

D. Brendan Johnson

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Education

University of Minnesota
Minneapolis, MN
Medical Doctor (M.D.) Candidate
07/2017-05/2023 (anticipated)

- Gold Humanism Honor Society (15% of classmates, selected by peers, MS3-4)
- Alpha Omega Alpha (AOA) (17% of classmates, MS3-4)
- RPAP Legislative Scholarship & Stipend (\$20,000), 2021-22
- Preclinical Honors (top 25% of class), 2017-18
- Step 1: 264

Duke University Divinity School
Durham, NC

Masters of Theological Studies (M.T.S.), Theology and Ethics Focus; Summa Cum Laude
Fellow in Theology, Medicine, and Culture
Certificate: Faith-Based Organizing, Advocacy, and Social Transformation
Thesis: "Mind the Gap: The Neglect of Health Equity in Theological Bioethics"
08/2019-05/2021

- Theology, Medicine, and Culture Fellowship (\$10,000), 2019-21
- Full-tuition merit scholarship (of three offered), 2019-21
- Moral Purpose Award, Kenan Institute for Ethics (winner of Duke University graduate student essay competition, \$1,000), 2020, bit.ly/2HNk60v

St. Olaf College
Northfield, MN
B.A., Chemistry, B.A., Norwegian; Magna Cum Laude
09/2011-05/2015

- Buntrock Scholar (highest merit scholarship)
- Service Leadership Scholar
- 2013 Snåsa Scholar

Professional Associations

World Medical Association (2020-current)
American Academy of Religion (2020-current)
Society for Christian Ethics (2021-current)
American Medical Association (2021-current)
Association for the Advancement of Philosophy and Psychiatry (2021-current)

MedicineForward (2021-current)
Political Theology Network (2021-current)
Minnesota Medical Association (2022-current)
American Association of Community Psychiatrists (2022-current)

Selected Experiences

Founding Co-Host, Social Medicine On Air Podcast

6/2019-current

- Co-created a growing podcast on social medicine, justice, and health with over 21,000 plays and 25 episodes
- Supervised a production and design intern for two months.
- Episodes currently used in curricula at Boston Children's Hospital Global Health Fellowship, Macalester College, and Metropolitan State University.

Co-Founder, "Faith, Social Medicine, and Justice" Discussion Group

02/2022-current

- Lead monthly discussion group/Bible study with participants from Rwanda, Haiti, and the United States

Academic Event Coordinator, Duke Theology, Medicine, and Culture Initiative

06/2020-05/2021

- Planned and coordinated TMC's flagship seminar series, including selection and invitation of prominent figures like Stanley Hauerwas, Carl Elliott, Teresa Forcades i Vila, Laurie Zoloth, Bruce Rogers-Vaughn, Susan Holman, John Swinton, Wylín Wilson, and Eddy Eustache.
- Served as main communication liaison between speakers and TMC Initiative.
- Technical lead for new entirely virtual format with large Zoom events, allowing a larger and more (inter)national audience.
- Co-organized and led TMC's biweekly "brownbag" events for Fellows with local and internal speakers.

Participant, Foundation for Theological Exploration

5/2021

- Participated in the 2021 Christian Leadership Forum, a selective two-day gathering and leadership incubator.

Practicum, Health Care for the Homeless, Durham, NC

09/2019-03/2020

- Developed an end-of-life conversation project with the attending physician and social work team.

Colin MacLaurin Fellow, Anselm House, St. Paul, MN

08/2018-

05/2019, 08/2021-current

- Participated in theological study program with regular cohort meetings, book grants, retreats, and mentorship.

Founder, Medical School Reading Group

01/2018-09/2019

- Facilitate a reading group on the intersection of medicine with topics in philosophy, economics, art, and society.

Tutor, University of Minnesota Medical School
09/2018-05/2019

- Paid tutor for first year medical students in basic science coursework.

