

Church Leadership Connection
The Call System for the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

Detailed Info for PIF #: 100025543.1		
Professional ID:	100025543	
Name:	Laura Elizabeth Terasaki	
Phone:	425-941-9376	
Alternate Phone:		
Fax:		
E-Mail:	lauraterasaki@gmail.com	
Address:	537 E Center St, #175 Anaheim, CA 92805	
Actively Seeking?:	Yes, Actively Seeking	
Ecclesiastical Status:	PC(USA) Candidate	
Membership Presbytery:	LOS RANCHOS PRESBYTERY	
Ordination Date:		
Candidacy Date:	09/18/2014	
Formal Education:	Master of Divinity – Fuller Theological Seminary 2014 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Charles E. Fuller Scholarship • Fraser Grant, California Community Foundation Bachelor of Arts – Seattle Pacific University 2009	
Continuing Education:	2015 Transitional/Interim Ministry Training Certification, Menucha Retreat Center, OR 2015 Los Ranchos Presbytery Pastors Retreat, Malibu, CA 2014 Fresh Expressions Vision Day, San Clemente, CA 2013 Care at Life's End, Hoag Hospital, Newport Beach, CA 2013 Prepare Enrich Premarital Counseling Facilitator Training 2013 Clinical Pastoral Education, Level 1, Arcadia Methodist Hospital, Arcadia, CA 2012 Presbyterian Multicultural Conference, Montreat, NC 2012 New Beginnings Training (Participant), Los Angeles, CA 2012 1001 Worshipping Communities Conference, Newport Beach, CA	
Employment Type:	Open to both	
Minimum Effective Salary:	\$50,000 / Year	
Position Types and Experience Level	Solo Pastor Head of Staff (who supervised one teaching elder and other staff) Associate Pastor (Other) Pastor (church planter, new church development, new worshipping community) Pastor (Transformation/Redevelopment)	First Ordained Call First Ordained Call First Ordained Call First Ordained Call First Ordained Call

Church Leadership Connection
The Call System for the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

	Pastor Interim Co- Pastor Executive Pastor Evangelist or Mission Pastor Executive Director	First Ordained Call First Ordained Call First Ordained Call First Ordained Call First Ordained Call
Geographic Choices:	California Washington Geographically Limited to miles of	
Languages:	English	
Leadership Competencies:	Preaching and Worship Leadership Spiritual Maturity Technologically Savvy Change Agent Culturally Proficient Entrepreneurial Organizational Agility Bridge Builder Initiative Self Differentiation	
Training / Certification:	Clinical Pastoral Education Training Interim Ministry Training Week 1 by PC(U.S.A.) at Corbett, Oregon in 2015	
Other Training:		
Clergy Couple?	False	
Past Experience:		

Church Leadership Connection
The Call System for the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

*Please consult <http://lauraterasaki.com/> for detailed resume and curriculum vitae

Director of Youth Ministries, Cornerstone UMC, Placentia, CA (2014-Current, part-time)

- Asian American Congregation, Suburb, 125 members

Project Manager, Low and Joe Creative, Brea, CA (2015-Current, part-time)

- Secular Employment, Suburb

Pastoral Intern, New Hope Presbyterian Church, Orange, CA 2013-2014

- African American Church Plant, Suburb, 100 members

Pastoral Intern, Pasadena Presbyterian Church, Pasadena, CA 2014

- Multicultural (Caucasian, Korean, and Hispanic), City, 300+ members

Small Groups Coordinator/Assistant for Christian Growth, FPC Bellevue, Bellevue, WA 2011-2012

- Resource Size Church, City, 1000+ members

Youth Services Manager, Jubilee REACH Center, Bellevue, WA 2010-2011

- Para-Church Org, City

Para-educator/ Educational Assistant, Bellevue School District, Bellevue WA 2009-2010

- Secular Employment, City

Recreation Assistant, City of Bellevue, Bellevue, WA 2005-2010

- Secular Employment, City

Other Services:

Church Leadership Connection

The Call System for the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

Denominational Activities:

2014 Company of New Pastors

2014 General Assembly (Detroit), Social Justice Committee, Theological Student Advisory Delegate, Fuller Theological Seminary

2014 Article "Our story—and the struggle for cultural diversity" in Presbyterian's Today (May)

Cornerstone United Methodist Church:

- Staff member--Director of Youth Ministry
- Preacher (30% of the time) and worship leader
- Pastoral care
- Staff parish committee
- Administrative board
- Designed new website and manage social media
- Lead special projects: stewardship, strategic planning, and more

First Presbyterian Church of Downey:

- Guest preacher and worship leader
- Worship committee
- Multicultural ministry committee
- Sunday school teacher
- Staff member--After-School ministry leader

Bellevue Presbyterian:

- Staff member --Assistant for Christian Growth department and Small Groups Coordinator
- Staff member at Jubilee REACH (para-church organization)

Seattle Pacific University:

- Young Life Leader
- Women's small group leader

St. Andrew's Lutheran Church:

- Staff member—Nursery Coordinator
- National and international mission trips leader
- Co-leader of kids choir
- Youth ministry committee
- Homeless ministry
- Church council member
- Vacation Bible School leader

Describe a moment in your recent ministry that you recognize as one of success and fulfillment.

