

Rob and TJ Warren

On Rob and TJ's first date, they decided to "put God first." Since then, they have sought to do the work God is blessing instead of asking God to bless the work they want to do. The Warrens share 5 children, 4 computers, 3 months of Christmas movies, 2 cast iron skilletes and one God. Together their families have served Christ's church for more than 8 decades with missions, teaching, preaching, singing and praying. Rob was raised in a home where his father, Reverend Dr. Mike Warren, was a lifelong servant of the Lord and his mom, Helen, was a primary teacher in the public school system.



Rob's View of the Church

The church Rob would like to serve "would openly serve in the name of Christ, welcome others in His name and act as the body of Christ in the world". He sees the church as a place where God's people deepen their understanding of God's relationship to us and our relationships to each other. To Rob, "the church is an expression of the tie that binds us together in love, so we intentionally nurture our faith and fellowship together."



Rob and TJ's Family

From L to R: Rob, TJ, Rachel, Donovan, Shawn, Maizy, Leighanna, & Zachariah

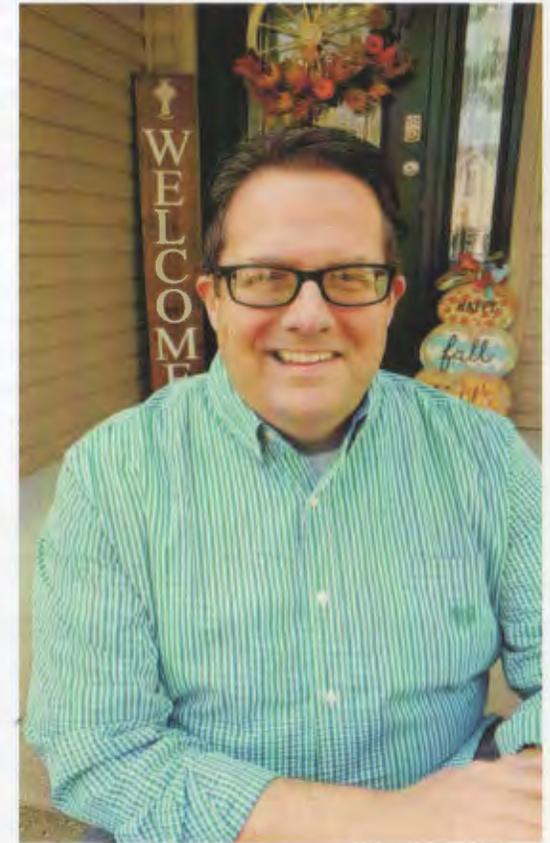
Their Children

One of TJ's favorite sayings is "Love is multiplied not divided." The larger the family, the more love is shared. Leighanna (32) is a Jeep enthusiast who lives in Louisville and works on semi-trucks as a diesel mechanic and is mom to Zachariah (4). Shawn (26) is a US Army Warrant Officer who is currently training to fly Blackhawk helicopters. Rachel (23) lives in Lexington, Ky. She works with an animal shelter caring for the animals and helping secure adoptive homes for them. Donovan (12) is in the seventh grade, attending virtual classes while enjoying the comforts of home. Maizy (3) is an avid jumper, who enjoys singing, dancing and rolling her eyes (according to Rob and TJ). As a congregation, we will certainly enjoy having a young active family in the manse.

Pastor Nominating Committee

Ray Arrowood
Connor Dixon
Derrick Garrou
Jill Lucas
Kristin Maney
Morgan Proctor
Janet Spears

Introducing The Reverend Robert M. Warren



**Your Pastor Nominating Committee
unanimously recommends
Reverend Robert Michael Warren as
Pastor, Head of Staff for
First Presbyterian Church
Marion, NC**

**Congregational Meeting
November 8, 2020**

Leadership Style

The category of leadership that is most associated with Rob's style is "relational." Rob likes to build trust through decision making. He likes to explain the process, gather input from multiple sources, prayerfully consider, then decide - and then explain how and why that decision was made. This style uses open and honest communication to maintain relationships through disagreements. "Being honest with each other takes getting used to, but after 14 years of moderating Sessions, it is much better than holding back comments until after a decision is made." Honoring people's time, skills and resources is also a vital component of this style. "I don't like to waste people's inspiration, time, talents or money - it takes away from the joy of serving Christ's church."

Continuing Education

Within the church:

- First Call Pastors' Conferences, pilot program and Synod-wide program
- Presbyterian Older Adult Ministries Conference - 3 consecutive years including an invitation to teach
- Boundary Training - every 3 years required by Mid-Kentucky Presbytery

Outside the Church:

- Understanding Dementia and Alzheimer's
- Workplace Violence
- Quality Assurance and Performance Improvement
- Protecting Resident Rights in Nursing Facilities
- Preventing-Recognizing-Reporting Abuse
- Infection Control Essentials
- Preparing for Pandemic Influenza
- Disaster Preparedness
- Abuse and Neglect
- RAPHA 12-Step Program Leadership

Service to the Larger Church

- Student Chaplain - 6 months
- Chaplain at University of Louisville Hospital - 10-week program
- Ruling Elder, Beverly Hills PC
- Member weekly Presbytery Zoom Group
- Volunteer musician for various churches - WV, KY, FLA
- Pandemic Response Team - producing online content
- House Parent/Social Worker, Crossnore School Inc, NC
- Member, Board for South East Associated Ministries, food bank/social service agency, Louisville, KY
- Board Member, Post Clinic, free health care agency, Mt. Sterling, KY
- Member, Community Committee, Saint Joseph Hospital, Mount Sterling, KY
- Member, Foster Care Review Board for Montgomery County



Formal Education

- Master of Divinity - Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary Louisville, KY 2000
- Master of Arts - Christian Education - Union Theological Seminary & Presbyterian School of Christian Education Richmond, VA 1998
- Bachelor of Arts - Psychology - Marshall University, Huntington, WV 1992

Pastoral Experience

- Solo Pastor, First Presbyterian Church, Mount Sterling, KY, 2 yrs
- Chaplain, Presbyterian Homes and Services, Louisville, KY, 3+ yrs
- Designated Pastor, Beuchel Presbyterian Church
- Solo Pastor, Meadowview Presbyterian Church, Louisville, KY, 11+ yrs
- Assistant Chaplain/Social Worker/Admissions, Presbyterian Homes & Services, Louisville, KY, 3 yrs.

Statement from the PNC

We, the PNC, are confident in the candidate we have carefully and prayerfully selected. During our pastor search, we sought a strong preacher, teacher, and leader of staff. Someone who is committed to pastoral care and a talented communicator in today's digital world. We sought someone who will appreciate the legacy of our church and its members and harness our dreams and desires for the future. Someone who will empower all ages to share God's love both within our congregation and in our broader community. It is with great joy, enthusiasm, and gratitude for God's guidance that we unanimously submit our recommendation to you that Reverend Robert Warren be confirmed as our next pastor. Rob is an excellent preacher of the Word who cares about his congregation and desires to build strong relationships. He will be good with both the youth and older church members. His life is faith based, and he lives out the Great Commission. Rob will challenge us and help us to grow both in our faith and service. He has a quirky sense of humor and is also an excellent musician. Rob's wife, TJ, is looking forward to living in Marion. She looks forward to being involved in the life of the church. TJ asked if we would mind if she helped in the kitchen. She was told someone would quickly hand her a dishcloth. Rob and TJ are a team, and they both love the Lord and the Lord's people.