

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.