



# REV. RYAN WILSON

## ORDAINED MINISTER

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### ABOUT

Ordained to ministry in 2012, I have served in ministry settings in Georgia, New York, Texas, and North Carolina. I am passionate about the work of the local church and in the lived-out expressions of church in places near and far. I am married to Mia and we have three kids, Bates, Elsie, and Ben, and two dogs, Charlie and Linus. To me, ministry is curating spaces for authentic experiences of God's presence and providence and walking alongside one another as pilgrims on a journey.

### CONTACT

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For sermon videos and links to written publications visit:

**www.  
jamesryanwilson  
.com**

### EDUCATION

**2012** **McAfee School of Theology, Mercer University - Atlanta, GA**  
*Master of Divinity - Global Christianity*

**2008** **Furman University - Greenville, SC**  
*Bachelor of Arts - Music*

### EXPERIENCE

**2020 - Present** **Wake Forest Baptist Church - Wake Forest, NC**  
*Pastor of Spiritual Formation & Mission*

- Provide primary leadership to adult formation and missions and their corresponding ministry councils
- Supervise administrative and support staff members
- Serve as primary ministry liaison to various church committees including: personnel, finance, properties, nominating, outreach, and history
- Helped establish and provide supportive leadership to a new men's ministry that includes weekly Bible studies, quarterly gatherings, and an annual retreat
- Manage annual formation, mission, and administration budgets
- Collaborate to plan, coordinate, and participate in church missions activities, locally, nationally, and globally
- Plan and coordinate weekly and annual adult ministry events and activities, including Sunday Bible study, mid-week formation, retreats, small groups, and other activities
- Established a new spiritual pilgrimage program
- Help provide weekly worship leadership on Sunday mornings
- Preach in worship several times a year
- Lead monthly worship services at two local assisted living centers
- Provide weekly pastoral care to the congregation as a part of the pastoral staff team
- Plan and organize liturgical formation activities each year during Advent and Lent, ranging from interactive prayer stations to art-based installations
- Teach a weekly adult Bible study class on Sunday mornings and lead weekly midweek adult formation classes exploring wide-ranging topics like the intersection of faith and pop-culture and spiritual disciplines and practices

**2018 - 2020** **Wilshire Baptist Church - Dallas, TX**  
*Pastoral Resident*

- Served as full-time minister on staff while developing leadership skills, pastoral strengths, and experience in congregational administration
- Regularly preached for Sunday worship and midweek evening services
- Taught adult Sunday morning Bible study and led midweek inter-generational adult formation classes and studies
- Served on the pastoral care team to provide care for the congregation
- Regularly helped plan and lead worship including administration of the Lord's Supper
- Gained experience in leading mission trips, baptizing, officiating weddings and funerals, leading committees and staff, and raising funds

## **OTHER MINISTRY & LEADERSHIP**

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**2022 & 2023**

**Contributing Writer**  
Smyth & Helwys  
*Reflections Devotional*  
(Published 2023 & 2024)

**2019**

**Stephen Minister Certification**  
Wilshire Baptist Church  
Dallas, TX

**2017**

**Prepare & Enrich Premarital Counseling Certification**  
Second-Ponce de Leon Baptist Church  
Atlanta, GA

**2015-2018**

**Cooperative Baptist Fellowship - Youth Ministry Network**  
Executive Board  
*President*  
(2017-18)  
*Board Member*  
(2015-17)

**2016-2018**

**Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of Georgia**  
Coordinating Council  
*Member*

**2012**

**Ordination to Ministry**  
Parkway Baptist Church  
Duluth, GA

**2011**

**Middle East Travel Seminar**  
Holy Land Immersion  
*Selected Representative for McAfee school of Theology*

## **EXPERIENCE**

**2014 - 2018** **Second-Ponce de Leon Baptist Church - Atlanta, GA**  
**Minister of Missions & Students**

- Provided primary leadership to the missions ministry and student ministry (youth and college) areas and the associated teams and committees
- Managed missions, benevolence, and youth budgets
- Planned and coordinated all weekly and annual student ministry events and activities, including Sunday School, mid-week gathering, retreats, small groups, and other activities
- Increased youth ministry attendance two-fold, and organized a new team of youth teachers and leaders
- Supervised annual summer intern, in collaboration with the CBF Student.Church internship program
- Assisted in the implementation of a church-wide restructuring, from committees to a team-based model
- Coordinated, trained, and led intergenerational summer mission trip teams to Miami, Florida
- Co-lead an exploratory team to Cuba in collaboration with the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of Florida
- Created and implemented a new large-scale and family- friendly Christmas mission project to meet direct needs of community partners
- Prepared and led adult mission and formation studies and programs
- Oversaw church benevolence ministry and implemented new policy and standard operating procedures for benevolence ministry

