

MINISTERIAL INFORMATION FORM
The Orthodox Presbyterian Church
607 North Easton Road, Bldg. E, Box P
Willow Grove, PA 19090
215/830-0900

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

Name: **Christopher L. Post** Date: **08/29/09**
Street address: **7650 Cardinal Dr.** e-mail address: **clpost2@sbcglobal.net**
City: **Jenison** State: **MI** Zip: **49428** Phone: (H) **616-669-6602** (O)
Date of birth: **8/14/73** Place of birth: **East Grand Rapids, MI** Citizenship: **United States**

2. FAMILY INFORMATION

Single Married Remarried Widowed

Have you or your wife ever been divorced? **No** Yes
(If yes, attach a statement of the circumstances, including the present attitude of your presbytery / classis.)

Wife's name: **Corrie (born 11/27/73)** Date of marriage: **1/12/96**

Children:

Name Alaina	Age	born 2/10/00
Name Caleb	Age	born 12/31/01
Name Seth	Age	born 10/16/03
Name Jacob	Age	born 12/16/05

3. HEALTH INFORMATION

You: **Excellent** Good Fair Poor Your wife: **Excellent** Good Fair Poor

Describe any limiting factors regarding your family's health: **My son Seth suffers from asthma, triggered from environmental allergies.**

4. EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION

College: **Reformed Bible College, Grand Rapids MI** Degree: **Bachelor of Religious Education** Year graduated: **1996** NOTE: I was also certified as a teacher/trainer by **Evangelism Explosion International** in May, 1996 as part of my college education.

Seminary: **Westminster Theological Seminary in California** Degree: **Master of Divinity**
Year graduated: **2000**

Other graduate training: **Attended Calvin Theological Seminary during 1996-97 school year; transferred to WTS/C in July 1997.**

5. ECCLESIASTICAL INFORMATION

Denomination: **Orthodox Presbyterian Church; family's membership is at Cedar OPC, Hudsonville MI**

Presbytery / classis: **Presbytery of Michigan and Ontario**

Licensed **Ordained** Date and denomination in which licensed: **in Presbytery of Midwest in 9/03; credentials transferred to Presbytery of Michigan and Ontario in 5/05; ordained and installed as associate pastor at Cedar OPC, Hudsonville MI in 6/09.**

Are you in agreement with the doctrine of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church as contained in the Westminster Confession of Faith and its Larger and Shorter Catechisms?

Yes No (If no, please attach a statement specifying the disagreement.)

Are you in agreement with the government, discipline and worship of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church as contained in the Book of Church Order of the OPC?

Yes No (If no, please attach a statement specifying the disagreement.)

6. MINISTRY EXPERIENCE INFORMATION

List the names and dates of your ministries. (Another resume cannot be substituted for this section.)

Church	City and State	Presbytery/ Classis	Year
Associate Pastor, Cedar OPC, Hudsonville MI		Michigan and Ontario (OPC)	6/09 - current
Intern, Millcreek OPC, Grand Rapids, MI		Michigan and Ontario (OPC)	5/07 - 12/07
Pastoral Assistant, Calvary OPC, Cedar Grove WI		Midwest (OPC)	2001-04
Intern, Escondido URC, Escondido, CA		Southwest (URC)	1997-2000
Summer intern, Fellowship EPC, South Lyon, MI		Midwest (EPC)	1999
Student Pastor, Walker CRC, Grand Rapids, MI		Grand Rapids North (CRC)	1996-97

Other work and experience (intern, business, profession, etc.).

As a member and associate pastor at Cedar OPC, I have been actively involved in the ministry there. I have been involved in leadership for both junior high and senior high youth groups. I have taught several high school and adult Sunday School classes at Cedar OPC. I have taught our summer catechism club to our students, grades K-5. I have preached many times at the Holland Rescue Mission. I also attend our monthly session meetings. I have filled the pulpit at Cedar Church and assisted in teaching various Bible studies at the community's Love, INC (In the Name of Christ) with Pastor Steve Igo.

