



The Pastor Nominating Committee Joyfully Introduces

The Reverend Doctor MacHenry G. Schafer II

Candidate for Senior Pastor and Head of Staff

A Note from Mac to the Members of DPC:

"Friends, it has been a joy to discover the rich history and important ministry of Doylestown Presbyterian Church. In carefully reading your Mission Study, the Ministry Discernment Profile, looking at your website and social media, attending worship virtually and in-person, having important conversations with your PNC and more, I increasingly sense God's call to serve as your next pastor. I feel confident that the needs you have expressed and the experience I bring are a wonderful match for your next stage of ministry.

If confirmed, I am very excited for all that we will learn together in Christ-centered worship, education, care, fellowship, and outreach."



MacHenry "Mac" G. Schafer II, was born in Washington, DC. Soon after, his parents moved to Princeton, New Jersey, where his father worked for Princeton University. Mac's family regularly attended Trinity Episcopal Church. Mac is adopted and his parents who raised him are now

deceased, but he enjoys a longstanding relationship with his birthmother Anne, who lives with her husband in Colorado.

Mac attended Elon University in North Carolina as a Psychology major. At Elon he won the Algernon Sydney Sullivan Award, a national collegiate service award for leadership on campus in service to others and the community. Following college Mac went to work for First Presbyterian Church of North Palm Beach where he became a member and worked in full time youth ministry. It was here that he met his wife, Katy.

Following several years in South Florida, Mac and Katy both enrolled at Princeton Theological Seminary where they earned their Masters of Divinity degrees in 1999. While at Princeton they took an extra year to do a Field Education internship in Belfast, Northern Ireland. It was during this year when Mac felt a strong call to parish ministry. His final year at Princeton he won the Fellowship Prize in Religion and Society for his senior thesis work on the Civil Rights Movement in Northern Ireland.

After his time at Princeton, Mac accepted a call at the Presbyterian Church of Lawrenceville as Associate Pastor. While there he became a trained spiritual director through Oasis Ministries focused on families, adult education and mission. Following Lawrenceville, Katy and Mac moved west to Scottsdale, AZ for 6 years where Mac served as Associate Pastor and later as Interim Head of Staff at Pinnacle Presbyterian Church. While there, Mac began his Doctor of Ministry degree (Parish Focus) through Pittsburgh Theological Seminary and graduated in 2014.

Mac and Katy have four adult children: Hunter, Hannah, Tory, and Skye. Hunter and Hannah live and work in Los Angeles, CA. Tory is a senior at Elon University and Skye is a sophomore at James Madison University. Katy is presently serving as Director of Children and Family Ministries at First Presbyterian Church Raleigh.



In his personal time Mac enjoys long distance hiking, often walking to work. He has walked the Camino de Santiago, Camino Portugues, the Via Francigena, St. Cuthberts Way and a section of the Appalachian Trail. Mac serves as a coordinator of American Pilgrims on the Camino Raleigh Chapter which trains people for pilgrimage walks in Spain and other countries. Mac enjoys making color pencil and ink drawings. He and Katy like to travel and read. Mac also enjoys working in his yard and baking pies.

Summary of Most Recent Pastoral Service

Mac has been serving Hudson Memorial Presbyterian Church in Raleigh, North Carolina as Pastor and Head of Staff for 15 years. He has led a staff of 18 people and is focused on excellence in worship and strong pastoral care. He values building relationships with people and learning their stories. In his tenure Mac has led important strategic planning efforts with the session leadership and special task forces. This included a reorganizing of the Sunday morning schedule for worship, education and fellowship.

Mac is a life-long learner and has loved to facilitate and teach classes at Hudson: from weekly men's early morning Bible study (*Waking Up with the Word*) around a campfire to book studies at the local brew pub (*The Presbyterian Pint*), he places high value on increasing Biblical and theological literacy. He enjoys leading new elder training and telling weekly Bible stories to sixty children who are 3 and 4 years old at Hudson's church preschool.

Mac has helped lead two 3-year capital campaigns and several other focused fund-raising endeavors. Hudson's endowment has grown from just over \$100,000 to \$1.4 million while he has been Pastor, and the annual dollar amounts pledged by members has increased significantly. Mac has intentionally led changes to Hudson campus with the addition of two prayer labyrinths, beautiful landscape architecture in a memorial garden, indoor accessibility, a nature-oriented playgarden for preschool children and important indoor and outdoor meeting spaces for church and community groups.

