



Women's Alliance for Theology, Ethics and Ritual

Women Doing Justice, Creating Change

26 September 2012

WATER's Feminist Conversations in Religion Series Presents

"HIV/AIDS and Christian Marriage in East Africa"

An hour-long teleconference with **Dr. Melissa Browning**

October 10th, 2012 1 pm-2 pm EDT

Melissa Browning, Ph.D., is the Graduate Program Director of the MA in Social Justice and Community Development for Loyola University Chicago's Institute of Pastoral Studies. Her primary research areas include feminist theology and ethics, sexual ethics, bioethics, and HIV and AIDS.

Her most recent project, and the subject of her conversation with WATER, focuses on the ways in which marriage is an HIV/AIDS risk factor for women in East Africa. In this project, Melissa builds on fieldwork completed in Mwanza, Tanzania where women were asked to re-imagine Christian marriage as a space of safety and health for women.

The book coming out of this research, When Marriage Becomes Risky: Reflections from Tanzania on Christian Marriage in an HIV Positive World, will be published by Lexington Books (Rowman and Littlefield) later this year.

Melissa has presented numerous papers at academic conferences and has published both academic and popular articles. Among those that might be good background reading for this teleconference are:

"Listening to Experience, Looking Towards Flourishing: Ethnography as a Global Feminist Theo/ethical Praxis" (article and film) with Edith Chamwama, Eunice Kamaara, Sussy Gumo Kurgat, Damaris Parsitau, Emily Reimer-Barry, Elisabeth Vasko, and Jeanine Viau, Practical Matters, Issue 3, Spring 2010.

"HIV/AIDS Prevention and Sexed Bodies: Rethinking Abstinence in Light of the African AIDS Pandemic," Theology and Sexuality, Vol. 15.1, 2009: 27-46.

"Reexamining our Words, Reimagining our



HOW TO REGISTER

Email the words "Register Me Browning" to waterstaff@waterwomensalliance.org by Oct. 9th in order to receive dial-in information.

Please consider making a <u>secure online</u> donation for your participation in this event. Thank you!



Save the Dates!

Upcoming Programs:

October 9th: Contemplative Prayer on Mindful Eating with Mary E. Hunt, 7:30 PM (EDT)

- Come to the WATER office or join us by phone.
- RSVP with "Register Me Contemplative" by Monday, October 8th to <u>waterstaff@waterwomensalliance.org</u> or call 301.589.2509 if you would like to participate. <u>Read more</u>.

October 25th: A Ritual to Honor Hildegard of Bingen with Diann L. Neu, 7:30 PM (EDT)

• Come to the WATER office or join us by phone.

Policies: Undocumented Migration, Families, and the Moral Imagination," Journal of Poverty, Vol. 13, 2009, 1-20.

"The Goods and Evils of a Globalized Context: African and American Women Doing Theology," with Susan A. Ross and Elisabeth T. Vasko, *Concilium International* Journal of Theology, 2009/1.

Join us on Wednesday, October 10, 2012, at 1pm (EDT) to talk with Melissa Browning on the subject of "HIV/AIDS and Christian Marriage in East Africa," as she shares her recent work.

Email words "Register Me Browning" to waterstaff@waterwomensalliance.org by Oct. 9th in order to receive dial-in information.

 RSVP with "Register Me Hildegard" by Tuesday, October 23rd to <u>waterstaff@waterwomensalliance.org</u> and let us know if you will be joining by phone or in person. <u>Read more</u>.

November 14th: Teleconference with Margaret Miles, "Life Experience and Academic Work," 1 PM (EST)

December 12th: Teleconference with Katie Cannon, "Teaching Religion," 1 PM (EST)

Contemplative Prayer at WATER Tuesday, October 9th, 2012

WATER offers a regular contemplative prayer opportunity each month. This will be a communal meditation, a time of silence and reflection followed by a short discussion. Mary E. Hunt will lead the meditation on Mindful Eating.

RSVP by sending an email with the words "Register Me Contemplative" by Monday (October 8th) to waterstaff@waterwomensalliance.org or call 301.589.2509 so that we can expect you. If you wish to join by phone, please indicate that so we can send you the phone-in number. The office will be open at 7 PM for a cup of tea and conversation. Silence will commence promptly at 7:30 PM, so please be here by then. We will finish and be on our way by 8:30 PM. Read more.

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