In 2007, I completed an eight month, part-time internship at Millcreek OPC. My requirements consisted of preaching the morning sermon and teaching Sunday school each week. I also led a Bible study every other week. I preached two evening sermons a month and led the worship on the remaining Sunday nights, for the purpose of preparation for my ordination exams, pending a call from a congregation. I also attended the session meetings as well as assisted in the outreach and visitation of the church.

I have had opportunities to share God's Word from the pulpit of several OPC congregations in the Presbytery of Michigan and Ontario, including Grand Rapids, Wyoming, Fremont, Coopersville, Gowen, Metamora, Brighton, Southfield, Manistee, Ada, Hillsdale, Rockford, Central Lake, and Lansing, MI; also Walkerton, Indiana; also Sheffield and Vineland, Ontario. While in the Presbytery of the Midwest, I had the privilege of preaching at our OPC churches in Cedar Grove, Sheboygan, Oostburg, Appleton, Reedsburg, and Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin; also Orland Park, Illinois. I have also preached in a RCUS congregation in Wisconsin, a URC congregation in Michigan, and a CRC congregation in Michigan where I was raised.

I served Calvary OPC in Cedar Grove, WI for approximately 3 years as pastoral assistant, where my duties were extensive. I assisted in leading worship each Sunday morning and preaching when Pastor Edwards was not available. I was a member of the Christian Education committee where I organized our catechism schedule for grades 1 through high school. I organized and led both our junior high and senior high youth groups. I was also involved in our joint fellowship outings with the area Reformed churches for junior and senior high students. At Calvary OPC, I taught Sunday school for 9th and 10th grade students; also, an adults class. I assisted in leading our Senior Saints group, aged 65 and older. I also assisted in our annual Vacation Bible School during the summer. I served on the outreach and missions committees as well as participated in all monthly session meetings. I was involved in hospital visits and counseling sessions with members of the congregation. Four times a year, I would preach at the Milwaukee Rescue Mission. I would also attend the stated presbytery meetings of the Presbytery of the Midwest two times a year.

In the past, I was involved in ministry among other congregations. At Walker Christian Reformed Church (now United Reformed), I began and led a college and career group and taught the senior high youth group. At Escondido United Reformed Church, I helped lead the senior high youth group, taught 6th grade catechism, and participated in a young married's Bible study. During my summer internship at Fellowship Evangelical Presbyterian Church, I preached from 2 Corinthians, coordinated the summer's Vacation Bible School, taught an adult Sunday School class, and began working on an outreach strategy. I also taught 6th grade Sunday School and led the senior high youth group at the church in which I grew up at Dorr Christian Reformed Church, Dorr MI.

To provide for the needs of my family, I am employed by Godwin Plumbing in Grand Rapids, MI, working approximately 48 hours a week in the warehouse. During my high school and college years, I worked there part time. I was employed there for one year full-time between seminary and moving to Wisconsin in 2001 to take on the responsibilities of pastoral assistant at Calvary OPC, Cedar Grove WI. I also worked on a part-time basis for Superior Ready-Mix Concrete Company in Escondido, California during my seminary years.

7. COMPENSATION INFORMATION (Optional) Present ministry for which remuneration is received:

Your cash salary: **\$ 0** Value of housing provided: \$ Pension: \$
 Social Security or equivalent: \$ Hospitalization: \$ Insurance: \$ Utilities: \$
 Auto allowance: \$ Books: \$ Other: \$ Vacation: weeks Other benefits: I
am paid a stipend plus mileage for any pulpit supply provided at Cedar OPC and other churches.

