

Chad Neal
Biographical Statement

When people ask me, “Where are you from?” or “Where did you grow up?” I have to pause before I respond. My first inclination is to say, “America.” Shortly after I was born my father went to work for Honeywell Corporation. About every five years Honeywell transferred him from where he was working to a new office in a new state. So my growing up was done in Minneapolis, MN, Denver, CO, and Detroit, MI. When I was sixteen, my father left Honeywell for a small company in Orange County, California and we moved back to Southern California.

After returning to California I began attending Westminster Presbyterian Church in Westlake Village. It was after attending the youth group for several months and hearing the gospel presented in new ways, that God’s grace and presence through Jesus Christ became real to me. In college I began to serve in leadership positions for Junior High and High School youth groups. I found my greatest joy was in serving God through teaching the Scriptures and praying with others. I knew God was calling me into ministry, and I came under care of the San Fernando Presbytery.

I graduated from UC Santa Barbara with a degree in Business Economics. I attended Princeton Theological Seminary. While at Princeton, I met Cindy Graham, the most wonderful woman in the world. Cindy and I married after I graduated. I received a call from Delanco Presbyterian Church in Delanco, New Jersey. This worked well, as Cindy was a year behind me in seminary. She commuted from Delanco to Princeton to finish her MDiv, and then another year to receive a ThM.

I served as pastor of the Delanco Church for six years. In 1988 Cindy and I received a call to be Co-pastors of Westminster Church in Sparta, Illinois. Sparta was a small town surrounded by farm lands and coal mines. It was a wonderful place to raise our two children. After 14 years serving at Westminster, we felt God’s call to move. We were blessed to receive a call to Fuquay Varina Presbyterian Church in Fuquay Varina, North Carolina. We served as co-pastors for 12 years.

In 2013 God stirred our hearts that it was time to begin a new ministry. In the spring of 2014 several things happened. I began doing pulpit supply in New Hope and Coastal Carolina Presbyteries: Cindy and I attended level 1 Interim Training sponsored by the synods of Mid-America and Lincoln Trails: And Cindy and I also joined the staff of Global Training Network (GTN), a non-denominational ministry committed to training indigenous pastors in third world countries. As a part of GTN we began traveling to Kenya and working with pastors who live in rural areas of Kisii county. In August 2018, I traveled to Tete, Mozambique to work with pastors there, and to determine if beginning a new training program was a where God was leading me. In the midst of this, I feel strongly called to serve in interim ministry. I have seen the need of several churches I have served as pulpit supply and strongly believe I can help them during their time of transition.