Education Officer, Christian Medical Dental Association
09/2018-05/2019

- Led weekly meetings as well as community and service events. Planned educational content for group meetings.

Confidential Peer Assistant Program, University of Minnesota
09/2018-05/2019

- In-house peer referral for peers experiencing academic or social distress.

SocMed Course, Beyond the Biological Basis of Disease
07/2018

Mirebalais, Haiti

- Immersion course in Social Medicine with Haitian and international healthcare students, conducted in French.

Scribe, Hennepin County Medical Center
07/2015-03/2016

- Aid physician documentation in the Emergency Department and outpatient primary care.

Academic Contributions

Journal/Print Publications and Works In Progress

Review essay of Paul Farmer's corpus, chapter in *A Prophet to the Peoples: Paul Farmer's Witness and Theological Ethics*, eds. M. Therese Lysaught and Alexandre A. Martins (Wipf and Stock: Eugene, OR, in progress, expected Feb 2023).

"Real Solidarity" and "Gentle Sympathy": Lessons in Finitude from Annie Dillard and Thomas Merton. Martin KS, Johnson DB, *Journal of Palliative Medicine* [in press, 2022].

Solidarity, the Origins of the Hospital, and the Transformational Power of Ghastly Imagery. Johnson DB, Nicholson CP, *AMA Journal of Ethics* [in press, 2022].

Physicians and Civil Disobedience: Do the Benefits Outweigh the Risks? Princ L, Johnson DB. *Minnesota Medicine*, 105(4), 2022.

What can I do about climate change? An answer—and a daring challenge—for physicians. Johnson DB, Inglis JJ, Westerhaus MJ, Rossi FT. *Minnesota Medicine*, 105(2), 2022.

You Can't Carry a Gun and a Stethoscope at the Same Time, Johnson DB, *AMA*

Journal of Ethics, 24(4):E340-341, 2022.

Case Study: A Particularly American Failure. Johnson DB. In *Global Health Watch 6* (London: Bloomsbury Academic, 2022), 133-4.

Furniture of Bones. Johnson DB. *Hektoen International: A Journal of Medical Humanities*, 13(4), 2021. hekint.org/2021/12/22/furniture-of-bones/.

New Frontiers in Medical Justice: Human Fraternity, Human Rights, and Neoliberalism among *Fratelli Tutti*. Johnson DB. *Between Cities*, 10(1):17-21, 2021. issuu.com/betweencities/docs/between_cities_10/16.

Dancing in the Street: Convivial Medicine at the End of Normal, Johnson DB, *International Journal of Illich Studies*, 7(1): 99-121, 2020.

Kultur, Helse Og Barn - Perspektiver Fra Amerika. [Culture, Health, and Children - Perspectives from America.], Johnson DB, Suleiman AA, *Æskulap*, 98(4): 32-34, 2018.

Does it matter who serves as the scribe?, Johnson DB, *J Fam Pract*, 65(7): 437, 2016.

Dental fluorosis and fluoride in Willoq and Cuzco: assumptions and reality in Peru, Johnson DB, Walczak M, *Int J Med Sci Public Health*, 4(9): 1269-1276, 2015.

Posters and Abstracts

Trauma and Health: Assessing and Integrating Adverse Childhood Experience (ACE) Data Through Primary Care in Rural Minnesota, Johnson DB, Jun 24, 2022, RPAP/MetroPAP End-of-Year Poster Session, Minneapolis, MN. bit.ly/CHADBJ

No More Voluntourism: A New Chapter for Short Term Missions, Johnson DB, May 22, 2021, CMDA VIE National Convention Poster Presentation, online. (Best in class: \$300 prize)

"Social Medicine On Air: Podcasting and Radical Imagination," Johnson DB, Attilus A, Goyal R, Oct 18, 2020, EqualHealth Global Social Medicine Summit, video abstract presentation. bit.ly/3ljhPYm

Dental Fluorosis and Fluoride in Willoq and Cuzco: Assumptions and Reality in Peru, Johnson DB, 2015, St. Olaf College Honors Day Poster Presentation, St. Olaf College, Northfield, MN

Art

"Life in the House of Mercy," Johnson DB, woodblock print with metallic marker, *Christian Century*, April 21, 2022. Used by Professor Warren Kinghorn at Hyde Park Institute (University of Chicago) event for medical students about leisure, contemplation, art, and activism, May 14, 2022.

