

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

Detailed Info for PIF #: 100010657.3	
Professional ID:	100010657
Name:	Marie A. Edwards Branigan
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Address:	38 Yorktown Road Bordentown, NJ 08505
Ecclesiastical Status:	Teaching Elder
Membership Presbytery:	NEWARK PRESBYTERY
Ordination Date:	8/11/1996
Formal Education:	1996: Master of Divinity – Princeton Theological Seminary, Princeton NJ 1987: Master of Education in Special Education – Beaver College, Glenside PA 1979: Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education – SUNY Oswego, Oswego NY
Continuing Education:	October 2003: Managing church conflict, taught by Hugh Halverstadt, Cherry Hill NJ April 2002: Net Results Evangelism conference, Louisville KY October 2001: Redevelopment Workshop: Re-Connecting to the Community, Toledo Ohio March 2001: Shepherding the Spiritual Life of Congregations, Alban Institute October 2000: National Pastor's Redevelopment Training, Toledo, Ohio January 2000: Percept Revision Facilitator Training, Elizabeth Presbytery January 2000: National Redevelopment Conference: Change ???! May 1999: Early Ministry Institute Year 3 May 1999: Cross Cultural Mission; Honduras April 1999: Interim Training (part 2) October 1998: Interim Training (part 1) May 1998: Early Ministry Institute Year 2 April 1998: Synod of the NE Redevelopment Training: Brave New Church January 1998: National Redevelopment Conference: God is Doing A New Thing August 1997: Peacemaking Conference: Facing Racism in Search of the Beloved Community April 1997: Festival of Homiletics: Preaching Jesus May 1997: Early Ministry Institute Year 1 January 1997: National Redevelopment Conference Rebirthing Congregations

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Experience Level:	8 years or more
Employment Type:	Open to both
Minimum Effective Salary:	\$35,000 / Year
Position Types (with experience)	Associate Pastor (Other) Pastor (Solo) Pastor (Head of Staff) Pastor (Redevelopment/Transformation) Designated Pastor Interim Pastor
Position Types (w/o experience)	Pastor (New Church Development/Fellowship) Co-Pastor Synod Program Staff Interim Ministry (Governing Body)
Community Types:	Rural Village Town Small City Suburban Urban Inner City College Recreation Retirement
Church Sizes:	Under 100 members 101 - 250 members 251 - 400 members 401 - 650 members 651 - 1000 members 1001 - 1500 members
Geographic Choices:	Unlimited Geographically Limited to miles of

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Languages:	English
Primary Skills:	Administrative Leadership Conflict Management/Mediation Skills Congregational Redevelopment / Transformation Evangelism Hospital and Emergency Visitation Pastoral Care Preaching Strategic Planning Teaching Transitional / Interim Ministry
Training / Certification:	Interim Ministry Training Week 1 by PC(U.S.A.) at Princeton NJ in 1998 Week 2 by PC(U.S.A.) at Princeton NJ in 1999
Clergy Couple?	False
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.
Past Experience:	

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- 06/09-12/09 Bethany United Presbyterian Church, Bloomfield NJ 07003; multi-cultural multi-generational church of 100 members; urban residential
- 11/06-06/09 Olivet Presbyterian Church, Prospect Park PA 19076 church of 150 members, Town/Suburban
- 11/04 – 11/06: Wayne Presbyterian Church, Wayne NJ 07470 Interim Pastor, Church of 200 members, Suburban
- 03/01/03 – 01/31/04: First Presbyterian Church, Bordentown NJ 08505 Pastor, church of 200 members, Small Town
- 09/01/02 – 02/28/02: First Presbyterian Church, Williamstown NJ 08094 Interim Pastor, Church of 80 members, Town/Suburban
- 10/00 – 05/01: First Presbyterian Church, Metuchen NJ 08840 Interim Associate Pastor, Church of 925 members, Village
- 10/98 – 06/00: Connecticut Farms Presbyterian Church, 888 Stuyvesant Avenue Union NJ 07083 Interim Pastor, Church of 326 members, Suburban
- 09/96 – 09/98: Hope Presbyterian Church, 518 Leray Street, Watertown NY 13601 Designated Pastor, church of 100 members, Urban Residential
- 09/94 – 09/95: Western Presbyterian Church, 2401 Virginia Ave. N.W., Washington DC 20037 Seminary Intern, Full-time, Church of 200 members, Downtown Urban Church
- 06/94 – 08/94: Abington Memorial Hospital, Old York Road, Abington PA Chaplain Intern, Full-time, Clinical Pastoral Education Program
- 06/93 – 06/94: Witherspoon Street Presbyterian Church, 124 Witherspoon St., Princeton NJ 08630 Seminary Intern, Part-time, Church of 200 members, Multi-Cultural Congregation
- 12/90 – 08/96: Self-employed, Private Duty Childcare
1 full-time position:
- 12/90 to 08/92
2 Part-time Positions 05/93–05/94 and 09/95–06/96
- 3/87 – 03/90: Special Education Teacher, Philadelphia Public Schools, Philadelphia PA 19001

