

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

Detailed Info for PIF #: 100020203.1	
Professional ID:	100020203
Name:	Kyle Maurice Walker
Phone:	979-218-3381
Alternate Phone:	n/a
Fax:	n/a
E-Mail:	walkertexasrev@gmail.com
Address:	4102 Woodcrest Dr. Bryan, TX 77802
Ecclesiastical Status:	Teaching Elder
Membership Presbytery:	NEW COVENANT PRESBYTERY
Ordination Date:	8/24/1997
Formal Education:	<p>2010 Columbia Theological Seminary Decatur, Georgia Doctor of Ministry (Gospel and Culture);</p> <p><i>Project Title: AVENUES TO RENEWED RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE MAINLINE CHURCH AND YOUNG ADULTS</i></p> <p>2000-2001 Texas A&M University College Station, Texas Non-degree seeking Masters level courses in International Affairs</p> <p>2000 Columbia Theological Seminary Decatur, Georgia Thompson Scholar ~ Selective intensive study experience in evangelism</p> <p>1997 Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary Louisville, Kentucky Master of Divinity (Mission and Evangelism)</p> <p>1994 West Texas A&M University Canyon, Texas Bachelor of Science (History) and Texas Lifetime Secondary Teaching Certification</p>

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Continuing Education:	<p><i>Completed Interim Training I at Austin Seminary, March 19-23, 2012</i></p> <p><i>Certifications /Awards</i></p> <p>2011 FaithTrust Institute (A course increasing awareness of the need for healthy boundaries in clergy-congregant relationships; illustrating the impact of appropriate boundaries in promoting effective ministry; and providing clergy with guidelines for developing appropriate boundaries and self-care strategies. Required for local PCUSA and UCC standing every 5 years.)</p> <p>2010 The Rainbow Award (Given each year by the Department of Student Life at Texas A&M University to recognize an individual who has demonstrated a commitment to diversity by serving as a role model and by contributing to the education of the Texas A&M University community regarding LGBT people and issues.)</p> <p>2004 Question, Persuade, Refer (QPR) Training ~ Texas A&M Suicide Prevention Training 2003 Aggie Ally Facilitator 1988 Eagle Scout Award</p> <p><i>Other Continuing Education</i></p> <p>2011 Human Rights Campaign Clergy Call Washington, D.C. Social Justice Advocacy 2011 Evangelical Center for Pastoral Studies Guatemala City Presbytery Mission Trip 2010 Truett Seminary Preaching Series Waco, TX Will Willimon 2010 Austin Seminary Mid-Winter Lectures Austin, TX Scholarly Lecture Series 2009 Truett Seminary Preaching Series Waco, TX Walter Brueggemann 2005 Interfaith Dialogue Trip to Turkey ~ By invitation of local Turkish Muslim community</p>
Experience Level:	8 years or more
Employment Type:	Full-time
Minimum Effective Salary:	\$47,500 / Year
Position Types (with experience)	Associate Pastor (Other) Pastor (New Church Development/Fellowship) Pastor (Redevelopment/Transformation) Associate Pastor (Christian Education) Associate Pastor (Youth) Associate Pastor (Young Adult)
Position Types (w/o experience)	Pastor (Solo) Pastor (Head of Staff) Pastor (Yoked/Multiple)

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	<p>Co-Pastor</p> <p>Designated Pastor</p> <p>Mission Pastor</p> <p>Pastor (Parish)</p> <p>Pastor (Shared Ministry)</p> <p>Executive Pastor</p>
Community Types:	<p>Rural</p> <p>Village</p> <p>Town</p> <p>Small City</p> <p>Suburban</p> <p>Urban</p> <p>Inner City</p> <p>College</p> <p>Recreation</p> <p>Retirement</p>
Church Sizes:	<p>101 - 250 members</p> <p>251 - 400 members</p> <p>401 - 650 members</p> <p>651 - 1000 members</p> <p>1001 - 1500 members</p> <p>More than 1500 members</p>
Geographic Choices:	<p>Unlimited</p> <p>Geographically Limited to miles of</p>
Languages:	<p>English</p>
Primary Skills:	<p>Community Ministries</p> <p>Corporate Worship / Sacraments</p> <p>Cross Cultural Collaboration/Cultural Proficiency</p> <p>Ecumenical and Interfaith Activities</p> <p>Evangelism</p> <p>Group Process Facilitation</p> <p>Involvement in Mission Beyond the Local Church</p> <p>Leadership of Staff / Volunteers</p>