"After Visit Summary," Johnson DB, poem [under review].

“We Cut Your Toes Off,” Johnson DB, poem [under review].

Pedagogical

Invited session co-lead, ‘Racial Capitalism,’ White Coats for Black Lives (University of Minnesota Medical School) Teach-in, Sep 13, 2022, Minneapolis, MN.

Lead student co-organizer, “Building Moral Courage: An Intro to Civil Disobedience for Physicians-In-Training,” Becoming A Doctor course, University of Minnesota Medical School, Aug 25-6, 2022.

Competitively selected to lead an elective course for 3rd year medical students. This course, taught to 120 students, introduced students to the tradition of civil disobedience in medicine as a tool for health equity and was co-led with a local environmental activist, fellow students, and social medicine faculty.

“How Societal Factors (Like Economics, Racism, Climate, Immigration, etc.) Influence Our Health,” the NUANCE.: Medicine Explained (podcast). Jun 8, 2022, <https://anchor.fm/thenuance/episodes/66-How-societal-factors-like-economics--racism--climate--immigration--etc-influence-our-health---Jonas-Attilus--Brendan-Johnson-e1jmdb6/a-a82url9>

Student reviewer, “Psychiatry,” in *The Ultimate Medical School Rotation Guide*, eds. Bliss Chang and Stewart Lecker (New York: Springer, 2021).

Co-teacher, ‘Medicine and Christianity’ Short Course, Anselm House, St. Paul, MN, June-July 2020.

Co-taught a six-session online synchronous course on the intersection of theology and healthcare, with a special focus on intellectual history, practices of care, and vocation. The diverse student body included medical and other healthcare students, Academic Health Center professors, practicing and retired clinicians, and community members.

Social Determinants of Health (Cultural Diversity), Ahmed S, Johnson DB.

Invited authorship of case study for Foundations of Interprofessional Communication and Collaboration (FIPCC) required course for all first-year healthcare students at University of Minnesota 2018-19.

Academic Presentations

‘Let me see your face, Let me hear your voice’: A Constructive Prosoponic Foundation for the Rights of Nature in an Age of Catastrophe, Johnson DB, American Academy of Religion, Nov 2022 (future), Denver, CO.

Desiring-Machines and *Epektasis*: Salvation, Politics, and the *Askesis* of Desire, Johnson DB, Critical Research on Religion, Jun 11, 2022, Queen’s University Belfast, Northern Ireland.

Advocacy, Care and Social Movements: The Place of Activism in Medical Professionalism, Ojebuoboh A (presenter), Johnson DB, National Conference for Physician-Scholars in the Social Sciences and Humanities, May 1, 2022, Los Angeles,

CA.

Ethics at the End of the World: The Practices of Desire and Channeling the Ultimate in Sarah Coakley and Deleuze and Guattari, Johnson DB, Political Theology Network Conference, April 9, 2022, Denver, CO/online.

Theological Activism, The Right to Health, and the Rights of Nature: An Exploration of *Shalom*, Johnson DB, Conference on Medicine and Religion, March 15, 2022, Portland, OR.

Missionary and Faith-Based Organizations in Global Health and the Challenge of Decoloniality, Johnson DB, Boston Children's Hospital/Harvard Medical School Decolonizing Global Health for Equity curriculum for BCH Global Health Fellowship, March 7, 2022, Boston, MA/online.

Poverty, Medicine, and Tradition: The Right to Health from Patristic Roots to the U.N. and Contemporary Theological Activism, Johnson DB, American Academy of Religion, Nov 21, 2021, Austin, TX.

