



Introducing Dr. Don Y. Gordon

Unanimously, the Pastor Search Team recommends that Ardmore Baptist Church call Don Gordon to be her next pastor. We do this having felt God's leadership throughout the search process. Don has the spiritual depth, the leadership abilities, the scholarship and training and the professional ministry experience our church needs. He impresses us with his intellect, his wisdom, his preaching ability, his calm demeanor and his sense of humor.

You likely will be impressed with Don's credentials and reference comments. We were, as well. However, spending time with Don is even more impressive. When you meet him, you will meet a genuine, compassionate, people-person who loves God and God's word.

We believe Ardmore Baptist Church will thrive under the leadership of Don Gordon.



Biographical Information

Born in Lumberton, N.C., on May 13, 1961
Baptized at Clemmons First Baptist Church in 1971
Married Elizabeth Chappell of Clemmons, NC, on November 16, 1985
Father of 3 daughters: Sarah (1988), Hannah (1991), Rebekah (1993)
Ordained April 30, 1989 at Main Street Baptist Church, Emporia, VA
Enjoys family time, reading, music, running, golf, tennis, and swimming

Education

B.S. in Mathematics
Campbell University, Magna Cum Laude, 1983
Graduate work in Mathematics, NC State University, 1984
Master of Divinity with Languages
Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, 1988
Doctorate of Ministry
Columbia Theological Seminary, Decatur, GA, 1999

Ministry Experience

2002-Present Yates Baptist Church, Durham, NC, Senior Pastor

Nurtured spirit of cooperation, unity, and enthusiasm among staff and congregation
Led successful 2.3 million dollar building, land acquisition, and renovation program, 2003
Increased size and quality of ministerial staff, 2002-present
Increased budget over 40 percent in 10 year period
Led in the addition of a second morning worship service
Led in creation of Missions Council and greater missions emphasis
Served on or led mission teams to Haiti and India
Cooperated in transition to blended form of worship
Supervised 5 ministers and multiple administrators
Mentored numerous divinity school interns

1995-2002 First Baptist Church of Mount Olive, NC, Senior Pastor

Led in revitalization in missions, spiritual formation, discipleship and building renovations

1991-1995 Central Baptist Church, Spruce Pine, NC, Pastor

1986-1991 Main Street Baptist Church, Emporia, VA
Minister of Youth and Children, Interim Pastor, Associate Minister

1987-1988 Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary
Teaching Assistant for Dr. Roy De Brand, Professor of Preaching

1984-1985 NC State University, Raleigh, NC, Teaching Assistant in Mathematics Department

Denominational Service (since 2001 only)

Coordinating Council, CBF National, 2010-Present
Coordinating Council, CBFNC, 2008-2010
Chair of Personnel Committee, CBFNC, 2008-2010
Confessional Writing Team, CBFNC, 2009-Present
Missional Collaboration Team Leader, Campbell University and CBFNC, 2009
Personnel Committee, Yates Baptist Association, 2008-Present
Founding Steering Committee of Elevating Preaching Conference, 2008-Present
Founding Chair of Mainstream Baptists of North Carolina, 2001
Board of Ministers, Campbell University, 2001-Present

Community Service (since 2001 only)

Girls' Tennis Coach, Cresset Christian Academy, 2005
Girls' Middle School Basketball Coach, Cresset Christian Academy, 2006
Girls' Tennis Team, Jordan High School, Parent Volunteer, 2007-08
Parent-Teacher Organization, Jordan High School, 2006-Present
Exchange Club, President, Mount Olive, 2001

Teaching and Writing

Visiting Professor of Church History, India Baptist Theological Seminary, 2009
Editor, *Elevating Preaching 2009: A Collection of Elevating Sermons*, 2009
Author, *A Concise History of North Carolina Baptists*, 1999; Published by the Baptist State Convention of NC and distributed to all its member churches
Author, "A Century of Change," award-winning article in *Biblical Recorder*, 2000
D.T. Smithwick Newspaper Article Award from NC Historical Society, 2000
James A. Evans Lectures on Preaching, Mount Olive College, 2001



Hannah, wife Elizabeth, Rebekah, and Sarah

References

The Pastor Search Team checked references which included male and female laity from each of the churches Dr. Gordon has served as pastor. Each of those persons heartily endorsed his ministry in their respective churches. Professionally, Dr. Gordon received strong and unequivocal affirmations and recommendations from the following persons:

Dr. Randall Lolley
Former President, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary

Dr. Bill Wilson
President, Center for Congregational Health

Dr. Jack Causey
Ministerial Resources Coordinator, Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of NC

Dr. Mike Cogdill
Founding Dean and Professor of Christian Ministry, Campbell University Divinity School

Dr. Daniel Vestal
Retired Executive Coordinator, Cooperative Baptist Fellowship

Selected comments from references:

Don is gracious, compassionate, thoughtful, open to people and their needs and is traditional in values.

He has a collaborative leadership style and is highly regarded by his staff.

He engages people in conversation and is a good listener.

His wife is very supportive and finds the place she can serve best.

I would support him as the pastor of Ardmore with no reservations; I wish we could have served on staff together.

In describing Don's integrity, honesty, genuineness and character, this reference gave Don an A+, exceptional.

He is always thoroughly prepared for his sermons.

On a scale of 1 to 10, Don is an 11.

Don is always available for the sick and for other occasions as needed.

He is genuinely interested in people.

Don is bright, creative and has strong relational skills.

When asked to describe the candidate's character and values, this reference said he is spotless, progressive and looks at the brighter side of life. The glass is always half full!

He is a seasoned pastor and leader and has physical and spiritual energy.

I know he has given this decision much prayerful consideration.