8. MINISTRY PREFERENCES (Check all which you are willing to consider.)

SIZE CHURCH	TYPE OF COMMUNITY	GEOGRAPHICAL AREA
Under 50 members	Inner city	California
100 members	Urban	Northwest
100-250 members	Suburban	Southwest
250-500 members	Small town	Rocky Mountain
No preference	Rural	Midwest
	College	South
	Retirement	Southeast
	Resort/recreational	Mid-Atlantic
		Northeast
		No preference

9. EVALUATIVE INFORMATION

On a scale of 7 to 1, evaluate your abilities and weaknesses in your ministry by circling the number which best represents what you perceive to be your ability in each of the following areas:

	Very Strong	Strong	Somewhat Strong	Average	Somewhat Weak	Weak	Very Weak
Preaching	7	6	<u>5</u>	4	3	2	1
Teaching	7	6	<u>5</u>	4	3	2	1
Evangelism	7	6	5	<u>4</u>	3	2	1
Discipleship	7	6	5	<u>4</u>	3	2	1

Worship leadership	7	6	<u>5</u>	4	3	2	1
Church administration	7	6	5	<u>4</u>	3	2	1
Teamwork / delegation	7	6	<u>5</u>	4	3	2	1
Counseling	7	6	5	<u>4</u>	3	2	1
Leadership training	7	6	5	4	<u>3</u>	2	1
Christian education	7	6	<u>5</u>	4	3	2	1
Pastoral visitation	7	<u>6</u>	5	4	3	2	1
Diaconal ministry	7	6	5	4	<u>3</u>	2	1
Youth work	7	6	<u>5</u>	4	3	2	1
Children's work	7	6	<u>5</u>	4	3	2	1
Ministry to senior citizens	7	6	5	<u>4</u>	3	2	1
Singles ministry	7	6	<u>5</u>	4	3	2	1
Presbytery/denominational Involvement	7	6	5	<u>4</u>	3	2	1
Community service	7	6	5	4	<u>3</u>	2	1

10. PERSONAL FAITH AND LIFE

A. Conversion and Call - provide a statement of your faith in Christ and walk with the Lord, your call to the ministry and your devotional life. *(Try to keep this under one page.)*

I was raised in a family that believed in God. I went to church regularly and attended many of the extra church functions, such as Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, catechism, Cadets, and youth group. Outwardly, I appeared to be “a good kid,” but inwardly I did not benefit from my religious instruction. I struggled with sins that I found difficult to control and the guilt from committing these sins.

Soon after my high school graduation, the Holy Spirit began to work in my life. Outwardly, I made profession of faith in my church, but I was still struggling inwardly with these sins. During that same summer, I attended a youth retreat in Colorado. I do not recall what the speaker said that impacted me, but I found myself standing among thousands of teenagers, asking God for His forgiveness and assistance in living for Him.

There in the Rocky Mountains, I truly received God's eternal life by trusting in Jesus Christ alone for my salvation and realizing that my purpose was to serve Him with all my life.

After these two events, I discovered what God can do with a person like me, a sinner undeserving of His grace. I began to sense God's forgiveness when I repented of them. As a new believer, I was convicted that God wanted me to share His Gospel with those who do not know or understand in the ministry. Approximately four weeks before I was supposed to begin classes at Grand Valley State University in Allendale MI, I enrolled at Reformed Bible College in Grand Rapids MI to major in religion/theology and minor in New Testament Greek. After graduation, I attended Calvin Seminary for one year before transferring to Westminster Theological Seminary in California, where I received a Master's of Divinity.

Since my conversion, I have been involved in a variety of ministerial opportunities, which have verified my calling. I have led worship and exhorted for many different Reformed congregations. Besides being part of session and committee meetings, I have worked with the elderly, visited the sick and hospitalized, and counseled the hurting. I have been involved with outreach of the church, mission trips, and evangelism opportunities. I have ministered to both Junior High and Senior High youth groups in teaching, outings, retreats, and discussions. I have also taught adult, college-aged, high school, and middle school Sunday school classes many different subjects. I have assisted in Vacation Bible School in the areas of leadership, teaching, and games. I have received much encouragement and support in these endeavors, done to the glory of God. With this in mind, I believe that the Lord is calling me to full-time pastoral ministry in the Orthodox Presbyterian Church.

