

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

Detailed Info for PIF #: 100016369.4	
Professional ID:	100016369
Name:	John Allen Brown
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E-Mail:	rev_ja_brown@yahoo.com
Address:	104 Trestle St. Hamlet, NC 28345
Ecclesiastical Status:	Teaching Elder
Membership Presbytery:	HUNTINGDON PRESBYTERY
Ordination Date:	6/19/1980
Formal Education:	9/71-6/73, West Shore Community College, Scottville, MI – A.A. 9/73-12/75, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI – B.A. 1/76-6/80, McCormick Theological Seminary, Chicago, IL – M.Div.
Continuing Education:	August 28-September 2, 2011, Interim Ministry Education, Week II, Montreat Conference Center, Montreat, NC July 27-29, 2009, Reclaiming Congregational Song, Columbia Theological Seminary, Decatur, GA July 29-30, 2009, Association for Reformed & Liturgical Worship Annual Conference, Columbia Seminary, Decatur, GA June 8-10, 2009, Healthy Christian Spirituality, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, Pittsburgh, PA July 28-30, 2008, Baptism and Eucharist: Ancient Practices in a Time of Renewal, Columbia Theological Seminary, Decatur, GA July 30-August 1, 2008, Association for Reformed & Liturgical Worship Annual Conference, Columbia Seminary, Decatur, GA October 22-28, 2007, The Emerging church: A Dialogue Between Modernism and Postmodernism, Union Theological Seminary, Richmond, VA April 25-May 1, 2006, 4th Annual Presbyterians Seeking Purpose Driven Ministry Conference, Trinity Presbyterian Church, Melbourne, FL October 3-6, 2005, Can “Old Dogs” Learn New Tricks? Transforming Traditional Protestant Congregations to Thrive in a Postmodern, Post-Christian Society, Union Theological Seminary, Richmond, VA August 29-September 3, 2004, Interim Ministry Education, Week I, Montreat Conference Center, Montreat, NC November 8-12, 1999, Managing the Medium-Size Church, Alban Institute, Dayton, OH
Experience Level:	8 years or more
Employment Type:	Full-time

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Minimum Effective Salary:	\$55,000 / Year
Position Types (with experience)	Interim Pastor
Position Types (w/o experience)	Interim Ministry (Governing Body)
Community Types:	Town Small City Suburban Urban College Recreation
Church Sizes:	101 - 250 members 251 - 400 members 401 - 650 members 651 - 1000 members
Geographic Choices:	Unlimited Geographically Limited to miles of
Languages:	English
Primary Skills:	Administrative Leadership Communication (Written / Oral) Congregational Redevelopment / Transformation Corporate Worship / Sacraments Hospital and Emergency Visitation Pastoral Care Preaching Spiritual Development Teaching Transitional / Interim Ministry
Training / Certification:	(Not Specified)
Clergy Couple?	False

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Sexual Misconduct Self-Certification Statement:	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>
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Past Experience:

03/2011 - 08/2012 Interim Pastor, Ward Ave. Presbyterian Church, Altoona, PA – 148 members, urban

01/2003–10/2010, Pastor, Colerain Presbyterian Church, Colerain, OH – 142 members, Rural

06/2001–12/2002, Interim Pastor, 1st United Presbyterian Church of Vernon, Big Bend, WI – 200 members, Rural

03/1999–04/2001, Pastor, Forest Park Presbyterian Church, New Berlin, WI – 200 members, Suburban

08/1986–03/1999, Pastor, Mundy Presbyterian Church, Swartz Creek, MI – 80 members, Rural

04/1986–07/1986, Stated Supply, First Presbyterian Church, Shellsburg, IA – 136 members, Village

08/1984–03/1986, Associate Pastor, United Presbyterian Church, Washington, IA – 850 members, Small City

Other Services:

2011-2012, Synod of the Trinity Personnel Committee

2011-2012, Committee on Ministry / Huntingdon Presbytery

2009–2009, Presbytery Administrative Commission

2008–2011, Committee on Ministry (Area Coordinator) / Upper Ohio Valley Presbytery

2008, Presbytery Commissioner to the 216th General Assembly / Upper Ohio Valley Presbytery

