

Church Leadership Connection
The Call System for the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

Detailed Info for PIF #: 100031334.1		
Professional ID:	100031334	
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Address:	1001 Chillum Rd, #120 Hyattsville, MD 20782	
Actively Seeking?:	Not Actively Seeking, but open to a call	
Ecclesiastical Status:	PC(USA) Candidate	
Presbytery Membership:	HIGHLANDS	
Ordination Date:		
Candidacy Date:	06/01/2016	
Formal Education:	Master of Divinity. Wesley Theological Seminary, Washington, DC. 2010-2015. Bachelor of Science, Studio Art with Graphic Design Concentration. Roberts Wesleyan College, Rochester, NY. 2004-2008.	
Continuing Education:	Interim Ministry Training: Weeks 1 & 2 with Transitional Ministry Workshops (Seattle Presbytery) in 2022 NEXT Church National Gatherings: 2021, 2020, 2019, 2018, 2017, 2015, 2014 Clinical Pastoral Education, Sibley Memorial Hospital, Washington, DC. (Level 1 Extended Unit) 2015-2016. 5-Day Community Organizing Training, Industrial Areas Foundation (IAF). 2014	
Employment Type:	Open to both	
Minimum Effective Salary:	\$70,000 / Year	
Position Types and Experience Level	Solo Pastor Associate Pastor (Christian Education) Associate Pastor (Youth) Associate Pastor (Other) Pastor (church planter, new church development, new worshipping community) Pastor (Transformation/Redevelopment) Pastor Interim Pastor (for a designated term) Pastor (Other Temporary i.e. Supply, Student) Pastor, yoked/parish Co- Pastor	First Ordained Call First Ordained Call First Ordained Call First Ordained Call First Ordained Call First Ordained Call First Ordained Call First Ordained Call First Ordained Call First Ordained Call

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Geographic Choices:	District of Columbia Delaware Maryland Oregon Virginia Washington
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Languages:	English
Other Languages:	

Leadership Competencies:	Compassionate Preaching and Worship Leadership Spiritual Maturity Teacher Communicator Technologically Savvy Contextualization Collaboration Interpersonal Engagement Personal Resilience
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Training / Certification:	Clinical Pastoral Education Training Interim Ministry Training Week 1 by PC(U.S.A.) at Transitional Ministry Workshops (Seattle Presbytery) in 2022 Week 2 by PC(U.S.A.) at Transitional Ministry Workshops (Seattle Presbytery) in 2022
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Other Training:	
Clergy Couple?	No
Housing Type:	Open to Manse/Housing Allowance
Work Experience:	

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Office Administrator and Digital Minister, Church of the Pilgrims, Washington, DC. Small, urban. July 2020 – present.

Creative Consultant, Graphic design, liturgical art, and more. 2008 - present.

- National Capital Presbytery, Washington, DC
- Immanuel Presbyterian Church, McLean, VA
- Takoma Park Presbyterian Church, Takoma Park, MD
- Art Stream, Inc.
- Oak Ridge Presbyterian Church, NC
- Sibley Memorial Hospital's Innovation Hub, DC
- Church of the Pilgrims, DC
- The Pilgrimage, DC
- Stand Up! Conference, WI
- North Chevy Chase Church of Christ, MD
- Presbyterian Church of Morris Plains, NJ
- Wesley Theological Seminary: Summer School Office, Housing Office, Wesley Journal, and Wesley Fellowship, DC
- La Clinica Del Pueblo, DC
- National Coalition for Health Care, DC

Financial Assistant, Church of the Pilgrims, Washington, DC. Small, urban. March 2018 – June 2020.

Communications Coordinator, Western Presbyterian Church, Washington, DC. Medium sized, urban church. May 2016 - July 2020.

Administrator, Friends of St. Benedict, Washington, DC. National organization with 2 staff members. November 2015 – Summer 2016.

Office Assistant & Resident Manager, Housing Office, Wesley Theological Seminary, Washington, DC. May 2014 - August 2015

Seminary Intern, Church of the Pilgrims, Washington, DC. Small, urban church. August 2013 – August 2014

Organizer, Arlington Theology Pub, Church of the Covenant, Arlington, VA. Small, suburban. January 2013 - August 2013

Office Assistant, Course of Study Office, Wesley Theological Seminary, Washington, DC. September 2010 - July 2012

Pastoral Assistant, The Presbyterian Church of Morris Plains, Morris Plains, NJ. Medium, suburban. June 2009 - August 2010

Sales and Service Professional, Tiffany & Co., Parsippany, NJ. September 2008 – November 2009.

Other Services:

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Pulpit Supply, various churches. 2010 – 2018.

Children's Art Workshop Teacher, Worship & Music Conference at Montreat, NC. Led workshops for 140 children over 2 weeks, assisted Artist in Residence with stage design, and coordinated children's roles in worship. June 2018.