Other Services:

- 12/08- 6/09 Study Group Form of Government Presbytery of Philadelphia
- 01/05 – 11/05 Interim Team Presbytery of the Palisades; articulating vision and mission for a Presbytery in an Interim period.
- 06/04 – 02/05 Design Team for Extreme Makeover: Church Edition Conference Cherry Hill NJ, Joint Project of Monmouth and West Jersey Presbyteries
- 09/03 – 11/04: Church Development Unit, Monmouth Presbytery: Planning presbytery processes for Congregational Transformation and New Church Development
- 06/00 – 03/03: Mission Strategy Committee, Synod of the Northeast: Task force exploring means for vitality and growth in congregations; elected chair as of 04/02
- 01/99 – 08/00: Congregational Strategy and Resources Unit, Elizabeth Presbytery, Monthly Meetings; plus consulting Assisting Congregations in Mission study and strategies for effective ministry; committee liaison to redevelopment congregation
- 02/98 – 09/98: Disaster Assessment and Recovery Team convener for Jefferson County, Executive Committee member Ecumenical Relief Efforts for Ice Storm '98
- 05/98 – 12/98: Pastoral Care Committee, Samaritan Hospital, Watertown NY 13601 Facilitating cooperation between Community Clergy and hospital staff
- 06/98 – 05/99: Pastoral Care Committee, Coalition on Domestic Violence Watertown NY 13601 Training for community clergy in effective response to domestic violence
- 03/98 – 09/98: Substance Abuse Prevention Council, "First Night" Planning committee Organizing alcohol free arts community arts celebration 06/97 – 09/98: Presbytery of Northern NY, Mission Strategy Committee, bi-monthly meetings Addressing needs for Redevelopment churches in PNNY
- 01/98 – 09/98: Presbytery of Northern NY, Mission Program Committee, bi-monthly meetings
- 10/97: PCUSA Ordination Exam Reader, Erie Reading Group, 1 week 01/96 – 12/97: Presbytery of Northern NY, Congregational Resources Committee bi-monthly meetings

Church Characteristics Desired:

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I am seeking to serve a church, which is seeking growth and change. Whereas some folks find the ambiguity of transition disturbing, I find faithful exploration of the new possibilities inherent in transition to be absolutely invigorating! The passion, perception and persistence that I bring to ministry are ably suited to leading congregations seeking transformation. It is my desire to be an agent of God's transforming grace in the midst of a congregation which is seeking to be faithful to god's leading in the midst of our changing times. That church might be in an interim situation where a congregation needs to assess its direction while seeking a pastor. It might be a congregation, which craves revitalization through launching new mission or ministry. That church might even be one in need of redevelopment as it seeks to rebirth itself entirely. If your congregation is engaged in a time of potential transformation, take heart! Israel didn't like their wilderness much, but the blessings and the trials endured there transformed them from escaped slaves into a faithful people. And though I'm certainly no Moses, I am a pastor who is very willing to make that transforming journey with you.