In the fall of 2014, I was hired as the Director of Youth Ministry at Cornerstone Church. At the same time, the church also hired a Family Ministry Director. Coming in, the congregation had tried to have regular a weeknight gathering with lay led small groups for adults and a youth group meeting with low success. They averaged 8 adults and 3 youth every Friday night.

Since the Family Ministries Director and I were hired by a team that shared a vision for a vibrant and spiritually growing community, we decided to collaborate and work within our strengths, experience, and giftings to see what we could do to enrich and build upon the lay leaders efforts.

We made several great additions that helped build the community and offered opportunities to grow spiritually. Some of these additions and changes included adding a delicious dinner every Friday night, bringing in speakers and cultivating study materials that were relevant and engaging, adding a time of intergenerational contemporary worship, and focusing on hospitality among other exciting changes.

Only a few months in, we are now seeing about 40 adults and 15 youth each week. New lay leaders are leading in our worship band and on our hospitality team. Most excitingly, we baptized two new adult Christians this month. The community can feel the spirit of God at work and we are committed as a collaborative team to use our unique gifts to grow in our discipleship and to share the love of Christ with others.

Describe the ministry setting to which you believe God is calling you.

Church Leadership Connection

The Call System for the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

I believe God is calling me serve as a Pastor and Teaching Elder in the PCUSA.

In this season of discernment, I believe that the strengths, experiences, and spiritual gifts that God has given me would most likely be best expressed in a neighborhood congregation that desires to be a vibrant and dynamic community of faith and a strong presence in their surrounding community.

In addition, because I am bilingual English and Spanish (strong but not fluent), in an inter-racial marriage, raised in a culturally diverse suburb outside of Seattle, WA, and having served in multiple ethnic and multicultural churches, I believe I am uniquely qualified to be a bridge-builder for a congregation that wants to take the exciting journey of serving and reflecting the ethnic and cultural makeup of their surrounding neighborhood.

In general, whatever congregation calls me as their pastor, I am confident they will receive me as someone who is full of energy and hope for the future of the Church, whose love for God is contagious, and as a creative, compassionate and strategic leader that will follow wherever the Spirit leads us together as the body of Christ.

What areas of growth have you identified in yourself?

I am extremely passionate about the power of strong communication and am continually working in this area in a variety of ways. A strong communicator can articulate the good news of gospel, pitch a compelling strategic vision, provide comfort during difficult seasons, and so much more.

As a life-long learner, I am constantly seeking ways to improve my communication skills. For example, to become a better preacher and worship leader, I am constantly listening to others sermons, attending conferences, practicing vocal exercises, and more.

I have also worked on other areas of communication to help become a stronger communicator during times of conflict or transition as well as in pastoral care situations.

My prayer is that with continued practice and training, I will be a strong public communicator that will help to guide and lead others well.

Describe a time when you have led change.

While working at as the Youth Services Manager at Jubilee REACH, an organization started by Bellevue Presbyterian, I sensed the leading of the Holy Spirit and saw an opportunity to grow our service capacity.

At the time, all of the local middle schools had after-school programs run by the city government but with the challenges of the recession, they decided to take bids from outside groups to run their after-school care.

At Jubilee REACH, I was running an after-school program for 65 students at our community center with 25 volunteers as our rotating staff with a budget of \$0. I knew from experience that when God leads us somewhere new, God provides the means. I was able to pitch to our board that we should make a bid for the contract. At first, they thought I was crazy and brought up many doubts about ability to resource the program.

Yet, through much hard-work, fundraising, and more, we eventually beat out all the other organizations attempting to win the government contract, including the Boys and Girls Club of America and the YMCA. Within a few months, we were serving 600 kids a day at six locations. I recruited and trained a volunteer team of over 100 and six part-time paid staff to manage our new sites.

Can you imagine how amazing it is to have a faith-based group running programs with the blessing of the local government in the public school system? It is amazing what God can do and that is one of my proudest experiences with leading change and trying something new.

