

CANDIDATE SEEKING A CALL (CSC)

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 Mailing Address 15 Jefferson Hill Place, Atlanta, Georgia 30342
 Presbytery Presbytery of Greater Atlanta Candidacy Date January 13, 2009
 Home Congregation Peachtree Presbyterian, 3434 Roswell Road, Atlanta, Georgia 30305

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

2. TYPES OF COMMUNITIES & CHURCH SIZES

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rural	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Urban	<input type="checkbox"/>	Under 100 members
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Village	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	Suburban	<input type="checkbox"/>	Retirement	<input type="checkbox"/>	651-1000 members
				<input type="checkbox"/>	1001-1500 members
				<input type="checkbox"/>	1501 +

3. RELEVANT WORK EXPERIENCE (List most recent first)

Church/Agency	City/State	Position	Dates	Part/Full Time
Peachtree Presbyterian	Atlanta, GA	Special Asst to Sr Pastor	8/2001 – 6/2007	FT
Overend & Company, Inc.	Atlanta, GA	Ofc Mgr	7/1979 – 3/2001	FT
Edwin Marger Law Firm	Atlanta, GA	Admin Asst/Researcher	1976 - 1979	FT
Powell Goldstein	Atlanta, GA	Admin Asst	1975 - 1976	FT
SOLINET	Atlanta, GA	Admin Asst	1974 - 1975	FT

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

<u>Preaching</u>	<u>Governing Body Ministry</u>
<u>Teaching</u>	<u>PCUSA Policy/Constitutional Knowledge</u>
<u>Training Volunteers</u>	<u>Administrative Leadership</u>
<u>Problem Solving/Decision Making</u>	<u>Involvement in mission beyond the local church</u>
<u>Corporate worship/sacraments</u>	<u>Organizational Administration</u>

5. FORMAL EDUCATION (List most recent first)

Institution	City/State	Major	Dates	Degree
Columbia Theological Seminary	Decatur, GA	M.Div	2005-2010	M.Div
University of Georgia	Athens, GA	History	1969-1974	B.A.

6. SEMINARY HONORS/SCHOLARSHIPS/LEADERSHIP POSITIONS:

CTS Merit Scholarship 2008-2009, 2009-2010
Commissioner 213th GA
214th GA – coached Rev. Fahed Abu-Akel in preparation for his stand as moderator
Search Committee for Exec. Presbyter, PGA, 2009-present
Bills & Overtures, PGA 2009-present
Examinations Commission, PGA, 2003-2009
Administrative Commission: Timberridge 2008-2009
TFPUP of PGA, 2006-2007
Partnership Giving Task Force, PGA, 2006-2007
Chair Missions Committee, Peachtree Pres, 1999-2001
Team Leader for 2 all-women's builds, Habitat for Humanity, Atlanta

7. GEOGRAPHICAL LIMITATIONS:

My preference is the Southeast, but I am willing to prayerfully consider other geographic locations

8. BRIEFLY INTRODUCE YOURSELF:

On November 11, 1951, I was born in Savannah, Georgia, to Bob and Alice Josey. I am the third of seven children. I am also a child of the church and cannot remember a time when life was not ordered around the community of faith. Mom and Dad both were leaders in the church: deacons, teachers, elders, organizers, meal providers and almost any other volunteer position you can list in the church – Dad even preached many times when our congregation was without a pastor. When the church doors were open, we were there. We worshiped, we learned, we belonged, we played, we prayed, and at times we even protested about being there. But our faith was nourished there as well as by regular family prayers and devotionals. Because I am single, my siblings and their families are still an important part of my network of support.

When I left the security of family and went to university, like so many young adults I let go of my connection to church and community for a period of time. But the roots set deep in my childhood would not let go and by the time I returned from university I knew that my life was not ordered well or rightly unless it was ordered around a relationship with Jesus Christ and established in a community of faith. For a time I reconnected with the church of my childhood but then set off on a journey of discovery of other denominational expressions of faith. I attended Baptist and Catholic and Episcopal congregations, but was never quite satisfied. I laughingly describe myself as a Presbyterian by DNA. My grandfather and three of his brothers were Presbyterian ministers. At one family reunion the count was 35 Presbyterian professionals, from pastors to DCE's to missionaries. I have a deep appreciation for the form of Presbyterian governance and the roots of Presbyterianism in the Reformed faith, so I "came home" and in 1984 joined Peachtree Presbyterian Church.

