



Ellen Williams

Master of Divinity, Princeton Theological Seminary
Bachelor of Arts in English, University of Pennsylvania

Hometown: Harrisburg, PA

Perspectives on Ministry

Mission/Service: “I have found intergenerational service experiences transformative in my own life of faith. Every summer for ten years, I traveled to rural Maine with members of my home church to repair homes for those in need. During those ten trips, I helped to reroof trailers and build handicap ramps, but I also learned to trust God for provision. As I swung my hammer, I realized that as Christians we are called to be the church with our hands and feet as well as with our words and thoughts. I look forward to the opportunity to lead people of all ages into this kind of life-changing ministry work.”

Youth: “After college, I worked for three years with young adults in a campus ministry setting, and I have significant classroom experience from serving as a teaching assistant at Princeton Seminary. I believe that our youth are not the church of tomorrow -- they are the church of today. Together I hope we can cultivate a deep knowledge of how loved we are by the God of the universe, spiritual disciplines that will sustain us for years to come, and a strong commitment to the ongoing life of the church. I hope to invest in the lives of our youth both inside and outside the church walls.”

Worship: "Plain and simple, I love to worship. My mom recently told me that as a toddler I poured water into the bathtub and said, 'this is my blood, shed for you.' At seminary, I attended chapel every day, soaking in the diverse preaching of my peers and learning the *Glory to God* hymnal like the back of my hand. Having tasted many different worship styles while working in campus ministry, I appreciate the way the Reformed order of service gives each worship experience structure while also allowing room for creativity. I'm excited to worship with Westminster!"

**I bring positive energy, a collaborative spirit, love of worship
and attention to detail to my ministry work.**



“Through the Spirit, God invites us to see fresh possibilities for following the way of Jesus. We’re invited to serve one another and to live together in communion in a way that is good for us and attractive to others, just like the earliest Christians.”

Get to Know Ellen

Last Book You Read: Not for work or school

"A History of Reading" by Alberto Manguel.
I'm a big nerd.

Dream Vacation:

To Singapore, to visit a dear friend from my year in Oxford.

Favorite Cuisine:

Anything homemade. I'm a true omnivore.

First church memory:

That's like asking if I remember being born.

Chocolate or vanilla?:

Chocolate. ALWAYS chocolate.

Favorite game:

Basketball!

Most played song on phone:

"Graceland" by Paul Simon.

Favorite Hymn:

Do I have to pick just one?
Ask me about how "Great is Thy Faithfulness"
follows me around...

Pancakes, waffles, or french toast?:

All three? Breakfast is the best meal of the day.
But if the pancakes have chocolate chips
then they win.

Hidden Talents:

Queen of Power Tools.

Not so hidden talents:

Musical ones. I play the piano and French horn
and I love to sing.

What are you most looking forward to at Westminster?

For more than a year I've been so looking forward to joining a congregation as part of its pastoral team. I'm excited to join this welcoming, loving community, especially the young people with whom I'll be working closely. Ministry begins with relationships, and I can't wait to get started building those.



"An act of welcome doesn't have to be grand to be effective. The incarnation was a mass act of welcome — but Jesus's ministry was spent in daily acts of love. He started conversations. He took time to listen. He healed physical and social and spiritual wounds. He cared for ordinary people living ordinary lives."