

Presbytery of Mid-Kentucky
Called meeting of the presbytery
July 14, 2022
Hopewell Presbyterian Church

Moderator: Teaching Elder Jim Murphy

Vice-Moderator: Ruling Elder Perry Chang

Stated Clerk: Jerry Van Marter

Recording Clerk: Andrew Hartmans

5:00 p.m. Convene and Opening Prayer – Perry Chang

5:05 p.m. Recognition of first-time elders and visitors
Seating of corresponding members
Declaration of a quorum

5:10 p.m. Nominating/Representation Committee report – Dee Hoge

5:15 p.m. Commission on Ministry – Bill McConnell

- **Examination of Candidate Erin Veliquette for ordination**

6:15 p.m. Adjourn with prayer

Next Stated Meeting: Monday, September 19, 2022 – Ebenezer/Greensburg

**Please fill out and turn in at the July 14, 2022 Called Meeting
(If you registered online, you do not need to bring a printed copy)**

.....

PRESBYTERY OF MID-KENTUCKY REGISTRATION SHEET
July 14, 2022 – Hopewell Presbyterian Church, Louisville, KY

Name: _____ Your Church: _____

Your Mailing Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Business Phone: _____

E-Mail @ Home: _____ Business: _____

PLEASE CHECK

Voting Member at Presbytery Meeting:

- Elder - Commissioner from Church Session
- Elder – Church Educator
- Elder – Commissioned Lay Pastor or CLP Trainee
- Elder – Member of Presbytery’s Coordinating Commission or Committee
- Minister – Member of Mid-Kentucky Presbytery

-
- Elder – Alternate from Church Session
 - Church Educator / Youth Worker
 - Corresponding Member

Presbytery of: _____

- Visiting Minister
- Visitor
- Other

Erin Veliquette

213 Linden Lane, Louisville, KY 40206 | 231-944-6320 | danishbaker@gmail.com

PASTORAL LEADERSHIP COMPETENCIES

Interpersonal Communication | Relationship Building | Active Listening
Collaboration | Self-Starting | Hospitality | Compassion | Life-long Learner

EDUCATION

Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary, Louisville, KY-- MDIV

September 2018 - May 2021--Emphasis on pastoral care, community relationships, Black Church Studies Certificate and Biblical studies. Member of worship committee, community life and admission ambassador teams.

Denmark Master Baking, Hillerod, Denmark--Master Baker

March 2002 - October 2005--Three year and 7 month apprenticeship. Alternated between working in the bakery and classroom time. Completed the education entirely in the Danish language. Learned system management skills, recipe development and boutique management. Graduated with honors.

Michigan State University--BA Community Relations

Graduated May 2001--College of Social Science with focus on women's studies and community relations.

EXPERIENCE

Baptist Health Louisville, Louisville, KY--Chaplain Resident

August 2021-August 2022 --Clinical Pastoral Education Units #2-4. Units include group education, verbatims, genogram work and didactics. Responsible for relationship building and active listening in regards to spiritual needs of patients and their families in palliative and hospice unit as well as all Mother-baby units. Developed skills and experience with death and bereavement. Responsible for weekly on call shifts for the whole hospital including time in ED, ICU, CCU. Relationship building with chaplain staff, medical staff, hospice staff and peer team.

Baptist Health Louisville, Louisville, KY--Chaplain Intern

June- August 2021--Clinical Pastoral education Unit #1. 400 hours including group education, didactics and learning goals. Cared for patients in all Mother-Baby units as well as weekly 24 hour on call shifts for the whole hospital.

Central Presbyterian Church, Louisville, KY--Intern/Field Education

September 2019 - May 2020--Involved in worship planning and leading including prayers and liturgy as well as sermon prep and delivery. Participated and led Sunday school teaching, confirmation. Pastoral care of community members during weekly community lunch. Hospital and nursing home visits with supervisors. Participation with governing body leadership and meetings. One year internship.

Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary, Louisville KY--Library Staff

September 2017 - May 2018--Worked with patrons, entered new books into the library system, and helped to cross reference databases. Support of faculty, staff and students.

