



Personal Information Form

(Part 1) - General Info



Last Name __ Meriwether _____	First Name __ David _____	Middle Name __ Peck _____
Street Address __ 14139 Vantage Hill _____		
City __ San Antonio _____	State __ TX _____	Zip Code __ 78231-1643 ____
Preferred Phone __ 210-313-7229 ____	Alternate Phone _____	Fax _____
E-mail: __ revdmeriwether@gmail.com _____		

Ecclesiastical Status:

- Presbyterian Teaching Elder
- Honorably Retired
- Other Denomination
- Candidate
- Church Educator
- Elder
- Deacon
- Lay Professional

Presbytery Membership

Presbytery membership or Presbytery of care: Mission Presbytery
(e.g. 150-004 ABINGDON PRESBYTERY)

Ordination Date: 11 / 30 / 1980 *(Month/Day/Year)*

Candidacy Date: / / *(Month/Day/Year)*

Other Denominations

If you are coming from another denomination, seeking a position in the PC(U.S.A.), please supply the following information:

I'm coming from

Name and address of judicatory to which you are responsible:

If coming from any denomination other than these 3, please state which one

Have you been in contact with the Presbytery nearest you? Yes

Formal Education: 1979-86: Doctor of Philosophy, Duke University, Durham, N.C. Majors: theology, ethics. Minors: American Christianity, Sociology.
1973-76: Appalachian State University, Boone, N.C., graduate courses in medical, vocational, and therapeutic counseling
1970-72: Master of Divinity, Duke University, Durham, N.C., *summa cum laude*, Honors Program. Valedictorian, Broyhill Scholar.
1968-70: Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky., Luther Rice Scholar.
1964-68: Bachelor of Arts, Baylor University, Waco, Texas, *cum laude*.

Continuing Education: 2009 – Duke Divinity School Convocation – N. T. Wright
2008 – Honduras Missions Network Convocation, GA, Stanley deVoogd
2007 – Diana Butler Bass, Practicing Congregations in the New Old Church
2004 – Children in Worship, Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary
2003 – Intentional Interim Training, Week 1, Zephyr Point, NV

Please fill out the following information also. [This information is for office use only and will not be distributed.](#)

Social Security Number:

Date of Birth: __10 / __7 __ / __1946 (*Month/Day/Year*)

Gender: M_

Ethnic Orientation:

<input type="checkbox"/> African American	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Caucasian	<input type="checkbox"/> Chinese
<input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic Mexican/Central American	<input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic Puerto Rican	<input type="checkbox"/> Japanese
<input type="checkbox"/> Korean	<input type="checkbox"/> Native American	<input type="checkbox"/> Taiwanese
<input type="checkbox"/> Other Asian	<input type="checkbox"/> Other	

Personal Information Form

(Part 2)

Positions you would consider

(If you already have some experience for the positions you are applying for, check 'Y' column. Otherwise check 'N' column)

Experience		<u>Position Type</u>	Experience		<u>Position Type</u>
Y	N		Y	N	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Administrator	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Interim Ministry (Governing Body)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Associate Pastor (Christian Education)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Interim Pastor
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Associate Pastor (Youth)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mission Pastor
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Associate Pastor (Other)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Church Educator (Non-ordained)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pastor (Solo)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Campus Minister
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pastor (Head of Staff)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Chaplain
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pastor (New Church Development)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Church Administrator
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pastor (Redevelopment)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Executive
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pastor (Tent Maker/Part-time)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	General Assembly Staff
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pastor (Yoked/Multiple)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Presbytery Staff
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Co-Pastor	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Synod Staff
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Designated Pastor	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other

Employment type: Full-time Part-time Open to either

Community types you would consider:

Rural Village Town Small City Suburban
 Urban Inner City College Recreation Retirement

Church sizes you prefer:

Under 100 members 101-250 members 251-400 members
 401-650 members 651-1000 members 1001-1500 members
 More than 1500 members

Geographic choices:

Suggest my name anywhere in the USA

-- OR --

Only suggest my name in the specified areas **checked** below:

