

FACULTY

MAX BOTNER, PH.D.

Assistant Professor of New Testament

Degrees: B.A., William Jessup University; M.A., Fuller Theological Seminary; Ph.D. University of St. Andrews.

Career Path: Pastoral Ministry, 2011-2013; Adjunct Instructor, William Jessup University, 2011-2013; Postdoctoral Research and Lecturer, Goethe-Universität Frankfurt am Main, 2017-2018; Faculty, Grand Rapids Theological Seminary, 2018-Present.

Research Interests: Jewish messianism and early Christology; Reception of the Jewish Scriptures in antiquity; New Testament theology.

Personal: Max and his wife, Jessica, have three children, Ava, Noah, and Olivia. He enjoys basketball, skiing, and reading.

Quotable: "My desire is for our students to embody the cruciform disposition of Jesus the Messiah to the glory of God and for the sake of the world."

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JENNY CHIEN, PH.D., LPC

Assistant Professor of Counseling

Degrees: B.S., University of Maine; M.A. Liberty University; Ph.D., Florida Atlantic University.

Career Path: University Counselor, 2005-2007; Community Mental Health, 2007-2008; Contract Therapist, 2008-2010; Job Placement Services, 2010-2011; University Counseling Center Director, Palm Beach Atlantic University, 2012-2014; Qualified Counseling Supervisor, 2014-Present; Adjunct Faculty, Palm Beach Atlantic University & Florida Atlantic University, 2016; Faculty, Grand Rapids Theological Seminary, 2017-Present.

Research Interests: University mental health; spirituality and religious coping in counseling; issues of attachment and resilience.

Personal: Dr. Chien and her husband have two children, Stephen and ShenaLi. Dr. Chien enjoys spending time with family, outdoor activities, and all things having to do with coffee and HGTV.

Quotable: "I am a firm believer that all mental health symptoms make sense. Our calling as counselors is to explore the underlying reasons why symptoms are present and maintained, and to offer our clients alternatives that bring healing."

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ROYCE A. EVANS, D.MIN.



Assistant Professor of Pastoral Ministries; Executive Director of Ministry Residency & the Urban Cohort Program

Degrees: B.A., Cornerstone University; M.A., Grand Rapids Theological Seminary; D. Min., Western Theological Seminary.

Career Path: Pastoral, 1989-present; Administration and Teaching, Grand Rapids Theological Seminary, 2009-present.

Personal: Rev. Dr. Evans and his wife Marilyn have eight grandchildren who are the light of their lives. Royce enjoys preaching and teaching the biblical text.

Research Interests: Present research interests focus on the components of a call to ministry: Character and Competency.

Quotable: "In my ongoing efforts to be the most precise instrument for Kingdom service I can be, GRTS has been more than a community of teachers and learners. This community has demonstrated a genuine commitment to diversity and the myriad of cultures that comprise our God's creation. As a context that places high value on critical thinking it affords opportunity for theological expression regardless of denominational or interpretational affinity. I have found the culture here supportive and encouraging."

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TIMOTHY G. GOMBIS, PH.D.



Professor of New Testament

Degrees: B.S., Liberty University; M.Div., Th.M., The Master's Seminary; Ph.D., University of St. Andrews.

Career Path: Faculty, Cedarville University, 2004-2011; Grand Rapids Theological Seminary 2011-present.

Research Interests: Pauline theology; encounters between biblical theology and contemporary culture and politics.

Personal: Dr. Gombis and his wife, Sarah, have three children, Madeline, Jacob, and Riley. He enjoys golf, baseball, and ancient Greek and Roman history.

Quotable: "I love being challenged to dig deeply into the biblical text to explore fresh ways for the Spirit to transform the church of Jesus Christ for the good of the world and the glory of God. I'm thrilled that GRTS envisions theological education as combining these elements into this unified task."

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JONATHAN S. GREER, PH.D.

Associate Professor of Old Testament
Director of the Hesse Memorial Laboratory

Degrees: B.A., Messiah College; M.A., Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary; M.A., Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary; Ph.D., The Pennsylvania State University.

Career Path: Faculty, Theological College of Zimbabwe, 2003-2004; ABD instructor, The Pennsylvania State University 2009-2010; Fellow, W. F. Albright Institute of Archaeological Research, 2010-2011; Adjunct instructor, The University of Alabama at Birmingham, 2012; Adjunct instructor, Samford University and Beeson Divinity School, 2012; Grand Rapids Theological Seminary, 2012-present.

Research Interests: Bible and archaeology; Latter Prophets; Israelite religion and history; Ancient Near Eastern languages and cultures.

Personal: Married with three children.

Quotable: "It is a great privilege and pleasure to serve at a place that takes seriously the academic study of the Bible while maintaining a profound understanding of the transforming power of what is learned and a desire to impact the world for the glory of the Lord."

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JOHN W. HILBER, PH.D.

Professor of Old Testament

Degrees: B.S., University of Washington; Th.M., Dallas Theological Seminary; Ph.D., University of Cambridge.

