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Objective

My "life scripture verse" is Philippians 3:10-14, "...that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death, if, by any means, I may attain to the resurrection from the dead. Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me. Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.." I am seeking to serve God in a pastoral leadership position in either a single congregation as the senior or associate pastor, or, as a para-church ministry support resource to pastors and ministry leaders. My main ministry model is the Apostle Paul as he evangelized, preached, gathered, developed, and mentored believers as they came to salvation in Christ. I believe God has developed within me the humility, wisdom, maturity, and leadership skills to serve well as the senior pastor of any size congregation and pastoral staff or work well under the authority of a senior pastor as a "team player".

[Download Sermons and Teachings from my web site \(click on the button shown above\)!](#)

Ministry Experience

2009 to Present:

Independent Missionary (River of Life Ministries), with two mission trips to Romania (May and September) and one mission trip to Colorado Springs (see my web site by clicking the link shown above).

2006 to Present:

Member of Evangel Church (Assemblies of God), Scotch Plains, NJ, where I have preached, taught in the Evangel Ministry School (Berean School of the Bible extension), led worship (solo and with the full team), sung in the Gospel Choir, sung tenor on the "front line" on the worship team, directed and taught the Cleansing Stream ministry, performed weddings and funerals, counseled, served as a prayer team captain for healing services, and am now in my second year of a three-year term as a member of the Deacon Board, where I also serve on the Worship Pastor Search Committee. I have also been "on call" at the district level for supply preaching and have preached in many congregations in the NJ District over the past three years.

1995 to 2005:

Planted a new Pentecostal congregation, River of Life Christian Center, in Sayreville, NJ, and served as pastor for ten years, performing all of the responsibilities of new church development, evangelism outreach, preaching, teaching, administration, mentoring of new congregational leaders, all pastoral ministry activities (weddings, funerals, baptisms, counseling, etc.), and I led worship for the entire ten years there. Our main vision was to be a "river" of God's love, refreshment, and healing to our city and to "...make it hard to go to hell from Sayreville, NJ!"

1979 to 1995:

After graduating with a Master of Divinity degree from the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia and being ordained in 1979, I served three separate Lutheran congregations over the next sixteen years. I was the assistant pastor in my first congregation in Mt. Holly, NJ (1979-1980), the pastor/developer of a new mission congregation in Blakeslee, PA (1980-1984), and the sole/senior pastor of my third congregation in Sayreville, NJ (1984-1995). I departed from the Lutheran denomination in 1995 due to the conviction of the Holy Spirit within my heart that I could no longer minister effectively as a born-again, Holy Ghost baptized pastor in a denomination that was becoming increasingly liberal (scripturally, doctrinally, morally, and socially) and in many areas was already extremely inconsistent with and even opposed to the new spirit that God created within me.

"I just want to thank you for revealing your visions and your heart of Christ...the Holy Spirit within confirms everything ... Thanks for your encouragement and friendship in the Spirit...you and Laretta I hold dearly close to my heart for all your love in Christ to be known to all who are hearing." - Cheryl S., Iselin, New Jersey

"You are a treasure hunter ... gather God's treasure." - Theresa W., Colorado Springs, Colorado

"You are going to come into a time of freedom and release in ministry that you have never known or experienced before and the ministry that you will carry will be infectious, and people are going to be drawn to you. And you know on that day you're going to look over your shoulder, brother, and you're going to see many, many sons and daughters released into effective ministry in Jesus." - Jon N., Targu Mures, Romania

"You are an inspiration to us ... the Presence of the Lord falls EVERY time like dew. I'm so blessed to have pastors that have really given their lives... I mean given their lives for the anointing to flow freely and for the Word of the Lord to be heard." - Dylan C., Mystic Islands, New Jersey

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Ministry Credentials

- Ordained in June, 1979, by the New Jersey Synod of the Lutheran Church in America
- Ordination recognized, confirmed, and conferred by the NJ District Council of the Assemblies of God in June, 2007

Special Ministry Experience

- Born-again and baptized in the Holy Spirit in January, 1985, and water baptized that summer
- Planted, developed, and pastored two new congregations (1980 and 1995)
- Leadership Development & Recruitment of Elders, Deacons, Lay Teachers, Worship Team, etc.
- Ministry Program Development – Educational Programs, Youth Ministries, Evangelism Ministries
- Led Seven Major Tent Crusade Evangelical Outreaches in Local Community (in Township Park) – (Organized, Directed, Preached, Led Worship, Recruited Leadership, Vacation Bible School) and wrote a ministry manual covering every ministry area for such tent crusade outreaches.
- Participated in the organization of a cross-denominational community worship and prayer fellowship comprised of seven community pastors and churches in Sayreville, South Amboy, and Helmetta (all in NJ).
- I am an accomplished guitarist (acoustic, electric, and bass) with 35 years of worship leading experience in many different venues, both large and small, both solo and with full worship teams.
- Sound Systems Director and Technician – I personally own a complete 3000-watt sound system
- Operations Manager, Computer Service Company, and Experienced Computer Tech. (12 yrs.)
- Teacher of Computer Technology/Applications/Systems (10 yrs.); Web Site Design in HTML

Personal Information

- Born May 28, 1952, in Bayonne, NJ, to Edward and Daisy Fernandez (still living in Florida)
- I am the oldest of four children born between 1952 and 1962 (two brothers and one sister)
- Married August 23, 1975, to Lauretta O'Connor of South Amboy, NJ
- Children: Christopher (September, 1976), Lauren (September, 1979), Lisa (February, 1981)
- All of our children are grown, married, and have wonderful, loving spouses and families
- Seven grandchildren ages four months through ten years old
- Our entire family is born-again and serving the Lord

References *(contact information available upon request)*

- The Rev. Kevin Brennan (Evangel Church, Scotch Plains, NJ)
- The Rev. Donald McFarren & Cindy McFarren (Metuchen Assembly of God, Metuchen, NJ)
- The Rev. Brian Donnachie (Living Hope Worship Center, Swedesboro, NJ).
- The Rev's. Nancy Van Brunt and David Van Brunt (Evangel Church, Scotch Plains, NJ)
- The Rev. Robert Mears and Linda Mears (Living Water Christian Center, Mystic Islands, NJ)
- The Rev. Schlyce Jiminez, (Prayer Mountain Church, Colorado Springs, CO)
- Jerry and Carmen Busch (Directors, YWAM Base, Targu-Mures, Romania)
- Robert and Lynda Davidson, Fords, NJ
- Theresa White, Colorado Springs, CO
- Neil Kovac, Colorado Springs, CO
- Cheryl Stankov, Iselin, NJ
- Jo Ann Hart, Parlin, NJ



Pastor Edward and Lauretta Fernandez