

THE REVEREND BRYAN TRAVIS HOOPER

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TRANSFORMATIONAL LEADERSHIP

Strategic Planning • Coalition Building • Civic Engagement

Inspirational religious leader with extensive background in organizational change efforts, strategic planning, financial management, volunteer coordination, program management, facilitation, public speaking, technical/computer skills, board governance, exceptional interpersonal skills, and proven commitment to social justice and human services. Seeking to creatively develop enduring church ministries with meaningful impact on both congregation and community.

TECHNICAL PROJECTS

Champion: A playbook manager for football coaches. Created an app for football coaches to manage their playbooks, schedule and opponents using HTML, CSS, Bootstrap, Ruby on Rails and OAuth.

Survey Tool. Created a basic tool for generating short surveys with multiple choice answers using Sinatra, Ruby, HTML and CSS. This project focused on session management and user registration with Active Record.

Doctor Finder. Created a command line tool to search for doctors in a given zipcode. Tools included Ruby, Nokogiri, and Bundler. The finished tool was packaged and distributed as a Ruby Gem.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Senior Associate Minister, Christ Church, United Methodist, 7/2014-7/2016

Key areas of responsibility include:

- Designed and executed the programmatic life of the church, including managing the program team with seven direct reports.
- Implement and design effective stewardship campaign, responsible for approximately \$1 million in annual giving.
- Oversight of operating budget for program ministry.
- Develop and support outreach ministries and programs, including projects in Washington Heights, New York and Cartagena, Colombia.
- Led a merger effort with a congregation in Washington Heights, resulting in new programs for the community and a new partnership for the future.
- Provide pastoral services, executive and visionary leadership, preaching and liturgical services.

Founder and Owner, Lindsay Farm Design and Development, LLC, 1/2013-present

Management and Leadership

- Founded web hosting, design and development firm in Hartford, CT.
- Developed business and marketing plans.
- Designed and built WordPress websites as well as standalone websites.
- Maintained proficiencies in HTML, CSS, PHP, JavaScript and MySQL.

Pastor, United Methodist Church of Hartford, Hartford, CT, 7/2005 – 2/2011
Organizational Development/Leadership/Governance

- Served as leader of a 200-member congregation located in the West End of Hartford, CT, working extensively with Board of Trustees and other leadership.
- Began process in 2010 to restructure the congregation's leadership in order to focus resources on core areas of concern including congregational vitality, facilities, and leadership development. Led congregation through a visioning process to identify congregational future and assure vitality.

Financial Management

- Worked with finance committee to establish a budget of \$260,000 and monitor all program expenses for a staff of five. Spearheaded financial turnaround, bringing organization from deficit to positive cash flow, through improved strategic planning and financial management.
- Managed \$1.2 million endowment fund in partnership with Board of Trustees.

Program Management/Volunteer Coordination

- Supervised and managed up to 200 volunteers per year providing services at a local food pantry which served up to 500 low-income individuals monthly, and a food distribution program which served individuals with disabilities.

Fundraising

- Oversaw all fundraising and pledge efforts, increasing level of member participation, leading to 30% increase in donation. Handled successful grant writing efforts which raised numerous micro-grants.

Outreach/Advocacy/Public Speaking

- Created a new partnership with local elementary school, "Brightest and Best" program, with a concert and community-builder with 1,000 participants.
- Established productive partnerships with caucuses and associations such as the Greater Hartford Interfaith Coalition for Equity and Justice and Hands On Hartford, and led successful advocacy efforts in coalition with labor unions and other organizations, leading to improved union contracts and healthcare policy.
- Appointed as a full-time pastor fulfilling all pastoral duties, such as public speaking, conducting ceremonies, funerals, individual counseling, and visitation with individuals in crisis, leveraging sensitivity and interpersonal skills.