Ruling Elder First Presbyterian Church Elk Rapids, MI.

January 2010-December 2016--Ruling Elder of governing body for large 250+ member congregation. Committee chair of Christian Education serving ages 0-100. Responsible for development of programs, curriculum leadership and chair of VBS program serving over 120 children and 80 adults. Integral member of Pastoral nominating committee focused on interviews , reference checks and planning visit of new Pastor. Actively engaged in installation of a new Pastor.

Royal Farms Inc, Atwood, MI--Head Baker/Manager

March 2008 - December 2014--Managed all the baking for growing farm market as part of the leadership team. Hand produced over 10,000 fruit pies each year and streamlined production and baking process. Managed multiple employees, and cross trained employees for retail management. Manager of weekly inventory management and recipe development. Integral part of the leadership team as new ideas were brainstormed and implemented.

Field Elementary, Louisville, Ky--PTA President

May 2017-May 2018--Facilitated and ran monthly meetings. Supervised officers and their committees. Balanced budget along with Treasurer. Supervised several membership drives and fundraisers. Worked alongside Principal and Vice-Principal as well as school faculty and staff to support staff and students. Served a one year term.

Elk Rapids School System--Gala Co-Chair

January 2012- January 2014--Co-Chair of district wide fundraising gala generating net proceeds that exceeded \$150,000. Secured 25 corporate sponsors, keynote speakers, auctioneer and band. Secured venue and worked alongside event planning and volunteer management for over 300 guests.

HONORS and RECOGNITIONS

Honors society all four years of high school

Presidential Academic Fitness award in high school

University of Arizona Honor Orchestra for Excellence

All-State Honors for Music in French Horn

Graduated with Honors for Master Baking Education in Denmark

Faith Journey-Erin Veliquette

I was born into the Missouri Synod Lutheran Church. My Dad has been a pastor in the denomination for over 45 years. Both my parents were heavily involved in the church and my brothers and I were baptized, raised and confirmed in the Missouri Lutheran Church. I participated in vacation Bible School and all the different parts of the church as I was growing up. My parents are strong believers in working to change an organization from the inside out as they believe, contrary to the dominant view in the Missouri Lutheran Church, that women are just as capable as men to preach the Word of God and be ordained. Growing up, I saw my parents striving to be inclusive of women in all aspects of ministry.

When I left home and went to college at Michigan State it was the first time that I was on my own to find a church home. I attended a campus ministry sponsored by the Missouri Synod Lutheran Church and felt comfortable in the theology and the ways of worship. I immediately took part in the church campus life and found a home for myself there. My husband Roger and I were married in that church.

When Roger and I moved to Elk Rapids, Michigan to live and work, we struggled to find a church home that fit the needs and beliefs of our growing family. We looked at all the different churches and found that First Presbyterian church of Elk Rapids was the place that fit our family. We began attending and soon became members of the congregation. I took over as the lead for Vacation Bible School which served over 130 kids and 80 adults. I was the youngest member of a PNC and then was asked to be a Ruling Elder, a position that I served for 5 years before we moved to Louisville. I was the chair of the Christian Education committee and was an integral part of starting a small group Bible study for Moms of young children.

My journey to seminary seems to be a long one. I knew that my husband Roger had a call to attend seminary but I had never imagined that seminary was where I was meant to be. While Roger was in seminary I audited a class with Amy Pauw and Shannon Craigo-Snell at Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary. In that class I read Howard Thurman's *Jesus and Disinherited*. That book was life changing for me. Seminary helped me put words to what I was feeling. Seminary helped me to examine my beliefs, my biases, my vocabulary and the Bible is a way that I had not been challenged. I learned that as a white, cis-gender, heterosexual woman I felt called to serve those who have been marginalized and oppressed. I learned through my time at LPTS that I was called to stand beside those whose voices have been marginalized.

