

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

<b>Detailed Info for PIF #: 100014957.2</b>	
Professional ID:	100014957
Name:	John Warner Kloepfer
Phone:	(631) 624-0622
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Fax:	
E-Mail:	kloepfer@igc.org
Address:	1 Ivy Lane Setauket, NY 11733
Ecclesiastical Status:	Teaching Elder
Membership Presbytery:	LONG ISLAND PRESBYTERY
Ordination Date:	8/8/1976
Formal Education:	<p>1984 – 1990: Duquesne University, Pittsburgh PA <i>Christian Spirituality Ph. D.</i></p> <p>1973 – 1976: Colgate Rochester Divinity School, Rochester NY <i>New Testament M. Div.</i></p> <p>1966 – 1969: University of Illinois, Chicago IL <i>Philosophy and Sociology B. A.</i></p>
Continuing Education:	<p>2011: Roll Around Heaven Seminar with Jessica Maxwell, Ghost Ranch Conference Center, Abiqui, NM</p> <p>2010: Interim Ministry Training II, Princeton Theological Seminary, Princeton, NJ</p> <p>2008: Interim Ministry Training I, Presbyterian School of Christian Education, Richmond, Virginia</p> <p>2000 – 2009: International Conferences on Christian Spirituality, Limassol, Cyprus</p> <p>2000: PCUSA Oasis 2000 Conference/Seminar in Atlanta, Georgia</p> <p>1998: PCUSA Conference on Spirituality, Montreat, North Carolina</p> <p>1995 – 2007: Various Courses in Certification in Spiritual Formation Program, Columbia Theological Seminary, Decatur, Georgia</p> <p>1976 – 1994: Various conferences, courses, seminars and retreats in the areas of Pastoral Counseling, Spirituality, Christian Education, Scripture, Stewardship, Evangelism, and Church Administration, mostly at Presbyterian Seminaries</p>
Experience Level:	8 years or more
Employment Type:	Full-time
Minimum Effective Salary:	\$50,000 / Year
Position Types (with experience)	Interim Pastor

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Position Types (w/o experience)	Presbytery Program Staff
Community Types:	Rural Village Town Small City Suburban Urban Inner City College Recreation Retirement
Church Sizes:	101 - 250 members 251 - 400 members 401 - 650 members 651 - 1000 members 1001 - 1500 members
Geographic Choices:	Unlimited Geographically Limited to miles of
Languages:	English
Primary Skills:	Communication (Written / Oral) Community Ministries Congregational Communication Corporate Worship / Sacraments Leadership of Staff / Volunteers Pastoral Care Preaching Spiritual Development Teaching Transitional / Interim Ministry
Training / Certification:	Interim Ministry Training

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	<p>Week 1 by PC(U.S.A.) at Richmond, VA in 2008</p> <p>Week 2 by PC(U.S.A.) at Princeton, NJ in 2010</p>
Clergy Couple?	False
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>
<p>Past Experience:</p> <p>2009 – Present: Interim Senior Pastor (full time), Setauket, NY, 500-member village church</p> <p>1996 – 2009: Pastor (full time), LaFayette, NY, 200-member suburban church</p> <p>1995 – 2009: Adjunct Professor (part time), Decatur, GA, Columbia Theological Seminary Certificate Program in Spiritual Formation</p> <p>2000 – 2001: Adjunct Professor (part time), Austin, TX, Austin Theological Seminary Certificate Program in Spiritual Formation</p> <p>1993 – 1996: Pastor (part time), Scipioville, NY, 100-member rural church</p> <p>1991 – 1995: Professor of Christian Spirituality (full time), Pittsburgh, PA, Duquesne University Graduate School</p> <p>1984 – 1993: Pastor (part time), Pitcairn, PA, 100-member suburban church</p> <p>1986 – 1991: Adjunct Professor (part time), Pittsburgh, PA, Duquesne University Graduate School</p> <p>1989 – 1990: Professor of Spiritual Development and Pastoral Care (part time), US Navy Chaplain Corps Professional Development Training School</p> <p>1976 – 1984: Pastor (full time), Bovina Center, NY, 200-member rural church</p> <p>1974 – 1976: Student Pastor (part time), Buffalo, NY, 130-member inner city church</p> <p>1973 – 1975: Student Associate Pastor (part time), Buffalo, NY, 800-member suburban church</p> <p>1971 – 1973: Executive Director (full time), Cincinnati, OH, Ecumenical Research and Training Center</p> <p>1970 – 1971: Associate Director (full time), Denver, CO, Ecumenical Research and Training Center</p> <p>1969 – 1970: Caseworker (full time), Chicago, IL, Cook County Department of Public Aid</p>	
Other Services:	

