STEVEN H. MATHEWS, D.MIN., PH.D.

PASTOR CHAPLAIN EDUCATOR AUTHOR

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**EDUCATION**

**Doctor of Ministry** (candidate), Leadership Education, Forge Theological Seminary, Torrington,  
 Connecticut  
 Thesis: *Lead Like an Officer: An Analysis of the Civil Air Patrol Professional Development as a Leadership  
 Continuing Education Program for Parish Clergy***Doctor of Philosophy**, Biblical and Religious Studies, University of Pretoria, Pretoria, South Africa  
 Dissertation: *A Social Scientific Interpretation of Fasting in the New Testament as a Critical Analysis of Fasting in Contemporary Evangelical Spirituality*, 2013  
**Doctor of Ministry**, Applied Theology, Liberty Baptist Theological Seminary, Lynchburg, Virginia  
 Thesis: *A Spiritual Disciplines-Based Discipleship Curriculum for the Local Church*, 2005  
**Master of Divinity**, Liberty Baptist Theological Seminary, Lynchburg, Virginia, 2003  
**Master of Business Administration**, Liberty University, Lynchburg, Virginia, 2008  
**Master of Arts**, Philosophy, Trinity Theological Seminary, Newburgh, Indiana, 2000  
**Graduate Diploma**, Air Command and Staff College, Air University, Maxwell Air Force Base,   
 Alabama, 2018. 21 master’s-level credit hours.  
**Diploma**, Squadron Officer School, Air University, Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama, 2017  
**Bachelor of Arts**, Theology, Florida Baptist Theological College, Graceville, Florida, 1999  
Additional Continuing Education: Southern Evangelical Seminary, Harvard Medical School, Duke   
 University, Columbia University

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**PASTORAL EXPERIENCE**

**Pastor**, United Baptist Church, Valdese, North Carolina 2014-Present  
During tenure, key performance indicators trend above statewide growth rate:  
 Baptisms 62% above state growth rate  
 Sunday School Attendance 8% above state growth rate  
 Worship Attendance 8.4% above state growth rate  
Received several awards from International Mission Board for missions giving  
Annual mission trips to Guatemala  
Consistent growth and outreach to community  
Ministry focus on biblical exposition and teaching

**Pastor**, New Life Baptist Church, Lenoir, North Carolina 2005-2009  
 Received award from Baptist State Convention of North Carolina for baptisms, 2006  
 Oversight of 4 staff and $300k budget  
 Led domestic mission trips and local outreach  
 Led in revision and adoption of constitution and bylaws

**Pastor**, First Baptist Church, Connelly Springs, North Carolina 2000-2005  
 Oversaw construction of new 4,000 square foot fellowship hall  
 Led church in drafting and adopting constitution and bylaws  
 Led church on several domestic mission trips

**Pastor**, Esto Baptist Church, Esto, Florida 1997-1998  
 Student pastorate in rural community

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**EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE**

**Adjunct Professor**, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary 2018-Present   
 Teach graduate-level pastoral ministry classes at EQUIP Campus, Morganton, North   
 Carolina

**Professor**, South African Theological Seminary 2013-Present  
 Supervise and advise Ph.D. students in writing dissertations

**Adjunct Online Professor**, Argosy University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 2012-2019   
 Taught online classes in philosophy, ethics, and critical thinking

**Professor**, Fruitland Baptist Bible College 2014-2015  
 Taught New Testament survey courses Wilkesboro, North Carolina Extension Site

**Professor**, Foothills Christian College and Seminary, Wilkesboro, North Carolina 2009-2013 Taught New Testament, theology, and pastoral ministry courses

**Adjunct Online Professor** Ashford University, Clinton, Iowa 2009-2014  
 Taught online classes in philosophy, religion, and history

**Adjunct Online Professor** Grand Canyon University, Phoenix, Arizona 2009-2013  
 Taught online classes in philosophy and religion. Graduate and undergraduate.

**Course Grader**, Southern Baptist Seminary Extension, Nashville, Tennessee 2007-2017 Graded extension courses in pastoral theology. Edited and revised courses.

**Adjunct Online Professor**, University of Phoenix, Phoenix, Arizona 2006-2017  
 Taught online classes in philosophy, religion, and ethics

**Adjunct Online Professor**, Western International University, Tempe, Arizona 2006-2007  
 Taught online classes in humanities

**CHAPLAINCY EXPERIENCE**

**Chaplain**, United States Air Force Auxiliary, Civil Air Patrol 2016-Present

Duty Positions:

* Wing Chaplain, North Carolina Wing, 2019-present
* Deputy Wing Chaplain, North Carolina Wing, 2019 (February – November)
* Group Chaplain, Group 1, North Carolina Wing, 2017-2019
* Squadron Chaplain, Hickory Composite Squadron, 2016-2019

Special Assignments and Missions:

* Mission Chaplain, numerous missing persons searches since 2018
* Assistant Chaplain, Hurricane Florence Disaster Relief, 2018
* Mission Chaplain, Hurricane Dorian Disaster Relief, 2019
* Encampment Chaplain, North Carolina Wing Encampment, 2017, 2018, 2019
* Instructor, Squadron Leadership School, Group 1, 2018

Specialized Training

Officer Basic Course, 2016 Squadron Leadership School, 2016  
Corporate Learning Course, 2017 Training Leaders of Cadets Course, 2018  
Chaplain Corps Region Staff College, 2019 Unit Commanders Course, 2019

Major Awards and Decorations:

