

The most-read network posts

December 28, 2014

Here are this year's most popular bloggers and posts from the CCblogs network:

1) [**Why you come to church**](#), by **Diane Roth**. Maybe you just want to sing, at the top of your lungs. Where else can you go to sing?

2) [**Lessons from Jimmy Fallon on stepping into leadership**](#), by **MaryAnn McKibben Dana**. As I watched, I was struck by the smart stuff that was going on under the surface.

3) [**The prosperity gospel in black and white**](#), by **Dennis Sanders**. I noticed something about most of the critics: they're white.

4) [**Why Sarah Palin is right about baptism by waterboarding**](#), by **David Henson**. We seemed more upset about the imagined abuse of a religious ritual than the actual abuse of a human.

5) [**Putting the vent back in Advent**](#), by **Beth Merrill Neel**. On Sunday I said something about making our hearts ready to receive the Christ Child, something I've said every Advent for 21 years. I haven't the foggiest idea what it means.

6) [**In defense of the interim**](#), by **L. Gail Irwin**. We are not "placeholders." We actually have a unique perspective.

7) [**Mom don't want no stinkin' card**](#), by **Ruth Everhart**. You'll have to forgive me if I'm cranky about Mother's Day.

8) [**Ferguson, Advent, and God's dream**](#), by **James Sledge**. Prophets are good at sensing God's dream and holding it up to us.

9) [**Three things that pastors are not**](#), by **Jeff Nelson**. A certain amount of dabbling is inevitable. But there comes a point when things are best left to the experts.

10) [Solvitur ambulando](#), by Nancy Janisch. Garden, exercise, clean house, take a shower, sleep on it. Any of it works..

11) [How I kissed evangelism goodbye](#), by Cindy Brandt. My own story often bored me. I now realize this was because I didn't know how to tell it right.

12) [Losing whose religion?](#) by Tammerie Day. Ryan Bell seems to have lost his religion when he crossed the line in solidarity with LGBT folk. Welcome to my world, Brother Ryan.

13) [God loves Uganda](#), by Jonathan Grieser. It's a story with real victims and real consequences. But there's a larger story that would provide important context.

14) [Not just hoops](#), by Emily C. Heath. People say the ordination process is meaningless, elitist, and unreasonable. I disagree.