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**With your fresh eyes, please tell our readers something about PTS that they might not know but you think they should.**

PTS is an outstanding seminary with a strong connection to the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and sharing the church's essential ecumenical commitments. What many do not know is that PTS has been involved in distance education, since before it was popular, and the seminary continues to find new ways to make education accessible to as broad an audience as possible.

**Characterize your teaching style or describe a commitment that shapes your teaching.**

In my teaching, I have made the transition from a more traditional understanding of teacher as one who deposits facts to that of a teacher as one who empowers students to learn. Providing the most accurate and current scholarship remains a crucial task of the professor, but it is also my task to find ways in which to share that information so that students grasp it and incorporate this new knowledge into their understandings of the world and of themselves. Learning is not only about being able to recall facts; it also involves developing critical thinking skills that can be applied beyond the classroom.

**In your opinion, how is online education changing the face of education?**

I think online education provides many exciting opportunities for making seminary education accessible to a larger audience. It is a chance to help those who would not otherwise be able to complete seminary. Without the traditional face-to-face classroom setting, online education challenges us to find new ways to create community and an inviting and safe learning environment

**Tell us something about a scholarly project that is occupying your attention.**

I have been doing research on the topic of childless women in the Hebrew Bible. There are many women in the Hebrew Bible that are described as "barren," usually until they bear their first child. However, there are also women who are never described as "mothers" nor as "barren." Why? Why is this supposed "lack" in their lives not seen as problematic? Is there a difference between a woman who is barren and one who is childless? Can these women provide role models for their 21<sup>st</sup> century sisters of how to image God in this world, without being called "mother," either by circumstance or choice?

**Name a hope you have for the students at PTS.**

When students complete one of my courses, I want them to have a solid understanding of the particular topic, to know why what they have learned is important and how it relates

to others areas of the curriculum, and to be able to apply that information in practical ways. I hope they will develop a faithful and reasoned approach to the interpretation of the Hebrew Bible.

**Which book have you read recently that you would commend highly to our readers?**

I just read *Journey to the Common Good* by Walter Brueggemann. I would recommend it to anyone who cares about the intersection between religious commitments and life in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.