



# Pastor Jeff Davis



## About

I was born in Greenville, South Carolina on July 31, 1967. When I was six years old we moved to Seneca, South Carolina, where my dad took a job working for my grandfather at Ward Smith Chevrolet Buick. I attended public school in Seneca. I was saved at nine years of age and baptized at Seneca Baptist Church. When I was ten years of age, my dad said he was "tired of playing church." Through a series of providential events, we attended the first Sunday services of University Baptist Church in Clemson, SC, an independent Baptist church. We were one of three families plus the pastor's family that made up the charter members of that church. I had a scholarship opportunity to attend Clemson University, but at the last minute decided to attend Bob Jones University. Each summer I worked at the Wilds Christian Camp. It was at the Wilds where I met my wife Joanna. She graduated from Tennessee Temple University and also was a lead counselor at the Wilds. We came very close to going on full-time staff at the Wilds, but the Lord directed us back to my home church in Clemson. After finishing graduate school, I worked at UBC for a year, and then went to Rock Hill, South Carolina, where I started the Harvest Baptist Church. We were there for four years and then the Lord led us to Muncie, Indiana where I served as an assistant pastor in a larger church. We were there for four years and then the Lord led me to become the senior pastor at Tabernacle Baptist Church in Wilson, North Carolina. This is a historic church that was started by Dr. Otis Holmes. It is also the church where Dr. Bob Jones, Jr., held his church membership. I served at TBC for ten years and then the Lord directed us back to my home area as I was called to be the pastor of Oakwood Baptist Church in Anderson, SC. I served as the senior pastor of OBC and also the President of Oakwood Christian School until the end of May, 2015.

Over the past few years, I had heard from several churches at different times that were looking for a pastor, but never felt that I should give any consideration to changing ministries. Through a series of providential events and also through the counsel with preacher friends from across the country, my wife and I began praying about the possibility of changing ministries. We saw the Lord do some amazing things in the five years at Oakwood, but we were constantly facing an uphill struggle. For about a year, the Lord seemed to be telling us to wait, but in April, it became evident to us through the counsel with several godly friends and more importantly from God's Word that it was time for me to step aside from Oakwood. We left Oakwood on good terms and will miss many very special friends. We are now seeking God's direction for our next steps in ministry.

Pictured below is my family. My wife Joanna and I were married on August 12, 1989. Last year we celebrated our 25th Anniversary with a trip to Israel with Dr. Craig Hartman. God has gifted me in many ways, but I often say my most valuable asset in the ministry is my wife. We have four children. Our son Caleb graduated in May of 2014 and is currently in Seminary at BJU. He was married on August 9 to his wonderful wife Jamie who teaches science at Berea High School. Caleb and Jamie have spent four summers working at the Wilds Christian Camp. Caleb was a lead counselor for two summers. They are serving on program staff at the Wilds this summer. My daughter Bethany is a rising Junior at BJU. She played soccer for the Lady Bruins and has been the church pianist in two different ministries. She is working at camp for her third summer. My daughter Abigail just graduated from Oakwood Christian School. She is planning on attending BJU and studying Christian Ministries. She also will be playing both soccer and basketball for the Lady Bruins. My daughter Hannah is going into the 10th Grade. All of our children are excited about ministry. I have involved them as much as possible throughout the years in music, visitation, and mission trips.



