

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

**Mif #: 20836.A10**

**Ministry General Information**

<b>Ministry Number</b>	20836
<b>Ministry Name</b>	First Presbyterian Church
<b>Mailing Address</b>	PO Box 1069 New Bern, NC 28563
<b>Phone</b>	(252) 637-3270
<b>Fax</b>	
<b>E-Mail</b>	church@firstpresnb.org
<b>WWW Address</b>	firstpresnb.org
<b>Ministry Size</b>	651 - 1000 members

<b>Ethnic Composition</b>	
	Asian 5%
	Black or African American (African Native, Caribbean) 1%
	White 94%

<b>Average Worship Attendance</b>	323
<b>Church School Attendance</b>	65
<b>Curriculum</b>	Varied adult curriculum, rotates quarterly, including Present Word; Follow Me (PCUSA) & Sparkhouse for VBS
<b>Yoked</b>	False
<b>Presbytery</b>	NEW HOPE PRESBYTERY
<b>Synod</b>	SYNOD OF MID-ATLANTIC
<b>Community Type</b>	Small City

Ten-year trend statistics of this church/organization [Show Statistics](#)

**Information about the position**

<b>Position:</b>	Associate Pastor (Christian Education)
<b>Experience Required:</b>	0 to 2 Years
<b>Specific Title:</b>	
<b>Employment Status:</b>	Full-time

<b>Language Requirements:</b>	
	English

<b>Other Language:</b>	
<b>Statement of Faith Required:</b>	True
<b>Clergy Couples:</b>	

<b>Training/Certificate Requirements:</b>	
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<b>Other Training:</b>	
<b>Brief Church Mission Statement:</b>	

# Church Leadership Connection

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

"First Presbyterian Church is a community of faith where Jesus Christ transforms lives through worship, as we praise and glorify God; through outreach, as we embody God's love in service to the world; through education, as we listen for God's Word; through giving, as we express gratitude to God; through caring, as we love and care for one another; through communication, as we invite all to join in God's work; through fellowship, as we share our lives and faith together building community, transforming lives, engaging the world."

We welcome into our community all persons regardless of age, sexual orientation, gender, ethnic or racial identity, economic status, or political affiliation.

### **What is the congregation's or organization's vision for ministry:**

Our **VISION** for ministry grows out of our mission statement and the PC(USA) Great Ends of the Church. Our **HOPE** is to transform lives through ministries that open hearts to the presence of God's Spirit. We hold two Sunday **WORSHIP** services and a centering and contemplative prayer service. Our exceptional music program includes 7 choirs and 2 handbell choirs. Our **OUTREACH** is local, national, and international. We birthed and have nurtured the local RCS kitchen and shelter since 1982, and New Hope Volunteer Village aiding in hurricane recovery since 2018. Other local programs include 12-step groups and an ESL/ citizenship group. Through Interfaith Refugee Ministry, we have welcomed many Asian refugee families into our congregation over the last 20 years. Our **EDUCATION** program includes a community-leading preschool. We have a thriving children and youth ministry, an expansive adult education program, an extensive church library, and an endowed Rothermel Lecture series. Our congregation is **GIVING** of time and resources, collectively and individually. Historically, our members have also been very involved in the COM and the Presbytery. We demonstrate **CARING**, pastoral and lay-driven, through visitation programs, meal provision, and other member support efforts. Our **FELLOWSHIP** programs include Sunday coffee cafe, monthly congregational fellowship dinners, lunch-wagon outings, family camp, monthly House Churches, FPC Presbyterian Women, Calvin & Hops Presbyterian Men, and Presbytery Retreats.

### **How do you feel called to reach out to address the emerging needs of your community or constituency:**

Worship is the centerpiece of our church life. Through nurture and care for those in our congregation, we bear one another's burdens in times of crisis and pain and share our joys. Our educational ministry encourages participation across all age groups.

Our congregation has a strong tradition of supporting our neighbors beyond those in our pews. Our members provide a generous share of volunteers and board members for many local non-profits. While New Bern has continued to prosper despite hurricanes and COVID, many continue to struggle to provide the basic necessities for their families. Our local efforts include assisting at-risk communities to deal with the many difficulties they face (abuse, addiction, homelessness, hunger, criminal justice, literacy) directly through strong financial and volunteer support of RCS (meals, shelter, food, and clothing warehouse), the women's shelter, drug

rehabilitation homes, refugee support and ESL programs and indirectly through member volunteers with many local programs. Our church also provides a meeting center dedicated to outreach groups such as 12-step. While we strive to be an inclusive faith community, Sunday morning still remains the most racially segregated time of the week for many.

