

Biography for Trey Hegar

Sarah and I are excited about our move to Chester and God's call at Purity Presbyterian Church. My name is Marvin but since birth my friends and family have called me Trey. Since we are a family in faith please call me Trey, too. I was born and raised in Houston, TX and Sarah is from Fort Dodge, Iowa. We met in seminary and have been married for two years. I felt God's call to ministry while growing up in Houston, TX. When I told my Dad I wanted to be a pastor he said, "You have to live life before you can preach about it." So I made the next logical choice and I joined the Marine Corps. It was a dream I knew would give me years of experience and open doors. I served four years with two Marine Air Control Squadrons. The time in service was formative for me as a person and a Christian as I often examined my duties through the lens of faith.

After my enlistment I enrolled at Texas State University and studied Literature and Psychology. I worked as the opinions editor for the university paper and also participated in Campus ministry as a student, chaplain assistant, and mentor. Upon graduation I was offered a scholarship position as a graduate assistant in the Master of Arts for Literature. I was honored for the gift and began working on my M.A. However, I felt unfulfilled. I had strayed from God's call. Then in a world religions class the students read period pieces from Socrates and the teachings of Jesus from the Bible. I asked the class, "How could Socrates and Jesus be compared? Is Socrates like Jesus?" The class of 300 hundred normally dazed students irrupted with divisive passion. We had to continue discussions for another lecture period. I left class feeling energized. I talked with my campus minister and friend, Mike Miller, about the class. And without knowing that I had felt called to ministry, he asked me if I had considered going to seminary. God's call to ministry came back full force into my life. I transferred to Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary where I completed a Master of Divinity.

After Seminary I was a chaplain resident in Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) at Seton Hospital in Austin, Texas. Over the year in residency I served one unit in the ICU at a trauma hospital. Another unit I led a weekly meeting with the chemical dependency at the psychiatric hospital. I also worked with the general admissions and ICU at two large community hospitals for the other two units. I was on call weekly for the 7 hospitals in the Seton network including Dell Children's hospital. The residency formed me as a pastoral theologian, abstract concepts became concrete as my language of faith turned into a language of hope and assurance.

Currently, I am the Director of Family Ministries at Brenham Presbyterian Church. I help develop family programs including "Finding Faith in Film Night" and a weekly youth program with a monthly outreach project. I taught confirmation, hosted a bingo night and produced a talent show, too. As an advisor to the Christian Education Committee I guided a curriculum review process where a reformed curriculum was selected. I am currently enrolled as a candidate for ordination under Grace Presbytery and I am under the care of Central Presbyterian Church in Waco, TX. You will find that I mumble like Moses, ponder like Peter, and pray like Paul and I am honored and humbled to be examined for ordained ministry. Sarah has felt God's call on her life to be active in ministry, as well. She will seek ways to fulfill that call while worshipping at Purity Presbyterian and possibly teaching in the community.

Statement of Faith – Trey Hegar

I believe in God, the author of creation; Jesus Christ, the mediator of our salvation; and the Holy Spirit, the giver and renewer of life¹. I believe that the church is given as a beacon of light to reconcile a broken world. Sometimes our broken pieces spill into the visible church but the church is renewed by the Spirit when we remember the waters of our baptism and share the sacrament of communion. The waters of baptism remind us of God's mighty acts and that we are raised from sin into the fullness of life with Christ in his baptism, death and resurrection. In communion we are called back to righteousness remembering Jesus' broken body offered to make us whole. Wherever the Word is proclaimed and the sacraments are rightly administered the church becomes the visible Kingdom of God, sin is conquered and Christ's victory is proclaimed through the power of the Holy Spirit.

I believe that God calls us forward to be new creations made in the image of Christ. The calling is modeled by following and renewing the triune faith. We are called to be reformed by faith and to keep being reformed. I believe the proclamation of the Word should be centered on God's gracious act through Jesus Christ and should be ordered in such a way that those who hear it proclaimed feel the Holy Spirit active in their life. The Word of God and Christ's gift of the church is given to all regardless of sex, race, or cultural differences. Renewed in the church, we should be charged with sharing God's love and sent into the world with the love of God, the grace of Jesus Christ and the communion of the Holy Spirit.

The vocation of the minister of Word and Sacrament builds upon the great ends of the church: the proclamation of the gospel for the salvation of humankind both now and hereafter; the shelter, nurture, and spiritual fellowship of the children of God; the maintenance of divine worship; the preservation of the truth; the proclamation of social righteousness; and the exhibition of the Kingdom of Heaven to the world². Faith is more than saying God is the Creator, Jesus Christ is the mediator, and the Holy Spirit is the giver of life. Faith is action in response to God's love for us in Jesus Christ revealed by the Holy Spirit.

¹ 10. 4 From Book of Confessions "Brief Statement of Faith."

² Book of Order G -1.0200 (2007-2009).