

# Church Leadership Connection

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

P0105247 [About](#)

## View Church Information Form - Part I

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### Church/Organization Details

Church/Organization ID	05247
Church/Organization Name	First Presbyterian Church of Brooklyn
Mailing Address	124 Henry Street Brooklyn, NY 11201
Telephone Number	(718) 624-3770
Fax Number	(718) 624-3365
E-Mail	<a href="mailto:fpcpnc124@gmail.com">fpcpnc124@gmail.com</a>
Website Address	<a href="http://www.fpcbroslyn.org">www.fpcbroslyn.org</a>
Church/Organization Size	251 - 400 members
Average Worship Attendance	240
Church School Attendance	70
Curriculum	"Seasons of the Spirit"
Certified as eligible for participation in the Seminary Debt Assistance Program <input type="checkbox"/> False	

### Ethnic Composition

Ethnicity	Percentage
African American	30 %
Caucasian	40 %
Chinese	5 %
Hispanic Puerto Rican	5 %
Korean	5 %
Hispanic Mexican / Central American	10 %
Other Asian	5 %

### Presbytery

Presbytery	NEW YORK CITY PRESBYTERY
Synod	SYNOD OF THE NORTHEAST
Community Type	Urban

### Clerk of Session Details

Name:	Edna Asknes
Full Address:	284 Montgomery St.
Daytime Phone:	(718) 282-6111
Office Phone:	
Fax:	
E-Mail:	<a href="mailto:ēja128@msn.com">ēja128@msn.com</a>

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# Church Leadership Connection

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

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## View Church Information Form - Part II

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### CIF #: 05247.AB2

Church/Organization ID: 05247

Church/Organization Name: First Presbyterian Church of Brooklyn

City & State: Brooklyn, NY

### Position Details

Position to be Filled: Pastor (Head of Staff)	Experience Required/Desired: Desired
Employment Status: Full-time	Experience Level: 4 years or more
Language Requirements: English	
<p><b>Brief Church Mission Statement:</b></p> <p>First Church is an intentionally racially, culturally, and theologically diverse community energetically committed to serving God in our church, families, workplaces, community and world. As followers of Christ, individually and collectively, we manifest our faith by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acting as a beacon of love and hope to others;</li> <li>• Providing spiritual and emotional nurture in an environment of acceptance for all people;</li> <li>• Engaging as ambassadors and spiritual activists for peace and justice;</li> <li>• Addressing the temporal needs of individuals in our church, local community, and the world;</li> <li>• Shaping our children and youth to be compassionate citizens of the world;</li> <li>• Engaging in financial stewardship as part of our spiritual practice; and</li> <li>• Offering ourselves freely in individual and collective experience of worship.</li> </ul>	

### Narrative Questions

Brief description of the church/organization's programs or accomplishments:

**Worship:** Incorporates aspects of various religious traditions. Congregants and visitors describe our service as inspirational, welcoming, and inclusive.

**Choir:** High quality music from a variety of traditions (classical, gospel, contemporary and jazz) is provided weekly.

**Sunday School:** Cooperative classes for 4-12 year olds using the curriculum - "Seasons of the Sprit".

**Youth Program:** For youth ages 13-18 including social activities, Confirmation Class and a program which nurtures an ongoing relationship with the church.

**Social Action:**

- Two Penny Lunch provides a weekly bag of groceries for the needy of Brooklyn
- Aid to the victims of Katrina, the tsunami and migrant workers on Long Island
- Support to an AIDS clinic and orphanage in Lesotho
- Several mission trips to our sister church in Cuba
- Presbyterian Welcome- Members take part in city-wide activities that celebrate our LGBT community. We are a church in official dissent of Schedule B of the Presbyterian Book of Order.
- Participation in the interfaith conference "Reclaiming our Voices"
- Paradigms for Peace annual interfaith service

**Adult Education:** Bible study on Sundays and spiritual renewal on Wednesdays.

**Global Arts Festival:** A celebration of visual and performing arts invites the community into First Church.

**Annual Service to Honor the 84th Precinct:** We welcome officers of our local police precinct and their families and provided sensitivity training to their officers.

