

GRACE ADOLPHSEN BRAME, PH.D.

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GRACE ADOLPHSEN BRAME, PH.D. has led a multi-level professional life, beginning as the Minister of Music and Youth Work in a large Lutheran church in Madison, Wisconsin. There she had her symphony debut, singing Mahler's *Kindertotenlieder*. Opera and recital appearances followed across the country and in a number of foreign countries. As a mezzo soprano, she has frequently represented the United States as a Goodwill Ambassador in France and in several republics of the former Soviet Union. Her first concerts at the United States Embassy in Moscow broke the cultural embargo which existed between the two countries at that time.

During that same period, she began offering retreats across the United States and in the Caribbean. After obtaining her Ph.D. she centered on teaching Spirituality, Theology, and Comparative Religions at Villanova University, and then transferred to La Salle University in Philadelphia in order to teach graduate classes in her field.

Her writing career began in 1981 with the publishing of her first book. Four more volumes followed and over 40 journal articles. The last book, *THE CROSS: PAYMENT OR GIFT? Rethinking the Death of Jesus*, won her both national and state first place awards, given by the Federation of Press Women for 2010.

In preparation to leave her home state of Delaware, and with the hope of raising funds for wells in Africa, she presented a final concert: *JESUS' JOURNEY (and OURS)*, resulting in the building of two wells in Tanzania. She has a deep desire to use her voice to aid in a deeper understanding among nations and people and as a means of helping the disenfranchised across the world. She now resides in the Greensboro, High Point, and Winston Salem area of North Carolina where she has continued to lecture and concertize.

DEGREES and UNIVERSITIES

BMUS in VOICE and CONDUCTING Wittenberg University, Springfield, OH

MSM (Master of Sacred Music) Union Theological Seminary, NYC, NY
VOICE and CONDUCTING, THEOLOGY and BIBLE

Thesis: *Indigenous Sacred Song in India*

MA in RELIGION Temple University, Philadelphia, PA
COMPARATIVE RELIGIONS, SPIRITUALITY and THEOLOGY

PH.D in RELIGION - **1988** Temple University, Philadelphia, PA

The INTEGRATION of THEOLOGY and SPIRITUALITY
in CHRISTIANITY and COMPARATIVE RELIGIONS

Dissertation: *Grace and Will in the Writing of Evelyn Underhill*

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

VILLANOVA UNIVERSITY, Villanova, PA - 1986 - 1992

"THEOLOGY in a CHANGING WORLD"

Basic Systematic Theology in the Light of Vatican II

"CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY" - Courses on:

An Introduction to Christian Spirituality

The History of Christian Spirituality (Two Semesters)

Classics in Christian Spirituality

Meditation and Contemplation

Balanced Spirituality: Prayer AND Service

The Coincidence of the *Vias Negativa* and *Positiva*

Art and Spirituality: Music, Poetry, and Painting

in Catholic, Orthodox, and Protestant Expression

"COMPARATIVE SPIRITUALITY"

Hindu, Buddhist (esp. Zen), Zoroastrian, Hebrew/Jewish, and

Muslim (emphasizing Sufism) as compared to Christian Spirituality

La SALLE UNIVERSITY, Philadelphia. PA - **1992 – 2008**
(Mostly Graduate Teaching)

“Religion” (Undergraduate)

“Mysticism”(Graduate, including the following:)

MOST OF THE COURSES LISTED UNDER VILLANOVA

BOOKS

RECEPTIVE PRAYER: A Christian Approach to Meditation.
Charis Enterprises, 1981.

*A MANUAL FOR RECEPTIVE PRAYER: For Study, Practice, and
Retreats.* Charis Enterprises, 1984.

Second Edition - RECEPTIVE PRAYER. CBP Press, 1985.

*WAYS OF THE SPIRIT (Four Unknown Retreats by Evelyn Underhill)
Discovered, Edited, and Introduced by Grace Adolphsen Brame).*
Crossroad, 1991.

FAITH, THE YES OF THE HEART: A Theology of Spirituality).
Augsburg/Fortress, 1999.

Third Edition - *RECEPTIVE PRAYER: Prayer Which Nourishes,
Heals, and Empowers.* Charis, 2005.

Second Edition - *A MANUAL FOR RECEPTIVE PRAYER.* Charis, 2006.

THE CROSS: PAYMENT OR GIFT? Rethinking the Death of Jesus.
Charis Enterprises, 2010. National and State First Prize for Non-
Fiction in 2010, presented by Federation of Press Women.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO BOOKS

*IMAGES: WOMEN IN TRANSITION, (Poems) “Pentecost,” and
“Prayer Is for Real People”,* ed. Janice Grana, The Upper Room, 1976.
*FEMINIST VOICES IN SPIRITUALITY, “The Extraordinary within the
Ordinary: The Life and Message of Evelyn Underhill.”* ed. Pierre

Hagy, Edwin Mellon Press, 1999.

KNOWLEDGE IS LIGHT: Essays in Honor of Seyyed Hussein Nasr, "Dhikr and the Prayer of Jesus as Remembrances of God and Paths to Union." ed. Zailan Moris, ABD International Group, Inc., 1999.

JOURNAL ARTICLES - More than 40 for:

The Christian Century
Worship
Ecumenical Review
The Lutheran
Sisters Today
Spirituality Today
The Patristic and Byzantine Review
The Christian Home
Ecumenical Review
The Church
Perspectives in Religious Studies
Event (A Youth Magazine)
(A Journal for the Blind)

NEWSPAPER ARTICLE

"Meditation Means More Than One Thing"

RECORDINGS

"MUSIC FOR MOSCOW" (CD)
"THE LIFE OF CHRIST" (CD)
"JESUS' JOURNEY (and OURS)" (CD and DVD)

LECTURES, RETREATS, and Concerts in:

Tanzania, Zambia, Puerto Rico, India, Russia, Estonia, Siberia, Uzbekistan, France, Switzerland, and across the United States