



LaDonna J. Friesen
Assistant Professor of English
Evangel University
Humanities Department



Education

1998-2001

Master of Arts in English, Missouri State University

Specializations: Seventeenth Century English Devotional Poetry,
Children's Literature

Thesis: "The School of George Herbert: *The Temple's* Devotional Mode
in Seventeenth Century Religious Poetry"

1994-1998

Bachelor of Arts, Evangel University

Major: English Minor: Music

Teaching Experience

2011-present

Evangel University

1111. N. Glenstone Ave. Springfield, MO 65802

- ◆ English 100, Intense Grammar Review
- ◆ English 102, Basic English Skills
- ◆ English 111, Composition
- ◆ English 123, Introduction to Literature
- ◆ English 222, Young Adult Literature
- ◆ English 330, Children's Literature
- ◆ English 436, Creative Writing
- ◆ HUMN 230, Humanity

2005-2013

Assistant Professor, Central Bible College

3000 N. Grant Ave. Springfield, MO 65803

English 023, College Reading -- English 102, English Grammar -- English
113, Composition I -- English 203, Composition II -- English 223,
American Literature -- English 233, World Literature -- English 243,
English Literature -- English 333, Children's Literature -- English 343,
Creative Writing -- English 353, Adolescent Literature --
Communications 102, Public Speaking

2002-2005

Contact

① 417-865-2815 ext. 8648

📍 1111 N. Glenstone Ave.

✉ friesenl@evangel.edu

Profile

Encourages students to approach learning, not simply as another step to a degree, but as an opportunity to fully engage their imaginations, to look through the windows of literature and enlarge their beings, to gain insight about life and faith, to ponder the human condition through language, to develop their self-image in the context of the larger world, to consider how to effectively engage their audience, and to become closer readers of texts and stronger writers.

Engages students with story crafting, the nuances of language, and proficient reading and writing techniques that will benefit them in any vocation.

Believes, as Dr. Parker Palmer wrote in his book *The Courage to Teach* that "To educate is to guide students on an inner journey toward more truthful ways of seeing and being in the world." Teaching and learning are intellectual, emotional, and spiritual—"the diverse ways we answer the heart's longing to be connected with the largeness of life." Teaching is an act of the integrated mind, heart, and soul, and it only works when professor, content, and student form a genuine connection.

Adjunct Instructor, Evangel University

English 102, Basic English Skills -- English 111, Composition -- English 123, Introduction to Literature

1999-2001, 2004-2005

Teaching Assistant (1999-2001), Adjunct Instructor (2004-2005), Missouri State University

901 S. National Ave. Springfield, MO 65897

English 110, Writing I -- English 120, Writing II

Publications and Presentations

- 2020 Chapter on medieval writer Margery Mead Burgess, Stanley, and Ruth Vassar Burgess. [*Two Millenia of Memorable Christian Woman: Showing Strength without Power*](#). WestBow, 2020.
- 2019 Poem published in *Edify Fiction*, a literary arts magazine
["Anorexic Bones, with inspiration from Ezekiel 37." *Edify Fiction*. Winter 2019](#)
- Three poems published in *The Write Launch*, a literary arts magazine
["The Greek Dance," "A Birth of Blackbirds at Twilight," and "For the Ophelias." *The Write Launch*, Sept. 2019.](#)
- Fiction work published in *Epiphany*, Evangel University's Fine Arts Magazine
"The Official's Reflection: A Fiction Work Based on John 4." *Epiphany*, 2019
- 2018 Poem published in *Conference on Christianity and Literature*, a scholarly literature journal
"The Boy with ADHD in Church." *Conference on Christianity and Literature*, a Sage publication. vol. 68. no. 2. March 2018.
- Creative nonfiction work published in *Adelaide*, a monthly literary magazine
"The Chip-Toothed Heart." *Adelaide*. No. 18. November 2018.
- Two Poems published in *Epiphany*, Evangel University's Fine Arts Magazine
"Loki's Savior" and "The Boy with the Active Mind in Church." *Epiphany*, 2018.
- 2017 "Beauty, Trauma, and Faith in the Japanese novel *Silence* by Shusaku Endo." *Faith and the Arts: Creativity, Culture, and Calling*, September 2017, Evangel University
- "Crafting Effective Images in Fiction: Part I and Part 2." *Faith and the Arts: Creativity, Culture, and Calling*, September 2017, Evangel University
- 2016 "'The truest, least selfish heart': Childlikeness in George MacDonald's Fairy Tales." *What's So Liberal about the Liberal Arts? Integrated Approaches to Christian Formation*. Eds. Dr. Paul Lewis and Dr. Martin Mittelstadt. Pickwick: 2016.
- This article was also presented at the Southwest Conference on Christianity and Literature, Oct. 27-29, 2016, Oral Roberts University
- 2016 *Take Five* devotionals, Gospel Publishing House
- 2015 ["Student's Poetry on Display at Springfield Art Museum." *Springfield Newsleader*. 26 April 2015.](#)
- Poem published in *Epiphany*, Evangel University's fine arts magazine
"Creation Microcosm." *Epiphany: Epilogue*, 2015.

