

## JAMES GREGORY LAWSON

### PERSONAL INFORMATION

Spouse: Betty Patton Lawson  
Children: James, John and Rebecca

### EDUCATION

B.A., cum laude, Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City, Tennessee; August 1979.  
Majors: Human Services and History.

M.A., Tennessee Technological University, Cookeville, Tennessee; August 1980. Major:  
Educational Psychology and Counselor Education.

J.D., Campbell University School of Law, Buies Creek, North Carolina; May 1983.  
Major: Law.

M.A., Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas; July 1985. Major:  
Religious Education.

M.Ed., North Texas State University, Denton, Texas; May 1987. Major: Adult and  
Continuing Education

M.Div., Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas; July 1989.  
Major: General Theology Degree.

Ed.D., University of North Texas, Denton, Texas; December 1989.  
Major: Adult Education. Dissertation Title: *A Historical Study of the Impact of the  
Christian Development on the Contributions of Frank C. Laubach in Literacy  
Education*. A Kellogg Project Visiting Scholar Research Grant was awarded for  
the dissertation research.

Ph.D., Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas; December 2013.  
Major: Foundations of Education with Administration. Additional Ph.D. study in  
Evangelism. Dissertation Title: *Patterns of Discipleship in the New Testament as  
Evidenced by Jesus and Peter*.

Graduate Teaching Areas: Administration, Discipleship, Education, Leadership, Spiritual  
Formation, and Law.

Graduate Diploma with Honors, Paralegal Studies: Corporations and Real Estate.  
University of San Diego, 1991.

Received the designation of "Fellow in Church Business Administration" from the  
National Association of Church Business Administration, July, 2003.

Was awarded the Cambridge Certificate in Risk Management for Churches and Schools  
from the University of Cambridge, May, 2003.

### CHURCH AND MINISTRY RELATED EXPERIENCE

Volunteer at Persia Baptist Church, Rogersville, TN: Church Visitation, Jail Ministry,  
Nursing Home Ministry, and Youth Week Ministry, 1972-80.

Tennessee B.S.U. Summer Missionary: Brotherhood Commission, Southern Baptist Convention, 1978.

Tennessee B.S.U. Summer Missionary: Assistant Clinical Chaplain, Walker County Correctional Institute, Georgia, 1980.

Youth Outreach Team — Pastor, Campbell University B.S.U., 1981-83.

Minister of Education and Prayer, Royal Oaks Baptist Church, Dallas, Texas. Experience in education, administration, discipleship, evangelism, and interim pastor duties, 1984-87.

Consultant-Teacher of the Prayer for Spiritual Awakening Seminar, Home Mission Board, 1986; National Conference on Prayer and Spiritual Awakening, 1987. Specialized training in home Bible studies, intercessory prayer, and leading all night prayer meetings.

Interim Pastor at Shannon Baptist Church in Pocahontas, Arkansas; 1993-1994.

Pastor at Calvary Baptist Church in Walnut Ridge, Arkansas; 1995-1996. Led a seminar on the subject of Christian stewardship and preached one of the annual associational messages for the Black River Baptist Association.

Co-Interim Pastor at Cornerstone Baptist Church in Wake Forest, NC; December 1996-June 1997.

Interim Pastor at Union View Baptist Church in Franklinton, NC; July 1997-September 1997.

Interim Pastor at Union Chapel Baptist Church in Clarksville, VA; January-August 1998.

Interim Pastor at Six Forks Baptist Church in Raleigh, NC; October, 1998 - April 1999.

Interim Pastor at Clarksville Baptist Church in Clarksville, VA; June 1999-January 2000.

Interim Minister of Education at Wake Crossroads Baptist Church, Raleigh, NC; January-July 2000.

Pastor at Union Chapel Baptist Church in Clarksville, VA; 2000-2001.

Minister of Education and Assimilation, College Acres Baptist Church, Wilmington, NC; 2001-2002.

Pastor at Pleasant Union, Lillington, NC; 2002-2004. In an interim capacity lead the Church during a time of expansion by preaching multiple worship services and performing pastoral ministry and movement toward a substantial building project.

Pastor at Pine Ridge Baptist Church, Zebulon, NC; 2004-2007. Led Pine Ridge in a period of growth and ministry expansion.

Senior Pastor at Union Chapel Baptist Church, Zebulon, NC; 2007-Dec, 2016. Led Union Chapel in a time of spiritual growth and development. Union Chapel sent out ministers and missionaries to numerous states and foreign countries. Established an intentional model of disciple-making and mentoring.

Senior Pastor at Pleasant Union, Lillington, N.C.; Dec, 2016-Present.

Mission trips to Alaska, Arizona, Georgia, New Hampshire, New Mexico, South Dakota, Virginia, Wyoming, Canada, Mexico, Bangladesh, and Thailand.

Revival Preaching and Educational and Church Growth Consultant, August 1996-Present.

Preached at the BSCNC Pastor's Conference, November, 2015.

