

Announcing Our New Associate Pastor...Rev. Trevor S. Barton



Trevor was born and raised in Greenville, SC. He went to college at UNC Chapel Hill, where he earned a BA degree in English. He earned an MDiv in Pastoral Care and Counseling from Southern Seminary and a Master of Arts in Teaching degree from Converse College. He loves to read, write, swim, skateboard and hike. He is a whale nerd and loves to talk about all things Cetacean.

He also likes to write Fibonacci poems. He is married to Robin Gardener Barton and they have two sons, Bakary and Zeke. He looks closely and listens carefully for beauty in the plain, genius in the simple, wonder in the ordinary and courage in the human. He smiles a big smile of thanksgiving every time he thinks about how our surprising God has given him the gift of being able to serve at Triune Mercy Center.

Trevor's Fibonacci poem/prayer

*God,
here
I am,
barefooted,
openhearted. Walk
with me, write with me migrant God.
Dust on my feet, callous on my hand, you are here, God.*

A big, heartfelt thank you to the Associate Pastor Search Committee: Steve Doughty, Elaine Nocks, Prerana Roth, And John Weems (AdHoc members: Pat Parker and Jennifer Fouse Sheorn) for your faithfulness and willingness to listen to and discern God's Spirit at work in this search process.

Trevor's first day with Triune will be Tuesday, September 3rd and his first official Sunday will be September 8th. Please join us in welcoming Trevor to Triune Mercy Center!! Thanks be to God for God's call on his life.

Prayers for Trevor, his 4th grade students and colleagues in Berea as they say goodbyes and hellos. Prayers for Trevor, Robin, and their family as Trevor makes the transition to full-time ministry at Triune. We are delighted that God has called him to Triune for such a times as this!

RESPOND Lydia

look

- Take a few moments to gaze upon the artwork. Sit still in quiet meditation as you observe the visual qualities of what you see: color, line texture, movement, shape, form. Now take a deeper look. What parts of the image are your eyes most drawn to? What parts of the image did you overlook? Now engage your imagination. What story do you give to the figure?

reflect

- Imagine Lydia's backstory. Why did she move to Philippi from Thyatira? Was she married or divorced or widowed? How did she become a dealer of purple cloth?

- As a Gentile, Lydia sympathized with Jewish worship, but was not yet a full convert until she met Paul. Why do you think God opened her heart to Paul's message? Based on what you know about her, what gift did she bring to ministry?

- Reflect on a time when you have received someone's hospitality. What are some ways we can implement radical hospitality in our churches?

write

Lydia opened her heart and home to the Apostles. Her hospitality widened the reach of Christ's followers in Europe. In the space below, reflect on practices or habits you can adopt to become more hospitable to others.

pray

Open my heart so that I may radiate the warmth of hospitality to those who need your care. Amen.

