

JEFF'S BIOGRAPHY

Education:

2008 – present, PhD Education, Walden University (in progress)
1993 - Master of Education, South Dakota State University
1988 – Bachelor of Arts (Communications), Washington State University

Career:

2017 – present, Church Administrator, New City Fellowship, Fredericksburg, VA
2012 – 2017, High School English Teacher, Fredericksburg Christian School
2010 – 2012, Government Contractor, Center for Advance Operational Culture Learning, Quantico Marine Base, Virginia
2009 – 2010, Director of Operations, America's Choice Educational Consultants, Washington DC
2008 – 2009, Government Contractor, Center for Advance Operational Culture Learning, Quantico Marine Base, Virginia
1989 – 2008, Air Force officer, Intercontinental Ballistic Missile (ICBM) and space operations, Reserve Officer Training Corps instructor, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance, cyberspace operations

Ministry Experiences:

2003 – present, Sunday School teacher, men's ministry, choir, worship team, church leadership and administration (elder)
2001 – 2003, Choir, Worship Team, Prison Ministry, Woodmen Valley Chapel, Colorado Springs, CO
1996 – 2000, Men's Ministry Director, Choir, Worship Team, Marriage and Family Life Ministries, Christ Community Church, Alamogordo, NM
1990 – 1999, Sunday School teacher, youth group director, Bible Fellowship Church, Rapid City, South Dakota and Independent Baptist Church, Laramie, Wyoming
1988 – Sunday School teacher, vacation Bible school lead, Calvary Chapel of Tacoma
1983 – 1988, student worship leader, Evangelical Free Church, Washington State University

Hobbies:

Woodworking, sewing, fishing, photography, cross stitch, drawing, painting

Family:

Married June 20, 1990 to the former Amy McMahon of Vancouver, WA – the couple met during college at Washington State University in 1985. They have one son currently a freshman at Eastern University in Pennsylvania who is majoring in math and engineering

JEFF'S TESTIMONY

*And they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony,
for they loved not their lives even unto death.*

Revelation 12:11

While looking back I would not say that I “grew up in a Christian family,” I would say that I remember the roots of faith from my earliest memories. My family always went to church when I was a child and although our family practice Monday through Saturday could have easily been considered inconsistent with Sunday, I still remember being drawn to things of the faith, even as early as 4 and 5 years old. I practiced reading by reading through our family Bible encyclopedias and always loved the stories about Jesus and heroes of the Bible. I always had an awareness of the presence of God around me. But that awareness and sensitivity became dull after the 4th grade when my family relocated from the Tacoma, WA to Kinston, NC while my dad was serving in the Air Force in Thailand at the end of the Vietnam War in 1974. In 1975 we returned to Tacoma, WA but my sensitivity to the things of God, did not. My family did not attend church. I strayed from God but kept pursuing me. Upon entering junior high, I became keenly aware of my own sin. During the summer of 1979, my oldest sister, who had just returned from her first year of college, and I began attending a small church in walking distance from our home. My sense of “lostness” which began in the 7th grade, had become overwhelming during those two years. And by 1979, I knew I was in need of the Savior. During a sermon, the pastor presented the gospel in such a way I knew I needed to respond. When the pastor extended the opportunity to accept Jesus into my heart, my response was, “yes.”

There were no flashes of lightening or angelic appearances, but from that moment I knew life would be different. My spiritual curiosity returned. Reading and studying the Word became exciting. Through high school I become involved with the Young Life ministry and God soon showed me my capacity for leadership in ministry. Through college, he continued to develop those leadership opportunities and gave me a greater love and appreciation for the church. In college, He introduced me to my bride, Amy McMahon and through that relationship, showed how we would minister together. Throughout a career in the Air Force, He has given us opportunities to minister through Sunday School teaching, leading youth groups, marriage ministries and music ministries, which is my wife's passion. When our son was born in 1999, we began thinking through what it means to worship cross culturally. Shortly before he entered school in 2004 and after we had transferred from Colorado Springs to the Pentagon, we were completely committed to finding a church with a strong ethnic mix. When the Lord brought us to Virginia he also provided the right church. New City Fellowship's commitment to a cross cultural vision and strong preaching of the Word is what attracted us to the fellowship. Through its ministries, we both continue to learn what it means to *“fan into flame the gift of God.”* – 1 Tim 1:6