



## Whitney Sheridan

**Attended seminary at:** Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary (Evanston, IL)

**Interests:** Cooking, making art, exploring new ways of worship that translate to folks who are un- and de-churched, spending time with my husband and friends, and working on our house.

**My call to ministry story:** I was not raised attending church. I was brought up Christian, but it wasn't until I was 16 that my parents felt compelled by the Spirit to join a church and found a home at Eden Prairie United Methodist Church. Very quickly, church became part of our life as a family. During a mission trip that summer, it was affirmed to me by a classmate that I had gifts for pastoral ministry, and my discernment process began. I continued to pray and talk with mentors and trusted friends. By the time I was 19, I was sure I was headed to seminary after college. By the time I was 20, I was sure in my calling towards ordained ministry as an elder in The United Methodist Church.

**A bit about my church and community:** I currently serve as the campus pastor of the new St. Anthony Park Campus of Centennial United Methodist Church. The new campus, located in St. Paul, came from two congregations that were ready to take a risk, trust in God, and see what God had for them when they said goodbye to what was and hello to a new way of being church together. When so many of us hear the statistics of churches in decline, it is invigorating to be serving a congregation that is ready to try new things, to welcome the stranger, and to actually have FUN being the body of Christ in the world.

**What I appreciate about being part of the Minnesota Conference:** The comradery among Minnesota United Methodist clergy is a life-saver. Professional ministry is hard work and the support of colleagues through covenant groups and quickly wrought friendships have strengthened my leadership and my faith.



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