

Reverend Matthew Hogue-Smith's Biography

Reverend Matthew is an ordained minister with full standing in the United Church of Christ. He received his Bachelor of Arts in Music, and Master of Arts degree in Practical Theology and Ministry, both from Barry University in Miami Shores, Florida. Matthew completed his clinical pastoral education (CPE) at Cleveland Clinic, in Cleveland, Ohio.

He first served on campus ministry staff at Barry University; then First Congregational Church, North Ridgeville Ohio. Pastor Matthew was called for ministry as an associate pastor for outreach, justice and diversity at First Church of Christ, Congregational UCC in Glastonbury, Connecticut and currently serves as senior pastor at Peoples Church of Flint, Flint Michigan.

In his most recent setting, he has guided the congregation through a season of regrowth and revitalization with the particular focus on reimagining their ministry, fostering community engagement, and stewarding their physical space.

Matthew currently sits on the Michigan Conference Committee on Ministry (Covenant Association) and is a member of the Vital Growth Mission Team for our Michigan Conference.

We welcome Reverend Matthew to Bethlehem UCC as our next Pastor and look forward to this new chapter in our history under his joyful and prayerful guidance.