

Your Pastors:



Vern VanderWerff, your Senior Adult Pastor

Pastor Vern, having been ordained into pastoral ministry in 1960, has served in pastoral ministry for almost 50 years. Vern earned a Masters degree in Christian Education in 1970 from Western Theological Seminary in Holland, MI.

He first came to Remembrance Church as pastor in the summer of 1965 and served until the spring of 1974 when he was called to serve Parkview Community Church in Santa Ana, CA.

Prior to retirement, Vern also served churches in Palos Heights, IL, Holland, MI, and Fremont, MI. He then returned to Remembrance Church after retiring in the fall of 2001 to serve as our Senior Adult Pastor.

Pastor Vern will continue to give overall leadership to our senior adults' ministry, as well as, pastoral care for our seniors through home and hospital visitation.



Eric Cook, your Spiritual Growth (Discipleship) Pastor

Pastor Eric was ordained into pastoral ministry in 1998. He graduated with a Master of Divinity degree in 1991 from Reformed Theological Seminary in Jackson, MS. He has served Reformed churches in South Holland IL, Lynwood IL, and most recently Peace Community Church in Frankfort, IL.

Pastor Eric will use his gifts of exhortation and shepherding to champion our Key Element of GROW (GR) by providing overall leadership to discipleship (spiritual growth); education, leadership training and development, equipping ministries, and growth/discipleship groups (small groups) at Remembrance.

Also as a member of our preaching/teaching team, Eric will be preaching about a quarter of the time.



Todd Schmidt, your Community Life Pastor

Pastor Todd was ordained into pastoral ministry in 2005 upon his graduation from Denver Theological Seminary with a Master of Divinity degree. Todd is presently completing post graduate work at Gordon-Conwell Seminary in Charlotte, NC. Most recently, Todd has served a church in Denver, CO for the last nine years in the area of Congregational Life and Pastoral Care, but before that he enjoyed a great season in camp ministry.

By using his gifts of shepherding, leadership, and teaching, Pastor Todd will champion our Key Elements of CONNECT and SERVE (Co & Se) by providing overall leadership to assimilation and membership, caring, community-building (fellowship), service involvement, and support/recovery group ministries.

Todd will be working closely with Pastor Vern and Suzy Snoop, our Fellowship Coordinator, to help connect people to the Remembrance family. Todd will also be preaching about a quarter of the time as a regular member of our preaching/teaching team.



Steve Bristol, your Lead Pastor

Pastor Steve was ordained into pastoral ministry in 1998. He graduated with his Master of Divinity in 1997 from Reformed Theological Seminary in Orlando, FL. Prior to coming to Remembrance Church in 2007, Steve served churches in Orlando, FL, Memphis, TN, and St. Paul, MN.

Pastor Steve uses his gifts of leadership, teaching, and administration to oversee the overall direction, mission, and vision of Remembrance and provide ongoing leadership and oversight of our church ministry staff members. Steve will also continue to preach about half of the time.

All the pastors will share certain pastoral responsibilities. Some of these include hospital and home visitation, pastoral counseling, and other pastoral duties including administering the Sacraments (Baptisms and Communion), conducting funerals and wedding services, as well as, special events and worship and teaching services.