**Gifts, Skills and Experiences the congregation possesses to fulfill its mission:**

FPC draws its members from the 5 boroughs of NYC and the tri-state area. Church membership is 56% Caucasian, 37% African-American, 6% Asian, and 1% Hispanic. Our economically diverse congregation includes members who are actively involved in or retired from careers in education, business, investment, law, social work, nursing, finance, technology, catering, therapy, and the arts, among others. Intentionally diverse, we attract members from many denominational backgrounds. Some members have partners from a variety of spiritual traditions. We respect all points of view.

FPC's session has 24 members. Both new and long-term congregants serve on various regular and ad hoc committees. Lay leaders, many of whom have a history of significant contributions to a variety of community organizations, initiate activities in collaboration with our pastors. The Dalai Lama, former Ambassador Andrew Young and former Speaker of the House Tom Foley

have been among our honored invited guests; First Church members also support a sister church in Cuba and distribute food locally to those in need as part of our Two Penny Lunch Program.

Members are an important part of our Sunday worship. Sunday School is led by parents and teachers, and serves both parents and children. Our choir draws on the variety of cultural and spiritual traditions reflected in our congregation and includes some of the most gifted musicians in our community. The adult choir is joined at times by our children's choir.

**Key theological issues of the church and society that are reflected in the ministry of the congregation/organization:**

First Presbyterian Church is an intentionally racially diverse, multicultural and inclusive congregation. The New Testament Gospel of Luke is the biblical and theological mandate for our ministry: Luke 4:18 - "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me because he has...sent me to announce good news to the poor: to proclaim release for prisoners and recovery of sight to the blind; to let the broken victims go free, and to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." Therefore, issues of social justice, advocacy for peace and opposition to war, homelessness, poverty, the right of those who live daily with their backs against the wall, racial diversity and inclusiveness and the rights of women are at the top of the list.

First Presbyterian Church sees value in keeping open dialogue on these specific topics as well as others as a means of defining our ministry. Various groups within the congregation and community are our partners in this endeavor, helping us to keep focused and involved with the issues of today's society.

## References

Name	Address	Phone Numbers	Relation	Email
Rev. Arabella Rogers	NYC Presbytery, Rm 240, 475 Riverside Drive, New York, NY 10015	(212) 870-2221	Executive Presbyter	<a href="mailto:ep@presbynyc.org">ep@presbynyc.org</a>
Rev. Mr. Lindley G. DeGarmo	Towson Presbyterian Church, 400 West Chesapeake Avenue,	(410) 823-6500	Former Congregant and Elder	<a href="mailto:ldegarmo@towsonpres.org">ldegarmo@towsonpres.org</a>

	Towson, MD 21204			
Rev. Fred Davie	320 Washington Ave., Apt 4D, Brooklyn, NY 11205	(718) 398-2481	Parish Assoc. & former acting moderator of Session	<a href="mailto:Fdavia@PPV.org">Fdavia@PPV.org</a>

## Position Description

### A. Major Responsibilities:

We are an intentionally diverse and inclusive church with a history of community involvement at the local, national and international level. We have been blessed with a long line of outstanding, dynamic and progressive pastors who have, in his or her own way, left an indelible mark on the nature and character of our community of faith.

Continuing our proud legacy, we are searching for a pastor with the following attributes, as together we strengthen our faith and deepen our spirituality.

**Preaching:** can deliver original sermons, often experienced driven, that are challenging and that enable each congregant to find their own spirituality

**Pastoral Care:** a counselor, visitor and comforter of the sick and distressed and their immediate families, who is able to instill the willingness of members of the congregation to become involved in the caring process.

**Administration:** can moderate Session to plan, implement and evaluate activities and programs and is able to guide and evaluate the church staff and monitor church funds.

**Fundraising:** an open personality with talent, perhaps, in other disciplines, who is a natural community leader and has proven experience in increasing church membership and pledges.

