

# DR. CRAIG D. CURRY

3501 TRINITY LN / PLANO, TX 75075 / 512-657-2773 / [craigandfallon@gmail.com](mailto:craigandfallon@gmail.com)



## SUMMARY OF SKILLS

- ❑ Dynamic leader with a passion for partnership missions, church revitalization, and evangelism.
- ❑ Collaborative shepherd who includes many people in decision making and service.
- ❑ Excellent fundraiser. Led or held leadership roles for four significant capital campaigns.
- ❑ Team oriented encourager. Looks for ways to support and help coworkers be successful.
- ❑ Highly energetic and people-oriented; relational networker who connects well with people of all ages and backgrounds.
- ❑ Seasoned Senior Pastor with 20 years of experience building relationships and partnerships for bold, impactful ministry.
- ❑ Extensive training in the areas of leadership, preaching, pastoral care, communication, community engagement, and evangelism.
- ❑ Statesman with leadership roles in Baptist networks, pastor fellowships, mission organizations, and local associations.
- ❑ Skilled at navigating challenging situations; led churches to thrive after crises, conflict, decline, tragedies, and relocation.

## EDUCATION

### DOCTOR OF MINISTRY

*Baylor University -- George W. Truett Theological Seminary*

Areas of Study: Leadership, Preaching; Mentorship: Partnership Ministry; Culminating Project: Community Engagement

**DECEMBER 2015**

*Waco, Texas*

### MASTER OF DIVINITY

*Hardin-Simmons University*

Areas of Study: Spiritual Care, Preaching; Mentorship: Camp and Retreat Ministry

**DECEMBER 2005**

*Abilene, Texas*

### BACHELOR OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE

*Hardin-Simmons University*

Major: Speech Communication; Minor: Church Ministry; Senior Project: Itinerant Preaching Ministry

**AUGUST 2002**

*Abilene, Texas*

## PROFESSIONAL HISTORY

### SENIOR PASTOR

*First Baptist Church*

**APRIL 2016-PRESENT**

*Plano, Texas*

- Collaboratively led the church to have dramatic growth and revitalization following a 25-year decline.
- Led a strategic process that forged unprecedented unity and culminated in the relocation of the church.
- Led two successful capital campaigns and a generosity campaign that helped grow the church budget significantly.
- Helped lead our college ministry to historic growth through consistent on-campus engagement at UT Dallas.
- Partnered with campus ministries at UT Dallas to create a college worship service that our church hosts and facilitates.
- Developed a program called "Backyard Missions" to raise awareness for local ministry partnerships and needs.
- Led a mission effort to engage and bless pastors and their families in South Texas who are running out of resources.
- Partnered with Beacon of Light Mental Health Ministry to enhance mental health resources and awareness in Plano.
- Helped plant two international partner churches in Plano, and currently working to significantly expand this ministry.
- Led community engagement Covid-19 ministry by partnering with nonprofits, hosting blood drives, serving ICU nurses, serving schools, leading a park outreach, leading a home mission trip, and partnering with local churches.

### SENIOR PASTOR

*First Baptist Church*

**NOVEMBER 2009-APRIL 2016**

*Dripping Springs, Texas*

- Led the church to new vitality and health after a 7-year decline and great conflict before my tenure there as pastor.
- Helped lead the church to rebuild the sanctuary after a devastating fire. The church was debt free by 2016.
- Experienced growth as our worship attendance had over 100% growth, and Wednesday programs flourished.
- Partnered with other local churches and pastors to help form a student discipleship ministry called "City Wide".
- Helped reach many young families. There was 1 child in the nursery in 2009 and by 2016 the weekly average was 35.
- Partnered and worked closely with BSM leadership at UT Austin and Texas State University to advance the Gospel.
- Led our people (with 90% participation) to engage the community with a program called "Mission Drippin".

### SENIOR PASTOR

*First Baptist Church*

**APRIL 2006-NOVEMBER 2009**

*Cisco, Texas*

- Created a church-wide initiative called "Doers of the Word" that challenged the congregation to live out the Scripture.
- Experienced tremendous growth in young families, children, youth, and emerging adults (college and career).
- Formed a college worship event on Sunday evenings with success reaching Cisco College students, especially athletes.
- Helped lead the church to finish paying off the note on our gymnasium facility 12 years ahead of schedule.

## PROFESSIONAL HISTORY (Continued)

### RESIDENCE HALL DIRECTOR

*Hardin-Simmons University*

**MAY 2002-MAY 2006**

*Abilene, Texas*

- Directed the largest residence hall for men (serving mostly athletes). Led a team of 8 to create a thriving culture.
- Highly relational role. This was a 24/7 lifestyle of encouraging, mentoring, and checking on the wellbeing of students.
- Worked closely with the housing director and the dean of students to help assist with RES Life and campus activities.
- Mentored by the dean of students who led the campus to engage the impoverished community near the university.
- Spent countless time supporting residents in their campus involvement. I went to ball games, plays, performances, etc., and I was often the person to sit with them in the hospital if they were hurt or sick because family was at a distance.

