

Christian McIvor



Christian McIvor leads worship at the March 2019 Baptist Women in Ministry of NC Convocation Service

Christian is not only a fine musician, but he is also a fine minister, with a deep concern for the "care of souls" in the community of faith. He will bring those gifts and skills to Greystone Baptist Church.

Bill J. Leonard, Dunn Professor of Baptist Studies and Church History Emeritus, Wake Forest University

EDUCATION

MASTER OF DIVINITY

Wake Forest University School of Divinity, 2020

- Wake Forest School of Divinity Dean's Scholarship
- Cooperative Baptist Fellowship Vestal Scholarship and School-Directed Leadership Scholarship
- American Baptist Home Mission Societies Individual Seminarian Grant
- The Hymn Society Lovelace Scholarship

DOCTOR OF MUSICAL ARTS

University of North Carolina at Greensboro, 2011

Trumpet Performance, Jazz Studies (Cognate)

- Graduate Teaching Assistant
- UNCG Graduate School Excellence Fellowship

MASTER OF MUSIC

University of North Carolina at Greensboro, 2008

Trumpet Performance

- Graduate Teaching Assistant

TEACHER CERTIFICATION

Western Connecticut State University, 2005

Music, K-12

BACHELOR OF ARTS

State University of New York at Potsdam, 2004

Music, Summa Cum Laude

- Gordon Mathie Scholarship
- Adirondack Scholarship

The Minister of Worship, Music, and the Arts Search Team unanimously recommends Dr. Christian McIvor as Greystone's Minister of Worship, Music, and the Arts.

We have felt God's presence leading us to this decision from the moment we first learned of Christian's interest in the position at Greystone. During our time of discernment and prayer we met with many candidates, but quickly realized that we felt most excited and united in our desire to recommend Christian to join our church family. We are eager for the church to experience the great potential and new possibilities that Christian will bring to worship, music, and arts at Greystone. He brings many gifts and talents, including:

- *Experienced and passionate about creativity in worship.*
- *Believes it is his personal calling as a minister to be an agent of compassion, justice, and reconciliation and lead others to use their unique gifts toward doing the same, so the Greystone value of "every member a minister" resonates strongly with him.*
- *Strong commitment to serve with a collaborative ministerial team engaged in worship planning.*
- *A passion for worship to be creative and participatory and inclusive of all ages creating services that sings directly into the hearts of all members and visitors and that reflects the church identity.*
- *An accomplished musician (trumpet), singer/songwriter/worship leader, and an skilled director, his gifts would add to the musical and stylistic diversity available at Greystone.*
- *Eagerness to serve in any and all additional ministerial/pastoral roles at Greystone, as he feels called to be active in all aspects of pastoral ministry in whatever ways he can best serve the congregation and the community.*

EXCERPT FROM CHRISTIAN'S CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE SEARCH TEAM:

I have felt called to this position - precisely because it fits with me musically and theologically and I feel that it will allow me to offer my gifts in ways that will be beneficial for the entire community. Since the beginning of the search process I have felt an even deeper connection and stronger call to Greystone. My family and I are extremely excited about our possible future with Greystone, and we look forward to being a part of and growing with the community.



"In addition to being a master musician, Christian has a superb intellect and a true pastor's heart. He is an excellent thinker, writer, and preacher".

Professor Neal Walls, Wake Forest University School of Divinity

The Mclvor Family



The Mclvors at Hanging Rock State Park
(L to R: Chrissy, Juliette, River and Christian)

CHRISTIAN'S PHILOSOPHY OF MINISTRY

As a minister in a congregational context, I strive to find various ways of personally connecting with every member and visitor in the congregation. Forming and maintaining compassionate, honest relationships is vital to cultivating a healthy community where the presence of God can be felt, known, and shared. For a minister, this involves walking with and empowering individuals to live into their fullest selves by becoming more aware of the holy within and throughout all of creation. When individuals engage and think critically about their spirituality in this way, they come to know the love of God more deeply in their own lives and they are able to freely share it with others. This enables a church to become a community that is connected and led by the Holy Spirit, where every member acts as a minister of the gospel. Members of a community such as this enthusiastically serve God through actively loving all of their neighbors in the way of Christ.

Missionally, I am inspired by Martin Luther King, Jr.'s ideal of beloved community as necessarily requiring a continued commitment to individual and collective transformation, leading to justice brought about by love. For this reason, I find it essential to encourage a congregation's active presence in and hospitality toward the larger communities to which it belongs. I believe Christ is present in all dimensions of human liberation, and it is in lovingly going out into our communities and working toward the liberation of all – particularly those most oppressed and marginalized – that we find the freedom of Christ and realize heaven on earth. It is similarly important to stimulate a church culture of radical hospitality, where all feel welcome, affirmed, and free to be their truest selves.

student, in collegial collaboration on a state-wide worship planning team, and through worshipful affirmation of his calling by God to ministry during his ordination preparatory process. Christian is a creative, musical force who loves God, follows Christ and listens to the Spirit. I am excited at the opportunity for Christian Mclvor, his family and Greystone Baptist Raleigh to covenant together in ministry.

Ka'thy Gore Chappell, Executive Director, Baptist Women in Ministry of North Carolina

SEARCH TEAM MEMBERS

Sarah Wheeler (Chair)
Tim Hendrix (Vice Chair)
Lisha Stewart (Rec. Sec.)

Lou Ostendorff
Aaron Ng
Mitzi Glazier

MINISTRY EXPERIENCE

MINISTER OF MUSIC & WORSHIP

College Park Baptist Church
Greensboro, NC, 2017-present (Assistant Minister, 2017-2018;
Minister of Music & Worship, 2018-present)

WORSHIP LEADER/SONGWRITER AND WORSHIP PLANNING TEAM MEMBER

Baptist Women in Ministry of North Carolina
Greensboro, NC, 2018-2019 (Multiple Services)

WORSHIP LEADER AND WORSHIP PLANNING TEAM MEMBER

Cooperative Baptist Fellowship Selah Vie Retreat
Nashville, TN, 2018

MUSIC DIRECTOR (PART TIME)

New Creation Community Church
Greensboro, NC, 2017-2018

WORSHIP PLANNING TEAM MEMBER

CBFNC Annual Gathering
Winston-Salem, NC, 2017-2018

TEACHING & DIRECTING EXPERIENCE

JAZZ BAND DIRECTOR (ADJUNCT)

Guilford College
Greensboro, NC, Spring 2018

DIRECTOR OF BANDS

Southwest Guilford High School
High Point, NC, 2015-2017

K-12 MUSIC DIRECTOR

The North Carolina Leadership Academy
Kernersville, NC, 2013-2015

"Christian Mclvor has been a true blessing to Wake Forest School of Divinity for his many gifts and talents, scholarship and wisdom, kindness and humor, love for God's people, commitment to the Gospel, and as a stellar human being. I will miss him beyond measure, but rejoice in this new chapter of his life.

May Greystone Church and Christian in his Ministry become blessings to one another as this wonderful new relationship begins, grows, and builds upon the great traditions of Worship, Music and the Arts".

Sally Ann Morris, Musician-in-Residence, WFU School of Divinity

Christian Mclvor is a gifted man, musician, Christ-follower, husband, father and friend. It has been my pleasure to work with Christian as a ministry leader with Christian as a divinity