

Curriculum Vitae

Kathleen Rochester

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Full name: Kathleen Margaret Rochester (nee Robinson)
 Present address: 104 Limes Rd., Hardwick. Cambridge CB23 7XU
 Phone: + 44 1954 210 420
 Email:skrochester@gmail.com
 Date of Birth: 25th May, 1950
 Nationality: Australian
 Marital Status: Married to Stuart (1972), with four adult children (born 1973,1975,1977,1980) and four grandchildren.

PRESENT APPOINTMENTS

Minister, Hardwick Evangelical Church (part-time)
 Tutor, Open Theological College (part-time)

CERTIFICATION

Ordained Minister of the Churches of Christ in Australia (Jan 1991)

EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

1967 Associate in Music, Australia [A.Mus.A.], piano performing
 1975 Licentiate, Trinity College of Music, London [L.T.C.L.] piano teaching
 1973 Bachelor of Science [B.Sc.], University of New England, NSW
 1974 Diploma in Education [Dip.Ed.], University of New England
 1990 Diploma in Ministry, with honours [Dip.Min. (Hons)],
 Churches of Christ Theological College, Melbourne
 1991 Bachelor of Divinity [B.D.], Melbourne College of Divinity, Melbourne
 2000 Master of Theology [Th.M.], Regent College, Vancouver, Canada
 (OT thesis: Israel's Lament and the Discernment of Divine Revelation)
 PhD candidate in OT Theology, University of Durham,
 under the supervision of Rev Dr Walter Moberly.
 Area of study: Prophetic ministry (comparing Jeremiah and Ezekiel)
 To be completed 2009.

POSITIONS HELD

1967 - 2005 Private Teacher of piano and theory of music
 1971 Teacher (German) and Housemistress,
 Presbyterian Ladies' College, Armidale NSW
 1973 Teacher (Science, History), Mackillop College, Brisbane
 1979 - 1986 Teacher (Music, German), Calvin Christian School (part-time)
 1986 Teacher (Music), Adult Education (including Women's Prison), Hobart

- 1987 - 1989 Teacher (Maths, ESL), Hobart College of TAFE
- 1991 - 1995 Teacher (Religious Studies), Hobart College of TAFE
- 1995 - 1997 Lecturer, Tasmanian College of Ministries (later Tabor College)
[Subjects taught at TAFE and TCM: OT Introduction & Survey, OT Exegesis, OT Theology, New Testament Survey & Exegesis, Theology (Church, Ministry & Sacraments), Preaching & Worship, Pastoral Care, NT Greek, Counselling Skills]
- 1991 - 1995 Minister, Huon Uniting and Community Churches (in charge of three churches in a combined Churches of Christ/UCA pastorate, supervising two youth workers. Organised major conference. Was fully involved as a Uniting Church minister within Presbytery (on Strategy Committee, leading church consultations) and Synod. as well as being fully involved as a Churches of Christ minister.
- 1996 (4 months) Minister (Interim), East Derwent Uniting Church and Chaplain, Lillian Martin Nursing Home, Hobart
Guest lecturer, YWAM Hobart, for DTS
- 1996 - 1998 Associate Pastor, Killarney Park Mennonite Brethren Church, Vancouver (preaching, women's ministries, worship & music)
- 1996 - 2000 Associate Pastor, Peace Mennonite Church, Vancouver
- 1999 - 2000 Pastor, "Housefires" house-church, in downtown Vancouver
- 2000-2001 Lecturer, Birmingham Christian College, Birmingham UK and Co-ordinator of the B.A. (Mission) degree programme (teaching OT subjects, NT Greek 1, Preaching, Worship, Pastoral Theology, Mission Theology and Practice)
- 2002 (5 months) Minister (Interim) Scots-Memorial Uniting Church, Hobart
(This position came with a mandate to bring harmony to a group that had been in severe conflict, to establish new leadership teams, to resolve issues of property, and to rebuild spiritual life. All this was achieved happily.)
- 2001-2002 Lecturer, Tabor College (Counselling Skills, Ministry Projects) and Co-ordinator of College Worship.
Supply teaching in the Durham area (Secondary and Primary schools, any subject to GCSE)
Maths teaching, Sunderland College
Supply teaching, Low Newton Women's Prison, Durham
(Literacy & Numeracy, Child-Rearing, Alcohol & Drug Issues)
- 2002 – present Tutor in Old Testament, Open Theological College
(OT Introduction & Pentateuch, NT introduction, Biblical Literacy, Psalms & Wisdom, Deuteronomy & Ethics Biblical Hebrew)
- 2003 – 2006 Minister, Methodist Church (Middlesbrough & Eston Circuit)
(employed as a part-time minister from another denomination on a 3 year contract. Acknowledged strengths in preaching and teaching, prayer and vision, effective leadership and evangelism.)
I was also the circuit tutor for the Local Preachers on Trial, training in preaching, exegesis, theology and Christian life.
- 2006 – present Guest lecturer, YWAM School of Biblical Studies, Nuneaton UK
- 2006 – present Minister of Hardwick Evangelical Church.

OTHER RELEVANT MINISTRY EXPERIENCE

- 1967 - 1980 Sunday School & children's ministries
(including beach missions in NSW)
- 1966 - present Church musician (piano/keyboard and viola)
- 1981 - 1988 Counselling and taking care of a schizophrenic young woman who lived with us
- 1982 - 1993 Director and conductor of large interdenominational Christian musical productions and large community events, Tasmania (including choir, orchestra, drama, mime and liturgical dance)
- 1984 - present Speaker and leader for various seminars and Christian groups and guest preacher in a wide range of denominations
- 1988 ESL teaching to missionary candidates in Korea, with SIM (1 month)
- 2005 Director and conductor of interdenominational Christian musical, *The Witness*, presented three nights in the Middlesbrough Theatre, theatrical style, with much evidence of God touching people.

