

CANDIDATE BIOGRAPHIES

ORDINAND

DEB ANDERSON-PRATT



I am a 60 year old Cree/Saulteaux woman from the George Gordon First Nation. I am the 6th youngest of 14 children. My parent are Roland (Porky) Pratt and Mary Pratt neé Anderson.

I grew up with both Traditional and Christian teaching; the Traditional teachings were taught very subtly by my Great Grandmother MaryJane Anderson. She had to teach them in this way otherwise she risked imprisonment. They were so subtle I never realized I had them in me until 1986 when the Grandfather teachings were introduced in a upgrading course I took- I knew them all as they were presented. The Christian teachings were thrust upon me at a very young age by various religious groups.(6).

It took me many, many years to trust in any religious organizations, and also to listen, know and understand God's calling of me.

I first trained at Dr. Jessie Saulteaux Resource Centre in 1988-1989 but quit because I felt unworthy to be a minister. I still took part in All Native Circle Conference throughout the following years until it closed down. I again felt God's strong call for me to serve so I went back to Sandy-Saulteaux Spiritual Centre in January 2013 and graduated the program in April 2017.

I've faced and overcome many obstacles with God holding my hand and guiding me to this point. I believe with my whole being I am where he wants me.

ORDINAND

BRUCE NEAL KAKAKAWAY



I'm from White Bear First Nation in Southeast Saskatchewan, born in a small town hospital called Arcola. I was raised and grew up on the First Nation. I was mostly raised and cared for by my maternal grandmother and grandfather. My grandmother taught me my language and some of the ground skills that I know (Traditional things). My maternal grandmother is Saulteaux; she taught me some Saulteaux, but she also taught me mostly Cree. My grandmother was the first person to take me to a church on our First Nation, United Church. I heard the first hymn in my life called 'Jesus loves me'.

I really loved the Sunday School that was there at the time. I also did learn some traditional teachings from my grandfather and other family members. If it wasn't for my grandmother taking me to church on that one Sunday when I was 8 years old, I don't believe I would be a minister today.

Then again?

I graduated off my First Nation as we had no school here at the time; by this time my grandmother and grandfather were already gone from my life. I still miss my grandmother and grandfather, but it is mostly my grandmother that I miss most of all.

I have 6 daughters and many, many extended family members. My mother is still in my life, but my father passed on before I became a teenager.

I have just recently graduated from Sandy Saulteaux Spiritual Center. I am very proud that I finally completed the training. It took me a long time to get where I am, a lot of heartaches and tears, but also a lot of hard fought accomplishments.

I was placed as a student minister at File Hills, and I have met good people there. They have taught me a lot and some of them will be present at my ordination. I am currently waiting for my full-time position in Hazelton, B.C. to start in November or December of this year. I am very thankful for The United Church of Canada for accepting me as an ordained minister.

I am the only one in my family history to be an ordained minister, now that I think of it... I believe this is what my grandmother hoped for!

ADMITTAND

HOEUN LEE



It is a great honour to be admitted to The Order of Ministry of The United Church of Canada. I was ordained in Presbyterian Church of Korea in October 2012, and my intercultural journey of ministry came along with the community of St. Andrew's College (Saskatoon) and The Coteau Hills Pastoral Charge (Birsay and Lucky Lake) since the summer of 2017. My ministry at St. Paul's United Church in Tisdale started in July 2020. My wife Yoonjoo and I are fully enjoying living in this beautiful land of living skies with our child Jaye.

As a Ph. D. candidate in Theology of Culture at Yonsei University Graduate School (Seoul, South Korea), I am broadly interested in cultural phenomena such as new communication tools, its relationship with "BTS (a Korean Boy Band) and their global fandom ARMY," and their theological implications. My approach is very much relying on the perspective of Minjung theology and postcolonial theology. Recently, I have built a YouTube channel Second Wind Archive (<https://www.youtube.com/c/secondwindarchive>) where I would like to witness works of the wind of the Spirit in peoples' lives and stories. With an aspiration for innovation in these strange times and for the full participation of all generations in worship, I have been providing online worship services. I hope my gifts and skills that I have cultivated in my theological education and that came from my diverse ministerial experiences across Korea and Canada serve the congregation with the best. Peace and grace be with you all.

ADMITTAND

HYUN HEO

I was born in Wonju and raised in Seoul, South Korea. Since I was kid, I always dreamed to be a minister to serve God and others. I have earned a Bachelor of Theology (BTh) in 2005 and a Master of Divinity (MDiv) in 2007 from Hanshin University and College in South Korea and served as an associate minister at An-min church which is one of Min-Jung church that have been working for the people who have been politically oppressed, economically exploited, socially marginalized, culturally despised, and religiously condemned. After I got ordained in the Presbyterian Church in the Republic of Korea in 2009, I served at Hyo-dong Church in Seoul, South Korea and Hamburg Korean Church in Germany as a youth and young adult minister in Korean-German community. I came to Canada in 2013. Since fall 2017, I am walking on my faithful journey with Kipling and Grenfell Pastoral Charge (Since Jan. 2020).



I am convinced that the ministry of The United Church of Canada will be a great opportunity in finding answers to my question about the future of the church. I would like to say that the greatest expectation of ministry in Canada is the possibility of unity in diversity and that everyone's thoughts and confessions cannot be contained all on one page. One page of the book is gathered to complete the one book. Each page has its own story. In other words, while respecting each one's life no matter their backgrounds, identities, and beliefs.

In an age of challenging, I believe that we still may celebrate the gifts that have received from God and we can share our beautiful stories and live together in dreams of the hope of God's kin-dom (Familia-Dei) in diversity and radical loving actions.