

## **BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN CHRIST:**

First and foremost, I want to express my gratitude to the Pastor Nominating Committee of First Presbyterian Church for the way they represented you and the way they represented our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Hospitality, vision, thoughtfulness, and prayer were their trademark and my imagination and vision were captured by their hopeful expressions of what has been and by what could be. In them I witnessed a church not only committed to worship, strong preaching, and comprehensive spiritual formation for all ages but also committed to justice, mission, and advocacy beyond its walls. As the Call came from the PNC we embraced it as God's call and were thrilled to accept! We look forward to getting to know you and learning of God's continued faithfulness through the work and witness of First Presbyterian. We also look forward to dreaming new dreams for the Kingdom with you and visioning for new patterns of faithfulness which love and bless Allentown and the world. Truly exciting days are ahead – thanks be to God! - Pastor Tony Sundermeier

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**Pastor Sundermeier will begin his service to our church on Sunday, September 13.**

### **First Presbyterian Church of Allentown's Vision Statement**

We are people who expect to learn from God's Word, expect to work as God's hands, expect to encounter God in all people, and expect to rejoice in God always.

**TONY SUNDERMEIER**  
Pastor, First Presbyterian Church of Allentown





### THE SUNDERMEIERS

Tony, Katie, Jonathan (Jonny), and Luke

After nearly a year of searching, First Presbyterian's Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) has found the candidate they believe God has chosen to lead this congregation, and he has accepted our call. With great joy we introduce Reverend N. Anthony (Tony) Sundermeier as our candidate for the position of pastor at First Presbyterian Church of Allentown.

Pastor Sundermeier, who grew up in the Mayfair section of Philadelphia, received his undergraduate degree from Eastern College ('97 B.A. Theology) and his graduate degree from Princeton Theological Seminary ('03 M.Div.). He is currently half-way through his Doctor of Ministry degree in Leadership Formation at Biblical Seminary in Hatfield, PA. Tony has served churches in Moorestown, NJ, Wayne, PA, and Bonn, Germany, and is currently serving as the Preaching/Teaching Pastor, an Associate position, at the Westminster Presbyterian Church in West Chester, PA. Tony also serves as liaison to the Outreach Team at Westminster, has served as the Lead Pastor for Westminster's satellite campus called the 'Dilworthtown Community Church', and is active in mission. Tony is a regular teacher in The Academy for Theology and Spiritual Growth – an educational ministry of Westminster. Tony is married to Katie, who is also ordained in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), and she currently serves as the Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care at Westminster. Katie is a graduate of Vanderbilt University and Princeton Theological Seminary. The Sundermeiers have two sons, Jonathan (Jonny) age 6, and Luke, 16 months.

During the Pastor Nominating Committee's search, they had an opportunity to hear the voice of Pastor Sundermeier both in the pulpit and through his written thought. From his writings, a candidate was found who, in his own words, is eager to celebrate God's faithfulness in past ministry and practice, and to live into the imagination of what it means to be God's witnesses today and into God's future. Tony's core values include: self-initiation for spiritual formation; a desire for life-long learning; a commitment to missional living and Kingdom networking; and thinking and acting theologically for the sake of the Gospel *and* the sake of the world.

Pastor Sundermeier comes to First Presbyterian Church to serve a congregation that desires spiritual formation for the sake of missional living, as the church does not exist for itself. He is committed in his preaching, teaching and leadership to inspire congregations to bear witness to the love of God in Jesus Christ to their neighborhood and to the world.

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#### FORMAL EDUCATION:

- 2008-2011 Biblical Seminary, Hatfield, PA  
Doctor of Ministry Candidate in Advanced Missional Leadership
- 2003 Thomas Jefferson University Hospital, Philadelphia, PA  
Clinical Pastoral Education
- 1997-2003 Princeton Theological Seminary, Princeton, New Jersey  
Master of Divinity
- 1993-1997 Eastern University, St. David's, PA  
B.A. Theology with a Philosophy Concentration

#### CONTINUING EDUCATION:

- 2008 Certified Seminary Intern Supervisor, Lancaster Theological Seminary, Lancaster, PA
- 2007 Certified Youth Ministry Intern Supervisor Eastern University, St. Davids, PA
- 2007 Certified Seminary Intern Supervisor, Princeton Theological Seminary, Princeton, NJ
- 2007 Engle Preaching Fellowship, Princeton Theological Seminary, Princeton, NJ
- 2006 Certified Seminary Intern Supervisor, Palmer Theological Seminary, Philadelphia, PA
- 2004 Emergent Convention, Nashville, TN
- 2003 National Pastors Convention, Nashville, TN
- 2003 Institute for Youth Ministry, Princeton, NJ

#### SIDENOTES:

**Tony's Blog** (Thoughtful. Intentional. Missional.): [www.tonysundermeier.wordpress.com](http://www.tonysundermeier.wordpress.com)

**Tony's personal interests:** travel, golf, reading, cooking, basketball, the Phillies, the Eagles, playing Star Wars and Batman with his boys!