

## GUIDELINES for Essay Writers

### Purpose and Audience of the Journal

*Currents in Theology and Mission* publishes essays, book reviews, and resources for lectionary preaching to a Christian audience that is ecumenical and predominantly Lutheran. Readers come from a variety of settings—seminaries, universities, specialized ministries, and especially local congregations.

Essays on a wide range of topics are welcome, e.g., biblical exegesis; theological and doctrinal issues; church history; worship, music, and all the arts of ministry; church leadership in particular settings (urban, rural, multicultural, etc.); ecumenical and interfaith dialogue; evangelism and mission; religion and culture. The journal seeks well-reasoned and interesting essays that will serve the life of the church.

The journal welcomes unsolicited manuscripts and queries (contact Craig Nesson at [cnessan@wartburgseminary.edu](mailto:cnessan@wartburgseminary.edu)). The editors and editorial consultants make decisions regarding essays that will be published, as well as the timing of the publications.

### Preparation of Manuscripts

1. Submit essays **electronically** to Dr. Nesson at [cnessan@wartburgseminary.edu](mailto:cnessan@wartburgseminary.edu).
2. Writers are asked to write clearly and without polemic, explaining technical terms and keeping footnotes to a minimum. Foreign language quotations should be avoided wherever possible. If they are necessary, they should be followed by a parenthesis giving the English translation. In general, writers should follow the *Chicago Manual of Style* or the *SBL Handbook of Style* and use inclusive language. The following two footnotes may serve as a guide:
  1. O. E. Alana, "Reconsidering the Poor by Gospel Norms," *AFER* 32 (August, 1990), 193–194.
  2. Joseph Sittler, *The Doctrine of the Word* (Philadelphia: Muhlenberg Press, 1948), 23.
3. Non-roman, non-English fonts and keyboards (Hebrew, Greek, Arabic, etc.) should be avoided and the text should be transliterated.

### Submission of Manuscripts

1. Put in the **subject line of the email** “**Currents Submission,**” followed by the **title of the essay**.
2. The document should be submitted in Word format.
3. At the top of the document put the title, author’s name, author’s professional title and location; author’s snail mail/email address, and date submitted, e.g.:

“The Religious Significance of Lightning Bugs”  
Jane R. Smith  
Assistant Professor of Religion and Science  
Galaxy College  
1222 Milky Way  
Saturn, New Jersey 08567  
[jrsmith@galaxy.edu](mailto:jrsmith@galaxy.edu)
4. Please provide a **100-word abstract** of your essay immediately below the information listed in #3 above.
5. Generally, essays are between 2500–4000 words and **should not exceed 4000 words**.

### Transfer of Copyright

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Thanks for your interest in *Currents*!

*Kathleen D. Billman and Craig L. Nesson, Editors*