2007–2011, Certified Lay Pastors Subcommittee / Upper Ohio Valley Presbytery

2007–2011, Training and Development Committee / Upper Ohio Valley Presbytery

2007-2011, Presbytery Council, Member-at-Large / Upper Ohio Valley Presbytery

2003–2007, Presbytery’s Congregational Development Committee / Upper Ohio Valley Presbytery

2000–2002, Presbytery’s Leadership & Faith Development Committee / Milwaukee Presbytery

1999–2002, Presbytery’s Spiritual Life & Retreat Task Force / Milwaukee Presbytery

Church Characteristics Desired:

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The congregation I would serve best is one that seriously wants to grow in discipleship through worship, education for all ages, and service and mission. Such a congregation will:

- celebrate its past yet take a realistic look at the present, and dream, plan and work for the future;
- risk reviewing present programs, keeping those that still work, letting go of those no longer effective, and developing new programs for an effective mission;
- dare to not only minister to its members but reach out to touch the needs of people today in the community and in the world;
- enjoy a rich worship that is both traditional and liturgical to reach the needs of long-term members, yet modern and “contemporary” to reach the needs of younger and potential members.

My best ability is to work with others, encouraging and using their views, ideas and gifts.

- I listen to people and groups, helping them discover their God-given talents and how to use those gifts in ministry.
- I like teaching adults a variety of small group classes, especially for church leaders, to help people grow spiritually.
- I've worked with churches to develop mission studies as they look toward the future.
- I've stressed reviewing and revising organizational structures and procedures to make mission and ministry more effective.

An important feature of my ministry is designing and leading worship services that open us up to listening and responding to God's will for us today.

Accomplishments in present call:

I presently serve as the interim pastor of the Ward Ave. Presbyterian Church of Altoona, PA., a congregation of about 150 members. I've introduced new worship ideas and concepts, provided pastoral care in a variety of settings, provided training for elders, and encouraged the congregation to become more involved in the missions projects of the presbytery, synod, and General Assembly.

In my last pastorate, a congregation of about 140 members, we revised the order of worship, basing it on the Service for the Lord's Day outlined in The Book of Common Worship. We created an acolyte program for older elementary children. I encouraged and supported a member who had a deep interest in the Sunday School. The result that the time of Sunday School was changed to during worship, with the children attending worship before being dismissed to their classes. I also encouraged and supported a couple of members who had an interest in developing a puppet ministry which starts each Sunday School program. During my time at Colerain, we created a Personnel Committee, and developed guidelines and job descriptions for all paid positions. We have also redesigned session meetings to include a devotional time, prayers, and an educational time during the meeting.

Leadership Style:

My leadership style is based upon my understanding of the Church. I believe that God has blessed all Christians with particular talents and skills. Each of us is called by God to use our talents and skills in ministry and mission. Some Christians are called to use their gifts in particular leadership functions and offices in the Church while others are called to use their gifts in “informal” ways. No one of us has all the talents and skills necessary for the work of the Church. Everyone is called to use the gifts God has blessed them with in ministry and mission.

My style of leadership, therefore, is one of partnership with others. It depends upon each person doing their part as God has called them. My role is to lead in the way of Jesus Christ, to help people to recognize and develop their particular talents and skills and to discover how those gifts may be used in ministry and mission. I respect and welcome, encourage and expect the insight and wisdom of others, especially those whom God has called to lead in particular church offices and activities. Then we work together in mutual ministry and mission, each of us taking responsibility for using our particular God-given talents and skills. Therefore, a major part of my leadership style is encouraging others to use their talents and skills for the mission and ministry of the Church, and then to “get out of their way,” so they can use them.

Key Theological Issues:

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A key concern in the church today is the lack of children and young adults in congregations. I believe the church needs to reach out to the parents of children and help them to get involved in the worship and programs of a congregation. If they are involved, they will see that their children are involved. Secondly, we need to get children, especially teenagers and young adults in the life of the church by involving them in the worship and mission programs of the church.

Another issue is the quality of family life. Along with the traditional family there are single people, single-parent families, blended families, children with divorced parents, etc. We need to help people cope with these changing structures so all families become beneficial rather than detrimental, and incorporate them in the church.

