

**PRESBYTERIAN
PROFILES**

Graduands 2008 - 2009

**Distributed by the
Field Education Office
at the
University of Dubuque Theological Seminary**

**Rev. Hal Murry
Director**

**Rachel Vander Broek
Secretary**

**University of Dubuque Theological Seminary
2000 University Avenue
Dubuque, Iowa 52001**

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Dear Colleagues,

Thank you for your interest in University of Dubuque Theological Seminary students!

We have designed this University of Dubuque Theological Seminary **PRESBYTERIAN PROFILES** booklet especially for the benefit of:

Pastor Nominating Committees and
Committees on Ministry

We hope to provide you with:

- a resource of possible candidates for ministry
- information for scheduling visits to campus for interviews.

Please keep in mind that the students listed may not have permission to circulate their Personal Information Forms at the time of this printing.

I would be happy to speak with you if you wish to discuss individual graduands. You may call me (563-589-3114) on weekdays from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m., or feel free to leave a voice mail message and I will return your call as soon as possible. Two other options are: a letter to the address below or an e-mail to hmurry@dbq.edu.

Rev. Hal Murry
Field Education Office
University of Dubuque Theological Seminary
2000 University Avenue
Dubuque, Iowa 52001

We are looking forward to the possibility of working with you in the placement process. Please do not hesitate to call if we can provide further assistance.

Sincerely,

Hal Murry
Director Field Education

Suggestions for Developing Knowledge of Candidates

1. Review **PRESBYTERIAN PROFILES 2008- 2009**.
2. If a graduand's qualifications meet the needs of your church, you could contact the references.
3. After you have identified the candidates who are of interest to you, a Personal Information Form may be obtained from the national office in Louisville.

Call Referral Services
100 Witherspoon Street, Mezzanine
Louisville, KY 40202-1396
<http://www.pcusa.org/clc/>

4. You may invite the graduands to meet the church committee at your church to discuss your goals and objectives. Your responsibilities would include the individual's travel expenses, overnight accommodations and meals. It might also be helpful to have a frank discussion about expectations.
5. We suggest that you hear the student preach for the committee at some point before reaching a conclusion about the candidate and the position.
6. We advise students who have accepted a call to inform other committees with whom they have been in contact.
7. If you have a UDTS graduand under consideration but do not plan to offer him/her a position, please notify the graduand of your decision as soon as possible.
8. Should you be interested in several students it might be more economical for the PNC or representatives of the PNC to come visit us at UDTS. Rachel Vander Broek (563-589-3115) would be happy to post a sign-up list, help advertise your visit, and arrange meeting space for you.

**In order to expedite the process of interviewing,
we maintain a library of Church Information Forms.
Please send us a copy of your CIF for our files.**

FACULTY PHONE LIST

<u>NAME</u>	<u>OFFICE PHONE</u>	<u>HOME PHONE</u>	<u>E-MAIL ADRESS</u>
ACHTEMEIER, Mark (Systematic Theology)	563-589-3103	563-556-9043	pmachtme@dbq.edu
BENCKHUYSEN, Amanda (Instructor of Old Testament)	563-589-3859	563-557-7983	abunckhuysen@dbq.edu
COLYER, Elmer (Historical Theology)	563-589-3389	563-582-4677	ecolyer@dbq.edu
HANSEN, Gary (Church History)	563-589-3151	563-556-8479	ghansen@dbq.edu
HOCH, Robert (Homiletics and Worship)	563-589-3379	563-583-1741	rhoch@dbq.edu
HUIZENGA, Annette (Instructor of New Testament)	563-589-3858	773-758-6051	ahuizenga@dbq.edu
JAMIESON, Philip (Pastoral Theology)	563-589-3116	563-556-9241	pjamies@dbq.edu
LEWIS, Bonnie Sue (Missions & Native American Christianity)	563-589-3648	563-556-7648	bslewis@dbq.edu
LONGDEN, Leicester (Evangelism & Discipleship)	563-589-3624	563-583-9174	llongden@dbq.edu
LONGFIELD, Bradley (Dean, Church History)	563-589-3122	563-582-4972	blongfie@dbq.edu
Mc CAW, Beth (Pastor to Students)	563-589-3390	563-585-2220	bmccaw@dbq.edu
MOESSNER, David (Biblical Theology)	563-589-3272	563-557-1950	dmoessne@dbq.edu
MURRY, Hal (Director of Field Education)	563-589-3114	563-513-2026	hmurry@dbq.edu
SCHLIMM, Matthew (Instructor of Old Testament)	563-589-3101	563-663-7068	mschlimm@dbq.edu
SHAFFER, Richard (Skip) (Assistant Dean & Instructor in Ministry)	563-589-3418	563-583-6093	rshaffer@dbq.edu
SLEMMONS, Timothy (Assistant Professor of Homiletics & Worship)	563-589-3578	563-513-0426	tslemmons@dbq.edu

THOMPSON, Melinda **563-589-3166**
(Director of Distance Learning, Old Testament)

563-583-4724

mthomps@dbq.edu

VANDER BROEK, Lyle
(New Testament)

563-589-3104

563-557-8195

lvanderb@dbq.edu

Teresa L. Bartlett
91 Collins St., Unit A.
Dubuque, Iowa 52001

Phone: 319-795-2911
Email: tbartlet@dbq.edu

Alternate Mailing Address after June 1, 2009:
1055 C. Ave.,
Essex, Iowa 51638.