Worship Space Designer, NEXT Church National Gathering, Baltimore, MD. Transformed hotel ballroom into sacred space for multi-day conference of 750 people. February 2018.

Artist-in-Residence, Church of the Pilgrims, Washington, DC. Small, urban church. Epiphany 2016.

Workshop Leader, NEXT Church National Gathering, Atlanta, GA. February 2016

- Holy Ground: Thinking About the Spaces We Worship In
- The Medium is the Message: Good Design for the Church

Design Team Member - Spirituality Tents, Wild Goose Festival, Hot Springs, NC. 2015

Planning Team Member, Student Led Chapel, Wesley Theological Seminary, Washington, DC. 2010 - 2014

Describe a moment in your recent ministry that you recognize as one of success and fulfillment.

My most fulfilling moments in ministry have integrated creativity into the life of a community. I love creative worship and I believe that when we use all of our senses in worship the deeper and more meaningful it will be. Most churches already use music and language as expressive tools in worship. By expanding our toolset to include visual art, hands-on activities, movement, and more, we widen our range of expression and our experience of the Spirit.

One moment that stands out is a visual art installation for Lent that explored the transition from life to death. I, with the help of a member, used fabric, paper, and paint to create a waterfall flowing from the baptism font to a stream that dried out as it came to the foot of the cross. By inviting worshippers to pray while walking around the sanctuary, including along the stream, they not only could envision the setting of these stories, but also experienced walking in Jesus' footsteps, touching the water in the font and the sand of dry stream bed, bringing the stories alive.

These embodied forms of worship echo the incarnation, God becoming human. Just as a warm touch can bring comfort, a walk in the woods can bring calm, or sharing a meal fills our hearts, embodied worship engages our whole selves: body, mind, and spirit, and opens the way for transformation by the Spirit. By embodying our stories and theology on Sunday, we practice how live out our faith the rest of the week.

Photos: <http://tinyurl.com/liturgicalart>

Describe the ministry setting to which you believe God is calling you.

God is calling me to ministry with a small or mid-size congregation that is in an urban or small city setting. More important than those demographics, I am called to a congregation of people committed to being faithful disciples of Jesus in their everyday lives, with a strong sense of identity and purpose as the body of Christ, and who are engaged in relational mission work to love their neighbors.

This congregation is led by engaged leaders who want to work collaboratively with their pastor and each other. Forming a community where the table is open to all, is set abundantly, and is a place where the gathered want to linger for nourishment before going back out into the world to serve in Jesus' name. Participation is valued over excellence. Quality over quantity. We strive to practice social justice through education, reflection, and action. Along the way, generous grace is offered to imperfect people finding their way together.

This community is open to trying new ways of being together while also practicing traditions that still bring meaning today. We honor our whole selves as created by God by using tools like the visual, dramatic, and musical arts, language, movement, architecture, technology, and more to widen our experience of the Spirit as we follow the ways of Jesus in worship, formation, care, and mission.

What areas of growth have you identified in yourself?

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Once I commit to something, I put my whole self into it. I must keep firm boundaries around my time and energy so that I can take sabbath to rest and play. If God took a break, we need to, too. This has been a challenge in my current context as our staff decreased during the pandemic. I've worked on setting my limits and empowering members to be more involved, sharing the work of the church as the body of Christ.

Over the last few years, I've learned a lot about grief and loss as I mourned my dad, a mentor, and other family members, and saw a host of changes at work brought on by the pandemic. My growing edge will come in taking these personal lessons I've learned and applying them to leading a community. This pandemic has brought a shared sense of loss to the world and unique experiences of grief to each community. We can find healing by taking those losses to the One who shares in them with us, through prayer, lament, and storytelling. Together, we can also find joy in the hope of resurrection and life to come.

My six years as church staff have given me a lot of experience. As I shift into a pastoral role from an administrative position, I'm excited to partner with a Session and a congregation in new ways to answer God's call to us in this time and place.

Describe a time when you have led change.

I am really good with technology, an invaluable skill when pivoting to online worship in three days. The phrase "reformed and always reforming" took on a whole new meaning as I worked with our pastor, music director, and elder for worship, to enable online worship in the midst of evolving public health restrictions. I taught Zoom basics to the congregation in the early days and then trained a team of volunteers to run the technology. As we grew more comfortable, I adapted our practices to allow more people to be seen and heard, enacting our theological belief that worship should include as many voices as possible.

I could see that our congregation and leadership were already tired from an extended time of transition, including financial instability. I chose accessible and affordable tech options over cutting edge tools and techniques. I made the technology work for us, so that online worship felt familiar, honored the theology behind our in-person practices, and didn't overburden our people or finances.

