

**My Story of Faith & Ministry**  
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Before I felt the call to ministry, I worked in various reporter and editor positions at the *Waco Tribune-Herald* and as a copy editor at the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*. One of the defining events during my tenure at the newspapers and during my first semester at Brite Divinity School at TCU was the Branch Davidian standoff outside of Waco. Processing the events of the standoff and the related bombing at the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City left me with a deep desire to help people experience the true Messiah by leading them to the throne of God's grace and by helping them experience the transformative power of the Holy Spirit.

I have had the opportunity to do that during pastoral appointments at Purmela UMC, FUMC Temple, FUMC Taylor, Thrall UMC, FUMC DeLeon, Morton Chapel UMC, Smithfield UMC in North Richland Hills and as the district superintendent of the West District of the Central Texas Conference. The congregations represented in each of these appointments have helped shape me into a "boots on the ground" type of leader who loves to work side by side with the people I serve. During my 21 years as an ordained elder, I have had the privilege to see firsthand how grace moves mountains, tears down walls, builds up the body of Christ, and changes the world around us.

One of my special joys has been leading mission trips to places like Juarez, Mexico; the Appalachian Mountains; the Navajo Indian Nation; Cesis, Latvia; and Maua, Kenya, Africa. For me, the work accomplished on those trips was always secondary to the relationships each team formed with God, each other, and the people we met. Through these relationships, each team learned to share their faith in vital, life-changing ways that helped them spread the Gospel when they returned home.

In addition to appointive ministry, I have been the spiritual director, assistant director or lay speaker on more than 35 Walks to Emmaus over the past 27 years. I also have attended several Five Day Academies for Spiritual Formation, have taught studies at the United Methodist Women's School of Christian Mission, have served on various Central Texas Conference committees, and have been a registrar for the East District Committee on Ministry.

I am a graduate of MacArthur High School in San Antonio, Baylor University in Waco, Brite Divinity School at TCU, and Saint Paul School of Theology in Kansas City, Mo.

My husband, David, and I have been married for 38 years. We have three sons: Tim and his wife Lori have two children, Jake and Haley. Aaron and his wife Angie have three daughters, Emily, Edalyn, and Eliana. And Micah and his wife Ally have two sons, Hudson and Hayden.

I believe God has great plans for the People Called Methodists at Saint John the Apostle UMC, and I am excited to have the opportunity to be part of the life-transforming ministries that will take place in the months and years ahead.