

## Vanessa Carlson Bender

3014 S Summit Ave.  
Sioux Falls, SD 57105  
(605) 470-0528  
[vlcarlson4@gmail.com](mailto:vlcarlson4@gmail.com)

Online portfolio: <http://vlcbender.com/>

---

### Career Objective

Creative and detail oriented communications specialist with five years of experience in content management and consulting, editing, writing and social media. Has a Bachelor's Degree in English For New Media. To view samples of my work, please visit my online portfolio at [vlcbender.com](http://vlcbender.com).

---

### Education

Dakota State University (2009-2013)  
Bachelor of Science, English for New Media  
Certificate in Digital Photography  
Magna Cum Laude

---

### Work Experience

- The Evangelical Lutheran Good Samaritan Society –National Campus—Communications Specialist II (March 2014-Present)
    - Managed the Society's intranet news blogs via WordPress.
    - Consulted content owners in developing communication plans such as email, blog, intranet site posts, event posts, Carousel ads, etc.
    - Edited/formatted newsletters, graphics pieces, email text, intranet blogs and policies and procedures.
    - Assisted with some social media on various platforms.
    - Composed articles for the Society's public website.
  - Trinity Lutheran Church, ELCA—Social Media PT/Public Relations Manager (Oct. 2013-April 2014)
    - Managed social media sites as well as website.
    - Collected, arranged and edited monthly newsletter via Microsoft Publisher.
    - Assisted the tech committee with a variety of tasks for the church.
    - Photographed church events.
    - Researched marketing strategies.
  - Borglum Historical Center—Lead Summer Photographer Intern (May 2013-August 2013)
    - Photographed tour groups and edited, printed and delivered photos.
    - Edited and composed brochure text.
    - Independently researched, composed and updated museum and lodging materials.
    - Maintained front desk and gift shop of museum.
  - Dakota State University Tutoring—English Tutor (Jan. 2012-April 2013)
    - Aided students in English and other related subjects both in person and virtually.
    - Edited, provided reasons for edits and offered external links for additional assistance to students.
-

## Skills

- Writing/Editing; Content strategy; Social media; Communications consultation
  - Detail oriented; Organized; Consistent; Strong time management
  - Microsoft Office; Constant Contact; Collaboration; Novice Google Analytics skills
  - Adobe Photoshop; Lightroom; Photography; Canva
  - Novice web publishing skills; Sprout Social; Proficient in WordPress
- 

## Publications

- [www.good-sam.com](http://www.good-sam.com), Good Samaritan Society public website
    - [“How do you know if you’re a caregiver?”](#)—Resource article (2017)
    - [“Caregiving: From just helping to full-time”](#)—Personal experience article (2017)
    - [“Your gifts help make a Sentimental Journey”](#)—Hospice patient story (2018)
    - [“It’s where my heart is”](#)—Employee story (2019)
  - *Guideposts*
    - [“Finding Serenity in Chaos”](#)—Personal experience article (2017)
  - *New Tricks*, Dakota State University literary magazine
    - “Describe Purple”—Original poetry (2013)
    - “Nostalgia for Child’s Play”—Original poetry (2012)
    - “Serenade”—Original poetry (2012)
    - “Utopia Disturbed”—Original poetry (2012)
    - “Life and Death”—Original fiction (2012)
- 

## Interests

Reading; Writing; Photography; Music; History; The Outdoors; Animals (especially dogs).

---