2005 *God's Word for Today* devotionals, Gospel Publishing House
-2012

2011 "The Lion Roars: C.S. Lewis's Literary Legacy." *Centralife*. Spring/Summer 2011. 6-7. Print.

2001 "Discovery Along Nature's Pathway: Tending the Soil of the Child's Soul in Golden Age Children's Literature," *Modern Critical Approaches to Children's Literature*, April 2001, Middle Tennessee State University

Awards and Credentials

2020 15 Year Service Award, Evangel University

2018 Licensed Assemblies of God minister credentials, General Council of the Assemblies of God

2017 Award for Faculty Scholarship for a literary research presentation, Evangel University
-2018

2015 The Orville and Jewel Mills Young Faculty Award for Excellence in Teaching, Scholarship, and Service

10 Year Service Award, Evangel University

University Service

2012

-present

Facilitated the following outside-of-class student learning experiences:

- ◆ Sponsored flash fiction and poetry writing contests and outside-of-class writing group experiences
- ◆ Engaged with the Springfield Art Museum to install Creative Writing Students' poetry on the museum walls, next to the art work that inspired the poetry
- ◆ Sponsored Children's Literature students' class trips to Laura Ingalls Wilder's museum and home in Mansfield, MO after a class lecture and discussion on Wilder's writings
- ◆ Presented Laura Ingalls Wilder's life in a fourth grade classroom at Hickory Hills Elementary
- ◆ Sponsored, with other colleagues, student trips to the Festival of Faith and Writing at Calvin College in Grand Rapids, Michigan
- ◆ Facilitated student experiences with significant Children's Literature programs at Springfield's Library Center

2005-2019 *Served on the following committees:*

- ◆ Academic Council, elected faculty role, Evangel University
- ◆ Faculty Affairs Committee, elected faculty role for two terms, Evangel University
- ◆ EU Scholars Committee, Evangel University
- ◆ Faith and the Arts Conference Committee, Evangel University
- ◆ C.A.R.E Team for Students, Evangel University
- ◆ Health Benefits Council, Evangel University
- ◆ Faculty Handbook Committee, Central Bible College and Evangel University
- ◆ Faculty Advancement and Social Committee (chaired from 2009-2010), Central Bible College
- ◆ Student Conduct Committee, Central Bible College

2015-2016 *Honors Floor Faculty Sponsor*, Evangel University

- ◆ Attended and helped offer council in Honors Floor-focused meetings

2010-2011 *Campus Missions Fellowship Faculty Sponsor*, Central Bible College

- ◆ Facilitated weekly meetings with the student mission's council, Tuesday evening services, leadership retreats, mission's festivals, mission's chapels, and a banquet for retired missionaries
- ◆ Scheduled missionaries to speak at weekly services and mission's chapels

2000-2001 *Research Assistant for Children's Literature Professor, Missouri State University*

Church and Community Service

2019 *Guest Speaker on Laura Ingalls Wilder, Hickory Hills Elementary*
 2009-present *Music Ministry and Speaker, Waterford Retirement Home*
 2013-2019 *Elected to Board of Deacons to serve two terms, Evangel Temple*
 2001-2019 *Children's Ministry for varied ages and classes, Evangel Temple*
 2010-2012 *Special Speaker for particular Wednesday evening services, Evangel Temple*
 2010-2012 *Sponsored children's literacy programs, Hickory Hills Elementary*