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Co-Moderator, Committee on Ministry, Long Island Presbytery

Chair, Committee on Ministry, Cayuga-Syracuse Presbytery

Chair, Committee on Preparation for Ministry, Cayuga-Syracuse Presbytery

Member, Mission & Ministry Team for Being an Inclusive Church, Cayuga-Syracuse Presbytery

Chair, Mission & Ministry Team for Confirmation Retreats, Cayuga-Syracuse Presbytery

Co-Chair, M & M Team for Christianity and Sexuality, Cayuga-Syracuse Presbytery

**Church Characteristics Desired:**

I have loved each church I have served, and am blessed to have also been loved by them. I am told that I have left them stronger in lay leadership, ministry and mission as well as richer in spirituality. I seek a church that is open to diversity of belief and life style and loves to worship God. I seek a church that values mission and community involvement, life-long education, spiritual growth and leadership development. I pray that together we will work to expand and deepen our life of faith and our ministry to each other, our community and our world.

One of my gifts is the ability to bring all of who I am to my ministry. I am a passionate seeker and lover of God who cares deeply about the faith journey of each person in the church. This includes their faith, their family, their spiritual, physical, mental and social health, their strengths and weaknesses, their hopes, their dreams and the aspirations. I have years of special training, education and experience in spirituality, mission beyond the local church, Christian Education, leadership development and adult education. However, my knowledge and skills are not my greatest attribute for ministry. Greater than these are my capacity to love as well as my experience of being loved beyond measure, of being forgiven in spite of my shortcomings, of being taught compassion through personal suffering and of receiving grace when least expected or deserved.

**Accomplishments in present call:**

I'm in my third year of Interim Ministry for a church of 500. The congregants are highly educated and most are socially aware and active. The church had a full time Associate Pastor for the past 30 years, but was having difficulty making its budget and many in the congregation felt the need to cut back to one pastor. In the first two years of my ministry the church became stronger in its financial picture in spite of the economy, and this last year, during which the long-time Associate Pastor left on his own, the church ended with a \$20,000 surplus even after spending \$30,000 over its budget for much needed building maintenance and repair without tapping into savings.

But while the finances are more stable, my more significant accomplishments have to do with things that are less tangible. The church has not had a positive relationship with any of their recent past installed pastors. There were accusations of abuse years ago, and a silencing of the Session around this imposed by the Presbytery's leadership. Tension and mistrust seemed to surround the relationships between the pastor, the Session and the congregation. One of my primary interim tasks has been to help the congregation heal and hopefully get to a point where they can experience an open and trusting relationship with their next installed pastor. I am told that the church is spiritually and emotionally more stable now, with more trusting and healthy relationships.

**Leadership Style:**

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My Quaker background and sense of humor help me relate to people with respect and gentleness as well as deepen my commitment to global peace and social justice. My experience with the Ecumenical Institute has strengthened my skills in Adult Education, Mission, Community Organization, Strategic Planning and Leadership Development. My rural ministry in the Catskill Mountains has strengthened my skills in pastoral care, visitation and preaching to a diverse congregation. My experience as a caseworker in Chicago's West Side has strengthened my ability to work in an urban environment with people and problems of great diversity. My academic training and practical leadership experience in Spirituality has deepened my understanding of God, my personal relationship with Christ and my ability to discern the power and presence of the Holy Spirit in my own life as well as help others in their spiritual paths.