B. Caring for Yourself and Your Family - briefly respond to the following questions:

1. Describe how you nurture your own relationship with the Lord. **Because of God's grace in my life, I live my life as a way of saying thank you to the Lord for what He has done for me through Christ Jesus. I spend time alone with God by reading His Word and applying it to my life, with assistance of R.C. Sproul's *Tabletalk*. I pray often at many times during the day (see #2). I am thankful for my wife's relationship with the Lord, because together we can look at life's challenges with "the spectacles of faith." I enjoy fellowship with other Christians where we can encourage one another in our relationships. This occurs not only in a formal church setting, but also with brothers and sisters in Christ in our secular lives.**

2. Describe your prayer life. **My prayer life is continually being offered to the Lord, as Scripture teaches us to "pray continually" (I Thessalonians 5:17). I am constantly praying for God's will to be done, not mine. Many times during the day, I am praying for my family, my co-workers, the church, etc. I begin in the morning, asking the Lord to bless myself and my family for the day. The nature of my current full-time vocation allows me to spend time in prayer as I work. My family spends time praying together during our family devotions. I close the day, thanking God for the day's events and asking for His forgiveness for my shortcomings and His blessings on us as we sleep, for prayer is "the chief part of the thankfulness which God requires of us" (HC 116).**

3. If you are married, how do you seek to nourish and cherish your wife? **I am so thankful to the Lord for placing Corrie in my life. We both acknowledge that we are not perfect spouses, so we encourage one another to follow the ways of the Lord and discourage one another not to do things on our own. We spend time together in God's Word and pray for one another. As spiritual head of my household, I pray often for her that she would be a good mother, an excellent wife, and a Christ bearer before others.**

4. If you have young children in your household, what are you doing to bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord? **Although not perfectly, I try to demonstrate my faith with my lips and my life. My wife and I desire to raise our children to trust in Christ alone for their salvation and to live our lives in thanksgiving to him according to God's Word. My family has family devotions after the evening meal, which includes a Bible story, questions, and prayer. We have taught them the importance of prayer, such as the Lord's Prayer and before bed. Our children often attend worship twice on Sunday and they faithfully attend Sunday School. We have placed our children in Christian education for grades pre-school and kindergarten. Being gifted in teaching and administration, my wife has begun teaching Christian based education to our children at home.**

5. If there are older children (age 18 and older) in the household, how do you seek to nurture their relationship with the Lord? **N/A**

C. Personal Views - briefly respond to the following questions:

1. What is your view of the authority of the Bible in the church. **Scripture is the infallible, inspired, and authoritative Word of God and applicable to all of life. "All Scripture is God-breathed and useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work" (2 Timothy 3:16-17). Because the Bible is authoritative and applicable, the reading and preaching of the Word is very important not only in worship, but also in all of life.**

2. How do you describe the work of the Holy Spirit in the church today? **Jesus said to His disciples, "you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you" (Acts 1:8). How true this is when we think about how we lived and thought before the Lord called us. Only the Holy Spirit changes lives from old men in sin to new men in righteousness. He applies salvation to men, intercedes for us before God, and imparts gifts for ministry. Scripture teaches us that we as God's people must bear the fruit of the Spirit (Gal 5:22-23). I believe that the so-called "gifts of the Spirit," namely miracles, tongues, prophecy, and healing, have ceased at the close of the apostolic age. God now reveals Himself and declares His will in Scripture (WCF 1.6).**

3. What is your personal approach to leadership as a pastor of a church? **As I pastor, I humbly lead by the Word and by example. Ephesians 4:11-12 tells us that some are called to be "pastors and teachers for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ." As pastor of the church through the preaching and teaching of the Word of God, I am called to shepherd God's people, equipping the saints for spiritual battle. Yet, I am also called to**

bear the whole armor of God as I battle side-by-side with my brothers and sisters in Christ against our enemy (Ephesians 6:10-20).