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	Teaching Young Adult Ministry
Training / Certification:	Interim Ministry Training Week 1 by PC(U.S.A.) at Austin, TX in 2012
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:	<p>Called Positions 1999-present – Director / Campus Minister, United Campus Ministry at Texas A&M University, College Station, TX 2006 – Revitalization Consultant, Faith United Church of Christ, Bryan, Texas, 100 members, university 1997-1999 – Associate Pastor, Springdale Presbyterian Church, Louisville, KY, 475 members, suburban</p> <p>Regular Pastoral Assistant for Preaching and Pastoral Care by virtue of call to United Campus Ministry Covenant Presbyterian Church, College Station, Texas, 350 members, university First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Bryan, Texas, 150 members, university First Presbyterian Church, Bryan, Texas, 600 members, university Friends Congregational Church (UCC), College Station, Texas, 200 members, university</p> <p>Presbytery Appointments Moderator of Session, First Presbyterian Church, Caldwell, Texas, 30 members, small town Worship Coordinator, Heritage Presbyterian Church, Houston, Texas, 100 members, urban Moderator of Session during pastoral transition, Covenant Presbyterian Church, College Station, Texas, 350 members, university Moderator of Session, First Presbyterian Church, Calvert, Texas, 15 members, small town</p> <p>Internships 1996-1997, Admissions Assistant, Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary, Louisville, KY 1995-1996, Pastoral Assistant, First Presbyterian Church, Elizabethtown, KY, 325 members, town 1994-1995, Pastoral Assistant, Buechel Presbyterian Church, Louisville, KY, 150 members, urban</p>
Other Services:	2010-present – Chair - New Church Development Commission , New Covenant Presbytery, Houston, TX 2009-present – Cursillo clergy team member , The Journey (UCC Cursillo), Texas 2008-2011 – Reader for the Standard Ordination Exams of the PCUSA 2011– Supervisor for Student Intern , Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary 2007-2008 – Director of Mo-Ranch College Connection Conference , Presbyterian Mo-Ranch Assembly, Hunt, TX 2007-2010 – Committee on Preparation for Ministry , New Covenant Presbytery 2005-2007 – Board Member , Bryan-College Station Institute for Interfaith Dialogue 1997-1999 – Board Member , Cedar Ridge Presbyterian Camp and Retreat Center, Mid-Kentucky Presbytery
Church Characteristics Desired:	

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Having served continually in pastoral roles throughout my ministry, I've been able to focus on young adults the last 13 years. This mission field has taught me skills for pastoral leadership that are critical to many of our churches. While I studied evangelism and social justice in seminary, I have been given the unique opportunity to encounter those who want to learn about the gospel and Jesus Christ for perhaps the first time in their lives and to learn the unique ways the church can reach them in their lives. I've also been able to network in areas of social justice in the university environment that help equip me for relevant ministry in our world.

At the same time, I have served throughout this ministry in roles of pastoral leadership in area churches. This has included the roles of preacher, moderator, consultant, conflict manager, worship coordinator, and supervisor. I have also served many roles at the presbytery level and been utilized by the presbytery in ad hoc roles as I've been called upon.

More personally, I am a listener, thinker, teacher, encourager and a patient and loving challenger. Helping people discover and joyfully use their God-given gifts is important to me. I see my job as to empower people to claim the grace of God for their lives and live in joyful response to that grace. The gospel message is one that includes, empowers, and helps people to flourish in their lives. I'm not a gatekeeper. I'm a fence opener and bridge builder.

Accomplishments in present call:

Campus ministry is missionary work and street evangelism, two things we struggle to do in the mainline church. I've spent 13 years creatively working in this mission field with the challenges of a rapidly changing culture and limited resources. Working with the increasingly unchurched and dechurched populations on campus, I'm aware of the issues that will increasingly be faced by every church. Increasingly, people want places to ask the hard questions in Bible study and live out their walk with Christ in hands on mission. . I believe we do a good job of reaching out to people where they are, helping them grow spiritually and emotionally while they are here, and introducing them to the depth of the Christian message and community.

In my time here, I have walked with the students through the Bonfire collapse of 1999 and its aftermath for years after. I have experience in acute pastoral care, vocational counseling, social justice ministry, and formation of missional community. The university context has exposed me to conversation with Jewish, Muslim, Catholic, and Mormon groups and forced me to grow in my own Christian communication as a result. I consider it a compliment, as a result of these things, that the A&M administration asked me to write the non-sectarian prayer that is still given at every graduation here.

Leadership Style:

I believe in connecting people's gifts and passions with opportunities of leadership. This is true not just for volunteer leadership but for any staffing pattern. I believe in the visible and active equal participation of lay and clergy in the life of the church and that this leadership should always be diverse enough to proclaim the equality we all have in the Realm of God.

Spiritually, I believe that it is my role to balance the efficiency of good business sense and management in meetings with the essentials of discipleship, prayerful discernment, and a faith that will take healthy risks. Even efficient meetings should be offer some spiritual connection and a little fun along the way!

