

"After John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee announcing God's good news, saying, 'Now is the time! Here comes God's kingdom! Change your hearts and lives, and trust this good news!'"

-Mark 1:14-15 (CEB)

"God has endowed people with capacities to make the world serve their needs and to enjoy its good things. Life is a gift to be received with gratitude and a task to be pursued with courage."

-from The Confession of 1967 (9.17)

Dear HTLC and DMPC,

My name is Rev. Thomas Wesley Moore, IV, but I go by Pastor T. Wes. I am a 2018 graduate of Union Presbyterian Seminary in Richmond, VA and have been in various forms of full-time and part-time ministry positions since 2011. My background is in music ministry, but I entered the ministry of Word and Sacrament in March of 2019. As I often tell people, my first love is music, but over the years, I have come to equally love preaching.

I am married to the Rev. Lauren Voyles, who is a 2017 graduate of UPSem. She is a hospice chaplain with Bon Secours in Richmond, VA. Together we have three dogs: Murphy (11), Melodie (4), and Morty (3).

In addition to my love for the ministry of the Word and Sacrament and music, I have discovered my love for transitional ministry. Having been born during the gradual decline of church as an institution in the United States and coming of age during 9/11/2001, I see myself as a transitional figure and I continue to lean into it, especially as we still discern a way forward in this new phase of COVID. As a transitional pastor, I have begun to dig deeper into conflict resolution, mediation skills, and family systems theory.

While I am by no means a licensed therapist, I am in many ways on the front lines to assist people not only from a spiritual standpoint, but to point them in the right direction to appropriate mental health resources from licensed professionals. I am a proponent of seeking counseling and medical assistance from licensed therapists and psychiatrists as I currently have these professionals in my life just like I have my own primary care physician.

During my free time, I play board games and tabletop role playing games with other friends via Zoom. Many of them are also ministers. Games in general are good outlets for me in order to spark my imagination. They also help me create innovative solutions to unique problems. I also love to eat and I have recently discovered that I don't hate lifting weights at the gym. Actually, I may even enjoy the gym a little bit!

I am looking forward to getting to know HTLC and DMPC over the course of this stage of the transitional period. There will be a lot of blood, sweat, and tears involved by all of us as we move forward, but we know we don't do this alone. In fact, not only do we have each other, we know the Holy Spirit has blazed the trail before us. It's up to us to gratefully respond to the Spirit's leading.

Christ's Peace,

Pastor T. Wes Moore

Rev. Thomas Wesley Moore, IV (he/him/his)  
Minister of the Word and Sacrament  
Presbyterian Church (USA)