A third issue is the issue of the quality of personal lives. Today we are busier than ever and yet we seem unhappier than ever. The activities we engage in tend to be very self-centered and self-serving. We need to be reminded of the life God intends for us, reaching out to serve and help one another.

In short, our life as a community of faith should reflect the love and service of God as revealed in Christ Jesus. We need to be reminded that one of the primary purposes of the church is to serve and help others in Jesus' name. The church needs to become mission orientated rather than only seeking to serve just "our members."

Statement of Faith:

I BELIEVE in one God, the source and goal of all that is. God's very being is justice, truth, goodness, and love. By experiencing God we come to a deeper understanding of God. God is experienced in three unique and separate ways, each of which reveals, although incomplete and imperfect, the fullness of the Divine Being.

I BELIEVE God created humans beings "to glorify and to enjoy [God] forever." Left to ourselves we seek to glorify and enjoy ourselves, which is called Sin and separates us from God, from what God created us to be, from ourselves, and from one another. In love and mercy God overcomes our sinfulness, and calls and empowers us to live lives of trust and obedience, of love and justice.

I BELIEVE that Jesus of Nazareth is the very being of God and God's Word in human form. He is the long awaited Messiah who brings us into the reconciling relationships of God. In his death on the cross Jesus becomes the means by which the separateness which exists is overcome. This reconciliation comes to us through faith in Jesus. Jesus models for us the life God wants for all of us, and through faith we are brought into this new life. Jesus' resurrection gives us the promise that such a faithful life does not end with death but continues eternally with God.

I BELIEVE that the Holy Spirit is the very being of God with us and in us. The Holy Spirit initiates and sustains in us faith in God and in Jesus the Christ, and empowers us to live the new relations of God. The Holy Spirit enables us to live glorifying and enjoying God forever personally and together.

I BELIEVE the Bible to be the unique record of God's revelation. It is God's Word in very human words, disclosing how people of faith have tried to understand and explain their experiences of God and the reconciliation God desires for everyone. The Bible is the final authority for our personal lives of faith and our life together. We are called to evaluate all we experience and believe in light of the witness of the Scriptures.

I BELIEVE the Church is the community of those whose faith is in God and Jesus the Christ, called together by the Holy Spirit. It is the gathering of those who glorify God in their life together. The Church is called to be the agent of God's reconciliation in the world today. The Church proclaims God's grace and love in Jesus and works in and through worship, life together, ministry, and mission to make reconciliation a reality in personal lives and in the world.

I BELIEVE the Sacraments are visible and tangible proclamations of what Jesus reveals and of what Scripture teaches. Baptism shows God's acceptance and cleansing, and calls us to live the new life given in Jesus Christ by the Holy Spirit. The Lord's Supper shows Jesus' trusting death for the forgiveness of our sins, and the spiritual nourishment God provides by the Holy Spirit for faithful living. The Sacraments impart in ways that touch all senses the good news of God's grace in Jesus the Christ.

References:

# 1	Name	Kathy Rutter
	Relation	Elder
	Phone	(814) 944-4549

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

	Address	212 Aldrich Ave., Altoona, PA 16602
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# 2	Name	Roberta Goss
	Relation	Deacon
	Phone	(814) 942-0077
	Address	3000 Walnut Ave., Altoona, PA 16602
	E-Mail	
# 3	Name	Kim Aboud
	Relation	Elde
	Phone	(814) 946-4274
	Address	6 Cricket Club Lane, Altoona, PA 16601
	E-Mail	
# 4	Name	Kathy Myers
	Relation	Organist/Choir Director
	Phone	(814) 330-8218
	Address	2716 Walnut Ave., Altoona, PA 16601
	E-Mail	
# 5	Name	Ken Goodfellow
	Relation	Elder
	Phone	(814) 941-9903
	Address	415 Parkview Lane, Altoona, PA 16602
	E-Mail	
# 6	Name	Tom Zambori
	Relation	Elder at previous church
	Phone	(740) 695-5690
	Address	51613 Hells Kitchen Rd., Saint Clairsville, OH 43950
	E-Mail	

This PIF was last updated at 9/3/2012 4:31:00 PM. John Allen Brown is a member of the Presbytery of HUNTINGDON 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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