4. What are your goals in the ministry? My main goal is “to glorify God and enjoy Him forever” by serving Him in the pastoral ministry. In order to accomplish this goal, my desire is to be ordained in a conservative Reformed denomination because Scripture is most accurately summarized in the teachings of the Reformed faith. I would like to preach and teach the Gospel, either as pastor or under the tutelage of a senior pastor. One goal is to “reach the lost” with the Gospel and “teach the found” the essentials of the Christian faith. I would like to see young people become more aware of the importance of the Christian faith, since the torch of the church is being passed to them. I desire that the church, through God’s grace, grow in faith and number as the 1st century church did in the book of Acts. I trust that in all things I must live to give glory to God alone.

5. What is your personal approach to preaching and the types of sermons you usually prepare? The preaching of God’s Word is essential and unavoidable in worship; therefore, I take great care in my sermons. There are three “P’s” in my approach - pray, prepare, and preach. I spend time asking God to open my mind and heart as I read His Word, as I prepare. I spend approximately 15 hours per sermon in preparation. I look at the original languages, prepare an outline and basic structure, compare it to the rest of Scripture, refer to solidly Reformed commentaries and confessions, and finalize my sermons, adding appropriate illustrations and anecdotes. When questions arise concerning a text, the best interpreter of Scripture is Scripture itself, so I often will cross-reference a text to see its context in redemptive history and how it points us to the crux of the Gospel - Jesus Christ. Finally I preach it - first to the preacher (me), then to the congregation. I prefer to preach through books of the Bible or character studies such as Abraham, etc. By doing this, I will preach the whole counsel of God while wrestling with texts that sometimes are difficult to interpret and apply the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

11. REFERENCES

List the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of at least five personal references:

**Rev. Dr. Richard Edwards N116 Sauk Trail Rd, Oostburg WI 53070 920-564-3610 (home)
(former pastor at Calvary OPC, Cedar Grove WI)**

**Mr. Bill Grysen 7433 Tory Dr., Hudsonville MI 49426 616-669-0125 (home)
(elder at Cedar OPC, Hudsonville MI)**

**Mr. David Heuver 10 Van Altena Ave., Cedar Grove WI 53013 920-668-8987 (home)
(elder at Calvary OPC, Cedar Grove WI)**

**Mr. Ted Himebook 209 W. Central, Zeeland MI 49464 616-772-0723 (home)
(elder at Cedar OPC, Hudsonville MI)**

Rev. Steve Igo 7471 Woodcliff Dr., Hudsonville MI 49426 616-669-9151 (office)
(pastor at Cedar OPC, Hudsonville MI)

Rev. Mick Knierim 270 Adams St. SW, Byron Center MI 49315 616-896-6636 (cell)
(associate pastor at Cedar OPC, Hudsonville MI)

Rev. Ken Smith 7482 20th Ave., Jenison MI 49428 616-667-3559 (home)
(counselor at Biblical Counseling Center, Jenison MI and clerk of Presbytery of Michigan and Ontario)

Mr. Ken Van Doorne 1660 Tamarack NW, Grand Rapids MI 49504 616-363-4665 (home)
(elder at Millcreek OPC, Grand Rapids MI)

Mr. David Van Dyke 4500 Bridgeville Ct., Hudsonville MI 49426 616-662-1121 (home)
(elder at Cedar OPC, Hudsonville MI)

You have my permission to be in contact with the persons listed above concerning my suitability for vacant positions.

The information herein provided is accurate to the best of my knowledge, and I authorize the Committee on Home Missions and Church Extension of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church to use it for evaluation purposes and to circulate it for 180 days to presbyteries and sessions which request it.

Signature:

Date:

HM0104