but related programmes: the Olive Tree Scholarship Programme and the Corrymeela Community. As advisor for five years with the Olive Tree (working with young Israelis and Palestinians in a dialogue programme based in London), I was involved in hands-on facilitation work, as well as recruitment, advocacy and donor-relationships. This experience led to a relationship with the Corrymeela Community where I am now a member and involved in some of the programmes the Community sponsors. Currently I am part of a team writing liturgical resources reflecting on conflict.

On a wider scale, I have been involved with the reconciliation efforts in Sri Lanka which have included advising the National Christian Council of Sri Lanka and running training programmes under NCCSL auspices. I am also currently a Visiting Lecturer at the Theological College of Lanka, the ecumenical seminary in Kandy, teaching Peace and Reconciliation Studies.

Qualifications, awards and membership of professional bodies:

PhD candidate in contextual theologies of reconciliation	VU University, Amsterdam
Introductory Cert. in Academic Practice (2015)	City, University of London
MA (Theology & Religious Studies) (1998)	Fitzwilliam College, University of Cambridge
Certificate (Mission & Evangelism) (1991)	Cliff College, Sheffield
Fellow, RSA (2012 – present)	
Associate Fellow, Higher Education Academy	
President, MTSE (2015-present)	
Board member, International Assoc. of Methodist Schools, Colleges & Universities, IAMSCU (2015-present)	
Member, World Methodist Council and Theological Education Committee	(2016-2022)

Publications. Conference Presentations & Church Reports

Conference Presentations:

- Tearing down walls* – IAMSCU Conference, Puebla, Mexico 27-31 May 2017
Reconciliation – why theology matters (15 minute presentation)
Human Dignity – a European perspective (15 minute presentation)
- Being the Church in 21st century Europe* - MTSE Seminar, Rome February 2017
Two Perspectives – part of a conversation on the church and same-sex relationships
- Positive Working Together Conference, Cliff College, June 2016
Did he really say that? Bullying, harassment and microaggressions (keynote)
- Making Connections for Reconciliation* – European Methodist Theological Conference, Coventry, Feb 2016
Living well with Contradictory Convictions (workshop)
- Tutu Centre Annual Conference, Liverpool Hope University July 2015
Living with Contradictory Convictions - using the Biblical narratives in Methodist conversations around same sex relationships (short paper)

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APAMEI Conference, Yonsei University, Korea February 2015

Teaching Peace – theological education and reconciliation (response paper)

Oxford Institute for Methodist Theological Studies, Christchurch, Oxford July 2013

Significantly ordinary – a reappraisal of Wesleyan social ethics in the 21st century. (paper)

Publications:

‘Inculturation – a priestly task’ in M. Forward et al (eds), 2000, *A Great Commission – Christian Hope and Religious Diversity*, Bern: Peter Lang, pp427-437

‘What does reconciliation look like? – reflections from Ireland and Israel-Palestine’ in L. Dareeju & L. Jacob (eds), 2014, *"God of life - reconcile us!" : perspectives on peace-building*, Pilimathalawa: TCL
Look! No Mitres – a conversation on bishops and leadership in British Methodism, Devon: MSF, 2011

Various review articles for *Modern Believing*, *RRT*, *MSF Bulletin* & *Epworth Review*

Contributions to Church-related and other Reports:

His Presence makes the Feast – Holy Communion in the Methodist Church – Methodist Conference Report 2003

Faiths in Higher Education Chaplaincy – CofE Board of Education 2008

Justice for Israel & Palestine – Methodist Conference Report 2010

The role of chaplains in public sector institutions – experiences from the Muslim community – Faith Matters 2010

Report of the Working Party on Marriage and Civil Partnerships – Methodist Conference Report 2014

Report of the Marriage & Relationships Task Group – Methodist Conference Report 2016

Interest and hobbies:

I am passionate about politics and social change and am an active member of the British Labour Party and the Fabian Society. I am also keen on wildlife and a member of the Warks Wildlife Trust. In spare moments, I read and watch Nordic Noir, try to learn new languages and spend time in the garden.