Post-secular Medical Education: (Pre-)Ethics, *Homo liturgicus*, and Solidarity, Johnson DB, Conference on Medicine and Religion, 2020 (postponed and given Mar 24, 2021), online.

Liberation Medicine: The Influence of Liberation Theology upon the Social Medicine Movement, Johnson DB, Conference on Medicine and Religion, Mar 23, 2021, online.

For the Life of the World: Bioethics and Medicine in the Time of Climate Collapse, Johnson DB, Conference on Medicine and Religion, Mar 22, 2021, online.

De-/Reterritorialization in Ezekiel: Eschatology, Prophecy, and the 'Schizophrenic Physician,' Johnson DB, American Academy of Religion (Sacred Texts, Theory, and Theological Construction Unit and SBL Reading, Theory and the Bible Unit. Section theme: A Thousand Readings: Theology and the Bible with Deleuze and Guattari's *A Thousand Plateaus*, Forty Years Later), Dec 8, 2020, online.

Panels and Facilitation

Co-facilitator, *Black Skins, White Masks* 70th Anniversary Franz Fanon Reading Group, Feb 22, 2022, online.

Panelist, Social Medicine Student Coffee Hour, King's College London (Department of Global Health and Social Medicine) & Vanderbilt University (Medicine, Health, and Society), Feb 17, 2022, online.

Panelist, Beyond Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI), University of North Dakota SMHS IDEA (Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Antiracism) Committee & Bioethics Club, Jan 20, 2022, online.

Panelist, History of Social Medicine and the Social Medicine On Air podcast,

University of Minnesota General Surgery Residency DEI Mixed-Media Journal Club, Nov 9, 2021, Minneapolis, MN.

Presenter, Liberation Theology and Health Equity, Duke Divinity School Theology, Medicine, and Culture Initiative's "Brownbag" Fellowship series, Sep 24, 2021, Durham, NC.

Co-facilitator, Political Education Reading Group for the Campaign Against Racism/Social Medicine Consortium. Co-led discussion on *The Undercommons: Fugitive Planning & Black Study* by Stefano Harvey and Fred Moten (New York: Autonomia, 2013) with participants from Zimbabwe, Rwanda, Canada, and the United States. May 6, 2021, online.

Organizer and Panel Facilitator, Health and Liberation Theologies Symposium. Co-organizer of inaugural HeaLTh Symposium, featuring nine panelists from North and South America and the Caribbean speaking about the intersection of medicine and theologies of liberation. Apr 10, 2021, online.

Facilitator, "Justice," Spiritual Formation (Duke Divinity Course), Oct 30, 2020, Durham, NC.

Panelist, Career Explorations in Public Health, "Health Justice in a 'Glocal' Context - Systemic Racism and Other Forms of Structural Oppression Amidst the Ongoing COVID-19 Pandemic" (Macalester College course), Oct 13, 2020, online.

Non-Academic Publications

Good Money: Medical Education as Class Formation, Johnson DB. PESTE, Oct 2022 (future).

Patristic Roots for a Right To Health? Divine Kinship, Citizenship, and COVID-19, Johnson DB. Public Orthodoxy, May 17, 2022.
<https://publicorthodoxy.org/2022/05/17/patristic-roots-for-a-right-to-health/>

Powers and Principalities, Johnson DB. CMDA Student Life, Feb 15, 2022.
<https://cmdastudentlife.org/blog/power-and-principalities>

ACE Scores: The New Fifth Vital Sign?, Johnson DB. Harvard Medical School Primary Care Review, Jan 3, 2022.
<http://info.primarycare.hms.harvard.edu/review/ace-scores-fifth-vital-sign>

The Horizontal Virtues, Johnson DB. The Hippocratic Forum, Apr 28, 2021.
<https://www.hippocraticforum.org/theforum/the-horizontal-virtues>

Damocles' Revolver, Johnson DB. Macrina Magazine, Apr 10, 2021.
<https://macrinamagazine.com/issue-7-finitude/guest/2021/04/10/damocles-revolver/>

Reflection: Heed the social wisdom of Francis, Auden, Moten, and Baldwin, Johnson DB. Black Catholic Messenger, Apr 6, 2021.