HOME CONGREGATION: United Presbyterian Church of Keokuk, Iowa.
PRESBYTERY OF CARE: East Iowa.

POSITION DESIRED: Solo, Associate Pastor.

GEOGRAPHIC LIMITATIONS: None/ Preference for Midwest.

EDUCATION: M. Div., University of Dubuque Theological Seminary, May 2009.
B.A., University of Dubuque, May 2006. Major: Religion.
Southeastern Community College, Fort Madison, IA. 2001 – 2003.

SPECIAL INTERESTS: Spiritual Practices, *Company of New Pastors*, Congregational Revitalization, Photography, Reading.

AWARDS & HONORS: Wendt Scholarship (UDTS) 2008-09, 2007-08, 2006-07.
Presbyterian Study Grant; 2008-09, 2007-08, 2006-07.
UDTS Representative to PC (U.S.A.) Multicultural Conference, April 2008.
Good Shepherd/Nicolaus Seminary Scholarship, 2006.
Who's Who in American Colleges, 2006.
Alpha Chi Honor Society – Inducted in 2005.
E.E. & Florence Wheeler Scholarship, 2005.
Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society- Inducted in March 2003.
Yohe Memorial Scholarship, 2002.

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING & EXPERIENCE:

UDTS Native American Lay Pastor Program, Student Assistant; 2008, 2007, 2006.
Supervised Practice of Ministry settings –1st Presbyterian Church, Dubuque, Iowa-2008-09
Finley Hospital- Summer 2007.
University of Dubuque Campus Ministry-2006-07

REFERENCE ON CAMPUS:

Rev. Hal Murry
Rev. Dr. Beth McCaw
Rev. Dr. Gary Hanson
Bonnie Sue Lewis

REFERENCES OFF CAMPUS:

Rev. Dr. Katherine Achtemeier, Pastor, First Presbyterian Church, 1684 Iowa Street, Dubuque, Iowa 52001-4828. Phone: (w) 563-584-0370, Email-k.achtemeier@gmail.com
Dr. William Cameron, 1925 Grand Ave., Keokuk, IA 52632. Phone: 319-524-5505.
Email: billc@gatecity.com
Dr. Paul Jeffries, 609 Newbury St., Ripon, WI. 54971. Phone: 920-748-2108.
Email: pfjeffries@charter.net

INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT – Teresa L. Bartlett

Called to witness to the Gospel through service to the Triune God, I am challenged to faithfully proclaim the Scriptures, witness to the hope we have in Christ, inspire and challenge people into deeper

relationships with Jesus Christ and each other, while working to exhibit Christ's love in the world.

Christ modeled and taught how we should live in relationship; loving, caring, teaching, sharing, admonishing and forgiving each other. It is only through our relationship with Christ that we can hope to live as he taught. In the midst of diversity; age, gender, ethnicity, and cultural backgrounds, God calls us together to be the church to embody as well as testify to our faith. A faith community in which all feel welcomed and embraced is empowered to share that love and acceptance with others, reaching beyond the walls of the church into the wider community, serving Christ and neighbor.

I feel a special kinship for small churches in any location seeking to honor God's call. No matter their size or setting, city or rural, each community of faith is called into mission for Christ. Just as God calls and equips each person with gifts and abilities for use in the kingdom, I believe each congregation has a calling, some known and others yet to be discerned, to serve Christ. Congregations, like people, are called to lives of meaning and purpose which includes reflecting what God has done and is doing in their lives.

In the face of a changing world we must also be willing to risk changing familiar routines to share our faith. That does not mean that tradition must be abandoned, but reinterpreted. For example, Reformed worship is rich with history and tradition but should also be welcoming to those unfamiliar with that tradition and history. Through music, preaching, liturgy and hospitality we can welcome and share the Gospel. In sharing our story we must help others understand its setting and context and seek to understand others different than ourselves in this way we can create rich faith communities.

I find great fulfillment and joy in teaching, leadership, and in exploring with people of all ages, their relationships with each other and the Triune God. I believe that God empowers and equips us for service and that all of our experiences, good or bad, teach us about ourselves and God.

Previous careers in the banking and retail fields have given me a broad range of experience in working with people as well as administrative and organizational skills. The church is a unique community in which we are called to live differently than the rest of the world. God's measure of success is not the same as the secular world's. Being obedient and faithful to God's call, listening for God's direction and responding, will be how I measure success.

I seek a congregation which is hospitable and loving to all, willing to be creative, flexible; seeking God's calling in their life and ministry, and has a sense of humor. I trust God to lead me to the congregation where living and working together we can witness and celebrate the love and grace of God, within the congregation and the wider community and see glimpses of the Kingdom as God leads us.

