

I was born in 1988 in Hoffman Estates, IL to Marvella and Joe A. Lambright, baptized at Church of the Cross (Chicago presbytery), but I was raised at College Hill church in Dayton, OH (presbytery of the Miami Valley). I'm the youngest of three children in a middle-class family. My mother retired as a middle and high school teacher and my father retired as a regional VP of the American Red Cross. Both of them are ordained elders. My parents separated when I was 10 and divorced in my teens. As a youth I was involved in sports (track and football), music (euphonium), art (pencil and charcoal sketching), church, and Boy Scouts of America (Eagle Scout). I graduated from Chaminade-Julienne, a Catholic high school, in 2006. I graduated with a BA in Sociology from Muskingum University in 2010. I graduated from Princeton Theological Seminary with an MDiv in 2013 and was certified ready to receive a call shortly afterwards. I met my wife, Kelsey, at seminary in 2011 and we got married in 2014. We currently live in Princeton while she completes her PhD at PTS. My hobbies include foreign languages, sports, personal finance, and Japanese culture.

My faith formation was informed by various factors. The church I grew up in—College Hill—had a slogan that they are a “racial rainbow”. The congregation, and the leadership at various points, consisted of black, white, and Latinx individuals. This was significant since the city of Dayton has a fraught history of race relations. This church has a commitment of witnessing to the gospel through social justice. I was exposed to various Christian traditions of worship (A.M.E., Baptist, non-denom charismatic, Apostolic, and Catholic) by way of my friends and relatives. I came to respect Islam when visiting my aunt's family. I've come to befriend people of various socioeconomic statuses. My sociology background helps inform my ministry; people can be grouped in many different categories but all are in need of God's love and mercy.

My call to ministry continues to be a journey of encountering others and God. I heard my call to ministry at 17 during the Summer Youth Institute at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. I keep contact with people from that program to this day. I've served as the Dayton chapter president of National Black Presbyterian Caucus youth, the national NPBC member-at-large, and the NBPC board seminarian representative. I served as a YAAD to the 219th GA in 2010. I've worked with the OGA in various capacities (Presbyterian Student Advocacy Leadership Team, Presbyterian Cross Cultural Young Adult Network, and Young Black Pastors conference). From 2010 to 2014 I served on the Committee to Review Biennial Assemblies. In the church, I have served as liturgist, camp counselor, camp dean, music and education secretary, director of children, youth, and family ministries, guest preacher, transitional pastor, ministry consultant, and temporary co-pastor. My wife and I view our marriage as part of our call, to serve God's people together. I intend to continue to serve the church in various ways and to earn a DMin in the near future.