



Doylestown
Presbyterian Church

The Associate Pastor Nominating Committee Joyfully Introduces

The Reverend **Becca Bateman**

**Candidate for Associate Pastor for
Education and Family Ministries**



Becca's journey of faith began with her parents' decision to send her and an older brother to a local Presbyterian church. The word around the family's San Pedro, California neighborhood was simply that it had "a good kids program."

It was then when Becca first witnessed women in pastoral leadership, grew in faith in an enriching environment, experienced how music could be "the harmony to speak with God," and verbalized Christian tenets at an early age.

Her pastors and parents noticed her unique interests in language, history, faith, teaching, and a willingness to offer counsel to her friends. They encouraged her to consider pursuing the vocation of being a pastor.

During her time at California State University, Long Beach, where she double majored in History and Classics with a minor in Latin, "God opened my heart," said Becca. After graduation she entered Fuller Theological Seminary.



Ordained in 2010, the same year she married her husband Mike, Becca would go on to serve as Associate Pastor for Christian Life Formation at Calvary Presbyterian Church in South Pasadena, CA and later at San Marino Community Church as Associate Pastor for Children's Ministries and later as AP for Family Ministries.

It was during this time, when Becca says she "saw first-hand how faith formation played out in the whole family" and was "particularly moved in moments of intergenerational ministry."

Her family soon grew to include daughter Maisie (4.5 years old) and son Royce (1.5 years old). Also in the mix are their dogs: Stavros, Cooper, and Zoe.

She is thrilled with the idea of potentially moving to the region as she routinely travels to Ocean City, NJ, for vacation and to visit Mike's family living in the Philadelphia area.

Becca is a longtime soccer player, who has played on various women's teams and enjoys cooking with her husband and taking walks with her children.

"If confirmed, I am looking forward to what God has in store for this season of my life with this new call. With a full heart, I continue serving the Lord and finding creative ways to re-experience God's presence. For this I am unspeakably grateful."

STATEMENT OF FAITH

I believe in one God: from oral tradition to written scriptures who became familiar as the Father, the Son, and Holy Spirit. In God's sovereignty, the world was created good and people in God's image but humanity gave into sin falling short of the glory of God.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only son, fully human and fully divine. Only through Christ are restoration and salvation found and the forgiveness of sins is made possible by grace through faith alone. Christ came in the flesh to live among people, to love, to die for sins, to defeat the power of death through his own death and resurrection, and to reconcile all things.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, a comforter and guide, to teach us, to remind us of all Jesus has said, and to empower us through the Word. Spiritual gifts are given to the people of God, the Church universal, to do God's work. The Spirit dwells within us to empower us to serve Christ daily and in that we are to seek justice in a world filled with cruelty and bring peace where there is chaos.

I believe the Church universal, with Christ as its head, is made up of the priesthood of all believers, seen and unseen. In unity, we grow up, out, and together. Up: Our call is to worship God and pray together. Out: Our call is to care for the poor, to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, to love, and to go make disciples and teach. Together: Our call is to discipleship. I

believe we are all called to give back to God with our time, talents, and treasure as good stewards in our care of creation and builders of where God is at work.



I believe that Scripture is the authoritative word of God which bears witness to the Word of God, Jesus Christ. They are useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training in righteousness. Both the New Testament, the testimony of the life of Christ and the Holy Spirit guiding the Church, and the Old Testament, the telling of God's faithfulness and fulfillment of promises, are essential and indispensable. God continues to speak through the Scriptures by the Holy Spirit today. The creeds and confessions, both historically and in contemporary terms, declare the church as a community of people in statements of who and what it is, what it believes, and what it resolves to do.

Together we celebrate the sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper. A sacrament is a sign, seal, and a symbol of God's love poured out on us. Baptism marks the entrance into God's covenant family and at the Lord's Supper we are invited again and again to the family table. We believe that God has chosen to be in a covenant relationship with creation and that all are confirmed in this covenant through Baptism. The sacrament of the Lord's Supper is celebrated when we come to the table to experience the presence of Christ among us as we eat and drink through the Holy Spirit. With these sacraments we recognize that God and humanity have an interrelationship of love.

Together we believe in and anticipate Christ's return. We look forward to a new heaven and

a new earth in which every knee will bow and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, and God's kingdom will have no end.



**Becca
Bateman**

Thoughts from our AP Nominating Committee

Becca embraces the importance of, and has the skills for, developing lay-leadership within the church, allowing it to thrive and grow.

— Scott Blore

Her outgoing and sincere nature coupled with her deep experience with children and youth have me truly excited for what is ahead of us!

— Matt Rizk (Moderator)

Her relational personality and hands-on approach to ministry is exciting and energizing.

— Megan Craig

Becca checked all of the boxes in our search process. I found Becca to be energetic, creative, and truly interested in our own personal stories.

— Sharon Sager

I look forward to seeing Becca's gifts in action with families, children, and youth at DPC and what God has in store for our future.

— Melissa Hauser

It is clear that she views family ministry and Christian Education as not simply parts of her job title but her calling.

— Lindsay Shull

It's been such a wonderful time getting to know her, her family, and seeing her go above and beyond the expectations.

— Gavin Jones

Becca is exactly what we want and need to fill this position. She relates well to both adults and youth. Her energy is contagious.

— Margaret Thoresen

How the AP Will Bless our Shared Life Together



The position of Associate Pastor (AP) for Education and Family Ministries is designed to provide leadership and creativity in our education efforts for all ages with a special focus on children and youth and their families.

This individual will play a key part in fostering connectivity, fellowship, and community that nurtures the faith of all ages.

More specifically, the AP will be a driver for change in shaping our efforts to reimagine the worship experience to better engage children and youth, simplifying what we are teaching them and linking ministry with their real-life experiences. Supporting our families and inviting them into deeper relationships and meaningful mission efforts is another focus of this position, as is the AP's leadership in shaping ways all adults may grow in their faith and witness.

The AP will assist in worship leadership regularly, preach 8-10 times each year, regularly share in pastoral care, and will officiate at weddings, baptisms, and funerals as requested.

Word from those familiar with Becca's gifts:

- *Becca is relational - that is what she does.*
- *She is very engaging...knows how to reel in youth...our youth loved her.*
- *She works seamlessly across generations.*
- *Becca always finds a way to make people feel appreciated.*
- *She loves the Lord and leaves a positive impact wherever she goes.*