### B. Characteristics and qualifications needed

- **Visionary with religious passion and a gift for preaching and teaching:** A pastor whose vision will ignite and refresh our congregational spirit. Charismatic personality, warm interpersonal style, able to relate well to individuals and groups to inspire spiritual development.
- **Commitment to cultural diversity:** Proven ability to attract and embrace a diverse group of newcomers and retain our congregation

- **Mission outreach efforts:** Strong leadership skills that will expand our outreach programs and foster relationships with neighboring churches and communities.
- **Administrative leadership.** Experience at working effectively to manage and inspire staff and volunteers.
- **Fundraising leadership:** Proven ability to work effectively with the Session to develop and implement new fundraising programs.
- **Pastoral care:** Proven skills in pastoral care to members especially those who are elderly or are in need. A willingness to work with other professionals in the church and community to provide help as needed.
- **Conflict management skills:** Possesses mediation skills to guide and help resolve various congregational disputes through positive encouragement.
- **Strong communication skills internally and externally:** In addition to the pastor's ability to inspire his/her congregation, he/she should be an effective communicator with the Presbytery and members of the community - both clergy and lay.

### Primary Skill Choices

**Desired:**

Administration of Programs  
 Communication (Written / Oral)  
 Conflict Management/Mediation Skills  
 Cross Cultural Collaboration/Cultural Proficiency  
 Ecumenical and Interfaith Activities  
 Fund Raising  
 Pastoral Care  
 Preaching  
 Spiritual Development  
 Urban Ministry

### Compensation and Housing

Minimum Effective Salary: \$80,000

Maximum Effective Salary: \$100,000

Housing Type: Open to Manse/Housing Allowance

## Geographic Choices

Unlimited

## Equal Employment Opportunity

"The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) shall give full expression to the rich diversity within its membership and shall provide means which will assure a greater inclusiveness leading to wholeness in its emerging life. Persons of all racial ethnic groups, different ages, both sexes, various disabilities, diverse geographical areas, different theological positions consistent with the Reformed tradition, as well as different marital conditions (married, single, widowed, or divorced) shall be guaranteed full participation and access to representation in the decision making of the church." (G-4.0403)

"(The Committee on Ministry) shall provide for the implementation of equal opportunity employment for ministers and candidates without regard to race, ethnic origin, sex, age, marital status, or disability. In the case of each call, it shall report to the presbytery the steps in this implementation taken by the calling-group." (G-11.0502g)

"...Care must be taken (by the Pastor Nominating Committee) to consider candidates without regard to race, ethnic origin, sex, or marital status, age, or disabilities." (G-14.0502b)

### FORMS OF GOVERNMENT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)

See Also: Forms of Government G-10.0102n, G-11.0502d, G-13.0201b

#### For Clergy Positions

Every Presbytery Committee on Ministry is to inform each Pastor Nominating Committee of its constitutional obligations and how it might assure fairness in the calling process.

**Has the presbytery's Committee on Ministry thus counseled with the Pastor Nominating Committee regarding Equal Employment Opportunity?**

Yes

Each Pastor Nominating Committee is expected to undertake its search for a minister in a manner consistent with the good news that in the Church "...as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus."

**Has the Pastor Nominating Committee affirmed to the Presbytery Committee on Ministry its intention to follow the Form Of Government in this regard?**

Yes

**Pastor Nominating Committee/Search Committee Chairperson**

<b>Name:</b> David Mulle	<b>Full Address</b> 181 Clermont Ave, Apt 205 Brooklyn NY 11205
<b>Preferred Phone</b> (212) 574-1452	<b>Alternative Phone</b> (718) 643-9891
<b>Fax</b> (212) 480-8421	<b>E-mail</b> <a href="mailto:mulle@sewkis.com">mulle@sewkis.com</a>

**Status Information**

<b>Deadline date for this CIF:</b> (none)
<b>Approval Status:</b> Clerk of Session has approved it. COM Chair has approved it. CLC has approved it.
<b>CIF Version Track Info</b> The initial version of this CIF was submitted by user P0105247 on 1/28/2008 The current version of this CIF was last updated by user crs00011 on 12/16/2009 CIF Approved by crs00011 on 12/16/2009 4:38:50 PM

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