

MEET

Pastor Ashley



DEAR FRIENDS AT WOODS

My name is Ashley Brown, and for the past three years I've been serving in ministry at St. Charles Avenue Presbyterian Church in New Orleans where I was ordained on an exceptionally warm Pentacost Sunday in May of 2024

I was raised in Greenville, SC in the PCUSA faith tradition where youth group, summers at Montreat and weekly worship provided stability in my faith formation. After attending University of South Carolina, I spent my twenties working in marketing. Following a pivotal mission trip to Cuba in 2019, I enrolled at Austin Presbytery Theological Seminary to follow the persistent call to ministry that God had been stirring in me.

I have fallen head over heels with ministry and am thrilled to be considered by your congregation as your next Associate Pastor

In early conversations with your APNC, I was immediately struck by the warmth and kindness of everyone I met and by the way Woods serves Christ in the community. I learned that Woods is full of people with big hearts and wonderful stories, as well as a vibrant place filled with creativity, energy and a genuine desire to love God and people.

I'm excited for the opportunity to get to know you and become rooted in your community. I have been praying for you all, even before I knew your names.

With Love,
Ashley



A NOTE FROM THE APNC



We are thrilled to introduce Reverend Ashley Mason Brown as our candidate for Woods' next Associate Pastor

For more than a year, we've prayed for a pastor who has extraordinary attributes and experience, especially in the areas of spiritual formation, mission and pastoral care. Upon receiving over 100 applications, we met, read, interviewed, hosted and prayed - countless times! With a unanimous "YES" from our committee, we thank God for bringing Ashley to Woods.

Ashley has been approved by our Presbytery's Committee on Ministry, and is excited about beginning her ministry with us.

We're grateful for our COM rep Catherine Blacka, for Pastor J.C.'s guidance, and the church administrative staff for their support through the search process.

WHAT IMPRESSES ME ABOUT ASHLEY IS THAT SHE EMBRACES PREACHING AND TEACHING SCRIPTURE IN WAYS THAT ARE THEOLOGICALLY GROUNDED, ACCESSIBLE AND RELATED TO DAILY LIFE

- DOUG NAUMAN

ASHLEY HAS A FAITH-FILLED ENERGY THAT IS CONTAGIOUS. HER LOVE FOR GOD AND ALL GOD'S PEOPLE IS AT HER CORE. THIS LOVE IS REFLECTED IN A VARIETY OF MINISTRY INITIATIVES, FROM OUTREACH AND MISSIONS TO SPIRITUAL FAITH FORMATION ACROSS GENERATIONS.

-KAREN LERARIO

BETWEEN ASHLEY'S HEART FOR THE GOSPEL, HER DEDICATION TO GOD'S CALL IN HER LIFE, THE ENTHUSIASM TO STEP INTO THE NEXT PHASE OF HER MINISTRY, AND THE DETERMINATION TO LOVE AND CARE FOR EVERY ONE OF HER CONGREGANTS, WOODS IS GOING TO BE INCREDIBLY BLESSED BY HER LEADERSHIP. I AM SO EXCITED FOR HER TO JOIN THE WOODS FAMILY AS WE MOVE INTO THIS NEW SEASON!

-JENNA LEER

I AM EXCITED TO SEE ASHLEY'S CREATIVITY BLOSSOM AT WOODS AND WITNESS HER USING HER GOD-GIVEN GIFTS ESPECIALLY IN PASTORAL CONNECTION AND PASSION FOR MINISTRY

- SARAH THOMPSON.

FOR THE LAST THREE YEARS, ASHLEY BROWN HAS SERVED AS OUR PASTORAL RESIDENT AND ENDEARED HERSELF TO THE ST. CHARLES AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN COMMUNITY. SHE HAS BROUGHT ENERGY, CREATIVITY, AND DEEP COMPASSION FOR THOSE THE CHURCH IS CALLED TO SERVE. SHE WILL BRING THOSE GIFTS TO WOODS MEMORIAL AND ENRICH AND ENLIVEN YOUR MINISTRY AND DISCIPLESHIP.

- CHRIS CURRIE
HEAD OF STAFF AT ST. CHARLES AVE

ASHLEY HAS THE CALLING, EXPERIENCE, AND APTITUDE TO MINISTER TO THE YOUNGER FAMILIES IN THE CHURCH.

- JOHN NEWLIN

ASHLEY GREATLY IMPRESSED ME BY HER DEEP DEVOTION TO WORKING WELL WITH ALL MEMBERS OF HER CONGREGATION REGARDLESS OF AGE.

- BILL HADLEY

ASHLEY HAS THE HEART OF A DISCIPLE. SHE BELIEVES GOD CALLS US ALL TO SERVE, AND THAT WE ARE GIVEN UNIQUE SPIRITUAL GIFTS DESIGNED TO SHARE IN THE BODY OF CHRIST. ASHLEY WILL ENCOURAGE US ALL TO PURSUE FAITH FORMATION. I LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING GOD WORK THROUGH ASHLEY IN HER PARTNERSHIP AT WOODS

-CHARITY MATTA

ASHLEY WILL PREACH AT THE COMBINED 9:30AM WORSHIP SERVICE
ON JUNE 21, 2026

A CONGREGATIONAL MEETING WILL FOLLOW AT 10:30AM IN THE SANCTUARY

