

Bardstown Road Presbyterian Church  
Louisville, Kentucky

***“We are a church of ordinary people caring for one another as we  
respond to God’s call for a just and sustainable world”***

POSITION DESCRIPTION  
(February 2013)

TITLE: Pastoral Internship with Bardstown Road Presbyterian Church

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE:

This internship invites a Seminary student to engage in the on-going ministry of a healthy, 100+ member, urban congregation. The overall design of the Internship is to allow a Seminary student to contribute in one area of personal strength they have identified in ministry, and to provide additional exposure to a wide variety of other ministry opportunities in which to explore, stretch, and grow.

This Internship will provide a student with an opportunity to express a specific area of their expertise/strength in ministry, while also providing opportunities to stretch and grow through a wide variety of additional pastoral experiences.

An essential requirement for this Internship is a participant’s ability to serve within this community of faith with energy, intelligence, imagination and love. In general terms the Internship purpose is to nurture faith and facilitate congregational experience, while helping the Intern discern and strengthen their particular sense of call to parish ministry. Our goal is not to use students for our agenda; but be useful to interns in their field education and spiritual growth.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- (1) Serves as a partner in ministry with the Bardstown Road PC congregation to nurture faith –and to support communities of faith– in the immediate neighborhood, the metropolitan area, and beyond
  - (a) through such ministries as teaching, preaching, prayer, leadership training, community organizing, and officiating in worship as assigned by the Pastor.
  - (b) by providing a witness to the gospel of Jesus Christ, and the new life possible within the kingdom of God, as a means of grace and a gift of wholeness.
- (2) Responsible for the design and implementation of ministry that is identified as an area of “Intern strength/expertise”. Such as:
  - (a) Working with parents and congregational leaders in developing educational strategy that addresses the traditional CE goals of "equipping saints for ministry," and "faith seeking understanding". Or, perhaps:

(continued)

- (b) Working closely with congregational leaders in the design, implementation and support of emerging "magnet ministries" to help establish new relationships with new people in ways that build vitality within the church and expands our base for ministry within the community. Or:
- (c) . . . Whatever specific responsibility builds on a strength you will share in congregational ministry during the Internship.

#### RELATIONSHIPS:

Relates to Session as a regular non-voting participant; works closely with the Pastor; relates to the church staff as a team member; works directly with Committee chairpersons; relates to the congregation in worship, education, mission and in making pastoral calls; relates to the Presbytery of Mid-Kentucky as a guest at meetings.

#### EVALUATION:

Performance review will be conducted in consultation with Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary and in conjunction with the Pastor.

#### COMMENTS FROM PREVIOUS INTERNS:

*"I think I most appreciated the trust that the pastor and the congregation had in me from the start to lead and experiment with leadership . . . and, Bardstown Road's flexibility in allowing me to do work around my student schedule. The people are awesome, loving, and honest in their critiques and their feelings."*

*"BRPC is a very dynamic congregation, one that is eager to try new things. This is especially true with children's ministry, which has expanded in new and exciting ways this past year. Through a new outreach ministry, BRPC has welcomed several children, ages five through high-school, from a low-income immigrant community in downtown Louisville. This is now a very important ministry as it has caused the BRPC congregation to reach out beyond its immediate boundaries and it is also providing an opportunity for mentorship between the youth and members of the congregation."*

*"In terms of internship opportunities, seminary students who serve at BRPC are invited to take initiative and think creatively. Rather than have a set structure for the internship, students can develop in areas in ministry that are most important to them. Interns have leadership opportunities during worship as well as during programs outside of worship. Interns are given space to identify where their passions are, which may change and shift during the year-long internship. This is a great church in which to find your pastoral identity."*

If you have questions or need additional information, please contact Chris Lieberman (502-475-8025) (rt66chris@gmail.com) Please visit the church website at [brpres.org](http://brpres.org) which provides more information about the congregation and its programs.