PERSONAL ATTRIBUTES

- Wide ministry experience, in small and large, village and city churches, where churches have experienced significant growth
- Ability to work cross-denominationally and cross-culturally, while maintaining clear personal convictions
- Called to preach and teach; passionate about the Scriptures and the contemporary workings of God in people's lives
- Motivated to encourage others to develop their gifts in God; effective in personal counselling
- Proven ability in teaching and training a wide range of people for ministry, in Colleges and churches, through classes and personal interaction.

ARTICLES AND BOOKLETS (all at popular level)

"Reflections on Theological Education," in *Travelling EMU*, the publication of Evangelicals within the Uniting Church in Australia. Edition 23 (2002), 10-11

"Six Strands of Spiritual Renewal", in *Canadian Mennonite*, Vol. 4, No. 11 (May 29, 2000), 6-8

"New Year 2000: A guide to prayer", in *Timbrel*, the publication of Mennonite Women, Vol. II, No. 6 (Nov-Dec 1999), 7-9

Gifts for Giving, self-published Cambridge 2008 (first version Vancouver 1998)

Women in Ministry? self-published, Hobart, 1991, being reprinted Cambridge 2008

GENERAL STATEMENT

I was not raised in a Christian home, but came to my own clear commitment to Christ when I was aged eleven, through the ministries of a good Sunday School and a children's camp. From that point on, I experienced opposition from my family. However, my sister and cousin came to Christ a few years after I did, and my father in recent years, shortly before he died. I was baptised at 16 and had a significant experience of being filled with the Spirit when I was 17, which gave me a greater sense of intimacy with God and confidence to speak for him. During these teenage years I developed a strong awareness of God's personal communication with me.

I met Stuart when we were both students at the University of New England, as we were both active members of the Evangelical Union there. The teaching which we received through this group gave us a strong foundation in evangelical theology and the fellowship widened our appreciation and ability to work across a wide spectrum of denominations. Later we appreciated the teaching, training and practical experiences which came through the charismatic renewal in churches in Tasmania.

As a woman who was called to preach in 1984, I have found that the path has not been straightforward. I had a personal struggle to reconcile the call with what I had been taught, i.e., that women ought not to preach, teach or lead, and I certainly did not (and still do not) want to go against biblical teaching. My initial theological training was at a distance from any College, so much of my learning was on my own, through books, and discussions whenever possible with others who were also studying in a similar way, and sitting exams. My church had never had to address the possibility of a woman wanting to do theological studies or to preach, so took time to adjust. However, I was free to lead Christian musicals and to 'preach' in large public venues in the context of the musicals. I was able to spend a year completing my B.D. and Dip.Min. in regular classes in Melbourne when my husband took a teacher exchange position at Donvale Christian School. My student ministry placements were in three denominations, mostly because it was not easy to find a church that would accept a woman doing all of the things required. The denominations were Church of Christ, Baptist and Uniting Church. I am grateful for this as it has stood me in good stead for subsequent ministries in various denominations.

After ordination, I served simultaneously as a minister in the Huon, Tasmania, and also taught courses in a newly-emerging theological training centre (which has changed names a few times) in Tasmania. Our Masters of Theology studies at Regent College, Vancouver, needed financial support and I was offered ministry positions in two Mennonite Churches (of different denominations!) This opened up the treasures of another Christian tradition to us. Studies in the UK were initially supported by teaching in the Birmingham Christian College (formerly Birmingham Bible Institute and Springdale Colleges merged). After a year, a financial crisis at the College meant the closure of the courses we were teaching and an immediate reduction in teaching staff. A death in the family required us to return to Australia for a funeral, and medical checks, while there, revealed that Stuart needed heart bypass surgery. So we stayed in Australia for a year, when we took short-term positions after the surgery when they were offered. Our intention was still to return to the UK to complete our Ph.D.s at Durham. After doing relief teaching for a year, I took a part-time position as minister with the Methodist Church in Middlesbrough, as an AM (Authorised Minister from another denomination) on a 3 year contract, with the agreement that I would not baptise infants. Many came to know Christ, but the superintendent, who was extremely liberal was not happy with that. I was then offered the position of minister with Hardwick Evangelical Church, a healthy and active church which is open to the work of the Holy Spirit. Its location, very near Cambridge, also affords us the opportunity to use Tyndale House library.

Our four children live in the Hobart area. All are very involved in their churches. Two are married and we have four grandchildren.

REFERENCES

Prof Walter Moberly

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(Walter is my PhD supervisor.)

Dr Pekka Pitkänen

Open Theological College
University of Gloucestershire
Francis Close Hall
Swindon Road
Cheltenham GL50 4AZ
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(Pekka is the coordinator of the OTC courses for which I currently tutor.)

Dr Sven Soderlund

Regent College
5800 University Boulevard
Vancouver. B.C. V6T 2E4
Tel: +1-604-224-3245
Email: ssoderlund@regent-college.edu

(Sven knows my academic work from Regent College and has seen us several times in the UK in different ministry situations.)

Rev Dan Yarnell

National Coordinator
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101 Redstone Close
Church Hill North
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Tel: +44-1527 455 446
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(Dan has known us throughout our time in the UK, and taught alongside us at BCC.)

Revd Dr David Instone-Brewer

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(David is NT & Rabbinics Researcher at Tyndale House, Cambridge, and an elder in the church where I am currently the minister.)

Rev Simon Hattrell

(former Principal, TCM/Tabor Hobart)
27 Abau Street
Mount Isa Qld 4825
phone 07 4749 1207
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(Simon was Principal for several of the years when I was teaching at TCM, then was still involved when the College became Tabor.)