



THE MADISON AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 2017-2019 PHILLIPS TALBOT GLOBAL MINISTRY FELLOWSHIP

Purpose and Rationale for Program

The Phillips Talbot Global Ministry Fellowship is a 2-year program to provide outstanding recent seminary graduates with an immersion experience in the dynamics of the Christian Church in the “Global South,” which is the center of activity and energy in the church of the 21st century. Such experience will indelibly shape the pastoral outlook and character of such leaders for the rest of their ministry, and will thus help ensure that the emerging leaders of the Presbyterian Church (USA) understand the dynamics and opportunities for ministry and partnership in a globalized context.

Individual Eligibility and Selection

Phillips Talbot Global Ministry Fellows (PTGMFs) will be selected through a nationwide process on the basis of their outstanding potential for pastoral leadership. This potential will be evident by their spiritual maturity, personal character, preaching, pastoral experience, academic work, and vision for the mission of the church in the age of globalization. Eligible individuals must be members in good standing in the PC(USA), be attending an accredited seminary at the time of application, and be committed to serving as a pastor in the local church. Preference is given to those who have Candidate status within their presbytery of care, have passed all five ordination exams by the date of application, and are certified ready to receive a call in the PC(USA) before July 1, 2017. Candidates who have graduated from seminary within the last five years will also be considered. Married applicants are welcome, but, because of the significant complications and particular risks that would ensue, persons who have dependent children that would need to accompany them are ineligible for this fellowship. Married applicants must be willing to affirm that they do not intend and will not attempt to have children during the fellowship term in order to be eligible.

Time Cycle of Fellowship

The Phillips Talbot Global Ministry Fellowship begins on June 1 after graduation from seminary with a three-month Pastoral Residency on the staff of Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church (MAPC) that includes orientation to the program as well as to MAPC itself. The PTGMF then reports to his or her Fellowship Site (see detailed description below) for twelve-month service beginning in September. At the end of the Fellowship Site service the following September, the PTGMF has three months for independent travel in Africa and the Global South, after which he/she returns to the States to visit family and friends before beginning service as a member of the MAPC pastoral staff. The PTGMF *must* spend at least six consecutive weeks of that time traveling independently in Africa; additional travel time in Africa or elsewhere in the Global South is encouraged. He/she must exercise great care when making travel arrangements to travel as locals do and not as Western tourists do. This is crucial to the learning experience; the travel itinerary and arrangements must be approved by MAPC in advance. The PTGMF must report back to MAPC by December 1 to take up a second six month Pastoral Residency.

Pastoral Residency Responsibilities in New York

During both terms of pastoral residency, the PTGMF will share fully in the pastoral ministry of MAPC. The PTGMF will participate regularly in worship leadership and pastoral care and will rotate through various programmatic and administrative entities in the church. The PTGMF will preach at least once before departing for Africa and at least twice after returning. Before departing, a portion of the PTGMF's responsibility will be undertaking an orientation process to MAPC and to the overseas service site and its context. Upon returning, the PTGMF will have regular teaching responsibilities that reflect the insights gained from the time in the Global South at MAPC and, as available, through opportunities for itineration across the PC(USA).

Fellowship Amount and Funding Structure

For the 2017-2019 Phillips Talbot Global Ministry Fellowship, the precise amount of the cash salary has yet to be determined, but it will be adequate to meet reasonable monthly living expenses; the monthly salary amount will differ on that basis depending on whether the PTGMF is in New York or in Africa. In the case of a married student, a \$5,000/year spousal supplement will be added to maintain equity of costs with single students. Beyond the monthly cash salary, an airfare allowance of approximately \$4,000 will be provided for international airfare to and from Africa, as well as a \$5,000 travel stipend for use during the travel portion; the PTGMF will also continue to draw the monthly cash salary during that time. A furnished one-bedroom apartment will be provided in New York and a furnished two-bedroom duplex apartment in Africa. Utilities will be included or supplemented to the salary. The PTGMF is covered by internationally-valid health insurance while overseas and by an appropriate health insurance while in the U.S.A. selected based on ordination status, and business expenses will be covered on a vouchered basis. Orientation and training similar to PC(USA) Mission Co-Worker training may be provided.

Communications with MAPC

The PTGMF will give formal monthly reports via e-mail to the Session of MAPC; the PTGMF is also expected to maintain a discipline of informal reporting by setting up a blog soon after arriving and maintaining it through the course of the time in Africa. The PTGMF will write quarterly theological reflection papers of 5-7 pages on topics of their own choosing which arise out of their experiences and insights in Zambia. A schedule for all of these communications will be established before departure for Zambia.

Fellowship Supervision and Evaluation

Arrangements for actual supervision of the PTGMF during the overseas service will be determined each year as part of the site selection and negotiation between the PTGMF Oversight Committee and MAPC's mission partners. During the Pastoral Residencies in New York, the PTGMF will report to MAPC's Pastor/Head of Staff; the Pastor will delegate supervision to one of the Associate Pastors when out of town. At the end of the two-year fellowship, the PTGMF will conduct a final evaluation and exit interview with the PTGMF Oversight Committee, with input from the site supervisor and the Pastor.

For More Information

The Rev. Dr. Eric O. Springsted, Interim Pastor/ Head of Staff at MAPC, is the contact person for the Phillips Talbot Global Ministry Fellowship; he can be reached at 212-288-8920 x8471 or eos@mapc.com. The MAPC website (www.mapc.com) has more information on the Phillips Talbot Global Ministry Fellowship, including a link to the current fellow's personal blog and the ability to file the application online.