

CANDIDATE SEEKING A CALL (CSC)

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 Mailing Address 2256 Mainsail Court Marietta, GA 30062-1770
 Presbytery Cherokee Candidacy Date May 22, 2008
 Home Congregation Ray-Thomas Memorial Presbyterian, Marietta, GA

1. TYPES OF POSITIONS

<input type="checkbox"/>	Associate Pastor (Christian Education)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pastor (Tent Maker/Part-time)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other
<input type="checkbox"/>	Associate Pastor (Youth)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pastor (Yoked/Multiple)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Associate Pastor (Other)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Co-Pastor		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Pastor (Solo)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Designated Pastor		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Pastor (Head of Staff)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mission Pastor		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Pastor (New Church Development)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Campus Minister		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Pastor (Redevelopment)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Chaplain		

2. TYPES OF COMMUNITIES & CHURCH SIZES

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rural	<input type="checkbox"/>	Urban	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Under 100 members
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Village	<input type="checkbox"/>	Inner City	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	101-250- members
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Town	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	College	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	251-400 members
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Small City	<input type="checkbox"/>	Recreation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	401-650 members
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Suburban	<input type="checkbox"/>	Retirement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	651-1000 members
					1001-1500 members
					1501 +

3. RELEVANT WORK EXPERIENCE (List most recent first)

Church/Agency	City/State	Position	Dates	Part/Full Time
Northside Hospital	Atlanta, GA	Clinical Pastoral Education Intern	5/28/2008-8/16/2008	Fulltime
Decatur Presbyterian Church	Decatur, GA	Supervised Ministry Intern	6/6/2007-8/15/2007	Fulltime

4. LIST THE 10 PRIMARY SKILL CHOICES FROM THE PERSONAL INFORMATION FORM:

Communication (Written/Oral)	Hospital and Emergency Visitation
Congregational Home Visitation	Pastoral Care
Corporate Worship/Sacraments	Preaching
Cross Cultural Collaboration/Cultural Proficiency	Spiritual Development
Group Process Facilitation	Teaching

5. FORMAL EDUCATION (List most recent first)

Institution	City/State	Major	Dates	Degree
Columbia Theological Seminary	Decatur, GA	Divinity	July 2006 to May 2009	M. Div.
Eckerd College	St. Petersburg, FL	Psychology	August 1976 to May 1980	B. A.

6. SEMINARY HONORS/SCHOLARSHIPS/LEADERSHIP POSITIONS:

Merit Scholarship – 2007/2008, 2008/2009 school years

7. GEOGRAPHICAL LIMITATIONS:

None, although we prefer remaining in the southeast.

8. BRIEFLY INTRODUCE YOURSELF:

I am the second son of a Presbyterian Minister, so I grew up in the church and was involved in Sunday school and church fellowship events through my early years. I went to Presbyterian church camps as a camper and eventually served as a camp counselor. While in college, I worked as an assistant to the campus ministry.

Yet, for all that fundamental life in the church, I did not feel the call to the ordained ministry until after I spent twenty-five years getting “real world” experience. Because of that experience, I bring significant and varied life lessons to my new journey into ordained ministry. Those lessons have come from five years work experience with troubled adolescents and their families in a psychiatric treatment facility as well as fifteen years experience in the computer industry.

I have a love for worship that has fed me throughout my life. I can’t wait to be regularly involved in shaping worship and tailoring it to the particular needs of a congregation. I am eager to get to know the members of a congregation so that we can walk together, seeking understanding of God’s Word through our worship and service together.

The Bible is not a dead book for me and I am constantly amazed at the ability of the ancient texts to reach us in our modern situations. I particularly love poring over the Bible text in preparation for sermons. I gain so much personally from my preparations and have not yet failed to gain new insight into God’s love for us as I engage in sermon preparation. I strive to find evocative and meaningful ways to present those insights to the hearers of God’s Word. I look forward to an ongoing active weekly journey in regular sermon preparation. I marvel in how God can use my joy in sermon preparation as one of the ways others of God’s children can feel God’s very real power and respond to God’s very real touch in their lives as well.

I see great importance in our ordinary, day to day lives we lead as God’s people. Most of God’s messages do not require mountain top experiences. Rather, God’s most profound messages are sent to us in our everyday lives. As Christians, we know that God reached out to us most profoundly in Jesus’ daily walk with ordinary people in first century Palestine. Even today, it is in regular, daily attention to God’s Holy Spirit that we allow ourselves to be touched by the hand of God.

I look forward to using my life experience along with my solid seminary education to bring God’s Word to God’s people in our day-to-day lives. Should my call lead me to your congregation, my wife, Margaret and my eight year old daughter, Ellie will join us also.

