

## MEET NEW STARMOUNT STAFF MEMBER

Laurie Valentine

I was born in Daytona Beach, Florida. My parents are Jim and Johanne Valentine in Duluth, GA. I have 2 younger brothers. Jim and his wife Heather live in Cumming, GA and have 2 daughters. My brother Jack lives in Dunwoody, GA. I attended Stetson University in Deland, FL where I received a B.A. in 1989, majoring in political science.

Following graduation, I worked for 4 years with in the juvenile division of the Clerk of the Court in Volusia County. I entered Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, GA the summer of 1993. During my 2nd year, I spent a semester as an exchange student in Cambridge, England. After I graduated in 1996, I spent a year at Plaza Presbyterian Church in Charlotte as a student intern. When I returned to Atlanta, I worked part-time as the Director of Children's Ministry at Norcross Presbyterian Church in Norcross, GA.

In December of 2000, I accepted a call to Speedwell Presbyterian Church in Reidsville as Designated Pastor. Speedwell is the oldest church in Rockingham County and will celebrate their 250th

anniversary in May. I was ordained Feb. 11, 2001. While serving at Speedwell, I met Scott North through the young adult group of Westminster Presbyterian Church in Greensboro. I left Speedwell in June of 2003 and Scott and I were married that September 20th.

My next call was as Interim Associate Pastor at Highland Presbyterian Church in Winston-Salem. I then served Trinity Pres. in W-S as Parish Associate from Nov. 2004 to Dec. 2007. During our time there, Scott and I became the proud parents of twin girls, Erin and Allison. They were born 2 months early but are now happy and healthy 3 year olds. We look forward to having the girls in Starmount's preschool and to beginning this new phase of our life and ministry at Starmount.