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## Experience

**Oakwood Baptist Church**  
**Anderson, South Carolina**  
Senior Pastor

**Oakwood Christian School**  
President

2010- May 2015

**Tabernacle Baptist Church**  
**Wilson, North Carolina**  
Senior Pastor

**Wilson Christian Academy**  
President

2000-2010

**Grace Baptist Church**  
**Muncie, Indiana**  
Assistant Pastor

**Heritage Hall Christian**  
**School**

1996-2000

**Harvest Baptist Church**  
**Rock Hill, South Carolina**  
Pastor - Church Planter

1991-1995

**University Baptist Church**  
**Clemson, South Carolina**  
Pastoral Internship and  
Assistant to the Pastor

1990-1991

- Weekly 30 minute radio broadcast.
- Designed church website. Began podcasting. In the process of adding live streaming.
- Revamped the Sunday School, instituted Pastor's Prayer Partners, restructured the Deacon Care ministry, hands on involvement in developing a family based youth ministry, established Exchange relational and servant evangelism philosophy, Biennial Mission Conference (we support 80 missionary families or organizations).
- Organized Mission Trips to NYC, El Salvador, and Romania.
- Hosted 20 Chinese in an Exchange Program.
- Hands on involvement in Senior Citizens ministry.
- Added 10 new missionary families.
- Preached in Bible Conferences, Youth and Family Camps, College chapels, etc.
- Daily fifteen minute radio broadcast. Sunday services were broadcast live.
- Designed church website. Began podcasting
- Reorganized the Sunday School, instituted Pastor's Prayer Partners, Revamped the visitation ministry (GROW), and Deacon Care ministry.
- Began Primetimer Senior Citizens Ministry
- Led in remodeling the 2nd and 3rd floors of educational building, added new bathrooms to church auditorium, new nurseries, remodeled the church gymnasium, new landscaping, etc.
- Organized Mission Trips to NYC and to China.
- Added 10 new missionary families. (supported 40)
- Preached in Bible Conferences, Youth and Family Camps, College chapels and area school chapels.
- Director of Christian Education and Senior Citizens. In charge of Sunday School and Promotions. In 1996-97, also served as youth Director. Organized youth camps, VBS, Mission Trips, etc.
- Gained valuable experience working with the Christian School, judging preaching at state competitions, preaching in chapel, etc.
- Preached at banquets, youth camps, Bible Conferences, and my first Revival meeting.
- At twenty-four years of age, I began pastoring by starting the Harvest Baptist Church in Rock Hill, SC. It is exciting to see the continued growth of this ministry which is thriving on the West side of Rock Hill, a bedroom community to Charlotte, NC.
- In charge of the youth ministry
- Established Young Couples Sunday School Class
- Valuable experience in College Ministry, Visitation and Outreach, Sunday School, Administration, Event Planning, Preaching, etc.



## Experience

- 1989-1990      **National Safety Associates, Greenville, South Carolina**  
    ■ Sales Coordinator – Direct Marketing water filters
- 1986-1989      **Bob Jones University, Greenville, South Carolina**  
    ■ Campus Usher, Resident Assistant (Dormitory Hall Leader)
- 1986-1989      **Wilds Christian Camp, Brevard, North Carolina**  
    ■ Camp Counselor 1987-1989, Lifeguard 1986  
    ■ Was asked to go on full time staff, but had already committed to going to University Baptist Church in Clemson
- 1985            **Clemson Botanical Gardens, Clemson, South Carolina**
- 1983-1985      **Ward Smith Chevrolet Buick, Seneca, South Carolina**  
    ■ Parts and Inventory. In 1996 between ministries I also worked in sales for four months. Led the board in sales my third month.



*Through the years I have had the privilege of speaking in local church Bible Conferences, Christian School Chapels and Graduations, College Chapels, Christian Camps, and on several foreign mission fields. Last July I preached a Bible Conference in Macon, Georgia. In March, I preached a Family Conference for a church in the Atlanta area. I am scheduled to preach a weekend Family Camp at the Wilds in the Spring of 2016. I'm not out of my church pulpit often, but when I am it is always with the blessing of my current church.*

## Education

- 2003 - Present      **Trinity Theological Seminary, Newburgh, IN**  
    ■ In 2003 began work on a Doctor of Religious Studies Degree which is currently on hold due to ministry time constraints.
- 1989-1991      **Bob Jones University, Greenville, SC**  
    ■ Master of Arts Degree, Pastoral Studies
- 1985-1989      **Bob Jones University, Greenville, SC**  
    ■ Bachelor of Arts Degree, Church Administration  
    ■ Minor in Business Administration with concentration in Marketing and Management.
- 1985            **Seneca High School, Seneca, South Carolina**



*I have participated in several seminars and conferences on Church Growth, Spiritual Gifts, Church Legal Matters, and Preaching Ministry.*

## Organizations

1992-Present

### Fundamental Baptist Fellowship

- Serve on the Executive Board and Editorial Committee
- One of the main organizers for the Regional Fellowships  
*I strive to be a voice for a balanced and yet progressive fundamentalism*

2012-Present

### Operation Renewed Hope

- Serve as Board Advisor

## Interests

### Music

- Trumpet, Piano, Guitar, Voice (quartets, duets, solos). I have experience leading choirs, cantatas, and conducting full orchestras.

### Art

- Drawing, Painting, Graphic Design. I have been the main designer for our church bulletins, screen and website graphics, and newsletters.

### Sports

- Basketball, Softball, Volleyball, Golf, Coaching Soccer and Basketball  
Each of my children have won numerous trophies in athletics. My three oldest have played on the college level. They have also been a part of several State Championship teams. We have used sports as a ministry outreach.

### Computers

- Experienced with Apple and Windows PC, Spreadsheet, Database, Word Processing, Desktop Publishing, and Wordpress, HTML (web design)

### Reading

- I love to read and am usually working my way through several books

## Awards & Honors

1989

### Outstanding Young Men of America

1989

### Who's Who Among Students in American Colleges and Universities

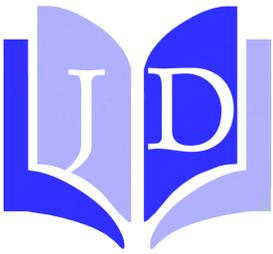
1983

### South Carolina Governor's School for the Arts (Music/Trumpet)

## Preaching

I would consider my preaching style to be primarily gospel-centered and expository. Over the past year I have preached expository messages through the book of Philippians and the Sermon on the Mount. I have also preached a topical series I entitled "Get Connected," which emphasized the importance of relational small groups and relational evangelism. The following links are to sermons online.