Pastor, Washington Square United Methodist Church, New York, NY, 7/2002 –7/2005

- Led a 120-member congregation located in Greenwich Village, New York City.
- Led congregation through massive change effort to overcome financial crisis, resulting in the sale of church property and merger of three congregations:
 - Evaluated financial viability of congregation and handled complex maintenance issues with 145-year-old building. Managed two properties in need of renovations.
 - Explored strategies and options with board and membership, formed congregational leadership around change issues, fostered expression of concerns and fears.
 - Oversaw the largest church property sale in the history of the United Methodist Church, gaining approval from 4 committees for approval on local and regional levels, raising \$10 million for a church with a \$250,000 budget.
 - Created new partnerships in community, leading merger efforts which led to successful organizational outcome.
 - Managed separate board of trustees which handled \$1 million endowment, lobbying New York State Senate and House of Representatives to change law to allow church oversight of funds.
- Managed annual conference relationships and garnered support from United for Peace and Justice and Forum of Concerned Religious Leaders, organizing hundreds of participants for interfaith, multi-denominational events for Peace effort during 9/11 and first Iraq War, and speaking to groups of over a thousand.
- Built partnership with Planned Parenthood of New York; authored publication on faith-based perspective on reproductive choice.
- Established first-ever internet presence.

- Created effective new outreach programs for students and young adults.
- Appointed as a full-time pastor, providing organizational leadership and individual counseling.

Associate Pastor, Park Avenue United Methodist Church, New York, NY, 6/2000 – 6/2002

- Designed services, including frequent public speaking.
- Shared all pastoral duties: visitation, counseling, committees.
- Created outreach programs, including a prison outreach.
- Appointed as a full-time local pastor. Performed marriages and funerals.
- Managed budget for various programs.
- Facilitated and planned for fellowship groups for young adults.
- Managed building use and facility rentals.
- Developed and maintained web presence and technology strategy for church.

Student Pastor, Park Avenue United Methodist Church, New York, NY, 9/1999 –4/2000

- Frequent public speaking and weekly teaching of adult study groups.
- Facilitated and planned for young adult group.
- Purchased, installed and managed new office technology to improve efficiencies.

Student Pastor, Lexington United Methodist Church, New York, NY, 9/1998 –6/1999

- Frequent public speaking with regular worship leadership.
- Consulted on technology needs.
- Served part time at Eviction Intervention Services, an agency designed to assist tenants remain in their homes prior to eviction.

Administrative Coordinator, United Methodist Communications, 3/1995 – 6/1997

- Managed all aspects of office operation including the maintaining and purchasing of equipment, streamlining of office procedures and budgeting.
- Managed and organized registration process for satellite teleconferences including the collection of funds.
- Coordinated visitations by new Annual Conference communications staff to Nashville offices.
- Wrote or edited regular communications “Idea Mart” column for *Interpreter Magazine*.
- Assisted in all aspects of satellite teleconference production: Designed and placed promotional materials, arranged travel and accommodations, and oversaw budgets.
- Supervised production and distribution of Network newsletter, a quarterly publication.
- Developed database of satellite downlink sites.
- Created the United Methodist Teleconference Connection web site.

Student Pastor, Port Washington United Methodist Church, Port Washington, NY

Fall 1993 - Spring 1995

- Shared in all pastoral duties including preaching, worship leadership, and pastoral care.
- Taught and organized confirmation classes.
- Organized and ran youth programs.
- Directed and designed a summer Vacation Bible School program for over 100 children.

EDUCATION

Flatiron School, 2019. Currently completing the Full Stack Web Developer curriculum.

New Church Leadership Institute, Southeastern Jurisdiction, 2007. Participated in a year long program, with two weeks of intensive training, focused on new church starts and development.

Drew University, Madison, NJ, *Fall 1997 – Spring 2000*

Graduated *cum laude* from Drew Theological Seminary with the M. Div. degree.

Health Care Chaplaincy, New York, NY, *Fall 2000 – Spring 2001*
Completed one unit of Clinical Pastoral Education at New York University Hospital.

Southwestern University, Georgetown, TX, received *Spring 1993*
B.A. in Computer Science with a minor in Mathematics.

Ecclesial

Ordained Elder, New York Annual Conference, United Methodist Church, June 2005

Chair, Board of Church and Society, New York Annual Conference, UMC, 2004

Probationary Member, New York Annual Conference, UMC, June 2002

BOARD MEMBERSHIP

Board of Directors, Hands on Hartford, Chair, 2010-2011, Director, 2007-present.

Board of Directors, Greater Hartford Interfaith Coalition for Equity and Justice, 2006-2009.

Chair, Board of Church and Society, New York Annual Conference, United Methodist Church, 2004.

Secretary, Commission on Religion and Race, New York Annual Conference, United Methodist Church, 2000.

PERSONAL INTERESTS

Reading, XC skiing, downhill skiing, hiking, social justice, liturgy, postmodernity, liberation theology, community engagement, digital technology, social media.