



HIS FAMILY

Patrick was born and raised in Ninety-Six, South Carolina, a small town in the Piedmont region of the state. His heritage has given him a slight Southern drawl, and a fondness for boiled peanuts. He enjoys reading and watching movies. He met his wife, Deb, at Princeton Theological Seminary. They have been married 30 years. She is an ordained minister in the United Church of Christ and serves as a chaplain at a retirement community in Delaware. Their son, Nathan, has graduated from college and is currently working in anticipation of pursuing a PhD in intellectual history.

MAPC is located at the center of one of the largest and most diverse metropolitan areas in the world, yet our congregation of 600 active members has a “small town” feel. We are a warm community of faith where worship, evangelism, education, fellowship, and mission are priorities. We seek to help our members be Christ’s presence to one another and to bear His presence to those we encounter in the world.

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Introducing The Reverend Dr. J. Patrick Vaughn



Transitional Pastor,
Madison Avenue
Presbyterian Church



ABOUT PATRICK

The Committee was struck by Patrick's strength as a spiritual leader, his thought-provoking sermons based on extensive reading and study, his inquisitive mind, and his engaging sense of humor. His references report that he has particular skills in pastoral counseling and care, and in stewardship and church development.

As a friend and colleague said of him, "He understands church process really well, meaning the developmental stage of a church, where a church is in its journey, to understand where they are and anticipate with them the steps that are needed to move forward." His strong interpersonal skills will allow him to work well with our highly experienced staff.

EXPERIENCE

In his over thirty years of ministry, Patrick has led churches as small as 50 and as large as 1600. He has also trained as a pastoral counselor and studied improv. He is currently the Interim Minister at Bedford Presbyterian Church in Bedford, NY. He has also served as Pastor and Head of Staff at Harbor View Presbyterian Church in Charleston, South Carolina; Paoli Presbyterian Church in Pennsylvania; and Red Clay Creek Presbyterian Church in Wilmington, Delaware.

Patrick attended Lander University in Greenwood, South Carolina. While studying there, his religious vocation was awakened by two professors who encouraged him to study religion and philosophy. This call led to seminary at Princeton. He has a Doctor of Ministry degree from Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, Georgia.

Patrick pursues his pastoral work coupled with a writing vocation, appearing in a number of publications, including Good Faith Media and the Huffington Post. He is the author of *Meeting Jesus at Starbucks: Good News from Those Done with Church* (Pinnacle Leadership Press, 2018).



Patrick comes to MAPC after a review of a slate of candidates. Session appointed a Transitional Pastor Nominating Committee to review the candidates and bring back a recommendation for Session. The Committee (Carolyn Clark, Chair, Laura Burg, Curtis Field, Dorothy Kleinert, R. Brent Jones) interviewed qualified candidates and carried out extensive reference checks. Patrick's fit with our church, our needs, and our worship is clear. We are grateful that he was brought to us.

THE PROCESS