RYAN COOK
73 C Collins Street
Dubuque, IA 52001

Phone: 970.227.4944
Email: rcook@dbq.edu

Home Congregation: Monument Presbyterian Church, Grand Junction, CO
Presbytery of Care: Western Colorado Presbytery

POSITION DESIRED: Associate Pastor/ Co-Pastor

GEOGRAPHIC LIMITATIONS: None

EDUCATION: M.Div., University of Dubuque Theological Seminary, May 2009
B.A., Colorado State University, May 2006, Major: Speech Communication

SPECIAL INTERESTS: Youth/ Young Adult Ministry, Preaching, Church Revitalization

AWARDS AND HONORS: Admission Into "A Company of New Pastors"
Lamboda Pi Eta National Honors Award (Colorado State)

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE

2008-2009	1st Presbyterian Church Bellevue, IA	Seminary Intern
2008 Summer	Finley Hospital Dubuque, IA	Chaplain Intern
2007 Summer	Monument Presbyterian Church Grand Junction, CO	Youth Pastor Intern
2007-Present	Ignite Student Ministries Dubuque, IA	Mentor/ Committee
2006-2008	Third Presbyterian Church Dubuque, IA	Youth Director
2003-2006	Westminster Presbyterian Church Fort Collins, CO	Youth Director
2003 Summer	Camp Redcloud Lake City, CO	Camp Counselor

REFERENCES ON CAMPUS

Rev. Dr. Philip Jamieson Dr. Melinda Thompson
Rev. Dr. Gary Hansen Rev. Dr. Lyle Vander Broek

REFERENCES OFF CAMPUS

Rev. Chris English, Pastor, Third Presbyterian Church, Dubuque, IA
3105 Kane Ct., Dubuque, IA 52001 563.583.3929
Rev. Jeff Harmeling, Pastor, Monument Presbyterian Church, Grand Junction, CO
319 Dakota Ct., Grand Junction, CO 81503 970.255.6549
Beverly Vanderzyl, Third Presbyterian Church, Dubuque, IA
35 Truman Dr., East Dubuque, IL 61025 815.747.6472

A HEART FOR MISSION, OUTREACH, AND DISCIPLESHIP IN THE CHURCH

If I could describe my calling in three words, they would be mission, outreach, and discipleship! My current call is towards youth/ young adult ministry. But I also strongly desire an opportunity for regular preaching and teaching experience. I have a passion for seeking the lost, and a heart for the next generation of the church. I believe the church is called to be missional in its outreach, seeking the

hurting and the lost. We are all called to be ministers of the gospel each day of our lives.

My leadership style could be summed up most appropriately as “servant.” I think Jesus was a great example as he humbly washed his disciples’ feet. Christ is the ultimate leader of the church and we are called to follow His example. As a pastor, I am called to be a servant leader. This means guiding God’s people with a caring and humble heart. This means listening to those who might differ in opinion from my own. This means standing up for my convictions on my knees before God. This means investing in the lives of families, couples, and singles in the congregation. This means serving Christ first!

As we show our love and compassion for others; we are able to stand on common ground, working to build up the kingdom of God together. As one body we are able to work in the Spirit as a witness of the faith. As a servant leader, I don’t see myself walking in front of the church, but rather I find myself walking alongside my brothers and sisters. I see myself as the one encouraging others to press on for the call of Christ in times of weary burden, or leading songs of praise for the people as they continue on their Christian journey. Either way, I see myself not set apart but set within the people of God.

I believe there are two key theological issues facing the church; pluralism and conflict. As our society becomes more pluralistic, the church is faced with a need to define itself apart from other religions. It is healthy for us to explore other faiths. Yet, we must (for the sake of the gospel) maintain differentiation between ourselves and other faiths. We believe in the one triune God, and in the saving grace and lordship of Jesus Christ. To water this down, is to proclaim something other than the Gospel. This shapes my ministry, as I stand firm in this conviction. What makes us different (Jesus Christ) is what gives us hope!

Another key issue facing our church today is conflict. 1 Cor. 10:17 tells us “we are one body.” But the PCUSA is struggling with quarrels among brothers and sisters in Christ. This is not a witness for the world. Although our conflicts are complex and deep rooted, I believe these divisions are a calling from God to provide a positive witness for how to deal with conflict! This shapes my ministry as I continue hoping and praying for reconciliation. In Matthew 12:25 Jesus explains, “...every city or household divided against itself will not stand.” We cannot stand for grace and truth if our actions amongst ourselves portray something entirely different.

I am extremely excited and joyful to be seeking a call to full time ministry. It has been a lifelong calling that grows deeper each day. My seminary experience at UDS has been an awesome opportunity to learn about the faith, and to gain great tools for serving the people of God! Blessings as you seek God’s calling...

KELSEY INGALLS

3385 White Oak Way
 Kelseyville, CA 95451

(530) 400-4651

Email: kelseyingsalls@hotmail.com

Home Congregation: Faith Presbyterian Church**Presbytery of Care:** Sacramento**POSITION DESIRED:** Solo Pastor/Associate Pastor/Co-Pastor**GEOGRAPHICAL LIMITATIONS:** California, Oregon, Washington, Arizona, Hawaii, Colorado

EDUCATION: M.Div., University of Dubuque Theological Seminary, May 2009
 B.A., University of California Davis, June 2004
 Major: Religious Studies

SPECIAL INTERESTS: People, snowboarding, golf, softball, soccer, walking, reading, Food and Housing Committee, Rural Lunch Bunch, Women's Bible Study, missions

AWARDS & HONORS:

PCUSA Study Grant
 Faith Presbyterian Church Independent Scholarship
 2000-2004 Dean's List

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE:

Sept. 2006- Present	UDTS Seminary Field Education	Pulpit Supply
	Dubuque, IA	
May 2008- Aug. 2008	First Presbyterian Church	SPM
	Dubuque, IA	
Aug. 2007- Mar. 2008	Finley Hospital	SPM
	Dubuque, IA	
Aug. 2002- Aug. 2006	Faith Presbyterian Church	Youth Director
	Sacramento, CA	

REFERENCES ON CAMPUS:

Rev. Dr. Philip Jameison, Rev. Dr. Katherine Achtemeier, Rev. Dr. Richard Shaffer, Jr.

