

## Meet Rev Dr Stacy Smith!

Westminster is pleased to announce the arrival of the Rev Dr Stacy Smith as our Temporary Pastor beginning August 1! Stacy will be with us for a four-month period August through November to provide full-time pastoral leadership during her time with us. We are delighted to welcome her and pleased to introduce her to you.

Stacy says, "I am thrilled to join in ministry with the people of Westminster, even for this short amount of time. Through the interview process, I have loved meeting with several church members, and enjoyed a rich conversation with Rev. Patrick about the work and worship of your community. As a lifelong Presbyterian, I rely on the theology of providence which assures us that God is active, moving, and engaged in all aspects of our lives, so although we may not know exactly where we will go together, we can trust that our movement is guided by the wisdom of the Spirit. I look forward to meeting you all and am trusting you to give me lots of tips for how to best enjoy fall in the Finger Lakes!"

Stacy is a graduate of Austin College (BA) in Sherman Tx, Union Theological Seminary (MDiv) in NYC, and Vanderbilt University (EdD) in Nashville, Tn. She has most recently served as the Pastor of the Buntyn Presbyterian Church in Memphis TN from 2017-2023. During that same period, she has also worked as the Director of Strategic Innovation at Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare in Memphis, implementing innovative hospital, community and faith-based programs to address social determinants of health. She has previously served as the Parish Associate at the Idlewild Presbyterian Church in Memphis, TN and Parish Assistant at the Madison Ave Presbyterian Church in NYC. She has completed PC(USA) Interim Ministry Training, and has had experience working with the Ministry Team process.

A unique set of circumstances brings Stacy to Auburn this summer and fall. She will be going to Scotland next year for a position with the Iona Community, a plan which was supposed to begin this summer but was postponed due to visa delays, making Stacy available for a short-term assignment with a church needing temporary pastoral leadership. We are lucky to be that church! The Temporary Pastor Search Team (Jill Fandrich, Linda Russell, Paul Dungey, and Jack Hardy) have had several wonderful conversations with Stacy and are excited about the gifts she brings to us. Session approved her hire on June 19, and the Commission on Ministry of the Presbytery of Cayuga-Syracuse approved her for this position on July 11. She will begin her work with us on August 1, 2023.

Please join us in welcoming Stacy to Westminster and to Auburn!



July 12, 2023