

Introduction:

We are so excited to introduce Mike Anastas to our Mt. Carmel church Family!!!! Early on in our search process, a pastor informed us concerning Mike, who was still attending seminary. We all thought that we would "surely" have a new pastor before Mike's graduation and so we did not pursue this path. God had other plans! After countless interviews and hours of prayer, we were lead back to Mike! We were amazed as we listened to this loving, spiritually mature, man of God! And - God used a CD of one of Mike's sermons (which once was lost but had been found) to answer every question which we had! Every doubt was erased! We knew!! God had spoken!

We are filled with gratitude and love to you, our brothers and sisters in Christ, for your prayers and support during this long period of silence. We are excited for you to get to know Mike and his family. Now that we can talk, we don't plan to stop! We have some important dates to share with you.

Important Dates:

- ☞ Sunday April 19th we will be hosting a coffee hour or brunch in our homes to answer questions and to share our excitement about Mike's call to Mt Carmel. There are sign-ups in the Narthex.
- ☞ Saturday May 16th there will be an informal pizza social to meet Mike and his family, (wife Kim, daughter Cailee, and son Christopher).
- ☞ Sunday May 17th Mike will preach and the congregation will vote after the church service.

In love with our Lord Jesus Christ and His awesome presence in our midst,

The PNC Committee: Toni DeFigio, Ralph Baker, Clara Montanari, Steve Roberts, Barb Smith, Jeanie Swoger, Betty Tatum

Mount Carmel Presbyterian Church
2720 Brodhead Road
Aliquippa, PA 15001



The Pastor Nominating Committee believes the Lord is calling Mike Anastas to be our next pastor!



We would like to introduce Mike and his family!

*Know that the LORD is God.
It is he who made us, and we are his;
we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.
Enter his gates with thanksgiving
and his courts with praise;
give thanks to him and praise his name.
- Psalm 100:3-4*



The Anastas Family Biography



Mike & Kim Anastas both grew up in Duquesne, PA. Mike graduated from Duquesne High School and earned a degree in Industrial Engineering from the University of Pittsburgh and later, a master's degree in Organizational Leadership from Geneva College. Mike enjoyed a successful career in engineering and management with AMP Incorporated and Chromalloy Turbine Airfoils, both in Harrisburg, and with Heritage Valley Health System in Beaver County. Several years ago, Mike began sensing a very strong call from God to serve him in ministry and, with the help of friends and mentors at First Presbyterian Church of Beaver, he and Kim discerned it as a call to pastoral ministry.

After much prayer and deliberation, Mike and Kim followed the prompting of the Holy Spirit and decided that Mike was to enter seminary. Over the last 3 years at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary in Boston, Mike has had the privilege of studying under some of the brightest evangelical minds of our time, including Haddon Robinson, David Wells, and Doug Stuart.

It has been a wonderful season for Mike to build a strong Biblical foundation of theology while growing closer to Christ and strengthening his own walk with the Lord. Mike's love of God's word and his passion for the mission of Christ's Church, have been nurtured and he is thoroughly excited to be used by God in pastoral ministry. During their time in Boston, he served at Londonderry Presbyterian Church in Londonderry, NH leading worship and preaching on several occasions. He enjoyed his role as assistant coach for his son Christopher's baseball team, as well as rec basketball coach. Mike enjoys playing the drums, rooting for the Pitt Panthers, and hopes to rekindle his love for fishing.



Kim graduated from Serra High School and earned a degree in Communications/Journalism from Penn State. She worked for the YWCA of Greater Harrisburg, and Heritage Valley Health System but, after having children, Kim gave up full-time employment to stay home and focus on the family. She enjoyed volunteer work with the PTA, the United Way and a child sponsorship program called 4-SCOR. She was blessed to enjoy home-based consulting on a part-time basis for about 10 years locally for Heritage Valley, the Beaver County YMCA and other nonprofits. While at seminary, Kim pursued full-time employment as a grantwriter and fundraiser for an association of six YMCAs north of Boston, while Mike focused solely on his studies and enjoyed a bigger role in taking care of the kids. The seminary experience had its challenges but Kim was amazed and uplifted by God's constant presence, provision and affirmation for their entire family. Kim loves to cook and enjoys sewing, gardening, and scrapbooking. Most of all, she loves being Mike's wife, Cailee and Christopher's mom, and the Lord's daughter. She hopes to get involved in small-group ministry, community outreach, and is eager to return to Community Bible Study.

Married since 1987, Mike and Kim have been blessed with two wonderful children, Cailee, 16, and Christopher, 12.

Cailee loves music. She plays piano and violin, and sings in an a cappella group, her high school chorus and honors chorus, which took her to New York City and Washington, D.C. to perform. She played varsity volleyball and enjoys hanging out with her friends. Cailee would like to explore youth mission opportunities, join a small group and participate in music ministry.

Christopher is a sports enthusiast. He loves basketball and has enjoyed two consecutive undefeated seasons playing for the Hamilton youth travel team. He is presently gearing up for his favorite sport, baseball. He is a shortstop and pitcher. He plays alto and baritone saxophone, loves to read, and has a knack for creative writing. Chris hopes to get involved with youth group and service projects.

The Anastas family traveled to Bucharest, Romania three times for short-term mission trips -- experiences that had a profound impact on their family life. The focus of the trips was to take 60 children from the ghettos of Bucharest into the mountains for a week of Vacation Bible School. Like so many mission experiences, the Anastases felt like they gained more than they gave. The mission experience was one of many that God used to call the Anastas family to full-time ministry. They believe God had to take them out of their comfort zone to show them who they really were and to lead them to who He wanted them to be. They are grateful for the Spirit's leading and God's faithful presence in their lives.

The Anastases feel humbled and blessed by the opportunities God is bestowing upon them, and they look forward to participating in Mt. Carmel's mission efforts, community outreach, Sunday School, and getting to know the congregation. Most of all, they are grateful for this journey God has ordained, and look forward to what lies ahead. To God be the glory!

