

REV. HEIDI MARIE BAK

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experience

- 2015 – Present **BEVERLY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, Beverly, NJ**
Senior Pastor. Full-time pastor. . Help church find new vision and mission to bring town farmers market, Rutgers Reading program, and many new initiatives to this very depressed struggling community, including; Summer of 2017 expanded mission to feed nearly 5,000 lunches to local children for 50 days of summer and Vacation Bible School grew from 25 to 100 children
- 2010 – July, 2015 **FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF HIGHTSTOWN, Hightstown, NJ**
Senior Pastor. Full-time pastor of a Colonial Era historic church founded in 1785: have ushered church from the 1900s into the 21st century. Lead regular weekly worship services, conduct weddings, funerals, baptisms, church strategy, office duties, etc.
- Strategy: led development of new church strategic framework, branding platform and strategic plan. Worked closely with congregation lay leaders, conference staff, and external consultants. Developed multi-year strategic plan, new Vision, Purpose, Mission, Goals, and new church branding and logo.
 - Governance: restructured Administrative Council to align governance with Book of Discipline and goals of the church. Instituted new Council Chairs to align with specific church Core Values.
 - Operations: initiated, co-designed, and introduced the following new church programs:
 - Worship*
Multimedia-based worship services, “Rise N Shine” alternative worship service, interactive Holy Week Stations, Maundy Thursday Passover Meal, Christmas & Easter creative connections / five senses themes & decorating, topical/thematic preaching (Disney, Romans, Bible Heroes), summer community worship with Baptist and Presbyterian churches, Easter Sunrise services.
 - Bible Study*
Wednesday Family Night Bible Study, Women’s Bible Study, Walk Thru the Bible, Discipleship Journal, Thirsty Thursday Community Bible Study, new Sunday School curriculum.
 - Fellowship*
Youth Group/Confirmation classes, Bowling League, Men’s & Women’s luncheons, Trenton thunder outings.
 - Outreach*
Little Beavers Preschool (new ministry, state-licensed), expanded Methodist Madness basketball program to family program crafts, Spanish reading, Holy Ghost Adventures, RISE to the TASK weekly dinner in partnership with Trenton Area Soup Kitchen (has now served more than 30,000 meals - all without a kitchen!), Shop Rite Food Ministry, Food Pantry, Farmers Market, Future with Hope Mission Trip, Capital District Mission Trip, Waves of Grace Women’s Rereat (12th year), building usage by Alcoholics Anonymous, boy scouts, girl scouts.
 - Communications*
Vertical Response to improve regular church communications, Constant Contact Monday Mailing/Thursday Prayers & Praises, Monthly Insider Newsletter, Call Em All Emergency System, D2Design Postcard to new contacts in community, announcements on slides between services, Quarterly Financial Statements to congregation, Facebook page, new website, TV monitor in Narthex with weekly announcements and pictures.
- 2002 – 2010 **PORCHTOWN ZION UNITED METHODIST CHURCH** **Franklinville, NJ**
Pastor. Received Elders Orders in June 2007. Helped church mend from difficult split and establish its individual identity as a single point charge for the first time in 80 years. Grew congregation from 45 regular attendees to over 90 faithful disciples at 3 different services, including an “out of the box” Saturday evening service. Created new Sunday school and youth group programs. Pioneered

"Porchlight Day Camp," a 10 week all-day summer camp for children 5-12 years old averaging 35 children per day. Ran it six years and it is still operating today. Founded and led "Life Coach Ministry," a women's retreat ministering to up to 60 women of faith from South Jersey region. Served on the District Leadership Team, District Committee of Ordained Ministry, Congregational Development Team and Sessions Committee for Annual Conference including "Greeter" team.

experience (cont'd.)

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2001 - 2002 **ASBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH** **Woodstown, NJ**
Part-time Coordinator of Children and Youth. Built youth program from scratch to over 45 teens participating in youth group, worship, and mission trips. Also responsible for Christian Education for children and teens as well as Confirmation Class.

