

## Church/Organization Details

Church/Organization ID	03719
Church/Organization Name	First Presbyterian Church of New Canaan
Mailing Address	178 Oenoke Ridge Road New Canaan, CT 06840
Telephone Number	(203) 966-0002
Fax Number	(203) 966-0137
E-Mail	<a href="mailto:info@fpcnc.org">info@fpcnc.org</a>
Website Address	<a href="http://www.fpcnc.org">www.fpcnc.org</a>
Church/Organization Size	401 - 650 members
Average Worship Attendance	225
Church School Attendance	70
Curriculum	Rotation Model
Certified as eligible for participation in the Seminary Debt Assistance Program <input type="checkbox"/> False	

## Ethnic Composition

Ethnicity	Percentage
African American	1 %

Caucasian	97 %
Other	2 %

**Presbytery**

Presbytery	SOUTHERN NEW ENGLAND PRESBYTERY
Synod	SYNOD OF THE NORTHEAST
Community Type	Suburban

**Clerk of Session Details**

Name:	Brooke Manning-Hinds
Full Address:	284 Great Hill Road, Ridgefield CT 06877
Daytime Phone:	(203) 788-6431
Office Phone:	
Fax:	
E-Mail:	<a href="mailto:spenbrooke@aol.com">spenbrooke@aol.com</a>

# CIF #: 03719.AD4

Church/Organization ID: 03719

Church/Organization Name: First Presbyterian Church of New Canaan

City & State: New Canaan, CT

## Position Details

Position to be Filled: Pastor (Head of Staff)	Experience Required/Desired: Desired
Employment Status: Full-time	Experience Level: 8 years or more
Language Requirements: English	
<b>Brief Church Mission Statement:</b>  To LIVE SPIRITUALLY: As a CATHEDRAL FOR THE HUMAN SPIRIT we strive to enrich the spiritual and cultural life of our community. We celebrate the interconnectedness of the sacred and the secular, outstanding music and liturgy, an expansive Choir School, and innovative dramatic and visual arts.  To LOVE INCLUSIVELY: As a CONGREGATION OF INCLUSIVITY we strive to welcome all people into the life of our church. We are a friendly and caring church where people of all ages, backgrounds, and life situations are always welcomed, and where our differences are celebrated and respected. We encourage openness and building bridges of trust and love.  To LEARN CONTINUOUSLY: As a CENTER FOR PROGRESSIVE CHRISTIANITY we strive to nurture the development of resilient faith and noble values. We are "a thinking person's church." We believe that all of life's big questions are spiritual, and while there are no easy or ready answers, we seek to provide an open forum in which to explore them. We seek to deepen our commitment to the truth of our Christian faith	

while at the same time discovering and respecting the truth of others' beliefs.

To LEAVE A LEGACY: As a CATALYST FOR SOCIAL CHANGE we strive to make a meaningful difference in the world and leave it a better place than we found it. We are committed to the ministry of the laity in society. We seek to be the hands and heart of God, loving others by sharing our time, talents, and resources.

## Narrative Questions

**Brief description of the church/organization's programs or accomplishments:**

Encouraged by The Rev. Dr. Eugene Carson Blake, town resident and head of the National Council of Churches, a small group of residents formed FPCNC in 1956. In 53 years, FPCNC has developed into a leading institution in Southwestern Connecticut. Since its earliest days, FPCNC has been well known for its legacy of openness and inclusion, its strong tradition of ecumenical fellowship, its focus on social awareness and diversity, its music ministry, and its strong Scottish affiliation.

The town's first inter-faith service, held in 1966, was a harbinger of shared Good Friday, Palm Sunday, and Martin Luther King services where FPCNC played an active role. FPCNC was instrumental in the founding of New Canaan's Waveny Care Center, South Avenue Cottage, and other important town services. A significant portion of our budget and congregation's interest and active involvement today is in service and ministry to the local community.

FPCNC is hailed for its commitment to ministry of music, including the Presbyterian Church Choir, our instrumental choirs and Choir School Programs, the Sunday Coffee Concerts, and many other musical events enriching the life of the congregation and the community.

True to its roots, FPCNC in 2009 is very much the living, breathing product of its spiritual founders. With God's help, we will continue to be true to our forward and outward-looking spirit and our congregation's commitment to openness and outreach.

**Gifts, Skills and Experiences the congregation possesses to fulfill its mission:**

The congregation of FPCNC seeks to live out our Mission “to Live Spiritually, Love Inclusively, Learn Continuously and Leave a Legacy” through a wide range of programs and missions. We endeavor to be the heart and hands of God by sharing our time, talents, and resources in order to educate, inspire and spiritually nurture our members; to encourage lay leadership; to promote ecumenical fellowship; and to make the world a better place.

Our successful Music, Education and Fellowship programs reach out to all segments of our energetic congregation. Our Church and Society committee offers many opportunities for hands-on participation in community projects both within and outside of New Canaan. Approximately 7% of our annual budget is spent on local mission and outreach programs. Financial gifts to parishioners in special circumstances are made through our Deacon Ministry program. Our active Stephen Ministers have been trained, certified, and offer compassionate support to members of the congregation.