In the Presbytery of New Hope, Mac has served on Commission on Ministry (COM), Exams & Transfers, chaired Bills & Overtures, and has been a commissioner to General Assembly. His main responsibilities have been on the Conflict Transformation Team of COM where he has been trusted by presbytery leadership to guide seven congregations through difficult situations. He has done extensive training in conflict mediation and family systems theory. For years Mac coordinated the local ecumenical clergy group of area pastors, organizing monthly lunches, annual Thanksgiving services and other events that bring their churches together.

Thoughts from our PNC

Mac's visionary leadership, compassion for others, relentless curiosity, and authentic joy will inspire us to make God's love more visible.

— Kate Adriaansen

He has the wisdom, leadership, and relational skills to help all of us connect, grow, and fulfill our mission to be a bridge for Christ and a beacon of His love.

— Jonathan Craig

Mac's warmth, energy, and joy were contagious, creating excitement among the PNC about the possibilities for a dynamic new chapter at DPC.

— Judy Chang Cody

In my first conversation with Mac I sensed that I was talking to God's choice for DPC. That feeling increased with each step in the discernment process.

— Anne Hutchinson (Moderator)

Mac's faith, compassion and ability to make interpersonal connections were instantly apparent and impressive.

— Frank Roland

Finding a pastor that could shepherd a big tent (diverse) church like DPC was most important to me. Mac has shown that ability and is the right person to lead DPC into the future.

— Dave Sager

I'm excited for DPC to flourish under the guidance of this warm, creative leader whose preaching, relationship building and joyful heart radiate God's presence in our midst.

— Deirdre Hally Shaffer

We are excited and looking forward to what God has in store for all of us at DPC. Mac comes with an engaging and warm personality that draws people to want to know more about him.

— Art Shull, Jr.

After listening and talking to Mac in the first interview, it quickly became apparent that he is the person we are looking for to lead us now.

— Jay Stough

Quotes from Colleagues

- *Mac's greatest strengths: relatable preaching, serving with integrity, and staff management.*
- *He always takes the time to stop, think, and listen to the Spirit.*
- *Mac makes everyone feel like he is with you and for you.*
- *Alive, energetic, warm.*
- *One of the strongest preachers I know, very theologically grounded.*
- *Very engaging, knows how to connect, has a gift for being very sensitive.*
- *Mac has a strong sense of spirituality.*
- *Mac has very good administrative skills. He's practical and realistic.*

STATEMENT OF FAITH

The heavens were torn open and the Spirit descended. The temple curtain was torn from top to bottom. The tomb was opened and Jesus was on the loose! What has been torn open by God cannot be shut. The movement of the Triune God is free, wild, and uncontainable. The freedom and wildness of God is abundant, creative, communal, transforming, grounding, and new.

Our calling is to know, love and serve God in Jesus Christ.

My continual prayer is, “God, help me move from getting here, to being here.” We deceive ourselves if we think we are in control. It’s the Spirit’s work that creates in us a vulnerable posture of openness and listening. I have come to know God through stories, relationships, worship, pilgrimage, the margins and in-between places of society. I know God more fully amidst my own pain, silence, and joy. I have come to understand the Triune God in the history and theology of the Reformed faith. A tradition that holds in tension freedom of conscious and communal standards.

I believe that when we come to know the Triune God, we can’t help but fall in love with this Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer.

We have been loved first by the Triune God. I am loved for the simple fact that I have been gifted life and breath today. I am literally a “Summer of ’68” love child. I was lovingly put up for adoption by my birth mother. I was selflessly loved into adulthood by my adopted mother and father. This reality helped me better understand and receive the self-giving love of Jesus Christ.

I know that we are loved beyond our wildest imagination. This good news propels me into service. Our discipleship is to discern who we are at the core of our being so that we can best use our gifts to serve. To serve God in Jesus Christ is to find the right balance between humility and confidence in the abilities we have been given. God’s calling is real and constant. We are called to pour forth our lives in ways that further the coming together of a new heaven and a new earth. We are called to participate in God’s good work of reconciliation and repair. We are called to know that the arc of the moral universe is long but bends toward justice.

I affirm that the chief end of humanity is to glorify the Triune God and enjoy the Triune God forever.

MacHenry G. Schafer

