

# Kenneth E. Kovacs

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## EDUCATION

Dipl. C.G. Jung Institute-Küsnacht/Zürich, Switzerland – 2025

Jungian Psychoanalysis

Thesis: Psychotherapists *and* the Clergy: Searching for the Hidden Bridge

Ph.D. University of St. Andrews, St. Andrews, Scotland (UK) – 2003

Concentration: Practical Theology

Dissertation: The Relational Phenomenological Pneumatology of James E. Loder:  
Providing New Frameworks for the Christian Life

Advisor: Professor Trevor A. Hart; External Reader: Professor David Fergusson

M.Div. Princeton Theological Seminary, Princeton, NJ – 1990

Concentration: Practical Theology

Yale Divinity School, Yale University, New Haven, CT – Fall 1987

B.A. Rutgers College, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ – 1986

Majors: Religion and History. Highest honors.

## ECCLESIASTICAL AFFILIATION

Minister of Word and Sacrament/Teaching Elder, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

Ordained: Presbytery of Newark (NJ), September 23, 1990

Member: Presbytery of Baltimore

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Pastor/Head of Staff, Catonsville Presbyterian Church, Catonsville, MD, 1999-Present
- Associate Pastor, First Presbyterian Church, Mendham, NJ, 1992-1999
  - Acting Head of Staff/Interim, 1996-1999
- Assistant Pastor, St. Leonard's Parish Church, St. Andrews, Scotland (UK), 1990-1991
- Field Education at Yale and Princeton:
  - The Presbyterian Church, Toms River, NJ – 1989-1990
  - The Presbyterian Church, Livingston, NJ – 1988-1989
  - Central Presbyterian Church, Montclair, NJ – 1988
  - First Presbyterian Church, North Arlington, NJ – 1988
  - St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, Groton, CT – 1987

## **SERVICE TO THE WIDER CHURCH**

### *Presbytery of Baltimore:*

- Commission on Ministry, 2023-Present
- Dismantling Racism Team, 2018-2023
- Committee on Local Arrangements, 224<sup>th</sup> (2019) General Assembly of the PCUSA
  - General Assembly Worship Committee. Co-chair: 2019-2022
- Committee on Preparation for Ministry, 2011-2017. Chair: 2015-2017
- Global Mission Committee, 2000-2008. Chair: 2007-2008

### *Presbytery of Newton:*

- Nairobi (Kenya) Partnership, 1995-1997
- Teaching Elder Commissioner, 210<sup>th</sup> General Assembly (1998), Charlotte, NC.
- Evangelism Committee, 1993-1996. Chair: 1996

### *General Assembly*

- PCUSA Ecumenical Delegate to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, 2017
- ESPR-PCUSA Covenant Renewal Task Force, Convener. Appointed by the Committee on Theological Education, 2016
- Committee on Theological Education, 2000-2009; Institutional Review Subcommittee. Chair: 2008-2009
- Theological Student Advisory Delegate, 201<sup>st</sup> General Assembly (1989), Philadelphia, PA
- Youth Advisory Delegate, 199<sup>th</sup> General Assembly (1987), Biloxi, MS

## **BOARDS AND ASSOCIATIONS**

- Jungian Analysts of Washington Association (JAWA), 2025
- International Association for Analytical Psychology (IAAP), 2025
- Eclectic Club, Baltimore, MD, 2003-Present (Oldest ecumenical association in the USA.)
- Board of Directors, Jung Society of Washington, DC, 2022-Present
- Board of Directors, Presbyterian Writers Guild, 2015-2018
- Board of Directors, Covenant Network of Presbyterians, 2002-2016
- Board of Trustees, Johnson C. Smith Theological Seminary, Atlanta, GA, 2010-2015
- Board of Directors, Suburban Pastoral Counseling Center, Catonsville, MD, 2000-2009
- Class Steward, Princeton Theological Seminary, Princeton, NJ, 2000-2005

## **AWARDS AND GRANTS**

- 2016 Lilly Clergy Renewal Grant
- 2012 First Book Award, Presbyterian Writers Guild
- 2007 Holy Land Pilgrimage, Cousins Foundation/Princeton Theological Seminary
- 1990 Graduate Study Fellowship for Parish Pulpit Ministry, Princeton Theological Seminary
- 1985 Henry Rutgers Scholar Research Grant, Rutgers University

## **CLASSES, LECTURES, AND SEMINARS**

- Psychology and Religion, Four-week Reading Course of Jung's 1937 Terry Lectures, Jung Society of Washington, May-June 2025
- The Search for the Hidden Bridge: Jungian Psychology and Religion. Plenary speaker at the Washington Friends Conference on Religion and Psychology, February 7-8, 2025.

