

Ekama (she/her) was born and raised in the United Kingdom to Nigerian immigrant parents. She spent the first 10 years of her life in west London. Her family emigrated to the States in 2003 and after spending her middle school years in Prince George's County, MD, the family eventually settled in North Texas. She considers Maryland, Texas and the UK to all be places that are home to her. She is a cradle Presbyterian, baptized in the United Reformed Church in England. Growing up, no matter where the family lived, church was always a constant.

Ekama graduated from the University of North Texas (UNT) with a BA in Psychology and a minor in Counseling in the summer of 2016. She was heavily involved in the campus chapter of the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM) during her time at UNT and after taking a gap year, her plan was to do some form of corporate HR or counseling. She spent her gap year serving the PC(USA)'s Young Adult Volunteer program living in Glasgow and working in a Church of Scotland parish in the north of the city. This experience was deeply life changing and was her catalyst to considering a career in ministry and nonprofit work.

After a year in Glasgow, Ekama moved back to Texas and worked for FEMA doing support for individuals dealing with the aftermath of natural disasters. In the Fall of 2018 she moved to NYC to attend Union Theological Seminary. Union was cool and nutty in the way that perhaps many graduate school experiences are and getting to learn and live alongside classmates of all and no faiths, who are now my colleagues and friends added to a deeply rich educational experience. During seminary, she served as an intern at the First Presbyterian Church of Brooklyn under the Rev. Adriene Thorne. During her final year of seminary she also served as the Director of Children and Family Ministries at Larchmont Avenue Church in Larchmont, NY.

Ekama graduated in 2021 and started working at The General Theological Seminary (the oldest Episcopal seminary in the country) working in external affairs and managing the Dean & President's office. She spent the last four years serving the Pastor for Youth and Campus at St. Paul & St. Andrew United Methodist Church (SPSA) in the Upper West Side of Manhattan. In her role at SPSA, Ekama also served as co-pastor to a progressive, ecumenical campus ministry, The Vine, NYC, pastoring young adults and college students from campuses all across the city.

Service to the wider church is very important to Ekama and over the years she has served as a chaplain at Ghost Ranch in New Mexico, led and planned workshops and served as a keynote for youth at Massanetta Springs Camp in Virginia, supported young adult delegates to the General Assembly and Synod of the North East as well as serving on the national board of Presbyterian Women, Inc. Ekama's favorite denominational activity is the Youth Triennium, which she attended as a youth in 2010 and she has returned as a small group leader and will serve on the care team for this year's event.

When not doing church-y flavored things Ekama is deeply committed to never having a lackluster meal and trying to take naps. She enjoys live music, dancing, laughing, and watching reality television. Ekama believes every day is an opportunity to learn something new and to create space for experiencing joy! She loves nerding out with trivia, cooking for large groups of people, visiting museums, and libraries and other places with old things. Being a sister (a twin! too), a daughter and a friend are the most important roles in Ekama's life.