1989 - 2001 **HEIDI'S HANDIWORK** **Sicklerville, NJ**
Owner/Operator and Founder. Full-service home-decoration, design, manufacturing/sewing and installation company with three employees. Built business from scratch to a loyal customer base of over 500 clients, both commercial and residential. Designer and seamstress for Mrs. New Jersey Pageant, 1996. Dining room work won "Best of Show" at 1997 West Jersey Hospital designer showcase.

1988 - 1990 **PRIVATE DAY CARE CENTER** **Sicklerville, NJ**
Owner/Operator. Managed home business that actively cared for over 10 children of all ages through games, events, crafts, learning, and meals.

1995 - 2001 **UNITED METHODIST CHURCH** **New Jersey**
Certified Lay Speaker. Presented sermons at churches throughout Southern New Jersey.

1990 - 2001 **SICKLERVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH** **Sicklerville, NJ**
Bible Study. Regular participant and leader, 1990 - 2001.
Sunday School. Small group leader through discipleship chair, 1990 - 2001.
Vacation Bible School. Leader/teacher of pre-school and grade school children, organizing indoor and outdoor games and activities for over 500 children, 1993 - 2001.
"Ichthus Pals." Developed and implemented prayer and fellowship initiative within church community where church members prayed for other selected church members. Initiative culminated in a Good Friday "Resurrection Dinner" for over 270 people where the Ichthus Pals met and exchanged gifts, 1998 - 1999.
Junior High Program. Counselor for and co-developer of Junior High School section of SUMC youth group program, including missions, service work, retreats, and fundraising drives, 1997 - 2000.
Mission Trip, Jamaica. Helped repair two orphanages with team of eight, Summer 1996.
Missions Trips, Appalachian Mountains, with Confrontation Point Ministries. Co-led team of 12 youth church members to repair homes for disadvantaged, Summers 1997 + 1998.
Women's Retreat. Co-led retreat for over 50 female church members. Developed materials, led sessions, and presented lectures over two-day off-site retreat, 1999.

Church Leadership Positions

- Discipleship Committee, *Chair* (nominated position), 1998-99. Member, 1993-98.
- Annual UMC Conference, *Lay Representative* (nominated position), 1997, 1998, 1999.
- SUMC Financial Administrative Board, *Member*, 1997, 1998, 1999.
- SUMC Council of Ministries, 1997, 1998, 1999.

- 1985 - 1988 **GOLDENBERG/ROSENTHAL, CPA's and ABRAMS, KLINE & CO** **Philadelphia, PA**
Office Manager. Merger in 1987. Managed office of ten people, directly supervising three employees. Responsible for all firm's bookkeeping and many client accounts, including accounts receivable/payable and payroll.
- 1984 - 1985 **M. GRIFFITH, INC. INVESTMENTS** **Utica, NY**
Administrative Assistant. As bonded employee of this securities trading company, supported operations through opening and maintenance of over 2,000 money market accounts, wire transaction management, accounts payable and funds dispersal, correspondence, mailing list management, and production of internal and external communications.
- 1979 - 1983 **UTICA COLLEGE OF SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICE** **Utica, NY**
Information Specialist and Administrative Assistant. Responsible for production and dissemination of press releases, event calendars, and faculty/staff newsletters. Coordinated press conferences and other special media events. Supervised 14 college workstudy students and interns.
- 1979 **HUDSON VALLEY PAPER COMPANY** **Albany, NY**
Bookkeeper/Keypunch Operator. Responsible for accounts payable and receivable.
- 1978 - 1979 **MAIN LAFRENTZ & CO., CPA'S** **Philadelphia, PA**
Administrative Assistant, Tax Processing. Processed, edited, and secured timely filing of client tax returns. Supervised three employees.
- 1974 - 1978 **FEDERAL RESERVE BANK** **Philadelphia, PA**
Secretary to the Accounting Manager / General Ledger Clerk. Progressed from Grade 2 Accounting Clerk as high school co-op student to Grade 7 bonded employee responsible for settling the bank daily.