Accomplishments in present call:

Transitional churches have unique needs/challenges: Bethany PC is a multi-cultural church seeking new vision after its founding pastor's departure. Olivet PC needed healing from deep conflicts that occurred over the last decade of a 26 year pastorate. Wayne PC was a 40 year young church needing a vital future vision. 1st PC Williamstown was a small church in deep decline seeking transformation. 1st PC Metuchen was anxiously awaiting the retirement of its Sr. Pastor. CFPC, a once-large church, needed to re-group after a 19-year pastorate. Hope PC was an aging church recovering from the death of their pastor. This breadth of experience has taught me how to come to the aid of churches in transition so that they may come to terms with the past, claim a new identity, empower new leadership and reconnect with our denomination in life-giving ways. I have grown skillful in assisting with church wide mission study so that the congregation can call new vision into being through mission and ministry in its current context.

I have learned to respect for the strong traditions of each church, while gently encouraging needed innovations. I have assisted congregations with introducing creative and/or contemporary forms in worship, the empowerment of lay leaders, changes in staff and administration, expansion of stewardship and growth in mission & evangelism. Through my ministry each church has moved from the what was to the what may be with a renewed sense of vitality, vision and hope.

Leadership Style:

Leadership in the midst of transition brings out the creativity in me. My strong natural ability to see the "big picture" in any given situation permits me to discern both problems and possibilities. My varied experiences in transitional churches have made of me a mission and ministry midwife who seeks to revive and rebirth vision and vitality in congregations. To that end I am: · A versatile preacher/worship leader who is comfortable with worship styles ranging from formal/traditional to informal/contemporary. · An excellent educator who seeks to nurture faith in community via fellowship service prayer and study · A committed caregiver who embodies God's grace and love through visitation, counseling, and nurturing gifts for care-giving in others · A passionate missionary, devoted to social justice and racial reconciliation who affirms that mission is the life's blood of the church for we are not called to be an end unto ourselves · A team-maker who enjoys bringing people together to address a pressing problem and or move toward a common goal. · A naturally resourceful leader who likes to assist others in tapping into resources within themselves, the congregation and the denomination. · A partner in ministry who prefers making decisions on a shared basis. · Fortright in my convictions and direct in my communication style; making me "a what you see is what you get" type of leader, who is in turn willing to give whatever it takes for the benefit of God's people.

Key Theological Issues:

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I believe that the central question facing the church today is: "How do we faithfully proclaim the gospel and live out lives centered in Christ so that the church can be less of a stumbling block and more of a stepping stone to those seeking God in our age? I am intrigued by the observation that as general public interest in God waxes to an all-time high, the ability of so many of our congregations to reach out to those around them is ebbing toward an all-time low. My life experience has made me a seeker after God. I have known a time of vibrant faith in childhood, a time of full-blown agnosticism in young adulthood and a time of renewed faith in which I found a call to ministry. Through these transitions it has been my experience (both personal and congregational) that god's in-braking grace is often clearest and most powerful when we open ourselves to the possibility of transformation in the midst of change. Ultimately my seeking has led me to become a discerner: One who seeks to observe and articulate god's presence and activity in the midst of God's people. As one who has experienced re-birth of my own faith, I am passionate to be about guiding, supporting, even exhorting God's people to reconsider and rediscover how God is leading them toward transformed lives and vital ministry in the midst of our chaotic, broken world.

Statement of Faith:

References:

# 1	Name	Rev.Linda Robinson
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# 4	Name	Carol Moyer
	Relation	Clerk of Session, Olivet PC
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# 5	Name	Rev Susan Friedl
	Relation	Former Interim EP Palisades Pr
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# 6	Name	Matt Spence

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This PIF was last updated at 8/21/2012 6:55:24 AM. Marie A. Edwards Branigan is a member of the Presbytery of NEWARK PRESBYTERY. As of this date, no allegation or charges are pending against the member, nor is the member currently under judicial censure limiting the ministry or under supervised rehabilitation. The receiving body should always call the presbytery to ask for further information about any applicant, including their ministry and activities within the presbytery of membership.

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