REFERENCES OFF CAMPUS:

Rev. David Pacholke, Chaplain, Finley Hospital
 350 Grandview Ave., Dubuque, IA 52001, 563.582.1881
 Rev. Jeffrey Chapman, Pastor, Faith Presbyterian Church
 625 Florin Rd., Sacramento, CA 95831, 916.428.3439
 Mrs. Ann Veldhuisen, Student, University of Dubuque Theological Seminary
 67A Collins St., Dubuque, IA 52001, 563.581.3232

INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT

My calling in life is to help others see the presence of God in their lives. God has given me the gift of faith, and I am blessed to be able to share this gift. My ministry will help others come to a deeper awareness of how God is working in their lives. It will also help them understand that they are loved and forgiven. Creation can now be reconciled to God through Jesus' incarnation, ministry, death, and resurrection. We are continually guided and protected by the Holy Spirit.

I have known the love of Christ since before I can remember. I was blessed to grow up in a loving family in a small northern California town, called Kelseyville. My family taught me the importance of acceptance, hard work, integrity, and honesty. Through my relationship with the Lord and with my family I have learned how important it is to be in community with God and with each other. Relationships are of the utmost importance and it is where ministry starts.

In building a relationship with God we are transformed by the Lord's love, grace, and salvation. We come to know that we are sinful and broken, in need of healing and reconciliation. And through Christ we can now be called the children of God. God's arms are open wide waiting for us to come to them for forgiveness and rest. The good news of the gospel is that we have been saved from a life of sin and despair. We are forgiven and we are called to turn back to the Lord.

Through worship we lift our hearts to the Almighty and proclaim our praise, thanksgiving, and love for the Triune God. The waters of baptism are a sign and symbol of our souls being washed clean, as we are welcomed into the body of Christ. The cup and the bread of communion connect us to the salvation we have in the death and resurrection of Christ. Through the Word written, read, and proclaimed we know how to live our lives in a way that pleases the Almighty, and we come to understand the saving works of the Sovereign Lord.

ELISSA M. JAY

91 Collins St. Unit A
Dubuque, IA 52001

Phone: 641-751-0761

elissamjay@gmail.com

Home congregation: First Presbyterian Church, Conrad, IA

Presbytery of Care: North Central Iowa Presbytery

POSITION DESIRED: Solo Pastor/ Associate Pastor

GEOGRAPHICAL LIMITATIONS: Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Minnesota, Missouri, Wisconsin.

EDUCATION: M.Div., University of Dubuque Theological Seminary, December 2008
B.S., Iowa State University, August 2005
Major: Psychology

SPECIAL INTERESTS: Participation In Musical Groups
Participation In Community Theater
Youth Ministry
Young Adult Ministry
Participation In Presbytery

AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS:

Christina Hixson Opportunity Award: 2001-2005

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE:

Nov. 2008 – Present	Dubuque Area Churches Dubuque Area, Iowa, Illinois, & Wisconsin	Pulpit Supply
Nov. 2007 – Oct. 2008	Lancaster Congregational and Bethlehem Churches Lancaster, WI	Pulpit Supply
Sept. 2007 – May 2008	University of Dubuque Theological Center Dubuque, IA	Chapel Assistant
June 2007 – Aug. 2007	Maine Medical Center Portland, ME	CPE
Sept. 2006 – May 2007	Westminster Presbyterian Church Dubuque, IA	SPM
May 2005 – Aug. 2006	First Presbyterian Church Conrad, IA	Seminary Intern

REFERENCES ON CAMPUS:

Dr. Melinda Thompson Dr. Beth McCaw Dr. Richard Shaffer

REFERENCES OFF CAMPUS:

Mr. Rick Sanson, 447 South Tyler St. Lancaster, WI 53813. 608-330-0708

Ms. Sharon Borgman PO Box 512 Conrad, IA 50621 641-366-2152

Rev. Kerry Carson, PO Box 310 Conrad, IA 50621 641-366-2342

INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT – Elissa Jay

As a recent graduate of UDTs, I am excited about serving God and God's people. I wish to serve a church that is *welcoming and inviting*. Hospitality is a large part of who we are as Christians. I believe how a church's members respond to each other shows how receptive they are to newcomers in their midst. I also see this as an indication of the health of the church. People of all ages should *feel welcome* and *be involved* in various ways within the congregation. This includes the *participation of children*. Children are the future of the church and I wish to serve a church that is comfortable with the presence of children. The way in which the church ministers to children is a key element for me. I have worked with the youth in multiply settings.