FPCNC strives to create an environment where members can engage one another in a spirit of openness, challenge, and acceptance.

**Key theological issues of the church and society that are reflected in the ministry of the congregation/organization:**

FPCNC is a church for those who seek and desire an open, progressive view of theology. For more than half a century, we have welcomed everyone to join, have been respectful of individual beliefs and diverse religious backgrounds, and have been willing to confront and discuss contemporary issues. We have an historic and ongoing commitment to being an inclusive congregation of faith. FPCNC welcomes all people regardless of race, age, gender, marital status or sexual orientation. In our greater community, FPCNC is looked upon for spiritual leadership, and we are a longstanding supporter of ecumenical ministry and interfaith activities.

## References

Name	Address	Phone Numbers	Relation	Email
The Rev. Dana F. Lindsley	123 Elm St. Suite 200, Old Saybrook CT 06475	(860) 388-0874	Executive Presbyter	<a href="mailto:danalindsley@psne.org">danalindsley@psne.org</a>
Elder Chris Delmar	85 Rivergate Drive, Wilton CT 06897	(203) 451-9030	Committee on Ministry Liason	<a href="mailto:delmar@optonline.net">delmar@optonline.net</a>
The Rev. David J. Graybill	357 New Canaan Road, Wilton CT 06897	(203) 762-2916	Pastor, Wilton Presbyterian Church	<a href="mailto:davidgraybill@snet.net">davidgraybill@snet.net</a>

## Position Description

### A. Major Responsibilities:

A strong preacher, one who can inspire and challenge the congregation, and a leader who invigorates and encourages involvement and participation of the parishioners. Lead the congregation and church staff in sustaining FPCNC's positive attitude and growth. Build upon FPCNC's strength in music, programs for youth and adults, diversity, community involvement, membership growth, ecumenical activities, and

outreach.

The pastor and head of staff is expected to preach, on average, three Sundays per month. The pastor is also responsible for moderating the Session and attending the monthly meetings, as well as monthly meetings of the Finance Committee, the Worship, Music and Arts Committee, and other committee meetings as required.

#### **B. Characteristics and qualifications needed**

We are seeking a leader who: 1) helps us to know and serve God; 2) has strong communication skills to challenge and inspire us from the pulpit, counsel individuals and gain their trust; 3) has a high level of emotional intelligence and active listening skills as a basis for leading staff, lay leaders, and congregants; 4) helps us interpret scripture to apply to our everyday lives; and 5) becomes an active part of our church community. Our new Pastor will be a spiritual, compassionate, and engaging leader, possessing a strong faith and a desire to live it every day.

Successful experience as Pastor for a number of years. Familiarity with Presbyterian Church governance.

### **Primary Skill Choices**

#### **Desired:**

Community Service and Leadership  
Congregational Communication  
Ecumenical and Interfaith Activities  
Family Ministry  
Organizational Leadership and Development  
Pastoral Care  
Preaching

Spiritual Development  
Stewardship and Commitment Program  
Teaching

## Compensation and Housing

Minimum Effective Salary: \$103,000

Maximum Effective Salary: \$113,000

Housing Type: Open to Manse/Housing Allowance

## Geographic Choices

Unlimited

## Equal Employment Opportunity

"The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) shall give full expression to the rich diversity within its membership and shall provide means which will assure a greater inclusiveness leading to wholeness in its emerging life. Persons of all racial ethnic groups, different ages, both sexes, various disabilities, diverse geographical areas, different theological positions consistent with the Reformed tradition, as well as different marital conditions (married, single, widowed, or divorced) shall be guaranteed full participation and access to representation in the decision making of the church." (G-4.0403)

"(The Committee on Ministry) shall provide for the implementation of equal opportunity employment for ministers and candidates without regard to race, ethnic origin, sex, age, marital status, or disability. In the case of each call, it shall report to the presbytery the steps in this implementation taken by the calling-group." (G-11.0502g)

"...Care must be taken (by the Pastor Nominating Committee) to consider candidates without regard to race, ethnic origin, sex, or marital status, age, or disabilities." (G-14.0502b)

## FORMS OF GOVERNMENT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)

See Also: Forms of Government G-10.0102n, G-11.0502d, G-13.0201b

### For Clergy Positions

Every Presbytery Committee on Ministry is to inform each Pastor Nominating Committee of its constitutional obligations and how it might assure fairness in the calling process.

**Has the presbytery's Committee on Ministry thus counseled with the Pastor Nominating Committee regarding Equal Employment Opportunity?**

Yes

Each Pastor Nominating Committee is expected to undertake its search for a minister in a manner consistent with the good news that in the Church "...as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus."

**Has the Pastor Nominating Committee affirmed to the Presbytery Committee on Ministry its intention to follow the Form Of Government in this regard?**

Yes

### Pastor Nominating Committee/Search Committee Chairperson

**Name:** James S. Ely III

**Full Address** 65 Amy's Lane, New Canaan CT 06840

**Preferred Phone** (917) 579-6858

**Alternative Phone** (203) 966-7987

**Fax** (203) 966-6663

**E-mail** [jsely3rd@yahoo.com](mailto:jsely3rd@yahoo.com)