### **How will this position help you to reach your vision and mission goals:**

The new Associate Pastor will follow an extraordinarily successful predecessor who relocated to SC because of a spousal career change. Our church is currently strong with effective, experienced leaders- a Pastor/Head of Staff, Director of Children, Youth, and Families, Parish Associate Pastor, Director of Music, Communications Facilitator, Office Administrator, and Facilities supervisor as well as several retired clergy. These individuals blend their talents in shared, supportive collegiality. The church assessment tool conducted in our mission study process found us a "high energy, high satisfaction" congregation in the "transformative quadrant" well-positioned to accept strategic risks.

Our new Associate Pastor will redefine our adult education programs by developing content to enhance the engagement of the entire adult congregation, expand our established House Church program, operate the Fellowship programs of the church, and assist the Head of Staff in pastoral care and nurture.

### **Provide a description of the characteristics needed by the person who is open to being called to this congregation and or organization:**

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The Associate Pastor needs to aspire to be an outstanding Adult Sunday School teacher, a spiritually mature Christian disciple, a creative leader with the ability to relate to all members of the congregation, and possess excellent interpersonal skills to facilitate positive relationships with the church staff necessary to the overall worship and program life of FPC.

A desire to assist in the Christian Faith formation of church members and to cultivate the congregation's hunger for excellence in the classroom is essential.

We seek a person with a B. A. or B.S. and M.Div degrees- either ordained or a candidate for ordination by the PC(USA).

The candidate should have a comfortable facility with the technology and media skills required for this position.

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#### **What specific tasks, assignments, and program areas will this person have responsibility?**

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The Associate Pastor for Congregational Nurture and Adult Education will be primarily tasked with enhancing the adult education and adult fellowship opportunities within the church. Being capable of assuming the responsibilities of the Head of Staff in her absence is required. Specific tasks include:

- a) Serving as primary staff person in developing and operating the adult education programs of the church.
- b) Assisting the Senior Pastor with pastoral care and nurture.
- c) Serving as the primary staff person to administer the fellowship programs of the church including the House Church, Family Camp, Fellowship Dinner, and Presbytery Retreat programs.
- d) Addressing the unique needs specific to the older members of our congregation. e) Assisting the Head of Staff in worship-preaching 8-12 times per year. f) Conducting/assisting in weddings, funerals, and baptisms.
- g) Assisting in the celebration of the Lord's Supper.
- h) Assisting in the integration of all members, especially adults, both new and long-standing, to the life, work, education, and fellowship of the church.
- i) Resourcing Christian Education and Fellowship Commissions and others as assigned in the collaboration with the Senior Pastor.
- j) Attending Session meetings.
- k) Attending weekly staff meetings and meetings with church leaders/officers.
- l) Contributing to the church newsletter.

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#### **Optional Links:**

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

[First Pres New Bern](#)

[Mission Study](#)

[Worship Services](#)

[Our Church History](#)

[Visit New Bern](#)

[New Bern Historical Society](#)

[Downtown New Bern Swiss Bear](#)

[Tryon Palace](#)

[Craven Community College](#)

[Craven County Schools](#)

[The Epiphany School of Global Studies](#)

[New Hope Presbytery](#)

[Religious Community Services](#)

[Interfaith Refugee Ministries](#)

[New Hope Volunteer Village](#)

[Rothermel Lecture Series](#)

### Leadership Competencies:

Compassionate

Spiritual Maturity

Teacher

Communicator

Task Manager

Collaboration

Interpersonal Engagement

Motivator

Initiative

Flexibility

### Compensation and Housing: Cost of Living Calculator

**Minimum Effective Salary:** \$62,000

**Housing Type:** Housing Allowance

### References:

Name	Address	Phone Numbers	Relation	Email
Rev. Dr. Maren Sonstegard-Spray	1612 College Avenue Anderson, SC 29621	(571) 426-6072	former associate pastor	marenbetts@gmail.com

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Zeb Hough	322 Liberty Street New Bern, NC 28562	(252) 229-8987	Dir. of Religious Community Services, recipient of	zebhough@rcsnewbern.com
Rev. Eddie Bellis	2888 Orange Grove Trail Naples, Florida 34120	(239) 207-8648	former Interim Head of Staff	eddiebhappy@yahoo.com

**Has the Pastor Nominating Committee and Search committee affirmed its intention to follow the Form Of Government in this regard?**

Yes

**Version Track Info: This MIF was last updated on 03/11/2023**

**Self-referral Contact Information**

**PNC:** Rad Moeller

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