- Church website: <http://www.oakwoodministries.com/go/downloads>
- Armor of God Series: <http://pastorjd.wordpress.com/2014/09/24/the-art-of-spiritual-war/>
- Sermons on [pastorjeffdavis.com](http://pastorjeffdavis.com): <http://pastorjeffdavis.com/media/>
- Preaching at BJU: <http://tinysa.com/sermon/22121229457>



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## Testimony and Call to Preach

I was saved at the age of nine. My family had gone to hear my grandfather's first-cousin preach. (Dr. J. Harold Smith, from the Radio Bible Hour). I can remember not even paying attention to the preaching, but looking forward to getting to meet this "big name" radio preacher who was a relative. I went up to the front following the close of the service and Brother Smith met me. He didn't know I was a relative, only a nine-year-old boy who was coming to shake his hand. He asked me if I was sure if I was going to heaven. I had to admit I was sure that I wasn't going to heaven, because I had been talking to my parents about this. Later that afternoon I sat down with my father and he led me to Christ. I can still remember wanting to tell the whole world how easy it is to be saved. Shortly after my salvation, my family left our Southern Baptist Church and helped start University Baptist Church, an independent Baptist church in Clemson, South Carolina, where I was the youngest charter member.

I graduated from a public high school in Seneca, South Carolina. During my senior year I worked occasionally with the athletic department at Clemson University. They had offered me a scholarship and I had planned on attending Clemson. Our class took our senior trip. It was a cruise to the Bahamas. My parents weren't very happy about it, but allowed me to go. It was there that my eyes were opened to what the world was really like. It was after returning from this cruise that I decided to go to Bob Jones University instead. I wasn't sure about the finances, because I didn't have a scholarship, but the Lord provided and it didn't cost my parents a penny.

While attending BJU, I changed my major three different times. At Clemson I was going to study graphic arts design. At BJU I started in computer science and then changed to Business. I worked at the Wilds Christian Camp each summer while in college. My first summer at the Wilds I did a personal study on "the will of God." Through this study, the Lord began to work in my heart about yielding my life to the ministry. I never heard an audible voice, but as I went through the doors that were open in front of me my call to preach became very clear to me. I changed my major to Church Administration. Shortly after making this decision, Dr. Will Senn, my pastor in Clemson, had me preach. I was scared to death, but the Lord worked and many people made decisions. I took opportunities to preach at the Boys Club in Greenville, SC. I also had a few opportunities to preach at the Wilds. My last summer at camp, I directed the youth program for the family camps and was privileged to preach twice a day.

My wife and I were married in 1989, after meeting while working at the Wilds Christian Camp. The Lord led us back to Clemson and University Baptist Church while I worked on my Masters Degree. I had several opportunities to preach from the pulpit along with the weekly preaching to the teenagers. After serving at UBC, the Lord led us to Rock Hill, SC, where I started the Harvest Baptist Church. For four years I pastored this church. I then felt the Lord leading me to get experience in a bigger church setting. After much prayer, and many tears, I resigned as pastor in Rock Hill. Shortly thereafter I was called by the Grace Baptist Church in Muncie, Indiana to be an assistant pastor in charge of youth, Sunday School, senior citizens, and outreach. I gained valuable experience in administration and organization. While in Muncie, I had the privilege of preaching in several Bible conferences, youth camps, and I also preached my first revival. In May of 2000, the pulpit committee of Tabernacle Baptist Church, in Wilson, NC called me as a candidate for the position of pastor. I preached my first sermon for the church on Mother's Day. My family returned for a second visit on Memorial Day. The following Wednesday the church called me to be their pastor. Father's Day was our first Sunday. I served in Wilson, for ten years. In 2009, my father who was living in Clemson, SC, unexpectedly passed away. Shortly after that, Oakwood Baptist Church in Anderson, SC, called me to be their pastor. The timing was an amazing display of God's providence as I was able to be close to my mom. I have enjoyed the past five years, but feel as if the Lord is leading our family to make a ministry change. We have many precious friends in this ministry and we have seen the Lord do an amazing work. It is hard to explain, but I feel as if the Lord wants me to get out of the way, so that the people will own the vision if this church is going to go to the next level. Through counsel with many preacher friends around the world and specifically through God's Word, on April 26, I resigned my position as senior pastor of Oakwood. The church family has been very kind to us. They are going to continue to pay me through the end of November. We now are excited to see what God is going to do in the days ahead as He continues to lead us in His perfect will.