

Greetings First United Methodist Church, Westfield:

“For Christ plays,” wrote Gerard Manly Hopkins “in ten thousand places.” This particular line has become one of my favorite lines in the world of poetry. Beginning July 1st I will be appointed by the Bishop of the Upper New York Annual Conference to the Westfield United Methodist Church and its surrounding neighborhood. I look forward to sharing a cup of coffee or a bowl of vanilla ice cream as I learn how “Christ plays” in your life, the church, and the surrounding community of Westfield.

My name is Nicholas Perry, and I grew up in Niagara Falls. After graduating from LaSalle Senior High School, I studied Religion and Philosophy at Roberts Wesleyan College. I earned my Master of Divinity from Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas. In seminary, I met the love of my life, Carmen. Carmen is an ordained elder serving the Hurlbut Memorial Community United Methodist Church on the grounds of the Chautauqua Institution. We married in 2009 in San Antonio at Carmen’s home church of Chapel Hill United Methodist Church. We have two playful children Nathan, 3 and Nadia, 1. We also share our home with a yellow Labrador Retriever named Millie.

I am an ordained elder in the United Methodist Church currently caught up in the ways that “Christ is playing” in the wonderful congregations of Lakewood and Ashville United Methodist Churches and in their communities. I enjoy reading and studying the Old Testament. My favorite aspect of life is spending time with my family, watching and helping them to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord. Some of my interests include: working out at the gym, playing and/or watching hockey, and occasionally, strumming on the guitar.

“For Christ plays,” Hopkins reminds us, “in ten thousand places.” I am eager to discover where you see Christ at play, in your life, the church, and surrounding community of Westfield. You are in my thoughts and prayers. I look forward to being in ministry with you.



In Christ,
Rev. Nicholas Perry