At the time that seminary ended I did not feel called to congregational ministry but instead felt called to chaplaincy. After two weeks into my first unit of CPE, I believed that I was being called in chaplaincy. Over the past year, I have experienced enormous growth as I continue to learn how my faith is developing and forming in regards to my own theology while simultaneously learning how to honor and respect other's faith journey. I have grown in my personal relationship with God, with myself and within the relationships that I hold dear. I have become "an adult" in my faith as I sit with so many people who are in the depths of grief. This time with others has forced me to become clear about what my faith and my relationship to God means to me.

Statement of Faith

Erin Veliquette

I believe in the Triune God, who I join with the church in calling Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and who I understand to be Creator, Redeemer and Giver of Life.

I believe in the Creator God, the great I AM who always was and always will be. I believe that God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life (John 3:16)

I believe in Jesus Christ, fully God and fully human. I believe that God sent God's one and only son, to experience life in creaturely form. Jesus, as human, was born into an oppressed people so that all people, and especially the "least of these" would have the assurance that Jesus Christ knows and is impacted by human suffering.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the giver of life who leads us in our understanding of Christ's will for God's church, which is reformed and always reforming.

I believe that God is so powerful and immense that it is not possible for anyone to put into words, but I join with the church in using symbols to aid in our connection and understanding of God.

The Sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper, as symbols, are both an invitation by God into a covenant with the Living God as well as a real and present act of gratitude in which we can offer ourselves and our lives in service to God (W-3.0401).

I believe that through Baptism, Christ identified himself with sinners and was anointed by the same Holy Spirit by whom we are baptized for life in the community of church in communion with all of God's creation.

I believe that the Lord's Supper is a sign and seal of our communion with the crucified and risen Christ. The Lord's supper reminds us of the covenant and relationship that God has with us as individuals and as a community as the Holy Spirit gathers us in and connects us with the universal church.

I believe that we can do nothing on our own to earn the grace that God offers. God gathers us into relationship with God and God's creation. Having received God's grace, we cannot help but to live into the great commandment to love God and to love others as we love ourselves.

In the tradition of the great mystery of our faith, Christ has died, Christ is Risen, Christ will come again--I believe ". . . that neither death, nor life. . . will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 8:38-39).

The Eight Questions

1. What events or persons have significantly affected your ministry?

My parents have significantly affected my ministry as they raised me in the church and encouraged me to question, discern and understand my own relationship with the Triune God. This encouragement helped me to define my own voice and my own way of living out my faith and my relationship with God.

CPE has also been a major part of discerning who I am and my role in ministry. I would never have thought that sitting with people who are close to death and being with them and their families would be something that would give me energy and a major sense of purpose. I feel called to be a chaplain. I feel called to be with people as they say goodbye to their loved ones. I feel called to sit with people as they make difficult decisions that affect their lives and those of their loved ones. CPE has taught me that I can trust myself and the gifts that God has given to me.

2. What theological beliefs have emerged as critical to your practice of ministry?

I have become acutely aware through my time as a chaplain that Jesus sought out those who were different and did not fit the societal norms of the day. Jesus sought out the tax collector. Jesus sought out the woman at the well. Every day I meet with people who are considered by society to be the other. These families may grieve differently or have significantly different beliefs than I do and yet I am in a position to hold space for them to grieve. I am learning how to remain authentic and true to the beliefs that I hold and respect the views of the patients and families that I minister to.

3. What experiences have challenged or affirmed your faith?

I have been with many families as they have lost their loved ones. The grief that I witness on a daily basis is messy and can be theologically and emotionally hard to process. These experiences can both challenge and affirm my own personal faith as I try to understand why certain things happen, how I can best make space for the grief that others feel and how to be authentic and conscious of my own beliefs when presented with others beliefs.

Being with patients who are dying reminds me of the conversation that I had with my mother-in-law shortly before she died. I asked her if she was scared and she said, "absolutely not." She told me that she knew where she was going and that she was confident of God's love for her. This was affirming for me as I experienced her absolute faith and belief in her Creator.

4. What is your view of the sacraments in practice of your ministry?

There have been several times in my ministry here at the hospital when I have been asked to bless a baby with baptism or administer the sacraments. I believe that these two sacraments are important in the spiritual care and connection that people have with their God and their faith. So far, I have had to find another ordained pastor to administer the sacraments. I would like to be able to administer the sacraments as someone who has built a connection and relationship with the families who are making the request.