Worship is essential to a faith community and *music* is a very important part of how I worship. I am looking to serve a church that either has or is open to developing this form of ministry. I am looking to serve a church that is open to the idea of *lay leadership* within the congregation as well as lay leadership on Sunday mornings. I believe active lay leadership gives members a sense of belonging. I believe that I have the talent to inspire others to be involved in different aspects of the church.

I developed a "niche" in my preaching, especially a *focus in how the Gospel can be lived out* in our lives today. I gained a deeper understanding of how to relate with a group of people who began as strangers and ended as a community of faith to me.

I have a Bachelor's degree in psychology with an emphasis in counseling and I have always appreciated how theology and psychology intermingle. I have *gifts in counseling* through as well as working as a student chaplain.

I am a leader who is *flexible* in my approach depending upon the needs and circumstances. I believe in *shared* and *lay leadership* and *group decision making*. I feel *confident to lead* as well as allowing others to be leaders. I do not feel the need to be involved in every aspect of the life of the church. I have *faith and trust in God to equip others* to help make the church what it is. It is not my church, it is God's church and I believe that needs to be the motto of the congregation and the leadership within.

A top key theological issue that is currently facing the church is our ability or lack of ability to be a *welcoming community* for those who are not part of the denomination. There are issues that involve how *we reach out beyond our walls* to share the Good News of Jesus Christ with those in our communities and beyond. *Hospitality* and reaching out to a stranger in *kindness* are important aspects of the life of Christ and his teachings to the disciples and other followers. We have to ask ourselves, "Are we really loving all of God's children as we are called to do?"

As someone who is entering ministry at a younger age, I often see the *disconnect between young adults and the church*. While I believe that *all ages are important* in the church, there needs to be a special focus on young adults and young families. There needs to be a *foundation of faith growing* within these individuals. This is not only an issue of declining numbers but also an issue of our society and how we ourselves show our faith to others when we leave the sanctuary.

My time as a youth leader was *focused* not only on the youth and how we keep them in the church as *active members*, but also how *we involve non-churched youth*. I helped the youth see their importance in the congregation and led them in different roles.

CYNTHIA M. RIPPEGER

1238 Elm Street
Dubuque, Iowa 52001

641-344-8922

Email: rippergc52@hotmail.com

HOME CHURCH: First Presbyterian Church, Creston, Iowa 50801**PRESBYTERY OF CARE:** Des Moines Presbytery**POSITION DESIRED:** Solo / Associate / Co-pastor**GEOGRAPHIC LIMITATIONS:** None

EDUCATION: M.Div., University of Dubuque Theological Seminary, May 2009
B.S., Northwest Missouri State University, August 1975
Major: Psychology/Sociology
A.A., Southwestern Community College, Creston, Iowa, May 1972
Major: Education

SPECIAL INTERESTS: Research and study of Scripture in the Biblical languages (Latin, Greek, Hebrew, Aramaic, etc.), study and practice of early Christian spiritual disciplines, mission work, teaching, nutrition and physical fitness, music, cooking, reading, gardening, and I love animals.

AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS:Seminary - UDTS Grant 2005-2009

Creston First Presbyterian Church study grant 2005-2009

PC (U.S.A.) Study Grant 2006-2009

Ford Foundation Scholarship 2007-2009

Linn Grove Scholarship 2008-2009

Lewiston Presbyterian Church Scholarship 2008-2009

UDTS Distance CLP Program – Certificates in Preaching, Reformed Theology,

New Testament, Old Testament, Reformed Worship and Sacraments, and Pastoral Care 2003-2005

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE:

September 2008-May 2009	Teaching Assistant UDTS – Hebrew	Dubuque, IA
September 2006-Present	Pulpit Supply UDTS Field Education Office	Dubuque, IA
December 2004-Present	Pulpit Supply Des Moines Presbytery	Des Moines, IA
September 2006-May 2008	Teaching Assistant UDTS – Greek	Dubuque, IA
September 2006-April 2007	Clinical Pastoral Experience, Finley Hospital	Dubuque, IA
May 2006-August 2006	Internship, United Presbyterian Church	Hanover, IL
August 2003-February 2005	Internship, First Presbyterian Church	Creston, IA
October 2004	Mission Trip	Moscow, Russia

REFERENCES ON CAMPUS:

Rev. Dr. Richard Shaffer

Rev. Hal Murry

Rev. Dr. Robert Hoch

Rev. Dr. Matthew Schlimm

REFERENCES OFF CAMPUS:

Reverends Kendrick and Sharon Lynne Matthews, Pastors

Hanover United Presbyterian Church and Hanover United Methodist Church

203 Speer Rd., Hanover, IL. 61041, HUPC: 815-591-3396, HUMC: 815-591-3714

E-mail: slmatt@jcwifi.com

Reverend David Pacholke, Chaplain

Finley Hospital, 350 N. Grandview Ave., Dubuque, Iowa 52001, Office: 563-589-2534

E-mail: David.Pacholke@FinleyHospital.org

Mr. Jerry Nurnberg, Elder, First Presbyterian Church

Hm: 705 N. Cherry St., Creston, Iowa 50801, Hm: 641-782-2997

E-mail: jerry@creston-farm-home.com

INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT – Cynthia Ripperger

I was born and raised in the First Presbyterian Church in Creston, Iowa. After my college education I returned to Creston where I volunteered as Sunday school teacher for different age levels for 23 years. I volunteered as a Youth Group leader, Christmas program director, Bible school teacher, adult Bible study leader and assisted in instruction of the confirmation classes. I served as a member of the Christian Education Committee and chairperson for two years, the Memorial Committee, the Personnel Committee, the Worship and Music Committee with one year as chairperson. I served on the Treasurer Audit Committee four years, three years as chairperson, and served on the Membership and Evangelism committee where I lead the new member and discipleship classes. I also served my church on the hospital and home visitation team, the Women's prayer chain, I taught a senior's Fitness class; I was a member of the choir, an ordained Deacon, and an ordained Elder. I also served as the Elder commissioner to Presbytery 2003-2005. I served as a worship leader in both our traditional and contemporary services.

