

For Immediate Release

Central Presbyterian announces the Rev. David Cozad as new interim pastor, head of staff

Atlanta, GA – October 10, 2016 – **Central Presbyterian Church**, an historic church located in downtown Atlanta, is pleased to announce the addition of the Rev. David Cozad as interim pastor and head of staff.



Reverend Cozad stepped in as Central's interim pastor and head of staff in August when he replaced the Rev. Steve Bacon who was acting head of staff after the departure of the Rev. Gary Charles in June, who was with Central from 2004 to 2016. Reverend Cozad will lead Central until the Pastor Nominating Committee brings a recommendation for Central's next called pastor.

Reverend Cozad comes to Central from Shandon Presbyterian Church in Columbia, SC where he was named interim senior pastor in January 2015. He is pastor emeritus of First Presbyterian Church of Aiken, SC where he retired in 2012 after serving 10 years as senior pastor and head of staff.

Reverend Cozad is a graduate of Eckerd College in St. Petersburg, FL and also holds a Masters of Science in Planning degree in urban planning and social policy from Florida State. His Master of Divinity degree is from Union Theological Seminary in Virginia, and his Doctor of Ministry degree is from Columbia Seminary in Atlanta, with an emphasis in stewardship.

He has served Florida churches in Tallahassee, Ocala and Sarasota, and close to 20 years in higher education ministry at Eckerd College, his alma mater. He also served for nine years as secretary of the board of trustees of Columbia Seminary and chaired the Board of Visitors at Eckerd as well as the Board of Church Advisors at Presbyterian College. Likewise, he has served on a number of boards and committees pertaining to urban development matters within the communities he and his family have lived.

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About Central Presbyterian Church

Central Presbyterian Church is an historic church located at 201 Washington Street SW in Atlanta, Georgia. It was founded in 1858 and was added to the National Register in 1986. During the 1930s, it became known as "*the church that stayed*" as other churches relocated to the suburbs. Today Central's ministries place an emphasis on social justice through advocacy, local and global mission work, and learning.

For more information about Central Presbyterian Church please contact Kimberly Raley-Kimes, Communications and Learning Coordinator, at 404-601-3124 or kkimes@cpatlanta.org or visit cpatlanta.org.