

CANDIDATE SEEKING A CALL (CSC)

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Presbytery Detroit Candidacy Date February 23, 2010

Home Congregation Allen Park Presbyterian Church

1. TYPES OF POSITIONS

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

2. TYPES OF COMMUNITIES & CHURCH SIZES

<input type="checkbox"/> Rural	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Urban	<input type="checkbox"/> Under 100 members
<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recreation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 401-650 members
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Suburban	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Retirement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 651-1000 members
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1001-1500 members
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1501 +

3. RELEVANT WORK EXPERIENCE (List most recent first)

Church/Agency	City/State	Position	Dates	Part/Full Time
Emory University Hospital	Atlanta, Georgia	Chaplain	Summer 2010	Full
Mt. Pleasant Presbyterian Church	Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina	Seminary Intern	Summer 2009	Full
Allen Park Presbyterian Church	Allen Park, Michigan	Summer Camp CE Director	Summer 2007	Full
Old Pine Presbyterian Church	Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	College Intern	January 2007-May 2007	Full
Alma College Chapel	Alma, Michigan	Chapel team leader	September 2004-August 2008	Part
1 st Presbyterian Church of Alma	Alma, Michigan	Middle School Youth Leader	September 2004-December 2006	Part

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

Communication (Written/Oral)	Organizational Leadership and Development
Pastoral Care	Hospital and Emergency Visitation
Preaching	Family Ministry
Youth Ministry	Teaching
Older Adult Ministry	Corporate Worship/Sacraments

5. FORMAL EDUCATION (List most recent first)

Institution	City/State	Major	Dates	Degree
Columbia Theological Seminary	Decatur, GA	MDiv	June 2008-Present	MDiv
Alma College	Alma, MI	Communication	August 2004-April 2008	BA

6. SEMINARY HONORS/SCHOLARSHIPS/LEADERSHIP POSITIONS:

- 2010 Senior Class Representative
- 2010 Student Coordinating Council Scholarship Chair

7. GEOGRAPHICAL LIMITATIONS:

None

8. BRIEFLY INTRODUCE YOURSELF:

At the age of 15 I felt a call to ministry. At the time I was seriously debating that age-old question, “What do you want to be when you grow up?” The answer at that time of my life was not to follow this call; however, I continually got this feeling that there was something special within this call. I grew up in Allen Park, Michigan (a suburb outside of Detroit). It was there that my parents taught me good values and respect. It was there that I was baptized, raised, and shaped in the Presbyterian Church, and through their encouragement I have been able to take risks and seek God’s call for me. Every day I am reminded, through the foundation of my parents and the church, that God’s divine love will never leave us; that we are all God’s beloved children. In that foundation I find hope for this world and for the church. Family, in whatever way one wants to describe family (related, church, extended, etc.) provides support and stability. Through this lens I see the vulnerability of the church, and at the same time the amazing grace that dwells within the family of God.

During my time in college I was in a time of discernment. I got involved at the chapel on campus. I wrote liturgy and helped plan chapel services. I enjoyed doing a lot of the “behind the scenes” work at the chapel, but still didn’t get a good sense about what God was calling me to do. During my junior year of college I took a semester to be a college intern at a church in Philadelphia. During this time I started to recognize some of the gifts that God has given me. With a good mentor, I was able to read about women in ministry, practice writing liturgy for services, lead bible studies, and go on visits to the hospitals. After that experience I looked for other opportunities to continue learning about these gifts that God had given me. That following summer I wrote curriculum for my home congregation’s church camp and was able to attend the camps and teach that curriculum to the kids, who’s age groups ranged from 3rd grade to 9th grade. This experience opened my eyes. Each day I saw the excitement in the kid’s eyes. The younger ones were excited to act out the bible stories, and the older ones were excited to make a connection between the message and their lives. That experience sealed my call for me. And while that call has changed and continues to grow since coming to seminary, I often return back to that moment. It was a moment for me where God’s love was clear, and I could see that God was about to do a new thing.

I have a great love for the church, and it’s been through that love that I have learned about great self-care. I am a big golfer, and find a lot of peace when I’m out on the course. I also enjoy reading, especially works of history or Presidential biographies. Being from the north I am a huge hockey fan, and enjoy watch the Detroit Red Wings with friends and family. As I’ve said already family is important to me. I come from a large extended family, and part of my self-care is continuing to nourish my relationships with them. I love being outside: going for walks with my dog, going on hikes, and camping.

Each day I try to respond to God’s gift of love, through Jesus Christ, by serving God and others, and staying open to something new God is doing in the world, the church, and in my life. And it’s my hope that as a family of God we grow in love and faith, trusting in the power of the Holy Spirit, and remembering always that we are beloved children of God.