Being able to administer the sacrament to patients allows me to recognize and value the depth of their spiritual and faithful connection to God. To be able to fulfill their requests helps me to walk alongside people in their faith journey as they practice the real and tangible expressions of our connection with our God. As the Book of Order says, the sacraments “employ ordinary things - the basic elements of water, bread and wine - in proclaiming the extraordinary love of God”(W-3.0401).

5. What is your view of the government of the Presbyterian Church (USA) in light of your practice of ministry?

I am grateful for the education and discernment that has been part of my journey to ordination. The process has given me ample time and opportunity to discern my call in my area of focused ministry so that I am in the right position. Not all chaplains of different faith traditions are required to spend as much time in discernment and I am grateful for the opportunity that the PCUSA provides to discern in community with others. I believe that this validated ministry allows me to be in relationship with others as I seek to serve others who are hurting and seeking understanding.

6. How do you envision your ministry advancing the mission of God’s people and sharing the good news to the world?

My mission as a chaplain is to be present with those who are hurting regardless of their faith traditions or affiliations. I am not present with patients and families in order to change their beliefs but to embody God’s good news by empathizing with their hurt and their grief as I actively work to be present with them as I use my own personal faith and beliefs as my support in this. In my active role as a chaplain I am given the opportunity to come into contact with a wide range of beliefs and spiritual traditions and show my patients and their families the love of Christ. I believe that my actively inclusive and open faith advances the mission of God’s people.

7. How do you anticipate becoming involved actively with the work of Presbytery and in one of its congregations?

I hope to find a Presbyterian church in the Presbytery that will allow me to worship alongside them and join them in celebrating the sacraments alongside one another. As a

member of the Mid-Kentucky Presbytery, my goal is to be an active member and participant in the activities of the Presbytery. I will be actively engaged in Presbytery meetings, be a friend in ministry to other PCUSA pastors and would be willing to serve on commissions within the Mid-Kentucky Presbytery. I will be active in serving in a validated ministry as I seek to embody the love of the Triune God with my coworkers, the staff, my patients and their families.

8. Do you understand and agree that your ministry is to be carried on in accountability for its character and conduct to the Presbytery and is to be reviewed annually (unless you are honorably retired)?

Yes I agree to accountability for the character of my ministry and the way in which I conduct my ministry. Accountability helps each of us to grow and mature in our walk with God and with one another. I want to be held accountable for my ministry and in turn promise to walk with others as they are held accountable for their ministry.

Revised August 2019

**A Liturgy for the Examination of a Candidate for Ordination
To the Ministry of Word and Sacrament
July 14, 2022 - The Presbytery of Mid-Kentucky**

*Hymn

Litany

Moderator:

Merciful God, through the mouth of your beloved child,
Our Lord Jesus Christ, you said to us,
'The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few;
therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into the harvest.'

Presbyters:

We respond to your divine command, O Lord,
and beseech you to richly bestow the Holy Spirit
on our candidate this evening,
and on all of us who are called to your ministry,
that we, with a great multitude,
may be your evangelists, true and steadfast.
So may your name be hallowed, your kingdom come,
and your will be done. Amen.

Examination of the Candidate for Ordination

Erin Veliquette

A candidate under care of the Mackinac Presbytery, at that presbytery's request. Erin has received a call in Mid-Kentucky Presbytery.

The Commission on Ministry presents the Candidate.

The Candidate gives a word of greeting, reads a scripture lesson and preaches a sermon.

The COM chairperson asks the candidate to share a brief word of his/her faith journey, and hopes for serving in the ordered ministry of a teaching elder.

The Presbytery examines the candidate, excuses her/him from the meeting room, and acts on the recommendation of the Commission on Ministry to ordain the Candidate.

The Candidate is escorted back into the room, and the Moderator announces the Presbytery's action, with appropriate remarks.

If the examination has been sustained, the Presbytery approves plans for the Candidate's ordination and takes action as appropriate on the Candidate's Terms of Call.

Ascription of Praise - Moderator