<input type="checkbox"/> Alabama	<input type="checkbox"/> Alaska	<input type="checkbox"/> Arizona
<input type="checkbox"/> Arkansas	<input type="checkbox"/> California	<input type="checkbox"/> Colorado
<input type="checkbox"/> Connecticut	<input type="checkbox"/> Delaware	<input type="checkbox"/> District of Columbia
<input type="checkbox"/> Florida	<input type="checkbox"/> Georgia	<input type="checkbox"/> Hawaii
<input type="checkbox"/> Idaho	<input type="checkbox"/> Illinois	<input type="checkbox"/> Indiana
<input type="checkbox"/> Iowa	<input type="checkbox"/> Kansas	<input type="checkbox"/> Kentucky
<input type="checkbox"/> Louisiana	<input type="checkbox"/> Maine	<input type="checkbox"/> Maryland
<input type="checkbox"/> Massachusetts	<input type="checkbox"/> Michigan	<input type="checkbox"/> Minnesota
<input type="checkbox"/> Mississippi	<input type="checkbox"/> Missouri	<input type="checkbox"/> Montana
<input type="checkbox"/> Nebraska	<input type="checkbox"/> Nevada	<input type="checkbox"/> New Hampshire
<input type="checkbox"/> New Jersey	<input type="checkbox"/> New Mexico	<input type="checkbox"/> New York
<input type="checkbox"/> North Carolina	<input type="checkbox"/> North Dakota	<input type="checkbox"/> Ohio

Oklahoma
 Puerto Rico
 South Dakota
 Utah
 Washington
 Wyoming

Oregon
 Rhode Island
 Tennessee
 Vermont
 West Virginia

Pennsylvania
 South Carolina
 Texas
 Virginia
 Wisconsin

Primary skill choices:

(Select up to 10 skills in which you have experience or training that you would like to use in your next position.)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Administration of Programs | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Administrative Leadership |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Adult Ministry | <input type="checkbox"/> Budget Preparation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Building Renovation / Property Development | <input type="checkbox"/> Children's Ministry |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Communication (Written / Oral) | <input type="checkbox"/> Community Ministries |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Service and Leadership | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conflict Management |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Congregational Communication | <input type="checkbox"/> Congregational Fellowship |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Congregational Home Visitation | <input type="checkbox"/> Congregational Redevelopment / Revitalization |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Corporate Worship / Sacraments | <input type="checkbox"/> Counseling |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cross Cultural Collaboration | <input type="checkbox"/> Curriculum Building |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Defining Program Needs | <input type="checkbox"/> Development of New Educational Experiences |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ecumenical and Interfaith Activities | <input type="checkbox"/> Evaluation of Program and Staff |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Evangelism | <input type="checkbox"/> Facility Management |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family Ministry | <input type="checkbox"/> Financial Management |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fund Raising | <input type="checkbox"/> Governing Body Ministry |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Group Facilitation / Dynamics | <input type="checkbox"/> Hospital and Emergency Visitation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Information Technology | <input type="checkbox"/> Involvement in Mission Beyond the Local Church |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Leadership Development | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leadership of Staff / Volunteers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Management of Building Usage | <input type="checkbox"/> Management of Equipment Resources |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mediation Skills | <input type="checkbox"/> New Church Development |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Office Management | <input type="checkbox"/> Older Adult Ministry |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Organizational Development | <input type="checkbox"/> Organizational Leadership and Development |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Organizational System Development | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pastoral Care |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Preaching | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Problem Solving / Decision Making |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Project Development | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Relations |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rural Ministry | <input type="checkbox"/> Small Membership Church Ministry |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Spiritual Development | <input type="checkbox"/> Staffing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Stewardship and Commitment Program | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Strategic Planning |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Teaching | <input type="checkbox"/> Training Volunteers |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transitional / Interim Ministry | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Ministry |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Ministry | |

Work experience you have: *(Please select only one)*

First Ordained Call 0 to 2 years 2 to 4 years
 4 to 6 years 6 to 8 years 8 years or more

Languages in which you are fluent:

English Spanish Korean
 Mandarin Chinese Japanese Cantonese
 Taiwanese Other

Are you filing as a clergy couple? Yes No

If yes, please enter spouse's name: _____

Minimum cash salary you would consider: \$ 50,000 / Year

Are you a member of the Board of Pension pension/medical plan? Yes No

Are you willing to serve in a church or institution composed mainly of persons of a race/ethnicity other than your own?