During my internship at my home church I assisted the Pastor in all worship services, helped with and conducted funerals, prepared worship services and bulletins, and had many preaching opportunities. I also prepared and helped lead Deacon and Elder training classes for the southwest Iowa regional partners churches. I prepared and assisted in instruction of marriage preparation classes, adult baptism classes, and classes for parents presenting infants and children for baptism. I assisted with and delivered the message for one marriage ceremony. I began serving as pulpit supply for the Des Moines Presbytery in December of 2004. After moving to Dubuque I continued to serve a local church as a Sunday school teacher and continued serving as pulpit supply in Illinois, Wisconsin, and Eastern Iowa through the UDS field education office. While doing my Chaplain internship at Finley Hospital I completed two continuing education courses: "End of Life Counseling" and "Grief and Loss Counseling."

I always found working for Jesus Christ in the Church something I enjoyed very much. I always dreamed of doing this on a full time basis rather than just part time. My greatest dream was that God would allow me to have more time to study Scripture and learn more about the Bible. When others in the church noticed the wonderful gifts of the Holy Spirit blessed to me, they began urging me to go to seminary. I didn't think I would be able to do that, so I began by taking classes through UDS in a distance lay pastor program. I became an inquirer under care of the Des Moines Presbytery to become a CLP and the committee also began to encourage me to go to seminary to become a Minister of the Word and Sacraments. After a mission trip to Russia where we worked in an orphanage outside of Moscow, I finally visited UDS and decided to quit my job of 30 years working for Bunn-o-matic, Corp., sold my house and moved to Dubuque to begin seminary in the fall of 2005. I know this is where God wanted me to be and I know that God has called me to become an ordained minister for a congregation out there somewhere. I look forward to the congregation that God has been preparing my heart and gifts for and meeting this congregation whose hearts God has been preparing to receive me.

Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior and the one in whom I place all my hope. My life has been transformed by Christ and is continually being conformed to living like Christ. I have a continual struggle on a daily basis with sin, but I know that the work of Christ on the cross and the gift of his righteousness has redeemed me and reconciled me to God. I believe that all who are the Church are continually being transformed and conformed in the same way and that all have the same struggle with sin. I am a forgiven child of God and I believe all who have come to Christ have also been forgiven. I believe the mission to which we are commissioned to on this earth is to share this good news of Jesus Christ and what he has done for all through his death and resurrection. We are called to seek out the lost and through the gospel of Jesus Christ bring hope and peace to those who have not known hope and peace in Christ before. I look forward to Jesus coming again and the day when every knee shall bow before him in the new heaven and new earth where Christ reigns as King forever and ever. Amen!

JEFFREY P. SPENCER
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Home Church: Hickman Presbyterian Church, Hickman, NE
Presbytery of Care: Homestead Presbytery

POSITION DESIRED: Solo Pastor/ Associate Pastor/ Campus Minister/ Camp Ministry

GEOGRAPHIC LIMITATIONS: None.

EDUCATION: M.Div., University of Dubuque Theological Seminary, May 2009
BA Religious Studies, University of Dubuque, May 2007

SPECIAL INTERESTS: Camping, Fishing, Biking, Canoeing

AWARDS AND HONORS:

April 2008 - Present Company of New Pastors
Eastern Star Training Awards for Religious Leadership
First Presbyterian Church Independence Scholarship
Semenek Fund, Czech Presbyterian Church, Wahoo, NE
Mildred McConkey Scholarship
Cum Laude 2005-2006 Dean's List
Alpha Chi Honor Scholarship

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE:

May 2006 - May 2009	UDTS Student Council Dubuque, IA	Moderator (2008-09) Vice-Mod. (2007-08) Food Pantry Manager Pastoral Intern
June 2008 - Oct. 2008	U. of Dubuque Theological Seminary Dubuque, IA	Pastoral Intern
Aug. 2007 - May 2008	First Presbyterian Church Dubuque, IA	Student Pastor
Oct. 1995 – Aug. 2005	Lincoln Public Schools Lincoln, NE	Mechanic III Light Equip. Operator

REFERENCES ON CAMPUS:

Rev. Dr. Richard Shaffer	Dr. Bonnie Sue Lewis
Rev. Dr. Beth McCaw	Rev. Dr. Gary Hansen

REFERENCES OFF CAMPUS:

Rev. Dr. Katherine Achtemeier, Pastor, First Presbyterian Church
1684 Iowa St, Dubuque, IA 52001, 563.582.4494
Rev. Steve Nofel, Pastor
310 S. Washington Street, Cortez, CO 81321-3842, 970.565.0262

INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT - Jeffrey P. Spencer

It's all about God! God has continually shown his presence throughout my life in many ways. As an early teen, God called me to be baptized through the cleansing blood of Jesus and the power of the Holy Spirit; I was filled with a desire to be the best Christian I could be. However, teenage attitudes coupled with my parent's divorce led me to fall away from the church and the community that could

have supported me through this time. Although I probably wouldn't acknowledge it at the time, God was still present in my life.

