



The Rev. Kris Schondelmeyer

Kris grew up in Sedalia, MO attending Broadway Presbyterian Church with his grandparents, whose families both helped to found Presbyterian churches in central Missouri. He first experienced God's call to ordained ministry the summer before his freshman year of high school during a Montreat Youth Conference in Montreat, NC. Two years later, Kris was ordained as a Deacon at Broadway Presbyterian Church

during his junior year of high school.

As many young adults do, Kris struggled the first couple of years in college. He wrestled between his passion for politics and his call to ordained ministry. During his undergraduate years, Kris served as a volunteer youth leader, worked on the summer staff at Montreat Conference Center, directed the Program Staff at Mound Ridge Presbyterian Camp for two summers, served as the Director of Youth Ministries at Broadway Presbyterian Church in Sedalia, MO, and served as pulpit supply for several churches in mid-Missouri enjoying his love of preaching the gospel.

Kris graduated with a Bachelors Degree in Speech Communication and minor in Political Science from the University of Central Missouri where he was honored as the 2006 Speech Communication Scholar of the Year. He went on to do his graduate work in an ecumenical setting at Eden Theological Seminary in St. Louis. Eden is a seminary of the United Church of Christ, a sister denomination with which the PC(USA) is in full communion. Kris received his Master of Divinity in May of 2010 where he was awarded for outstanding scholarship and academic achievement. While doing full-time graduate work, Kris also served full-time on the staff at First United Presbyterian Church of Belleville, IL as the Director of Youth Ministries. First United is a church of nearly 800 members in an area known as the St. Louis Metro East.

Kris began his pastoral ministry at Christ Presbyterian Church in October of 2010.

What are the key theological issues currently facing the church and society, and how do they shape your ministry?

As the world becomes increasingly pluralistic and individualistic, the Church is called to be steadfast in obedience to the will of God; "to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God" (Micah 6:8). As the love of money and the greed for power dominate Western ideology, the church is called to speak the truth in love, seeking justice and mercy for all. As the world continues to change at a chaotic pace, the Church is called to be a place of order in the midst of that chaos.

Recognizing this reality, I believe God is calling me to use my passion for preaching and my experience in contemporary youth and family ministries to be an alternative voice, proclaiming that in Christ through the Reformed perspective, there is another way. I am called to partner with congregations in growing disciples of Jesus the Christ for building up the kingdom of God. Together we will engage in compassionate ministries that seek justice and mercy for all.