

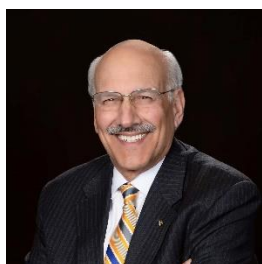


RESILIENCE & COURAGE FOR A TIME SUCH AS THIS

Leading and Serving in that "In-between Space"

NOVEMBER 7, 2020

INSTRUCTOR BIOS



Vijay Aggarwal currently serves as Moderator of the Presbytery of Philadelphia and as a member of the Commission on Ministry. He and his wife Susan worship at Wayne Presbyterian Church where Vijay also serves as Treasurer. Vijay is actively involved with several non-profit organizations that focus on educational parity and workforce development. He is an investor, advisor, mentor and board member working with early-stage companies in the healthcare sector.



Jim Ballengee is a former educator, Elder at Arch Street Presbyterian Church, and Moderator of the Commission on Ministry. He grew up at Ardmore Presbyterian Church and joined Arch Street at the start of their 'rebirth' twelve years ago. He has three adult daughters, two grandchildren, and lives in Chestnut Hill with his wife Elaine. His primary hobby at this moment in time is 'virtually' visiting three or four of our churches every Sunday!



Rev. Sarah Cooper Searight is the Associate Pastor for Outreach Ministry, Congregational Care, and Worship Coordination at Swarthmore Presbyterian Church, where she has served now for six years. She has served on the Commission on Resources and Creative Ministries for three years, and this year is honored to serve as the Moderator of this awesome, imaginative, and committed group. Sarah is married to the Rev. Bill Searight (better known simply as, Bill), and together they have two daughters, Maggie and Ella.



Rev. Sarah A. Colwill has spent all 17 years of her career as a Presbyterian minister in the Presbytery of Philadelphia. She served as the Associate Pastor at First Presbyterian Church in Springfield (Flourtown), as a Chaplain at the United Methodist campus ministry at Drexel University, and as the Pastor of Church on the Mall (current). She is the program support for the Presbytery's Cultivating Enough in the Care of Clergy initiative. Sarah is the proud mother of the two best kids ever, and an avid runner to keep her sanity.



Rev. Leigh DeVries is the Associate Pastor for Youth and Their Families at Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church. In her decade of experience working with youth, Leigh has discovered a profound passion for working with teenagers. She deeply values their fearlessness in asking the big questions of faith and considers walking alongside youth as they grow to likely be the greatest honor of her life. Leigh graduated with an MDiv and a M.A. in Christian Education and Formation from Princeton Theological Seminary.



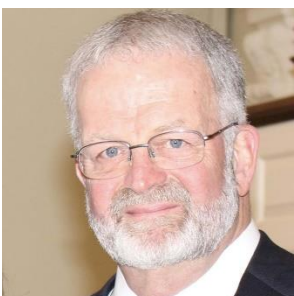
Rev. Dr. Janel Dixon currently serves as Pastor, Head of Staff at Cedar Park Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia. She is noted as being one of only two African American women to have earned the Doctor of Ministry degree from Princeton Seminary. Janel was the Presbytery of Philadelphia's Moderator during their 300th Anniversary year of 2017. Janel also serves on the Presbytery's Commission on Financial Management, as well as serving as co-moderator of the Philadelphia Chapter of the National Black Presbyterian Caucus. She is married to Calvin Lynn Dixon and they are the proud parents of Samira Lynn and Tai-Durell Calvin.



Rev. Anna Grant-Borden is a native of Philadelphia. She is a graduate of Cheyney University, Temple University, and The Lutheran Theological Seminary (now United Lutheran Seminary). Anna retired from the Philadelphia School System after teaching for thirty-seven years. She is currently Pastor of Mt. Airy Presbyterian Church. She truly believes that God works all things together for the good of those who love God and are called according to God's purpose.



Rev. Dr. Adam Hearlson currently serves as the Designated Pastor of the Overbrook Presbyterian Church. Adam has many years of experience leading congregations, as well as experience teaching at Andover Newton Theological School. A published author and editor, Adam continues to serve the larger church beyond his local congregation. Adam lives with his wife Rev. Dr. Christy Lang Hearlson and their two sons in Bryn Mawr and enjoys cooking, gardening, and watching basketball.



Mike Henry is an Elder at Valley Forge Presbyterian Church, where he serves as Clerk of Session and is also involved with church finance and stewardship. He became a Trustee of the Presbytery in 2009 and is now serving as Moderator of the Commission on Financial Management. Mike was Moderator of the Presbytery of Philadelphia in 2015 and has been instrumental in spearheading the Presbytery's response to resource congregations in this Covid-19 season.



Rev. Larissa Kwong Abazia is an ordained minister in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). She earned her bachelor's degree at Rutgers University and M.Div. at Princeton Theological Seminary. Having served as a hospital chaplain (Philadelphia, PA), congregational pastor (Chicago, IL, Queens, NY, and throughout NJ), Director of Church Relations at Princeton Theological Seminary, and as a Pastor/Theologian in Residence in Greenwich, CT; she is currently the Transformational Pastor of Hillsborough Presbyterian Church, Program Director for the Cultivating Enough in the Care of Clergy initiative in the Presbytery of Philadelphia, and a consultant with Vandersall Collective.



Rev. Ted Mingle has been serving Lower Providence Presbyterian Church since 2013 as the Senior Minister, and currently serves on the Commission on Ministry. His passion for ministry comes from Micah 6:8, "What does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God." Acting justly and loving mercy, he believes, is one of the great callings that God has given to the church. He believes more than ever the church needs to be acting on this great calling. His passion outside of the church is his family as God has blessed him with a wife and two children that are in college. Ted is a die-hard Philadelphia Sports fan.



Rev. Ashley Rossi is a teaching elder in the PCUSA, serving as the Associate Pastor of Carmel Presbyterian Church in Glenside. She graduated with a B.S. in accounting from the Pennsylvania State University in 2002 and worked as a CPA and financial analyst for eight years prior to entering the seminary. She holds an MDiv from the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Philadelphia (now United Lutheran Seminary) as well as a graduate certificate in Church Planting from Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. Her passions include social justice issues, building community, and re-imagining church in the 21st century. Ashley lives with her husband, three children, and pit bull in Glenside.



Chris Scott, Jr., a Philly native, is a professional computer engineer but his passion is ministry. Chris is an ordained Elder at the First Presbyterian Church in Germantown and is currently serving as a Deacon. Since joining First Presbyterian in 2004, Chris has served in different leadership roles including Youth Advisory Delegate at the 2008 General Assembly and coaching the youth basketball team and Friday Night REACH program at Summit Presbyterian Church. Chris has provided technical support for virtual meetings of the Presbytery and services of several congregations. Chris received his B.S. degree in Computer Science from Strayer University and has certificates in Entrepreneur Small Business development from Wharton and the NELI Ascending Leadership program at Bryn Mawr.