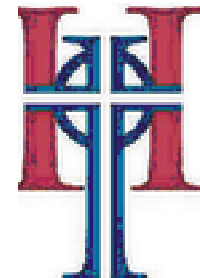


HOPE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The Pastor Nominating Committee

Joyfully presents for your consideration



REV. KEVIN MORRIS

Pastor

Please join us for worship at 9:30 AM on Sunday, November 15, 2015,

followed by a congregational meeting to extend a call to Reverend Kevin Morris to serve as our new pastor .

A reception to meet and welcome him and his wife, Kim, will take place in Fellowship Hall after the meeting.



Kevin Morris

Bio/Faith Journey

I was born in Leesburg, Florida where I was baptized at First Presbyterian Church. We moved to Sarasota when I was five, where my parents, sisters, and their families still live.

My family attended Pine Shores Presbyterian where I was very involved in the life of the church and made my profession of faith. I graduated from Riverview High School in Sarasota and then attended Western Carolina University where I received a Bachelors of Science in business. Next, I was in the business world for approximately two years, and even worked in Ft. Myers before entering seminary. During these 'secular work' years, God prepared me to answer His call, giving me life experience which was invaluable preparation for ministry.

I began my pastoral studies the fall of 1989, at Columbia Theological Seminary in Atlanta. I believe I was the first inquirer/candidate to move through the process of the newly formed Peace River Presbytery.

During my second year of seminary, I was blessed to meet Kim, a lifelong Presbyterian and a "Georgia Peach," who was an attorney and worked outside of Atlanta. After my graduation in 1992, Kim and I married and I answered the call to serve two yoked churches in Greens-burg, Kentucky.

I treasure the almost seven years we spent at those two Kentucky churches, one of which was in the country and one was in the city. Each Sunday morning I led two worship services, one at each church.

Kim and I thrived while serving the Lord in Kentucky, and we began a family. As our children grew, we began to miss being near our parents, which led to our move to Florida in 1999, and to my accepting a call to serve a church located in Dade City, Florida.



Shannon Reverend Kevin Morris Kim Josh

For the next sixteen years my life has been balanced as a husband, father and minister in Dade City. Through those years I have been blessed to lead a wonderful congregation and to be very involved in the Dade City Community, where I have strived to spread the Christian faith outside the walls of the church through service and fellowship.

Kim and I like walking and attending sporting events. I have faithfully attended the Bucs' home games for years, although there has not always been a lot to cheer about! Kim and I have watched a lot of dance recitals, karate tournaments and tennis matches through the years and have enjoyed raising busy children, although it is a little quieter around the house now. Our daughter, Shannon, is now a senior at Florida State University and our son, Josh, is a freshman at the University of Kentucky.

Now I am being called to new challenges and God has blessed me with a glorious opportunity. I am looking forward with excitement to building the body of Christ through service at Hope United Presbyterian Church and to starting the next chapter of my life with the members of Hope United, as we follow the Lord together.

Impressions of Kevin

from your PNC....

Our very first reaction to Kevin's application was unanimously favorable. As we moved forward it was evident that he is the one to lead us to a new plateau. In addition to his dedication, meaningful sermons, and excellent qualifications, he is a wonderfully kind, loving, and sensitive person. He and Kim will be a welcome addition to our church family.

(Susan Schmitt)

One of the most important things I've learned about Kevin is that he has seriously sought God's will as he thought about committing to the leadership of Hope. We on the PNC have also sought God's direction, and we believe Kevin is a part of God's plan for Hope. We look forward to being a part of the changes and growth that we hope will be a part of Hope's future.

(Gary Seacat)

As we began to consider Kevin as our candidate, what impressed me most was that he and Kim want to develop relationships within the congregation-- they want to be part of our church family. Kevin wants to be an active leader of our future growth. He doesn't want to be a "maintenance pastor". He is active in community organizations, and wants to use this community involvement to help grow our church.

(Jane Woolbert)

It was my pleasure to hear Kevin Morris preach and conduct the worship service at his church in Dade City and also from the pulpit at Lely in October. With the combination of his two pulpit appearances, combined with the interview opportunities and several social conversations, his warmth, sincerity and commitment to our Lord and Savior were apparent to me through all our interactions.

(Garth Errington)

Kevin's energy and enthusiasm were evident from our first contacts. He has strong preaching skills, very strong outreach to all, an interest in music and mission, is a really nice person with a wonderful wife, Kim, and will provide excellent leadership for Hope Church for many years.

(Dave Rea)

Pastor Nominating Committee

Garth Errington Dave Rea Susan Schmitt

Gary Seacat Jane Woolbert

Molly Godley—COM Representative

Statement Of Faith:

I believe in the one triune God: God the Father, God the Son, Jesus Christ and God the Holy Spirit. God is Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer.

I believe the Bible is the inspired, written word of God. It was written by people, God's children, and inspired by the Holy Spirit. The Bible is the revelation of God's truth and Holy will in matters of faith and life. The Bible gives us insight to God, so we may have a closer, more loving relationship with God and with each other. The Bible shows us freedom and sets boundaries for our benefit. There is no higher authoritative work than the Bible.

Born of the virgin, I believe Jesus came to us fully human and fully God. Humble and obedient, He came to preach the Good News to the poor, heal the sick, release the captives and offer forgiveness to all humankind. Because of His love for us, Jesus paid the price for our sins by dying a cruel, painful death. In three days He was raised to life, proving His power to defeat death. Through the power of His resurrection, we are delivered from death to new life.

I believe we are saved by God's grace alone, through faith, in God's Son, Jesus Christ. Our Savior, Jesus Christ, is the only way to eternal salvation. No one dwells with God in heaven except through Christ. There is nothing we can do to earn salvation. Jesus is the Savior and He sits on the throne in my heart.

I believe God chooses who will be dwelling with the Lord forever. God wants all to be saved and be listed in the Book of the Living. Through God's divine providence, once we are saved for eternity, nothing can take that away. Sadly, through freewill, some reject the relationship God offers through Christ and may miss the eternity of basking in the love of God.

I believe in the priesthood of all believers. All have access to God. Christ is the only intermediary with the Holy Spirit binding the relationship.

I believe God has given everyone spiritual gifts to use for the glory of God and to bring joy into their lives and into the lives of others. One of the church's responsibilities is to encourage and allow its members to identify, develop and use those gifts.

Rev. Kevin Morris

Formal Education:

Columbia Theological Seminary (PCUSA), Decatur , GA
Master of Divinity (1992)
Western Carolina University, Cullowhee, NC
BS in Business Administration, Marketing Major (1986)

Continuing Education:

(In Kentucky 1992-98)
Church Redevelopment Training
Committee for Preparation for Ministry Synod
Midwest Career Counseling
Coach Mentor Training for Church Redevelopment
(In Florida 1999 to present)
Conflict Resolution
Evangelism Explosion Leadership
Spiritual Renewal
Interpersonal Leadership/Competencies

Work Experience:

Solo Pastor, Dade City, FL, (3/99 to 12/15)
Solo Pastor, KY—two yoked churches (8/92 to 2/99)

Service to Church and Denomination:

(all Presbytery)
Nominating Committee
Investigating and Prosecuting Committee
Personnel Committee Chair
Executive Council
Committee/Commission on Ministry—East Region Chair
Search Committee for Coach/Coordinator
General Assembly Observer (2008) and Commissioner (2010)
Ministerial Association—Past President and Treasurer