

Gary has served as the Senior Pastor of Southside Baptist Church in Jacksonville since 2008. He and his wife Sheri were married in 1993 and have four children: Caleb, Emma Grace, Abigail and Maisy. Though born in Dayton, Ohio, Gary grew up in Jacksonville where he graduated from Jacksonville University and earned a degree in Music Education. He also holds a Master of Divinity degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Ft. Worth, Texas and a Doctorate of Ministry from Beeson Divinity School in Birmingham, Alabama. Gary has served as the Associate Pastor of Milford Baptist Church in Marietta, Georgia and Rivertree Church in Huntsville, Alabama. Gary was born to a teenage mother and cares deeply about the struggles and difficulties faced by the most vulnerable in our city. He believes passionately that the church is called and uniquely equipped to address issues faced by the "least of these" and seeks to lead Southside and other churches to engage in the mission field of the forgotten and marginalized, believing that is the best place to meet Jesus in all of His "disturbing disguises."