Leading this move to Zoom also brought folks together for fellowship on Sundays and weekdays. This was a new way of building community during physical isolation. We continue to meet online 18 months later and members still describe how our worship and fellowship formats make them feel connected with each other and with God.

Optional Links:

Blog and Recordings: <https://www.liturgybeyondwords.com/call-search>

Photos of liturgical art: <http://tinyurl.com/liturgicalart>

Interview about Alzheimer's and Improv: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fkiE1cyP3YI&t=1s>

Statement of Faith:

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I believe in one God, revealed in three persons as Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer. In the first creative act, God the Creator used breath and touch to mold light and dust into life, and in doing so, God's hands got dirty. God brought order out of chaos. As the chaos continues to break through, God stays involved and responds with grace and compassion. God welcomes us in our brokenness and offers healing. God sits in solidarity with our suffering and is strong enough to hold our anger. God is a mystery of love, justice, and mercy that can never be fully understood.

I believe in Jesus Christ, our Redeemer, who is both fully divine and fully human. The incarnation of Jesus was and is the ultimate act of solidarity with God's people. In Jesus' life, God showed us a way to live that embodied welcome and inclusion, joy and friendship, anger and hurt. In Jesus' suffering and death, God entered into solidarity with the broken, the hurting, and the dying. In Jesus' resurrection, God showed that even death can be redeemed.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, our Sustainer, who guides us in the way of Jesus and inspires us to co-create each moment with God the Creator. Through the Spirit, we hear the voice of God calling us to acts of ordering the chaos through love and justice. The Spirit engages our senses and stirs our imaginations so that as God reaches out to us in grace, we may answer "yes, and..."

I believe the church is a community of broken and redeemed people. We are a body of believers, doubters, and seekers, drawn by the mystery of God, gathering to accompany each other through the mystery of life. Together, we worship and honor God by proclaiming the stories of God found in Scripture and our own lives; by celebrating God's of life through the sacraments; and by challenging and supporting each other as we join in God's work in the world.

I believe Scripture is the inspired story of God and God's people told through poetry, narrative, prayers, songs, eyewitness accounts, letters, and more. We take Scripture seriously by seeking to understand the context in which it was written, how it has been passed down through the centuries, and that each reader brings their own context to the text. The Holy Spirit illuminates it for us.

I believe the sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper are tangible acts that help us to mark intangible graces. In the waters of Baptism, God claims us as God's own. In the bread and juice of communion, we join the community to be nourished on God's grace.

I believe I am a beloved child of God, as are all human beings. By their very existence, all people are worthy of love, dignity, respect, and the opportunity to thrive. No person is excluded from God's love because of gender identity, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, economic means, or mental or physical ability. In response to God's inclusive love, we are called to use our gifts and resources for the glory of God, to join in the unfolding creation of the world that is to come.

References:

# 1	Name	Rev. Erin Counihan
	Relation	Head of Staff
	Phone	773-698-3362
	Address	2201 P Street NW, Washington, DC 20037
	E-Mail	erin@churchofthepilgrims.org
# 2	Name	Rev. Lucy Bowerman
	Relation	former Head of Staff
	Phone	912-271-7738
	Address	1 Fox Hollow Lane, Carlisle, PA 17015
	E-Mail	revlucybowerman@gmail.com
# 3	Name	Rev. Rachel Pacheco
	Relation	former colleague
	Phone	267-981-1373
	Address	New York Ave Presbyterian Church, 1313 New York Ave NW, Washington, DC 20005
	E-Mail	revrachelpacheco@gmail.com

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# 4	Name	Rev. Ashley Goff
	Relation	former supervisor
	Phone	703-472-0237
	Address	Arlington Presbyterian Church, 918 S Lincoln St #1, Arlington, VA 22204
	E-Mail	goffashley1@gmail.com
# 5	Name	Nancy Daughtery
	Relation	Personnel Chair
	Phone	304-419-2565
	Address	3100 Connecticut Ave NW, Apt. 145, Washington, DC 20008
	E-Mail	nancyddc@gmail.com
# 6	Name	Rev. John Molina-Moore
	Relation	General Presbyter, former coll
	Phone	202-770-5949
	Address	NATIONAL CAPITAL PRESBYTERY, 11300 Rockville Pike, Suite 408, Rockville, MD 20852
	E-Mail	jmolinamoore@thepresbytery.org
Sexual Misconduct Self-Certification Statement:		I certify below that no civil, criminal, ecclesiastical complaint has ever been sustained or is pending against me for sexual misconduct; and I have never resigned or been terminated from a position for reasons related to sexual misconduct.
		I have read this certification and release form and fully understand that the information obtained may be used to deny my employment or any other type of position from the employing entity. I also agree that I will hold harmless the employing or judicial authority or any other entity from any and all claims, liabilities, and causes of action for the legitimate release of any information related to sexual misconduct.
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