Optional Links:

<http://lauraterasaki.com/> (Bio, philosophy of ministry, sermons, resume and curriculum vitae, and more)

<http://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/today/struggle-cultural-diversity-0514/> (Article published by Presbyterians Today)

Statement of Faith:

Church Leadership Connection

The Call System for the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

*redacted due to character limits, see lauraterasaki.com for full statement

Jesus is coming and his return signals the end of all the ways we have squandered what we were meant to be. The groaning of creation will cease and all will celebrate its restoration to God's ultimate intention. As a redeemed people, we will reign with God forever. We will revel in the glory of the one, eternal God, who is three persons in one essence—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Out of love, our God created the heavens and the earth from nothing and proclaimed it good. Even before the foundation of the earth, God chose us. God, our Father and sovereign Lord, loved us before we took our first breath. Our days were meant to be in full communion with our Creator.

Exploiting the gift of free will, the first man and woman turned from God and folded to Satan's temptation, provoking God's justifiable anger upon humanity. The curse of sin has gripped every generation following and our inward depravity has corrupted our very nature. Our sin alienates us from God and from one another. We ignore injustice when it is inconvenient for us; we seek after creature comforts and nurture habits that break our relationships with the ones who matter most; we are apathetic toward social evils and deny responsibility for interventions we are called to. Far too often, we ask "What's in it for me?"

Jesus, the Son of God, fully human and fully divine, came in the fullest expression of humility. Born to unwed teenagers, he lived a sinless life and showed us God's character through his ministry to the ostracized, poor, and lonely.

In God's greatest act of love, he sent Jesus Christ to die for us on the cross and through his death atoned for our sins. Salvation comes solely by God's grace and mercy. Jesus's life, death, and resurrection mark victory over sin and death and the promise of eternal life and the new creation to come.

God has called the church to proclaim the gospel, make new disciples, and baptize them into the body of Christ. The Church has many expressions but is one, holy body in union with Christ and one another, the priesthood of all believers. Both the Spirit and the word of God equip us uniquely for the task at hand.

The Spirit illumines the Bible for us and moves us to apply its teachings to our faith and life. Inspired by the Spirit and written by human hands, the Bible is the trustworthy, sufficient, and authoritative Word of God.

The Church worships God through the preaching and teaching of the Word and in the celebration of the sacraments. In baptism, we are adopted into God's family and proclaim new life in Christ. As a covenant community, we share in the Lord's Supper and celebrate the work of Christ and the promise of the gospel. When we drink of the cup and eat of the bread, Jesus administers grace to us by means of his life-giving Spirit. These sacraments are tangible signs and seals which mark us as united with Christ and one another.

References:

# 1	Name	Mardi Taylor
	Relation	Supervisor, Jubilee REACH
	Phone	425-644-1283
	Address	Bellevue, WA
	E-Mail	marditaylor@comcast.net
# 2	Name	Chris Murphy
	Relation	Dir. of Presb. Mins. at Fuller
	Phone	626-584-5575
	Address	Pasadena, CA
	E-Mail	chrismurphy@fuller.edu
# 3	Name	Alfredo Delgado
	Relation	Consultant for Los Ranchos Pre
	Phone	562-805-7844
	Address	Canoga Park, CA

Church Leadership Connection
The Call System for the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

	E-Mail	cppc.pastoralfredo@gmail.com
# 4	Name	Donna Huff
	Relation	Session Liaison
	Phone	562-522-3490
	Address	Downey, CA
	E-Mail	donnath72@aol.com
# 5	Name	Julie Judy
	Relation	Former Volunteer at Jubilee
	Phone	425-647-5693
	Address	Tacoma, WA
	E-Mail	julie.judy@comcast.net
Sexual Misconduct Self-Certification Statement:		I certify below that no civil, criminal, ecclesiastical complaint has ever been sustained or is pending against me for sexual misconduct; and I have never resigned or been terminated from a position for reasons related to sexual misconduct.
		I have read this certification and release form and fully understand that the information obtained may be used to deny my employment or any other type of position from the employing entity. I also agree that I will hold harmless the employing or judicial authority or any other entity from any and all claims, liabilities, and causes of action for the legitimate release of any information related to sexual misconduct.
<i>This PIF was last updated at 5/15/2015 5:02:27 PM. In accord with Book of Order the Committee on Preparation for Ministry of LOS RANCHOS PRESBYTERY has granted Laura Elizabeth Terasaki permission for him/her to submit a Personal Information Form for circulation.</i>		
<i>This PIF is in the Church Leadership Connection database</i>		