

POCONO RECORD

New pastor at Shawnee Presbyterian

San Filippo ordained and installed at Shawnee Presbyterian Church

Rev. Anthony San Filippo was ordained as a minister of word and sacrament of the Lehigh Presbytery, PC (USA), and was installed as the new pastor of Shawnee Presbyterian Church at a special Ordination and Installation service held at Shawnee Presbyterian Church on Aug. 19. After the service the church members, guests and service participants gathered at the Shawnee Inn for an outdoor reception along the Delaware River to celebrate Rev. San Filippo's Ordination and Installation and welcome him and his wife Hope to the community.



Born and raised in New Jersey, Rev. San Filippo went to North Carolina, where he graduated from Warren Wilson College in Swannanoa, North Carolina, with a Bachelor of Arts in environmental management. Prior to entering the seminary, Rev. San Filippo had a long and successful career in private industry owning and operating an award winning residential construction company and was heavily involved with conservation and farmland preservation efforts as well as teaching and coaching both middle school and high school wrestling.

Rev. San Filippo says "even though faith and church have been vital to me since I was a little boy, it wasn't until the fall of 2009, we were visiting Pennsylvania boarding schools for our son John, took the wrong road, and drove by Gettysburg Seminary. That's when God planted the seed, 'think about going to seminary.' The field was already plowed, for I was overflowing with the tremendous grace and love we had received from folks while I was fighting cancer. So not a choice really in the end; God wouldn't leave me alone. I got tired of saying 'No' and felt God's peace when I finally submitted and said 'Yes' in June, 2011. That wrong road turned out to be the right road." In the fall of 2011 he began his studies at Gettysburg Seminary in Gettysburg, graduating in 2016 with his Master of Divinity. During his studies at Gettysburg Seminary and since his graduation he has served as a pastoral intern, hospital chaplain and provided pulpit supply services to various churches in the Mercersburg area.

An avid hiker and bicycle rider, Rev. San Filippo is looking forward to exploring the roads and trails of his new community. Rev. San Filippo and Hope have been married for 28 years. Hope is an award winning teacher, specializing in ESL and Spanish with experience from kindergarten through college. They have two children, John, 23, who graduated from Wesleyan University in Connecticut last May, and is living and working in Denver, Colorado; and Katie, 22, is in college majoring in English and transferring to a school where she can minor in linguistics.

Shawnee Presbyterian Church is located at 1129 Shawnee Church Road in Shawnee-On-Delaware. For information, call 570-421-5518, e-mail "Shawnee Church" <shawneechurch@verizon.net> visit shawneepresbyterianchurch.net; or listen to their radio station, WBSD-LP 104.9 FM.