



# REV. BETHANY BENZ-WHITTINGTON

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## EDUCATION

**BA, History**  
University of Tennessee  
2006

**Master of Divinity**  
Columbia Theological Seminary  
2015

## ABOUT ME

I'm an experienced Presbyterian Teaching Elder, with a passion for the polity that guides us. My professional and volunteer history cover a wide range of gifts and skills, including people and money management, professional trainings, database work, emergency response, pastoral presence and care, and finding joy.

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### ● 2012-Current

Self-Employed  
Consultant

I consult with pastors, PNCs, and Sessions across the country in various areas of need. The most typical is polity consults with pastors, however I also do conflict management, creative communication, visioning, presentations on GA business, and much more.

### ● Dec 2020 - Present

Sacred Calls, sacredcalls.com  
Owner/Educator

My company's main goal is to offer help and encouragement to my pastor colleagues. I do this by picking up the task of teaching when they need to lay it down but their people still desire faith formation. Most of the work I have done has been in the form of trainings, particularly officer training, but I have also done progressive lectionary studies, current events, Advent bundles, and more. The creation, teaching, and training is such a joy for me, and I am gratified knowing my friends and colleagues have space to do the work they love.

### ● 2017 - 2019

Westview Presbyterian Church, Longmont, CO  
Associate Pastor/Acting Head of Staff

As the AP, I acted as a generalist with special responsibilities for children and youth. I was the volunteer organizer, the staff support for the food pantry, and the go-to polity expert. As Acting Head of Staff during an interim period, I took on all people management, all worship and Session responsibilities, all pastoral care.

### ● 2015 - 2017

Starbucks, Jacksonville, FL  
Partner

I took orders, made drinks, worked the drive-thru, and made nice with a lot of different kinds of people.

### ● 2008 - 2012

Lincoln Property Company  
Property Manager

I ran a 100,000 square foot commercial office building in Vinings, GA. I was the main point of contact for the sole occupant/owner, PrintPak Inc, doing everything from creating and managing the budget to cleaning the gym. My main role, however, was creating a professional and friendly relationship with the client, and expertly maintaining their building, and managing a staff of contractors.

## GIFTS AND SKILLS

Public Communication

Collaboration

PCUSA Polity

Encouragement and  
Affirmation

Editing/Attention  
to detail

Teaching/  
Training

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## SERVICE TO THE LARGER CHURCH & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- **2017-2022** - Grassroots campaign leader to add 12 weeks paid family leave to BOO
- 2023-Present - Blount County Ecumenical Action Council, Recording Clerk
- 2022 - Presbytery of East Tennessee Youth Summit keynote speaker
- 2021-Present - Planned Parenthood Clergy Coalition of TN and North MS
- 2020-Present - Knoxville Moms Demand Action
- 2020-2022 - Gig pastor across the country
- 2020 - Presbyterian Peace Fellowship Teach-in
- 2017-2020 - Presbytery of Plains and Peaks Committee on Ministry
- 2017-2020 - Together Colorado
- 2017-2020 - Colorado Ceasefire
- 2017-Present - Association of Presbyterian Christian Educators
- 2016-Present - Young Clergy Women International
- 2016-2017 - Florida Presbyteries FLAPDAN (Florida Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Network) Board
- 2015 Summer - Ghost Ranch Education and Retreat Center College Staff Coordinator
- 2012-2014 - Presbytery of Greater Atlanta, Central Presbyterian Church, Ruling Elder
- 2010-2012 - Atlanta Concert Ringers
- 2005 - Presbytery of East Tennessee PDA Mission Trip Coordination Assistant
- 2004 - Presbytery of Greater Atlanta Youth Council Advisor

## GENERAL ASSEMBLY PARTICIPATION

- **2022** - Virtual GA
  - Organizer for Family Leave
- **2020** - Virtual GA
  - Organizer for Family Leave
- **2018** - St. Louis, Missouri
  - Presbytery of Plains and Peaks
    - Overture Author/Advocate
    - YAAD (Young Adult Advisory Delegate) Trainer
- **2016** - Portland, Oregon
  - Presbytery of St. Augustine
    - The Presbyterian Outlook Blogger
- **2014** - Detroit, Michigan
  - Presbytery of Greater Atlanta
    - Student Assistant
- **2012** - Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
  - Volunteer
- **2010** - Minneapolis, Minnesota
  - Observer
- **2006** - Birmingham, Alabama
  - Presbytery of East Tennessee
    - Commissioner Trainer, Observer
- **2004** - Richmond, Virginia
  - Presbytery of Greater Atlanta
    - Overture Author/Advocate
    - Covenant Network YAD Liaison
- **2002** - Columbus, Ohio
  - Presbytery of Greater Atlanta
    - YAD (Youth Advisory Delegate)
    - Commission Moderator

## IMPORTANT LINKS

As the main organizer for the recent addition of family leave to pastors terms of call in the Book of Order, I participated in an interview for Presbyterian News Service:

<https://www.pcusa.org/news/2023/5/15/the-fight-for-twelve/>

Sacred Calls' website: [sacredcalls.com](https://sacredcalls.com)

A blog I wrote for A Sanctified Art:  
<https://sanctifiedart.org/blog/a-resource-for-pastors-addressing-infertility-miscarriage-child-loss>

A blog series I curated for NEXT Church:  
<https://nextchurch.net/my-generation-in-ministry/>

Worship at Highland Presbyterian Church on Women's Sunday, February 7, 2021 (I co-led with my husband, Rev. Matthew Benz-Whittington):  
<https://fb.watch/5HzlvmcFou/>