education

- 2001 - 2004 **EASTERN BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY (Palmer)** **Wynnewood, PA**
 Received Master of Divinity degree. "Outstanding Teaching Award"
- August 2001 **PHILADELPHIA BIBLE UNIVERSITY** **Langhorne, PA**
 Received BS Degree in Bible with major in Leadership. GPA 3.97.
- 1997-1999 **CAMDEN COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE** **Blackwood, NJ**
 Completed all requirements for Associates Degree.
- 1980-1983 **UTICA COLLEGE OF SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY** **Utica, NY**
 Courses in business, public relations, and writing. 45 credits earned. GPA: 3.4.
- 1977-1978 **SAINT JOSEPH'S EVENING COLLEGE** **Philadelphia, PA**
 Courses in business, accounting, economics. 9 credits earned. GPA: 3.4.
- 1975 **STERLING HIGH SCHOOL** **Somerdale, NJ**
 National Honor Society. Graduated top 10% of class. Awarded Outstanding Business Student.

professional development

- Coach Approach Skill Training (CAST 1), NJ, February 2015, 1.0 CEU
- United Methodist Clergywomen Leadership Seminar, Florida, May 2014, 2.0 CEU
- Worship Seminar with Tom Kraeuter, Bayhead, NJ, April 2013, .5 CEU
- Clergy Benefits Academy, Galloway, NJ, February 2013, 2 CEU
- Princeton Seminary Advent Renewal Prayer Retreat, November 2012, .5 CEU
- Princeton Seminary Supervisory Field Ed Training Certification, May 2011, .5 CEU
- General Board of Discipleship Spiritual Leaders Conference, Florida, July 2011, 3.0 CEU

- Drew University, Madison, NJ, "Youth in the 21st Century," March 2011, 1 CEU
- Jerusalem Tour with Bishop Devadaha, "Making the Bible Come Alive," Feb 2010, 3.0 CEU
- Drew University, Madison, NJ, "Understanding Generation M," November 2010, 1.5 CEU
- Francis Asbury Society, Kentucky, "Come to The Fire Women's Retreat," October 2010, 1 CEU
- Capital District Resource Day, "Church Renewal-Begging for Real Church," October 2010, .5 CEU
- Delaware Bay District Resource Day, "I Refuse to Lead a Dying Church," May 2010, .5 CEU
- School of Congregational Development, Leawood Kansas, June 2007
- Natural Church Development Coach/Trainer Phase II, Dayton Ohio, June 2006
- Youth Connection Leader Development, Nashville, Tennessee, May 2005
- School of Congregational Development, 1 week intensive training, Washington, D.C.; 2004.
- "Reach the Unchurched Families in Your Community," 1 Day Seminar with Bill Arn, 1999.
- "Tree of Life" September 1997 thru May of 1998. Certified Spiritual Director Training
- "Emmaus Walk" Spring 1998.

professional development cont'd

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- "Kingdom Principles for Church Growth," 1 Day Seminar, 1994.
- "Learning to Care: Small Groups as a Path to Community," 1 Day Seminar, 1993.

professional teaching

- Waves of Grace Women's Retreat (in its 15th year, the 9th at the Wildwood Convention center). Has expanded from local church fellowship to regional women's event for hundreds of women across ages, cultures and denominations.
- Capital District Day of Learning, "Preaching Topical Sermon Series," Moorestown, NJ, January 2014.
- Capital District Resource Training Opportunity, "Contemporary Worship Blues," Hightstown, NJ, Oct. 2013.
- Delaware Bay District Resource Day Training, "Hospitality-Technology & Worship," Pitman, NJ, Feb. 2010.

personal

Married to Edward Bak since 1979. Three children: Laura Bak Moreland (36), Melissa Bak Branch (35), Jason Bak (30). Six grandchildren: Madison (12), MaKenzie (10), Kendyl (9), Lexi (8), Bryce (7), Ryan (5).