



2015 CARR SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

Jessica Ann Hittinger Chicka is currently a Ph.D. student at Boston University School of Theology concentrating in social and ecological ethics. She earned a B.S. *Magna Cum Laude* from Muhlenberg College, double majoring in environmental science and religion, where she was also inducted into Phi Beta Kappa. She then went on to earn both an M.T.S. and an S.T.M. from BUSTH concentrating in ecological ethics. In between her two master's degrees, Jessica also served three years as an AmeriCorps VISTA, engaging in full-time community service work in both Boston and Southern California. Her involvement in national community service continues to shape her work in social ethics.

Jessica's research focuses on Christian ethical responses to the social, economic, and ecological impacts of hydraulic fracturing (fracking) in Northeastern Pennsylvania. She believes that congregations will play a pivotal role in shaping community responses to the multifaceted consequences of fracking. The congregation will be a source of education, activism, and engaging congregants in different ways of living in the world, especially through rethinking the idea of "community".

Jessica is also the Chapel Associate for Lutheran Ministry at Marsh Chapel at Boston University, where she has preached on both fracking and climate change to the radio listenership of 90.9 FM, WBUR.