I am a very resilient, adaptable person with a breadth of experience in various staff structures. I have supervised associate campus ministers, interns, and administrative assistants. I have also had to work as a lone ranger at times. While I do not prefer to be a lone ranger, I have learned how to draw boundaries and manage the changing dynamics of an organization as a solo leader who creatively seeks collegial connections when necessary.

Key Theological Issues:

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My doctoral work focused on spiritually committed, socially conscious young adults and why we don't see them desiring to join our churches. Through that work, I've become increasingly convinced that this issue is larger than any of the flaws of churches named on the street or in church literature. It isn't because we don't offer them a slick enough product on Sunday mornings. Rather, I believe our families don't know how to talk to each other and value each others gifts, passions and situation in life. The church will grow only when it focuses less on its own survival and more on spiritually equipping the relationships between family members and, by extension, the community. If my next call is supportive of my continuing work on this, I hope to spend some time putting these thoughts on paper and publishing them.

Connected with this, I also believe we are not an ascetic faith seeking to withdraw from the world in a siege mentality. Rather, we are a theological tradition of engagement with the world and that engagement is characterized by the grace we've been so freely given and seek to share not just in our worship within our building on Sunday mornings but in other venues where people gather in the community. I believe we have to speak in every venue with humble confidence about our powerful hope in God's grace which is all that will quell the corrosive voices of greed, fear, and oppression around us.

Statement of Faith:

I believe in God known as the Holy One, "I am", yet also known as Emmanuel, "God with us". This Holy One relates to us as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit and yet is beyond gender, age, race, and any other characteristic. God created and creates all that is and proclaims it "good". However, as the result of the human quest for power, this creation has not always lived up to its intended purpose. This sin touches all of creation yet, by the grace of God, ultimately defines none of it.

God has reached out to humanity to restore us to perfect love and away from narratives of fear. Through the incarnation, God meets us as we are and where we are in the person and work of Jesus Christ teaching us how to live out the essentials of love of God and neighbor in order to bring about God's reign of justice, love, and peace to all. Even more, God showed the depth of Her love in the death of Jesus. Ultimately raising Jesus from the dead, He ended once and for all the need to face any of our life or death with fear and called us to a new covenant based on the fulfillment of law in love. Nothing is beyond the redemptive power of Jesus Christ.

As people freed from our sin, we have the opportunity by the power of the Holy Spirit to participate out of gratitude in the infusion of God's love into this world as the fullness of God's grace is realized in every heart and in every place. To discern the vision of the redeemed world, we participate in the community of faith, the Church, and together look to Jesus Christ as revealed in the unique and authoritative witness of scripture. It is in the Church that we are claimed in the waters of baptism, sealed and nourished in the spiritual meal of communion, and sent out to be salt and light in a world hungry for radical hospitality and social justice. We live rejoicing in the abundant and eternal life we are offered in Christ and look with joy toward the fulfillment of God's reign of love on heaven and earth.

References:

# 1	Name	Joshua Lunde-Whitler
	Relation	Former Student Leader
	Phone	626-298-0736
	Address	44 Cook St Newton, MA 02458
	E-Mail	jlundewhitler@gmail.com
# 2	Name	Dr. Victoria Buenger
	Relation	Member, FPC Bryan
	Phone	979-820-1755
	Address	4138 Cypress Rd Bryan, TX 77807
	E-Mail	vbuenger@mays.tamu.edu
# 3	Name	Rev. David Elton
	Relation	Pastor Colleague, Mid-Sized Ch
	Phone	505-662-2971,979-219-8640

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	Address	2495 Canyon Rd Los Alamos, NM 87544
	E-Mail	david@unitedchurchla.org
# 4	Name	Rev. Dr. Jo Hudson
	Relation	Pastor Colleague, Large Church
	Phone	214-351-1901
	Address	5910 Cedar Springs Rd, Dallas, TX 75235
	E-Mail	JHudson@cathedralofhope.com
# 5	Name	Rev. Mike Cole
	Relation	General Presbyterian/New Covenant
	Phone	713-526-2585 x 208
	Address	1110 Lovett Blvd, Houston, TX 77006-3824
	E-Mail	mcole@pbyofnewcovenant.org
# 6	Name	Rev. Mike Miller
	Relation	Colleague / Retired Synod Exec
	Phone	512-970-4577
	Address	P O Box 2069, Wimberley, TX 78676
	E-Mail	mnmillier@txstate.edu
<p><i>This PIF was last updated at 9/18/2012 3:55:56 PM. Kyle Maurice Walker is a member of the Presbytery of NEW COVENANT 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.</i></p>		
<p><i>This PIF is in the Church Leadership Connection database</i></p>		