<https://www.blackcatholicmessenger.com/fratelli-tutti-semi-anniversary-reflection/>.

Crisis, Johnson DB. British Medical Journal Medical Humanities blog, Mar 9, 2021. <https://blogs.bmj.com/medical-humanities/2021/03/09/crisis/>.

Here's the Flaw with Citing Overpopulation as a Problem, Star Tribune (Minneapolis, MN) Letter to the Editor, January 9, 2021. <https://www.startribune.com/readers-write-the-george-floyd-special-section-opinion-coverage-norman-borlaug-s-legacy-continued-gr/600008768/>.

Ethical Medicine Means Getting Political, Johnson DB. Hastings Center Bioethics Forum, May 4, 2020. <https://www.thehastingscenter.org/ethical-medicine-means-getting-political/>.

Language Proficiencies

English: Native

Norwegian: Conversational, non-native

French: Conversational, non-native

Hobbies and Interests

Racquetball

Hiking and camping

Cross-country skiing

Reading (tsundoku enthusiast)

Woodblock printing

Poetry

Other Awards, Accomplishments, and Activities

Scientific and Scholarship Working Group, Social Medicine Consortium Planning Committee for 2023 Conference

Seed House intentional living community, Minneapolis, MN (2022-present)

Teología en la Clínica/Latinx Theology in Medicine Working Group, Duke Divinity School, Durham, NC/online (2021-present)

Maurin House Catholic Worker participant, Minneapolis, MN (2021-present)

UMN Medical Student Admissions Interviewer (2022-present)

UMN Medical School Admissions Ambassador (2022-present)

Afghan Evacuee Health Screening, Minneapolis, MN (2022)

Medical Student Virtual Mentoring, University of Global Health Equity (Rwanda) (2020-present)

Extinction Rebellion, Durham, NC (2019-21)

COVID Vaccine Clinic Volunteer, Lincoln Community Health Center, Durham, NC (2021)

Health Volunteer, Powderhorn Park Encampment, Minneapolis, MN (2020)

Volunteer Fellow, Healthcare for the Homeless clinic, Durham, NC (2019-20)

Volunteer Interviewer, Minnesota Future Doctors/Student National Medical Association (2017-19)

President, Student Coach, and Athlete, St. Olaf Rowing Club (2011-15)

Vice President, Alpha Phi Omega service organization, St. Olaf College (2014-15)

President, Norwegian Language Honor House, St. Olaf College (2014-15)

Chemistry Academic Achievement Award, St. Olaf College (2015)
Dean's List Student, St. Olaf College (2011-15)
Intern, Novartis Institute for Biomedical Research, Basel, Switzerland (2014)
Intern, LCG Pence Construction, Williston, ND (2012)

Media

"Photos from the Field," RPAP Winter 2021-2 Newsletter, Jan 24, 2022, bit.ly/3rrI31h

"'Social Medicine on Air' Podcast Hopes to Build Community and Provide a Platform for Conversation," University of Minnesota Medical School News, Jan 6, 2021, <https://med.umn.edu/news-events/%E2%80%98social-medicine-air%E2%80%99-podcast-hopes-build-community-and-provide-platform-conversation>

"Theology, Medicine, and Culture Fellows Recognized for Leadership and Theological Reflection," Stories@Duke, Jul 27, 2020, <https://stories.divinity.duke.edu/tmc-fellows/>

"Focus on the First Year," MetroDoctor Magazine, July/August 2018:
https://issuu.com/metrodoctors/docs/metro_dr_july_aug_2018_final, and
<https://youtu.be/349nz8QE5MM>