- It is Solved by Walking, Jung Society of Washington, August 2023
- Caring for the Soul: C.G. Jung & Adolf Keller, Jung Society of Washington, May 2022
- Sources of the Western Tradition: Christianity and Psyche, Rome, Italy, 2016
- Sources of the Western Tradition: Christianity and Psyche, Athens, Greece, 2015
- C.G. Jung and Pastoral Care, India Sunday School Union, Coonoor, Tamil Nadu, India, 2012
- Teaching Assistant, Reformed Worship, Wesley Theological Seminary, Washington, DC, 2005, 2007
- Sampling of series taught at Catonsville Presbyterian Church:
  - Saved by Beauty
  - Christian Nationalism
  - Belonging: Connection and Community
  - Cross Purposes: Theories of Atonement
  - The Belhar Confession
  - The Gospel of Thomas
  - Theological Dimensions of The Great War
  - The Confessing Church and the German Christian Movement (1933-1945)
  - Human Flourishing in the Sermon on the Mount
  - Christian Mysticism
  - Shame and Guilt
  - Transformation: A Psycho-theological Study of Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*
  - 9-month studies of Isaiah, Job, Galatians, and Revelation

## CURRENT RESEARCH AREAS

- C.G. Jung's relationship with pastors and theologians (1920-1960)
- Analytical (Jungian) psychology's relationship to dialectical theology
- Analytical (Jungian) psychology and the Christian life

## PUBLICATIONS

### Books

- *Out of the Depths: Sermons and Essays* (Parson's Porch, 2016).
- *The Relational Theology of James E. Loder: Encounter and Conviction* (New York/Bern: Peter Lang, 2011).

### Articles, Chapters, and Essays

- "Participatio Christi" in Jakob Lusensky, ed. *C.G. Jung: Face to Face with Christianity*, (Chiron, 2024).
- "Non-Possessive Delight," *Love Does Not Control: Therapists, Psychologists, and Counselors Explore Uncontrolling Love* (SacraSage Press, 2023).
- "Coming and Going," in Stefano Carpani and Monica Luci, eds., *Lockdown Therapy: Jungian Perspectives on How the Pandemic Changed Psychoanalysis*, (London: Routledge, 2022).
- "The Eyes of Experience: Job 42:1-6." An Essay for The Zurich Lab (Online, 2015).
- "Sounding Through: A Reflection on Pastoral Identity," *Pomomusings*, March 16, 2015.
- "The Fields of Mondawmin" in John V. Carlson, ed., *From Hope to Wholeness: A Presbyterian Response to the Unrest in Baltimore in 2015* (Parson's Porch, 2015).
- "What is God Dreaming Through You?" Essay for The Zurich Lab (Online, 2014).

- “The Birth of Dawn,” in Landon Whitsitt, ed., *A Good Word: Sermons, Prayers, and Liturgies in Response to the Shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary School, Newtown, CT, December 14, 2012*.
- “Wander With Human Heart.” Essay for NEXT Church (Online, July 2014).
- “Jung and Christianity,” *C.G. Jung Society of Atlanta Quarterly News* (Fall, 2014).
- “COTE: parish, seminary dialogue in turbulent times,” *The Presbyterian Outlook* (August 24, 2009).
- “Choruses from ‘The Rock’” in David James Randolph, ed. *Candles in the Dark, Flames for the Future: Preaching and Poetry in Times of Crisis* (New Way Media, 2003).
- Theological Theme Essays for *Lectionary Homiletics*, July 2008; December 2009; September 2010.

#### Book Reviews

- *On Theology and Psychology: The Correspondence of C. G. Jung and Adolf Keller*. Edited by Marianne Jehle-Wildberger. (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2020), *Theology Today*, 80/1 (2023): 98-103.
- *Our God Loves Justice: An Introduction to Helmut Gollwitzer* by W. Travis McMaken (Fortress Press, 2018) in *The Presbyterian Outlook* (November 7, 2018).
- *Practicing Pilgrimage: On Being and Becoming God’s Pilgrim People* by Brett Webb-Mitchell (Cascade, 2016) in *The Presbyterian Outlook* (July 12, 2018).
- *From Nothing: A Theology of Creation* by Ian A. McFarland (Westminster John Knox Press, 2014) in *The Presbyterian Outlook* (November 12, 2015).
- *The Great and Holy War: How World War I Became a Religious Crusade* by Philip Jenkins (HarperOne, 2015) in *The Presbyterian Outlook* (January 16, 2015).
- *The Cross and the Lynching Tree* by James Cone (Orbis, 2013) in *The Presbyterian Outlook* (April 23, 2013).
- *Living into Community: Cultivating Practices That Sustain Us* by Christine D. Pohl (Erdmans, 2011) in *The Presbyterian Outlook* (June 25, 2012).
- *A Spiritual Life: Perspectives from Poets, Prophets, and Preachers* by Alan Hugh Cole, Jr., ed. (Westminster John Knox Press, 2011) in *The Presbyterian Outlook* (November 15, 2011).

#### Sermons and Occasional Pieces

- [www.catonsvillepres.org](http://www.catonsvillepres.org), 2019-Present
- <https://kekovacs.blogspot.com/>, 2008-2018
- <https://kennethkovacs.medium.com/>

#### Podcasts

- Participatio Christi – C.G. Jung and Adolf Keller, *Psychology and the Cross*, April 2022.