

Rev. Kathryn (Van Brocklin) Kelly was born and raised in Gloversville, New York. As a member of The First Presbyterian Church of Gloversville, Kate served as a deacon, youth advisory delegate to the Albany Presbytery and later as an elder at the Gloversville church.

Kate played on the Gloversville's girls soccer team from 8th-12th grade and ran indoor and spring track throughout high school and college.

Kate graduated from the University of Binghamton in New York with bachelor's degrees in Human Ecology and Sociology. Following graduation, Kate was asked to serve the Director of Christian Education at the First Presbyterian Church of Binghamton, NY. It was in Binghamton where Kate began her lifelong passion for nurturing spiritual development, encouraging wonderment, and igniting the faith of children and youth.

In the winter of 2000, Kate enrolled in seminary at Union Theological Seminary and Presbyterian School of Christian Education in Richmond, VA. Kate graduated from Union-PSCE with her MDiv/MACE in 2003.

Her peers elected Kate to the office of President of the Student Body in 2002 and 2003. She was instrumental in bringing about formal student representation with voice and vote to the seminary's Board of Trustees, positions still held to this day.

Kate was also elected to represent Union as the Theological Student Advisory Delegate to the 213th General Assembly. Kate was serendipitously seated in front of Moderator Jack Rogers. Through her curious spirit, she began a decade's long partnership as they worked to re-cast the confessional history of the church in the 21st century. They also partnered together in assisting candidates for ministry in the preparation of the Statements of Faith and presbytery examinations.

Kate's parish setting seminary internship took place with a consortium of local churches of the Albany Presbytery. She engaged in ministry with five congregations with differing theological beliefs and practices. Kate was able to bridge those differences by finding common ground among the congregations through shared mission and education opportunities.

Rev. Kelly was ordained as the Associate Pastor to the First Presbyterian Church of Alma, MI, on October 4, 2003. Kate was the first associate pastor and female clergy to ever serve the Alma church.

From Alma, Kate served the Interim Pastor to the Zion Church of Christ in Sterling Heights, MI and Starr Presbyterian Church in Royal Oak, MI. It was during her time of leadership in Detroit as Trustee for the Presbytery of Detroit; Kate began her MBA degree in Non-Profit Management at Eastern Michigan University.

Rev. Kelly has also served as a Trustee and a member of the Nominating Committee in the Chicago Presbytery. Through Northwestern's Kellogg School of Business, Kate had earned certificates in philanthropy and leadership development.

Kate has served as an ordination exam reader for over 15 years and takes her role seriously to protect the church's theological integrity and implementation of its polity. Rev. Kelly's leadership style is collaborative, with a strong proficiency in strategic organization and planning.

Kate Kelly is the proud mother of her formidable daughters, Quinn Lorelei (8) and Keira Morgan (6). The saying is indeed true, "what goes around comes around," and Quinn and Keira are the embodiment of Kate's "comes around." Kate very much looks forward to her return to congregational ministry and to make manifest her vow to "serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love."