**2013 - 2014** **Action Ministries Rome - Rome, GA**  
**Executive Director**

- Directed all programs and ministries of Action Ministries Rome, a faith-based non-profit providing hunger relief and educational opportunities to its community
- Provided leadership to the staff, Local Action Council, individual volunteers, and weekly volunteer groups
- Prepared and maintained annual budget, developed funding proposals and oversaw the coordination of an annual fundraiser event
- Managed existing relationships between Action Ministries Rome and local churches and community partners; developed new community partner relationships
- Coordinated the implementation of a new urban gardening project in collaboration with Berry College
- Performed daily administrative tasks and duties
- Served as the official representative of Action Ministries to the community

**2012 - 2013** **Metro Baptist Church/Rauschenbusch Metro Ministries - New York, NY**  
**Ministry Resident and Food Justice Coordinator**

- Served in various capacities as year-long ministry resident
- Participated in worship planning and leadership, including preaching and music leadership
- Helped develop regional Community Groups as church outreach
- Led a church Community Group and group Bible studies
- Coordinated weekly food pantry, overseeing 25 volunteers, serving approximately 100 clients each week
- Managed food orders and delivery and coordinated food intake; increased donor partnerships for the food pantry.
- Coordinated relations between the food pantry and the Hell's Kitchen Farm Project
- Assisted in grant-writing proposals and fundraiser event planning
- Helped to host and facilitate mission teams and immersion groups

## REFERENCES

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### References Available Upon Request

## EXPERIENCE

### 2009 - 2012 Parkway Baptist Church - Duluth, GA *Minister of Youth & Youth Adults*

- Coordinated and led ministry to students in collaboration with youth committee, including weekly activities, monthly events, semi-annual retreats, and summer mission trips
- Provided staff leadership to the young adult ministry program
- Developed and managed youth ministry budget in collaboration with youth and finance committees
- Coordinated team of teachers for Sunday school and volunteers for events
- Served as staff liaison to the church missions committee
- Organized and led two church-wide mission trips to Helena, Arkansas and Cape Town, South Africa
- Participated in worship planning and leadership, including preaching and music leadership
- Planned and led weekly Sunday morning contemplative prayer services

### 2009 - 2012 Living Hope - Cape Town, South Africa *Missionary and Volunteer Project Coordinator*

- Served for one-year as a self-funded missionary with Living Hope's ministries to children and adults affected by HIV/ AIDS and poverty in the southern suburbs of Cape Town, South Africa
- Helped to coordinate and run afternoon kids program and led a music academy teaching Christian values through music to children.
- Facilitated international mission teams and co-coordinated team programs and activities

## SKILLS

**Preaching** - Currently preach at Wake Forest Baptist Church on occasion for Sunday morning worship. Completed pastoral residency at Wilshire Baptist Church with emphasis on preaching. Seminary trained in homiletics and have experience preaching in various congregational and community spaces.

**Music** – Advanced proficiency in piano, voice, and guitar. Experienced worship leader in traditional, contemporary, and contemplative settings with various age groups. Bachelor's degree.

**Teaching** – Seminary training in faith formation and Christian education. Wide-ranging experience teaching all ages in Sunday school, small groups, Wednesday evening church groups, and other settings. Areas of emphasis: Bible study, spiritual formation and practice, missions, faith and culture.

**Pastoral Care & Counseling** – Seminary training in pastoral care with a breadth of congregational experience in pastoral counseling and visitation. Certified Stephen Minister and Prepare & Enrich premarital counselor.

**Program Development** – Have developed new programs from visioning process to implementation in non-profit and congregational settings, including new ministry initiatives, new mission programs and partnerships, mission and discipleship training programs, and numerous youth and adult ministry programs and events.

**Community Engagement** – Experience working and volunteering with various community organizations in local and cross-cultural environments. Training in Asset Based Community Development. Participation in Rotary International and Young Leadership networks.

**Administration** – Experience in providing administrative support and overseeing administrative systems in both non-profit and congregational settings. Includes: finance and budget, database management, staff supervision, operational systems, and basic administrative tasks.