Yes X

No

Please list your work experience:

July, 2010 – present: Northwood Presbyterian Church, San Antonio, TX; Interim Pastor, 254 members
Nov., 2009 – June, 2010: Brenham Presbyterian Church, Brenham, Texas; Interim Pastor, 275 members
Jan., 2009 – Aug., 2009: St. Philip Presbyterian, Hurst, Texas; Interim Pastor, 675 members
Sept. 2006 – Oct., 2008: Second Presbyterian, Louisville, Kentucky; Interim Pastor, 1350 members
June 2005 – June 2006: St. John’s Presbyterian, Houston, Texas; Interim Pastor, 430 members
Oct. 2003 – April 2005: Parkway Presbyterian, Corpus Christi, Texas; Interim Pastor, 440 members
Nov. 1993 – Oct. 2003: First Presbyterian, San Antonio, Texas; Associate Minister for Congregational Care; city, 3000 members.
Sept. 1995 – June 2000: Visiting Instructor, Religion Department, Trinity University, San Antonio, TX
July 1987 - Oct. 1993: St. Mark Presbyterian, Boerne, Texas; Pastor; small town/suburban; 275 resident members.
Dec., 1986 - July, 87: Grace Presbyterian, San Antonio, Texas; Interim Pastor; urban/neighborhood congregation, 195 members.
July 1982 – Aug., 1986: Chatham Baptist, Chatham, Virginia; Pastor; county seat town; 175 members.
Sept. 1979 - Jan., 1982: The Chapel, Duke University; Assistant to the Minister of the University; ordained ministry to college/professional/ecumenical setting; 1000 average attendance. Teaching Assistant, The Divinity School and Undergraduate Department of Religion.

Please list your other services to church or denomination for the past 10 years:

2007-2008: Committee on Ministry, Mid-Kentucky Presbytery
2006-present: Company of New Pastors, Cohort Mentor, APTS 2005 group, Office of Theology and Worship
2005-2006: Committee on Ministry, Presbytery of New Covenant
2004-2006: Sacrament and Ethics Work Group, Office of Theology and Worship, General Assembly Council
2003 - 2005: Interim Pastors Work Group, Mission Presbytery
2002 - 2003: Christology Writing Project, Office of Theology and Worship, General Assembly Council

Please describe the characteristics of the church or organization you would like to serve, and the unique gifts, skills and experiences you would like to bring to the position:

I have reached that place in life and ministry where my toolbox is pretty full of skills that I can apply to the varied tasks of ministry. After 9 years of Interim Ministry, I have found my spot. I love to work at worship that inspires people and points to God, at preaching that is imaginative and artful. I enjoy coaching a staff that laughs with each other, supports one another, and finds ways to work better together. I am not afraid to address problems and challenges or to lead toward change, but I am wise enough to know that asking questions is always more constructive than providing answers without listening. I enjoy the variety of demands and the extended hours of busy places, and I have always been too involved in the calling to keep track of the hours on the job.

I want to use all my energies in the work of modeling to others the love that Christ has shown me. I want to lead people who understand that the Christian life is lived daily in the world in decisions in homes, work, and community. I want to help a body of Christ to affirm its own particular mission with all its strengths and to “re-form” its weaknesses with the strength of faith. I want an “interim” to be more than an “interlude,” so that a congregation is excited about its next season of service to Christ.

Please describe your present call and accomplishments:

In the last nine years, I have served as an Interim Pastor in six congregations. Each of them has been unique in history, size, problems in their present, and questions about their future. An Interim Pastor is both a pastor and an interim. In all my interim congregations, I have always taught a variety of classes, visited the sick, and comforted the grieving. The care and leading of a congregation in its life of work and worship go on, and the particular tasks of evaluating the past and turning to the future in a time of change give opportunities for renewal and re-forming. Over the span of these years, I have learned a lot from the uniqueness of each congregation, and I have seen that how I have been an interim pastor in each has been shaped by the needs and demands of the context.