Lifesaving Ribbon with Silver Star Disaster Relief Ribbon with “V” device   
Meritorious Service Award Search “Find” Ribbon  
Gill Robb Wilson Award with Silver Star Paul E. Garber Award with Bronze Star  
Leadership Ribbon with 2 Bronze, Silver Star National Commander’s Unit Citation Award  
Encampment Ribbon with device Community Service Ribbon with device  
Grover Loening Aerospace Award Air Force Organizational Excellence Award  
Commander’s Commendation Award with General Charles Yeager Aerospace Education   
 two devices (Wing) Award  
Squadron Chaplain of the Year, North Civil Air Patrol Achievement Award  
 Carolina Wing, 2017  
Senior Chaplain of the Year, North Carolina Wing, 2019

Professional Development and Mission Ratings:

Completion of phase 5 of the Education and Training Program: Executive Leadership Phase  
Mission Chaplain Aircrew Rating- Mission Scanner  
Master Rating, Cadet Programs Senior Rating, Chaplaincy   
Senior Rating, Professional Development Technician Rating, Public Affairs  
Technician Rating in progress, Command Specialty Track

Ground Team Leader Ranger 3rd Class  
Mission Staff Assistant Rating Critical Incident Stress Management

Effective Dates of Promotion:

Captain, June 3, 2016  
 Major, August 10, 2017

**Volunteer Chaplain**, Valdese Hospital, Valdese, North Carolina 2001-2005  
 Assisted chaplain with after-hours emergency ministry

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**PUBLICATIONS**

**Books**

Biblical Preaching for the Local Church: 51 Expository Sermons (Createspace, 2018)

Come Follow Me: Reflections on the Markan Jesus (Eugene, OR: Wipf and Stock, 2017)

Meeting God in Zone 18: Our Incredible Story of Hope, Love, and Friendship. United Baptist Church Mission Team. Edited by S. H. Mathews (Createspace, 2017)

The Practice of the Presence of God, by Brother Lawrence. Annotated Study Edition by S. H. Mathews (Createspace, 2016)

New Testament Handbook (Createspace, 2017. Originally published by Rainer Publishing, 2015)

Preaching the Deeper Christian Life: Eight Sermons Based on Andrew Murray’s Classic Guide to Christian Living (Createspace, 2016)

Christian Fasting: Biblical and Evangelical Perspectives (Lanham, MD: Rowman and Littlefield, 2015)

The Fullness of God: Sermons on Christ from Colossians (Createspace, 2015)

Evaluating Church Spiritual Formation Programs: An Empirical Study (Atlanta: Scholars’ Press, 2014)

Holy Habits: Spiritual Disciplines for Christian Living (Rainer Publishing 2014)

**Articles**

Civil Defense Chaplaincy, *Journal of Civil Defense*, American Civil Defense Association, Vol 53, No. 2, October 2019, pp. 3-6.

Why did the Jews and Samaritans Hate Each Other? Historical Precedents for Jewish/Samaritan Conflict in the Gospels, *Bible and Spade*, 27:3, 2014

A Moral and Relational Interpretation of the Parable of the Prodigal Son, with William Dwight Winters, *American Journal of Biblical Theology*, 15.24 (June 2014)

Fasting, Justification, and Self-Righteousness in Luke 18:9-14: A Social-Scientific Interpretation as Response to Friedrichson, with Ernest van Eck. *HTS Teologiese Studies/Theological Studies* 69(1), Art. #1957., 2013.

The Holy Spirit in the Gospel of John, *American Journal of Biblical Theology*, 14.4. (January 2013)

Postmodern Popular Philosophy and the Caricature of Expository Preaching: A Response to Wade, *American Journal of Biblical Theology*, 14.30 (July 2013)

**Book Reviews**

Reading Mark for the First Time by Wilfrid J. Harrington for Biblical Theology Bulletin: Journal of Bible and Culture, May 2016 46:107-108.

Five Views on Biblical Inerrancy by J. Merrick and Stephen M. Garrett for Biblical Theology Bulletin: Journal of Bible and Culture August 2016 46.3:160-162.

How We Got the New Testament: Text, Transmission, Translation by Stanley E. Porter for Biblical Theology Bulletin: Journal of Bible and Culture, October 2016 46: 209-210.

**Online Courses**

‘Biblical Spirituality’, Mid-Continent University, Mayfield, Kentucky 2013

‘The Synoptic Gospels’, Mid-Continent University, Mayfield, Kentucky 2012

‘World Religions’, The Learning House, Inc., Louisville, Kentucky 2010

**CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

‘Suicide: Indicators, Mitigation, Intervention’ North Carolina Wing Conference, Civil Air Patrol, Greensboro, North Carolina, February 8, 2020

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**CREDENTIALS AND QUALIFICATIONS**

Critical Incident Stress Management: Group Crisis Intervention; Assisting Individuals in Crisis  
 International Critical Incident Stress Foundation 2017

Commission to Military Chaplaincy, North American Mission Board, Southern Baptist Conv. 2016

Graduate Teacher Diploma, Evangelical Training Association 2000

Ordination to Gospel Ministry, Cheek Memorial Baptist Church, Americus, Georgia 1997

License to Gospel Ministry, Cheek Memorial Baptist Church, Americus, Georgia 1996

**HONORS**

Senior Chaplain of the Year, Civil Air Patrol, North Carolina Wing 2019

Honorary Colonel, Governor of Alabama, Kay Ivey 2018

Honorary Lieutenant Colonel, Governor of Georgia, Nathan Deal 2018

Squadron Chaplain of the Year, Civil Air Patrol, North Carolina Wing 2017