I have faced many of the questions that people of faith and people of no faith encounter and find that the question of suffering poses the most difficult dilemma for us. Between late 1989 and 1994 a series of family crises led me to the realization that my knowledge of the triune God up to then had been mere intellectual knowledge, insufficient for the deep and prolonged crisis I found myself in the midst of. One night, in the back hallway of the Northside Hospital neo-natal intensive care unit (where my sister's first child was near death), I found myself at a point of desperation, literally banging my head against the wall and crying out to God, "Why? Why? Why? Why? Just tell me why?" In many ways it was an experience beyond description, but that night I had a personal encounter with God and like Job I could say to God, "I had heard of you by the hearing of the ear, but now my eye sees you (Job 42:5)." My world got turned upside down by that encounter with God. I know that God IS and that was the beginning of my journey of transformation.

The Peachtree Community loved me and cared for me through that difficult period. Since then they have nurtured me, prayed with and for me, encouraged me, hurt me, taught me, wept with me, guided me and are now walking with me through the journey of inquiry to candidacy and, God willing, to ordination.

In 1998, I noted to my small group that it felt like God was stirring up things in my life though I didn't know what. Over the next two years God kept stirring and in 2000 I resigned from my job in the business world and headed off to seminary. But my journey took a detour before it even got started when I was called onto the staff of Peachtree to a non-ordained position. During my time on the staff of Peachtree, I saw ministry up close and personal. I have no illusions about ministry, about the perils of serving in ministry, or about the pitfalls of leadership. I know that difficult decisions can be divisive decisions. But I have also learned that there are ways to reach understanding that acknowledge that we do not have to be uniform to be unified. I have learned that to ignore the feelings of those who are not in agreement is a failure to respect them as children of God. I have learned that it is best for the congregation to seek God's will together. I have learned that there is a highly seductive quality to the power of the pastorate that requires strong accountability systems to resist. I have learned that the only true posture of God-inspired leadership must be on my knees.

ADDITIONAL NOTES: Though this will be a "first ordained" call for me, I have six years' of experience on staff of the largest congregation in the denomination. While on staff at Peachtree I:

- Served as a liaison between Peachtree and the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta, as well as to the denomination at large, assuring that Peachtree's voice was heard on the many and various issues before the denomination. I attended every Presbytery meeting as well as General Assembly while I was on staff at Peachtree, served as a resource to equip elder commissioners to both Presbytery and General Assembly.
- Served as primary staff liaison to the Session, coordinated the Work of the Session Committee in preparing agendas; provided clarification of polity matters; worked with the Clerks of Session in review of minutes and preparation of annual reports and submission of minutes to Presbytery of Greater Atlanta; ran orientation sessions for elder commissioners to Presbytery, making sure each elder was fully prepared for matters coming before Presbytery; preparation of Senior Pastor and Clerks for congregational meetings; worked with an elder in coordinating preparation of an officer's manual each year, detailing the theology, work and scheduling of the elders;
- Coached Rev. Fahed Abu-Akel in preparation for his stand as Moderator of the 214th General Assembly
- Served as Senior Pastor's staff liaison for a \$32 million capital campaign, working with the Chair of the Capital Campaign Committee, coordinated with the consultant, worked with ad agency and graphic designers for the preparation of each communication of the campaign; headed the team that prepared home meetings and planned and executed the final event of the campaign.
- Served as primary staff liaison to the Officer Nominating Committee, coordinating the work of that committee annually.
- Served as Senior Pastor's liaison to the Benevolence Committee, Personnel Committee and Finance Committee.
- Worked closely with the technology staff in website redesign and maintenance.
- Did primary research for Senior Pastor in preparation of material for sermons and liturgy.
- Regularly taught a series of adult Sunday School classes, including the Bethel Bible Study series; I developed a number of eight week series of courses (Peachtree has 37 adult Sunday School classes, ranging broadly in demographics as well as size, from 5-200 members). I also worked with a number of staff and laity in the development of a core curriculum for adults.
- Wrote a series of daily email devotionals sent to more than 4000 members 6 days per week.
- Headed the team that planned and hosted the first Presbyterian Global Fellowship conference in 2006, hosting almost 1,000 Presbyterians from across the denomination and the world for three days.
- Traveled to Pakistan in preparation for deeper mission involvement there by Peachtree.

BEYOND PEACHTREE: My experience is not limited to service on staff at a mega-church. I have also served a one-year internship in a large suburban congregation (about 600 members), focusing primarily on worship, preparation of liturgy, and preaching. In addition, my learning goals included working with the interim pastor in developing a grasp of issues involved with a congregation in transition. That congregation remains dear to me today because they were so important in shaping my pastoral identity.

For three months in the summer of 2009 I took a unit of CPE in an urban inner city context. During that time I was assigned to a very small congregation (less than 100 members) whose membership includes a significant number of the chronically mentally impaired (from schizophrenia to bi-polar to Alzheimer's to depression and more). Most of these men and women live in group homes. A few of them are homeless. I learned from this congregation the joys and the challenges of paying attention to the context of a congregation's geographic location.