I know that my task is to lead a congregation to affirm its mission and hopes for the future that will match a skill-set in a leader and pastor. My task is to make the strengths of a congregation obvious to everyone, and make them open for new visions and ready for new directions. I encourage different opinions about decisions for the church, and show how giving everyone a voice leads to new directions not imagined before. I try to be candid and

affirming with congregations during their self-doubts in an interim season, encourage honest assessment of their problems that they and most churches are facing, and give ample opportunities to voice their love and their worries about the future. The Interim season is a chance for the congregation to claim its strengths and demonstrate to a prospective pastor that it is willing to name and address its persistent problems. I don't think an Interim's role is to upset the applecart, but it is to "play" with enough changes to let the congregation know that the new pastor brings different ways of working and leading. I love being a pastor, and I think churches can be at their best when they are searching – not just in the time of an interim, but whenever they are asking what God is dreaming for their future.

Please describe your leadership style:

I have served in small churches and large congregations, and I have adapted to the vast differences history and location. But there is a common theme for congregational leadership. A Presbyterian pastor leads, but does not dictate - overtly or covertly. A leader is attentive to Presbyterian "process," and lets Spirit, session and congregation decide outcomes. I feel no need to "run the church." I think the pastor is the one who prompts the Session to keep the various ministries and committees working toward the central goal. The pastor keeps aware of the spiritual and ethical undercurrents of communal relationships and organizational structures in the congregation. I think my role as an Interim is to say out loud what most everyone is thinking but hesitates to say – or sometimes admit. More importantly, I celebrate the congregation's successes as theirs, not mine. A pastor reminds the people that the Spirit is the life in the body; Christ is the head.

With staff relationships, I like the role as the "playing coach." I lead by example, and coach by suggestion. I think that the diverse mix of skill and experience in a group is stronger than any hierarchy of authority. But as the "head of staff" I take full responsibility for mistakes – mine before theirs, and I am always more interested in solving problems than assigning blame. I always want to encourage ideas for new projects, but I want to ask the questions that might make them better. And I also want to protect staff members from thinking that they have to do something extra when the core parts of their job description should be their first priorities. I have found that daily habits in working partnerships make "year-end evaluations" more than empty formalities. Leading staff means developing skills, building common goals, and working with trust and openness.

What are the key theological issues currently facing the church and society, and how do they shape your ministry?

I do **not** think the circumstantial and social debates that have pre-occupied Presbyterian life for 20 years are "the key theological issues" we face. I do think that applying Reformed theological themes to our real communal needs can be transforming and keep us pointed toward greater things than cultural and political agendas.

First, as unnatural as it may be for churches in general and Presbyterians in particular, we can learn to welcome change. Our world is not going to slow down, and God is able to work surprisingly in the middle of constant change. These are "hope-full" times. As Christians, we believe that the risen Lord is active and powerful in the world, and that divine love and persistence will finally make this world God's kingdom. So, the question for the faithful church is not, "Should we change?" - but "How is God changing our world? How can we work to shape change in God's direction?" Trusting Christ's grace means that we can never dismiss problems around and among us, but we are certainly not determined by them.

Second, the church must be intentional and strategic in the way that it allocates financial and human resources. We will accomplish more if we target our energies to the particular task that God puts in front of us instead of trying to support all the good causes. From each congregation to the General Assembly, we must put our spiritual priorities into our organizational program and financial budget. We must be brave enough to say "no" to some good things so that our "yes" makes a difference to more important things. Following Christ, we are called to serve children who are the "first in the kingdom," and we are commanded to minister to "the least of these" – the people others neglect, the needs others ignore. The church must be a conscience for society and a catalyst for good. The church will not solve these problems alone, but it will point in the direction and shape the efforts.

Finally, the church must embrace a new, genuine evangelism. We are called to share an open, winsome, life-changing grace. That is our main mission. The church is increasingly at the margins of influence and awareness in modern society. Put simply, a lot of people – especially younger generations – think church is trivial or unnecessary. I think we must become more intentional about our Christian identity in gracious ways to a culture that vaguely and often falsely assumes itself "Christian." We Presbyterians can offer stabilizing sensibility and honest humility to a society in emotional uproar. We can give hope and strength to people who are fearful or cynical. We can listen to people's questions and admit that some questions do not have answers – yet. And, we Presbyterians must admit that some ways we have been working are not working. We are imaginative enough to imagine new ways. I think the Presbyterian Church is the church that many people are seeking. Through the power of Christ's grace, we just need to work at real and creative new ways to love others the way Christ loves us – and everyone.