### EVENT COMMUNICATOR

**JUNE 1999-PRESENT**

- Led eighteen full-church revivals as a lead speaker and evangelist for the Baptist General Convention of Texas.
- Served as lead speaker at student camps for four years for the Baptist Convention of New Mexico.
- Preached in over 80 different churches in the state of Texas; often requested to return multiple times.
- Served as lead speaker for Horizon Ministries. Led as speaker for citywide evangelistic events for 4 Texas cities.
- Preached 30 full church revivals in diverse settings and led 29 weekend discipleship retreats as lead speaker.
- Served as camp pastor at 28 camps and led as the speaker at 23 evangelistic rally events.
- Served as speaker at chapel for Dallas Baptist University and Howard Payne University.
- Served as speaker at chapel for Hardin-Simmons University 6 times. Led as speaker for Love Company Drama Team.

## PERSONAL STATEMENT

I was raised in the ministry in the Lubbock area by my parents who led me to Christ at an early age. At fifteen years of age, I committed my life to Christian service. When I was in my sophomore year at Hardin-Simmons University I began preaching around the Abilene area, and that led to opportunities to travel and preach the gospel in many churches and places. I developed a passion for evangelism and a desire to creatively and boldly communicate the Bible in a practical way. I am proud of my Baptist heritage. I have worked in Baptist institutions continuously since 1998. I also embrace historic Baptist doctrine.

From 1999 until 2006 I served as an event communicator as my primary ministry. I preached many revivals, camps, and weekend events during this time and enjoyed the opportunity to serve in this way. In 2006 I sensed the call of God to enter pastoral ministry. Since that time my calling has been to give my life to shepherding people and to be the hands and feet of Jesus in a community. I also continue to serve as an event communicator at times when possible.

Ministry is not a job, but it is a lifestyle and a passion. As a minister I have been committed to being a voice of unity, and I believe strongly in collaborative leadership that includes as many people as possible. I seek to build solid relationships with the goal of faithfully living out my calling from the Lord and to serve people well. I love God and I love people with all my heart, and it is my desire that this love for God and people be evident in all that I do.

I have participated in evangelism, discipleship, missions, fundraising, revival ministry, camp ministry, university ministry, youth ministry, children's ministry, and senior adult ministry in a variety of venues. My primary passion is to share the gospel message of Jesus' sacrifice and saving grace. My personal goals are to be a man of God, a loving husband and father, a caring minister, and a servant leader. It is my desire to be in the center of the Lord's will. Wherever He leads I will go.

## PERSONAL INFORMATION

### Spouse: FALLON SMITH CURRY

M.A. Christian Education, 2007, *Dallas Baptist University*

*Dallas, Texas*

B.A. English/Leadership, 2004, *Hardin-Simmons University*

*Abilene, Texas*

I met Fallon at a football game at Hardin-Simmons University. After our first date we both knew almost immediately that God had brought us together to serve as a team in ministry together and have now been married 22 years. Fallon's ministry passions are missions, evangelism, Christian education, and Baptist heritage. She is also a dedicated wife and mother.

**Children:** **LYLAH** (1/6/10): Lylah loves books, art, crafts, writing, movies, music, games, pasta, archery, and athletic training.