My leadership style is a combination of all of these. I am informal and collegial when possible, and prefer consensus when appropriate.

I am firmly committed to developing leadership within the church that is spiritually and emotionally mature as well as functionally competent. Faith development therefore plays a significant role in my own leadership style. I try to lead through example as well as knowledge of skills and abilities.

#### **Key Theological Issues:**

There are many important theological issues, such as sexuality/gender, abortion, biblical interpretation, the role of the church in a secular society and responsibility for God's creation. At times it seems the church will be torn apart by differences on these issues.

It is my conviction that in order to understand and address these issues, we need to grow in our Christian faith, which is rooted in the love of God. As we mature in our faith journey we are freed from constrictions of fear, resentment, selfishness and pride. These are the seeds of racism, nationalism, sexism, homophobia and economic injustice as well as biblical rigidity and intolerance for those who look and act differently from us.

Spiritual maturity means allowing the image and likeness of God, which is our deepest identity, to transform our patterns of thinking, feeling and acting. Only as we remain grounded in our faith will the fruits of the Spirit increase. These include faith, hope and love; but also forgiveness, joy, mercy, mutuality, patience, compassion, gentleness and generosity. They include love for one another and respect for those different from ourselves. For a spiritually mature Christian there truly is no East or West, North or South. There are no boundaries of color, culture, sex, religious tradition, language or life style that can block one's vivid awareness of that of God in each of us.

#### **Statement of Faith:**

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I believe:

that God, the sole source of everything, is unequivocally good, and that God's primary characteristic is love

that God is both Holy Spirit and Word as well as Creator

that our purpose as humans is to express, in all that we think, feel and do, God's love for everything and everyone as well as our love for God

that human life is a journey toward the fulfillment of this purpose; however, sin alienates us from our center and purpose and so we need the gift of God's grace

that Jesus Christ is the incarnation of God's love and grace; and that it is an abomination that Christ is used to deepen the separation of one social group from another rather than as a guide for human reconciliation, peace, justice and unity

that the Bible is the living written witness and guide to a deeper understanding of God, creation and human beings

that the sacraments of Baptism and Communion are means of grace for those called by God to be Christian

that I am called to preach God's Word, to call others to their spiritual center in Christ, to lead the People of God in their quest to spread God's love throughout the social fabric of the congregation, the community and the world, and to teach and learn along with those who seek greater understanding of self, God and our calling as the Church

that the Church is called by God to increase the love of God and to work toward a world where all human beings are fully respected, loved, and able to enjoy the resources of this beautiful planet

#### References:

# 1	Name	Roxanne Kiefer Mollo
	Relation	Clerk of Session, current chur
	Phone	631-689-3859
	Address	94 Van Brunt Manor Road
	E-Mail	East Setauket, NY 11733
# 2	Name	Rev. Mark Tammen
	Relation	Executive Presbyter
	Phone	631-499-7171
	Address	42 Hauppauge Road
	E-Mail	Commack, NY 11725
# 3	Name	Dr. Jon Lochner
	Relation	Elder, former church
	Phone	315-677-3538
	Address	1960 Deer Run Road
	E-Mail	LaFayette, NY 13084
# 4	Name	Mark Aicher
	Relation	Elder, current church
	Phone	631-451-0907
	Address	46 Longmeadow Place
	E-Mail	South Setauket, NY 11720
# 5	Name	Shirley Russell

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	Relation	Stated Clerk, Presbytery
	Phone	631-499-7171
	Address	42 Hauppauge Road
	E-Mail	Commack, NY 11725
# 6	Name	Rev. Timothy Hoyt Duncan
	Relation	Pastor, neighboring church
	Phone	631-261-6434
	Address	5 Woodhull Place
	E-Mail	Northport, NY 11768
<p><i>This PIF was last updated at 8/14/2012 1:53:13 PM. John Warner Kloefer is a member of the Presbytery of LONG ISLAND 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>		