Career Path: Pastor, 1985-2000; Faculty, Dallas Theological Seminary, 2004-2012; Grand Rapids Theological Seminary, 2012-present.

Research Interests: The Old Testament in its ancient Near Eastern religious and literary context

Personal: John and his wife Charlotte have been married for over 35 years and have an adult daughter. Originally from the Pacific Northwest, they enjoy outdoor recreation and travel.

Quotable: "I desire my students to encounter Christ through my love for them and engagement with his word, and to leave the classroom better equipped for effective service."

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KENDRA JACKSON, PH.D., LPC, LPSC



Assistant Professor of Counseling

Degrees: B.S., Bowling Green State University; M.Ed., Ohio University; Ph.D., Ohio University.

Career Path: School based therapist, 2011-2015; doctoral teaching assistant, 2011-2015; Clinical Mental Health Outpatient Therapist, 2016; Faculty, Grand Rapids Theological Seminary, 2017-Present.

Research Interests: Mental Health and the Black Church; Intersectionality of religion, spirituality, ethnicity, and mental health; Counselor education and supervision; Multicultural issues and concerns; Counseling children and adolescents; Play Therapy; Increasing multicultural competence; Leadership and advocacy.

Personal: I am a pastor's daughter and enjoy working alongside my parents in the ministry. My hobbies include baking from scratch, bowling, scrapbooking, watching sports (basketball), travelling, shopping, and spending time with friends and family.

Quotable: "Counseling is a ministry and I must do God's work, assisting in the healing and growth of children and families, but also guiding students in utilizing the gifts that God has placed within them as they transform the lives of many through the ministry of counseling."

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ROBERT D. LEHMAN, PH.D., LPC



Professor of Counseling

Degrees: B.A., Cornerstone University; M.Div., Grand Rapids Theological Seminary; M.A., University of Northern Iowa; Ph.D., University of Iowa.

Career Path: Pastoral, 1980-1996; Adjunct Faculty, London Baptist Bible College and Theological Seminary, London, Ontario, Canada, 1985-1996; Central Baptist Seminary, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, 1990, 1992; Séminaire Baptiste Évangélique Du Québec, Montreal Québec, 1993-2010; Faculty, Grand Rapids Theological Seminary, 1996-present.

Research Interests: Biblical counseling

Personal: Dr. Lehman is married to Sarah, who serves as an administrative assistant at GRTS. His hobbies include tennis, camping and canoeing.

Quotable: "Finding God's answers to today's problems is the focus of the counseling program at GRTS."

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PETER G. OSBORN, PH.D.

*Associate Professor of Christian Ministries
Vice President for Adult Learning*

Degrees: B.S., Baptist Bible College; M.A., Grand Rapids Theological Seminary; Ph.D., Michigan State University

Career Path: Associate Pastorates, 1993-1999; Administration, Cornerstone University 1999-2003; Monroe Community College 2009-2010; Rochester Institute of Technology 2010-2011; Faculty, Grand Rapids Theological Seminary 2003-2009, 2011-present.

Research Interests: Organizational transformation, educational technologies, and teaching and learning.

Personal: Professor Osborn and his wife, Karen, have been married since 1992 and have four children: Zach, Sawyer, Jake, and Issi. His hobbies include mountain biking and technology.

Quotable: "One of the benefits of GRTS is that it models a truly collaborative spirit among both faculty and students. This unique environment provides a wonderful context for learning and serving."

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KENNETH J. REID, PH.D.

Assistant Professor of Historical & Systematic Theology

Degrees: B.S., University of Georgia; Th.M., Dallas Theological Seminary; Th.M., Ph.D., The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Career Path: Lay and Pastoral Ministry, 1998-Present; Adjunct Professor, Andersonville Seminary, 2016-2017.

Research Interests: Atonement Theology, Trinity, Pneumatology, Hermeneutics and Biblical Theology, Racial Reconciliation/Justice Theology.

Personal: Dr. Reid and his wife Satrina have been married for 12 years. He enjoys reading, playing chess, and watching football, basketball, and historical documentaries.

Quotable: "My desire is to see our students grow in their knowledge of God and his works and that this knowledge would inform their worship, sharpen their preparation for ministry, and deepen their pursuit of holiness."

MICHAEL E. WITTMER, PH.D.

Professor of Systematic & Historical Theology



Degrees: B.A., Cedarville University; M.Div., Th.M., Grand Rapids Theological Seminary; Ph.D., Calvin Theological Seminary.

Career Path: Missionary, 1990-1992; Faculty, Grand Rapids Theological Seminary, 1996-present; Director, Center for Christian Worldview

Research Interests: Christian worldview, Creation/Culture, Anthropology, Redemption.

Personal: Dr. Wittmer and his wife, Julie, have three children: Avery, Landon and Alayna.

Quotable: "A major strength of GRTS is its small class sizes. We are a learning community, where students and professors stretch and grow together."

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