

# KNUT REFSDAL



**Date of birth:** May 6, 1969.  
**Contact info:** Dyreveien 15, N-1532 Moss, Norway.  
knut.refsdal@gmail.com | +47 996 38 969.  
**Family:** Married to Åshild Skiri Refsdal.  
Children: Andreas (1991), Fredrik (1997-98) and Astrid (2001).  
**Conference:** Norway (Deacon: 1992. Elder: 1994).  
**Languages:** Norwegian (Danish/Swedish), English and German (basic).

## INTERESTS, SKILLS, PASSIONS and PRIORITIES

- To follow Jesus by participating in God's mission for a better world.
- To explore United Methodist identity through vital theology, preaching and worship.
- To seek where the Spirit is at work and joining in through fresh expressions of church.
- To promote inclusiveness, involvement, and collaboration through relationship-oriented leadership.
- To release resources for ministry through sufficient and effective organization and administration.

## EDUCATION

- Master in Theology, UMC Theological Seminary/School of Theology, 1989-94/2003-06 (300 ects).
- Business and Economics, Østfold University College, 1994-98 (60 ects).
- Personnel Management, Inland Norway University of Applied Sciences, 2000 (30 ects).
- Conflict Management, VID Specialized University, 2007-08 (30 ects).
- Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy, Western Norway University of Applied Sciences, 2010-13 (60 ects).
- Experience-Based Master Theology, MF Norwegian School of Theology, 2013-17 (90 ects).
- Religious Studies (religionsvitenskap), MF Norwegian School of Theology, 2017-18 (30 ects).
- Value-based Leadership, MF Norwegian School of Theology, 2019-20 (10 ects).
- Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PPU), Østfold University College, 2020-22 (60 ects).

## APPOINTMENTS

- 1992-2002 Pastor, Sarpsborg.
- 2002-05 Senior Executive Officer/Project leader, Christian Council of Norway.
- 2005-09 Assistant to the Bishop, UMC Nordic and Baltic area.
- 2009-12 Affiliate professor, UMC Theological Seminary.
- 2012-18 General Secretary, Christian Council of Norway.
- 2018-23 District Superintendent (2022-23 also Pastor, Moss).
- 2024- Parish pastor, Jeløy (Church of Norway).

**OTHER ROLES and MINISTRIES** (excerpt): Mentor, Natural Church Development (Naturlig menighetsutvikling), 2000-07; Department Manager/Coach, Personalpartner (vocational rehabilitation) (full time), 2009-12; Mediator, National Mediation Service (Konfliktrådet), 2009-12; Chair Board, Norwegian Sudden Infant Death Syndrome and Stillbirth Society (LUB), 2010-12; Member Board of Trustees, Baltic Methodist Theological Seminary 2011-12; Director Board, UMC Office of Christian Unity and Interreligious Relations, 2008-16; Member Stakeholders' Forum, Methodist Ecumenical Office Rome, 2015-17; Member Board, Council for Religious and Life Stance Communities (STL), 2012-18; Chief Executive Officer, Mount of Olives Foundation, 2012-18; Member, Central Conference Round Table Conversations, 2019-20; Teacher in Religion and Ethics, Kirkeparken high school (part time), 2020; Secretary, UMC Norway, Liturgy Committee, 2006-09, 2018-23; Chair Board, Moss Athletics, 2019-23; Podcast editor, Fresh Expressions of Church, 2020-23; Member Board, European Methodist Council, 2021-23, Member/Vice Chair Board, Blue Cross Norway (Blå Kors Norge), 2016-24; Member/Chair Board, Norwegian Church Academies (Norske Kirkeakademier), 2022-.

**LITERARY PRODUCTION** (excerpt): «Ord om tro» (sermons), 1996; «Læreforkynnelse» (in *Teologisk Forum*), 1996; «Liv i gudstjenesten – gudstjenesten i livet» (in *Teologisk Forum*), 1996; «Legg ut på dypet» (sermons), 2001; «Feltprestkorpset som økumenisk aktør» (in *Pacem*, with Lars-Erik Nordby), 2003; «Dere vet hvilken tid det nå er (master thesis), 2006; «Bibelord ved sykeseng» (daily devotions), 2015; «Økumenikk: Å fremme liv i fellesskap og forsoning» (master thesis), 2015; «Bibelen» (in *Troshåndboka*, Vårt Land forlag), 2020; «God's role in times of crisis» (UM News), 2020.