God prompted me to attend Doane College where I met my wife, Kim, and became active in church life again. Although there were several bumps in the road ahead, I see these now as a long training and discernment process that God was leading me through. I left Doane College without a degree to enter the work force, trying my hand at being a farm hand, a light equipment operator, and a mechanic. I enjoyed all of these, but through teaching at church, co-leading the youth group, serving as a deacon and elder, and experiencing the supportive community of believers in our church, God called me to continue my education and to become a pastor.

"Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not men" (Ephesians 6:7) describes my current faith journey as I continue to discern God's call in my life. God has shown me my strengths in service to others, pastoral care, and administration. God has also given me a heart for the rural/small town and camping communities. The rural/small town community has the gift of truly knowing and supporting each other. The camp setting reminds me of the Creator's majesty and power. In every situation, I enjoy working alongside people, getting to know them and sharing in their joys and concerns.

My recent term as pastoral intern set an example that I would like to take from seminary to my future ministry. As new students prepared for seminary orientation, I took the opportunity to learn each one by name, pray for them, and contact them to try to curb any anxieties they might have about coming to seminary. Once they were on campus, I continued to call them by name and made myself available to them as a familiar face for reference and helped to pair them with at least a second year peer as they transitioned from orientation to classes. This type of ministerial relationship is energizing as one can see the Holy Spirit working as the love of Jesus is shared to the glory of God.

MATTHEW W. WRIGHT **Ph. 563.557.7759**

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Web: www.matthewwright.com

Home Congregation: First Presbyterian Church of Glen Ellyn, Glen Ellyn, IL

Presbytery of Care: Presbytery of Chicago

POSITION DESIRED: Pastor / Associate Pastor / Co-Pastor

GEOGRAPHICAL LIMITATIONS: None

EDUCATION: M.Div., University of Dubuque Theological Seminary, May 2009
M.A., Theology, Wheaton College Graduate School, May 2006
B.A., Indiana University, May 1992
Major: Telecommunications, with honors

SPECIAL INTERESTS: Reading, sports, hiking, photography

AWARDS & HONORS: Presidential Scholarship (2006-2009)
Plato E. Sargent Achievement Prize (2006-2007, 2007-2008)
Eugene & Winifred Davis Middler Endowed Award for Promise in
Pastoral Ministry (2007-2008)
Loetscher Traveling Fellowship (for 2007-2008)
Presbyterian Study Grant (2007-2008, 2008-2009)
The Company of New Pastors (2008-2009)

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING & EXPERIENCE:

Fall 2008	University of Dubuque Dubuque, IA	Adjunct Professor (Hist. of Christianity)
Summer 2008	The Finley Hospital Dubuque, IA	Student Chaplain
Summer 2007	First Presbyterian Church Dubuque, IA	SPM
9/05 – 4/06	Oasis International Geneva, IL	Operations Manager
1992 – 1996; 1997- 2004	Accenture, LLP Chicago, IL; London, UK	Project Manager

REFERENCES ON CAMPUS:

Rev. Dr. Gary Hansen	Dr. David Moessner
Rev. Dr. Bradley Longfield	Rev. Dr. Katherine Achtemeier

REFERENCES OFF CAMPUS:

Rev. Dr. Jerry Andrews, Senior Pastor, First Presbyterian Church
550 N. Main St., Glen Ellyn, IL 60137, 630.469.2007
Rev. Dr. Charles Hambrick-Stowe, Senior Minister, First Congregational Church
103 Main St., Ridgefield, CT 06877, 203.438.8077

INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT – Matthew W. Wright

My family (Krista, my wife; our daughters Morgan, 11, and Hannah, 9) and I live in Dubuque, IA, where I am in my final year of seminary. We moved to Dubuque from Wheaton, IL, where we had lived for over 11 years. We have really come to enjoy Dubuque and will miss it when we leave seminary. But we are excited about learning where God will send us.

I have not always had a sense of call to ministry as my vocation. After spending many years in the business world, I began to tire of work that felt very distant from the people it affected. Sensing a void of meaning in my work, I sought to explore how my faith and my vocation might be better aligned. When I began my theological education with an MA in theology at Wheaton College, I also explored vocational opportunities that I thought might allow me to combine my business experience and my growing interest in theological reflection as a serious pursuit. One such opportunity was employment with Oasis International, a publisher and distributor of Bibles and Christian books in English-speaking Africa. Though I enjoyed many aspects of the world of Christian publishing, I ultimately realized that I needed a much more direct connection between my vocation and the study and communication of God's Word.