**SHEPHERD** (11/30/12): Shepherd likes dinosaurs, super heroes, water guns, cheese burgers, tacos, and swimming.

**HERSCHEL** (1/2/16) Herschel likes selfies, pancakes, ice cream, games, books, cars, and social gatherings.

**THEODORE** (8/27/23) Theodore likes big surprises, playing with his siblings, and eating other people's snacks.

**Certificates:** Certificate of Ordination: November 5, 2006, *South Oaks Baptist Church*

*Arlington, Texas*

Certificate of License: March 14, 1999, *South Oaks Baptist Church*

*Arlington, Texas*

**Hobbies:** Football enthusiast, travel, camping, barbeque grilling, attending community events

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## LEADERSHIP AND HONORS

- Serve on the Operating Board of Collin Baptist Association, 2024-Present
- Serve on the Plano ISD Counseling and Social Work Services Advisory Council, 2024-Present
- Serve as a Curator for Ascent Network, an ecumenical North American partnership ministry, 2024-Present
- Serve on the Hardin-Simmons University Board of Trustees (Committees: Spiritual Life and Athletics), 2021-Present
- Served on the Baptist General Convention of Texas Committee on Committees, 2021-2024
- Served on the Baptist General Convention of Texas Theological Education Council, 2018-2021
- Served on the Collin Baptist Association Re-Vision Team, 2019-2020
- Served as Session Pastor for the Texas House of Representatives (May 16, 2011), and the Texas Senate (May 4, 2017)
- Served on the Highland Lakes Baptist Camp and Conference Center Board of Directors, 2016
- Served as Moderator of Austin Baptist Association, 2015-2016
- Served on the Operating Board of Austin Baptist Association, 2013-2016
- Served on the Dripping Springs “One Church” Ministerial Alliance, an ecumenical association of churches, 2010-2016
- Served as lead speaker for the Cornerstone Lecture Series (3-day chapel event) at Hardin-Simmons University, 2014
- Received the Phoenix Award from the Dripping Springs Chamber for leading FBCDS to rise from ashes, 2011
- Served as Camp Director for the Big Country Area Youth Camp at Big Country Baptist Assembly, 2009-2010
- Served as Vice-Moderator of Cisco Baptist Association, 2008-2009
- Served on the Cisco Baptist Association Vision and Strategic Planning Task Force, 2008-2009
- Served as Volunteer University Chaplain for Cisco College, 2008-2009
- Served as Director of the Cisco Ministerial Alliance, an ecumenical association of churches, 2008-2009
- Served as Chaplain for the Cisco College Baseball Team, 2007-2009
- Served as Chair of the Baptist General Convention of Texas Committee on Credentials, 2006-2008
- Served on the Hardin-Simmons University Dean’s Advisory Council, 2001-2002
- Received the Hardin-Simmons University Outstanding Preacher Award, 2001-2002
- Voted Mr. Bronco (Mr. Hardin-Simmons), 2001-2002
- Led as lead speaker at camps and events for: Abilene Baptist Association; Alto Frio Baptist Camp; Baptist General Convention of Texas; Big Country Baptist Assembly; Breckenridge City Crusade; Camp Riverbend; Cisco College BSM; Coastal Plains Baptist Area; Dallas Baptist University; Ellis Baptist Association; Hardin-Simmons University; Heart of Texas Baptist Network; Horizon Camps; Howard Payne University; New Mexico Baptist Convention; Oklahoma FCA (Fields of Faith); Prescott Pines Camp Arizona; Sweetwater City Disciple Now; Tarrant Baptist Association; Texas State University BSM; Top O’ Texas Baptist Area; Tuscola City Disciple Now; UT Dallas BSM
- Led as lead speaker at events for churches such as: The Avenue Church Waxahachie; Broadview Baptist Abilene; Central Baptist Luling; College Heights Baptist Wharton; Cottonwood Creek Baptist Allen; Eastside Baptist Haskell; FBC Abilene; FBC Baird; FBC Clyde; FBC Gainesville; FBC Goldthwaite; FBC Merkel; FBC Queen City; FBC Seguin; FBC Slaton; FBC Stanton; FBC Temple; FBC Tulia; FBC White Settlement; FBC Wichita Falls; First Central Presbyterian Abilene; Fitzhugh Baptist Austin; Northside Baptist Victoria; Pioneer Drive Baptist Abilene; Shady Oaks Baptist Hurst; South Oaks Baptist Arlington; The Village Church Flower Mound; Woodlawn Baptist Austin

## REFERENCES

Dr. Ryan Jespersen  
*Executive Director, Dallas Baptist Association*  
 College 8001 East RL Thornton Fwy / Dallas, TX 7522  
 214-704-0248 / [ryan@dba.net](mailto:ryan@dba.net)

Dr. David Smith  
*Executive Director, Austin Baptist Association*  
 PO Box 4978 / Austin, TX 78765  
 512-507-8649 / [david@austinbaptist.org](mailto:david@austinbaptist.org)

Rev. Romney Santos  
*Senior Pastor, Brazilian American Baptist Church*  
 3665 W President George Bush Hwy / Plano, TX 75075  
 214-430-9649 / [pr.romney@gmail.com](mailto:pr.romney@gmail.com)

Dr. John Whitten  
*Senior Pastor, Pioneer Drive Baptist Church Abilene*  
 701 S Pioneer Dr / Abilene, TX 79605  
 325-201-2496 / [jwhitten@pioneerdrive.org](mailto:jwhitten@pioneerdrive.org)

Dr. Jared Maier  
*Executive Director, Collin Baptist Association*  
 7300 State Hwy 121 Suite 300 / McKinney, TX 75070  
 214-336-5511 / [jared@collinbaptist.com](mailto:jared@collinbaptist.com)

Rev. Mark Warrington  
*Baptist Student Ministry Director, UT Dallas*  
 PO Box 835932 / Richardson, TX 75083  
 432-213-2335 / [mark.warrington@texasbaptists.org](mailto:mark.warrington@texasbaptists.org)

Dr. Angela Hughes (FBC Cisco reference)  
*Assistant Vice President, Pellissippi State Community College*  
 Yellow Birch Way #307 / Knoxville, TN 37931  
 325-439-9705 / [texasarh@yahoo.com](mailto:texasarh@yahoo.com)

Mr. Scott Berry (FBC Dripping Springs reference)  
*Chief Operating Officer, Dripping Springs ISD*  
 300 Sportsplex Dr / Dripping Springs, TX 78620  
 512-636-8152 / [scottberry@moment.net](mailto:scottberry@moment.net)