I began to discern God leading me to parish ministry when I began to feel like no other vocation could be the right fit for me. Throughout my time in seminary and my experiences in supervised practice of ministry, I have seen this leading be confirmed through positive feedback from professors, fellow students, pastors, and others. Through serious reflection and study of God's Word—Christ—I have found the anchor for the meaning in my life, and I feel called by God to share that meaning with others. I sense that I must do that as the pastor or associate pastor of a congregation and as a Minister of the Word and Sacrament in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

I believe that my gifts lie in preaching, teaching, living alongside and loving a particular Christian community. And, though the church is not a business, I also believe that my administrative and management experience in the business world prior to my call to ministry will aid my service to and leadership of a congregation. I hope to use these gifts to help a session and congregation use their own gifts—and the deep biblical and theological resources of 2,000 years of Christian tradition—to live out a faithful expression of the gospel, in submission to God's revealed Word and in fellowship with one another.

In responding to this call, I expect to spend the rest of my life continually learning—to read scripture, to think theologically, and to pray in community—and continually serving God in the local parish. I believe that God is already preparing me and a congregation for ministry together, and I am currently seeking to discern this precise place and people in whom God is already at work.

EMILY ZEBARTH

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Dubuque, IA 52001

Ph. 608-770-8731

Email: emilyzebarth@hotmail.com

Home Congregation: First Presbyterian Church, Logan, UT

Presbytery of Care: Presbytery of Utah

POSTION DESIRED: Pastor/Associate Pastor/Youth Pastor

GEOGRAPHICAL LIMITATIONS: None

EDUCATION: M.Div., University of Dubuque Theological Seminary, May 2009

B.S., Utah State University, May 1999

Major: Political Science Minor: Sociology

SPECIAL INTERESTS: Family, singing, reading, drama/musical theatre, movies.

AWARDS AND HONORS:

Seminary:	Wendt Character Scholarship	(2007-2009)
	W.B. Small Trust	(2007-2009)
	Loeschter Traveling Scholarship	(2008)
	PCUSA Grant	(2008)
	International Order of Kings Daughters and Sons	(2007)

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE:

August 2008 – Present	Sherrill United Church of Christ	Student Pastor
	Sherrill, IA	
May 2008 – August 2008	First Presbyterian Church	Student Pastor
	Logan, UT	
August 2007 – Present	UD Theological Seminary	Editor
	Dubuque, IA	
May 2007 – Sept. 2007	UD Theological Seminary	Student Pastor
	Dubuque, IA	
May 2003 – August 2006	First Presbyterian Church	Christian Ed Director
	Logan, UT	

REFERENCES ON CAMPUS:

Dr. Richard Shaffer Rev. Beth McCaw Dr. Melinda Thompson Dr. Gary Hansen

REFERENCES OFF CAMPUS:

Rev. Paul Heins, Pastor, First Presbyterian Church, Logan, UT
187 Center Street, Logan, UT 84321, 435-752-0871

Rev. David Hedgepeth, Marana Community Christian Church, Marana, AZ
13610 N. Sandario Rd, Marana, AZ, 85653, 520-682-4201

Ken Voss, Elder, Sherrill United Church of Christ, Sherrill, IA
PO Box 20, Sherrill, IA 52073, 563-580-1804

INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT – Emily Zebarth

I am called to love the Lord with all my heart, soul, strength and mind, and to love my neighbors in joyful gladness.

I was raised in a small but thriving UCC church in the tiny town of Melbourne, Iowa. My childhood church is a significant part of who I am and why I have the faith that I do today. I lost that community when I moved to Utah at age 17. I found a place to call my own in Utah at the First

Presbyterian Church of Logan (FPC). I graduated from college in 1999, in Political Science/Sociology and knew I didn't want to become a lawyer or a politician. I wanted to be able to help people and give of my time and talents without the trimmings of power or bureaucracy.

My parents sent me to Israel for a graduation gift, and I was hoping naively to receive a vision from God that would guide me towards the ministry. I felt I had the gifts to be a good minister, but it was a new direction, and I wanted God's confirmation that it was where I should be going. When the vision did not materialize, I believed it a sign that I should take another path.

Later when working at the FPC, I told Pastor Dave that God must not want me to become a minister since I didn't get the personal visit. He told me that a person when a wants to become a pastor – THAT is the confirmation. That conversation turned my life around. Once I made the commitment to pursue the ministry, my life felt fuller; I was calmer, and my days made sense.

God is calling me to spread unity, teach compassion, and preach the love of Jesus to the congregations of the Presbyterian Church. We must focus on God and not on ourselves.

I seek a Christ-centered church eager to bring the Triune God to the world. The education of children and youth is a strong focus and their presence in worship is embraced. This church has an active commitment to its members as well as its surrounding community. The congregation worships through sacraments given with compassion and humility as well as with songs, laughter and prayer. Elements of contemporary worship can be used within a traditional service. This church reaches out to other churches and social agencies to experience the fullness of the holy catholic church and work toward the kingdom of heaven on earth. It is important the church is accepting of all types of people, remembering that Christ preached to the least, lost, last and lonely.

I have a genuine love for all of God's people, regardless of gender, age, or race. We are all a part of the body of Christ, and I am good at motivating people to find their own special gifts that they can put to use for the good of Christ's church. One of my strongest gifts is preaching and teaching the Word of God in a way that is both clear and interesting. I am flexible and proficient at vitalizing worship with both contemporary and traditional music, strong liturgical prayer, and a love of the Triune God. God has given me a strong faith, which I am able to share with others without judgment, with acceptance and with the love and peace of Jesus Christ.