Led the BSCNC Blind and Seeing Impaired State Conference, April, 2016

### EDUCATIONAL RELATED WORK EXPERIENCE

Adjunct Professor of Government and Psychology, Tarrant County Junior College, January 1984-January 1986; August 1987-May 1989. College teacher at Cenikor Drug-Alcohol Rehabilitation Center in Fort Worth, Spring 1984.

Adjunct Professor of Christian Education, Bethel Theological Seminary-West Campus and Academic Administrator with Bethel College, 1992.

Assistant Professor of Religious Education and Director of Counseling, Williams Baptist College, 1993-1996. Teaching areas included Administration, Business Law, Government and History. At Williams, I assumed a variety of responsibilities which included being Director of Adult Education, Cross Country Coach and Coordinator of Church Placement. I served as Chairman of the Outcomes Assessment Committee, Chairman of the Learning Resource Committee, and Coordinator of the Campus Revival. During my time at Williams, I started a weekly prayer meeting for students, faculty, administration, and staff. Also, my wife and I provided small group Bible studies and prayer fellowships in our home.

Guest Lecturer at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Tarrant County Junior College, Dallas Baptist University, and University of North Texas.

Professor of Christian Education, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, NC; August 1996-Present. Teach Administration and Risk Management, Christian Education, Discipleship, Family Life Education, Leadership and Teaching Principles. I have supervised the doctoral research of approximately seventy doctoral students.

### ADDITIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE AND CERTIFICATION

Active duty chaplain with the United States Naval Reserve, 1989-91: Honorable Discharge. Also awarded National Defense Service Medal and Certificate of Commendation from Admiral, COMNAVBASE, San Diego.

Congressional Internship for Congressman James H. Quillen, Washington, D.C., 1978.

Attorney at Law - Member of the Bar of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

North Carolina Real Estate Broker.

### HONORS AND ORGANIZATIONS

Presidential Scholar, grader and classroom instructor for Dr. Leon Marsh at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Who's Who Among American Colleges and Universities.

Student Speaker - 1984 Faculty, Administration and Trustee Dinner, 1985 Trustee.

Meeting, and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary Orientation Program.

Member of the Faculty Curriculum Committee at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

President of the Student Religious Education Association at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Revival Preparation Committee 1984 and 1985; Student Director of Revival Counseling;  
 Student Participant in Southwestern Chapel Programs.  
 Certified Leader - C.W.T., Faith Evangelism, MasterLife, and Christian Discipleship  
 Seminar.  
 Alpha Gamma, Blue Key, Mortar Board and Phi Alpha Theta Honor Societies.  
 Debate, Track, and Washington Intern Scholarships.  
 Speaker at the 1978 Tennessee B.S.U. Convention.  
 Congressional Prayer Breakfast Group and Community Service Award in Washington,  
 D.C.  
 President of Phi Mu Delta and Christian Legal Society; Secretary of Student Bar  
 Association at Campbell University School of Law.  
 Radio Interview on the subject of Christian Conciliation.  
 Graduate Member of the Faculty Research Committee, Tennessee Tech University.  
 Student Missions Committee, Chairman of the Mid-Winter B.S.U. Retreat at Tennessee  
 Tech University.

## PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

### BOOKS:

Lawson, J. Gregory. *Frank C. Laubach: Man of Faith* (Waco: Baptist Literacy Missions Center at Baylor, 1991). This book was awarded the Certificate of Excellence for Distinguished Writing from the San Diego County Christian Writers' Guild.

Lawson, J. Gregory. "Acts" - *Teachers Guide - Section II*. Published by the Seminary Extension. S.B.C., 2001.

### ARTICLES:

Lawson, J. Gregory. "The Utilization of Home Cells Groups in Leadership Development and Local Church Ministry." *Christian Education Journal*, 1993.

\_\_\_\_\_. "Cell or Small Group Ministry: An Essential Foundation for Christian Education, Discipleship and Church Growth." *Journal of the American Society for Church Growth*, 1998.

\_\_\_\_\_. "Frank C. Laubach and the Challenge of Literacy Evangelism." *Journal of the American Society for Church Growth*, 1998.

\_\_\_\_\_. "Kneeling." Article Published in *Eerdmans Dictionary of the Bible*, 2000.

\_\_\_\_\_. "Vial." Article published in *Eerdmans Dictionary of the Bible*, 2000.

\_\_\_\_\_. "Case Study." *Evangelical Dictionary of Christian Education*, Baker Academic, 2001.

\_\_\_\_\_. “Flakes Formula.” *Evangelical Dictionary of Christian Education*, Baker Academic, 2001.

\_\_\_\_\_. “Focus Group.” *Evangelical Dictionary of Christian Education*, Baker Academic, 2001.

\_\_\_\_\_. “Sign and Wonders.” *Evangelical Dictionary of Christian Education*, Baker Academic, 2001.

\_\_\_\_\_. “Supervision.” *Evangelical Dictionary of Christian Education*, Baker Academic, 2001.

\_\_\_\_\_. “Synergy.” *Evangelical Dictionary of Christian Education*, Baker Academic, 2001.

\_\_\_\_\_. “Syntality.” *Evangelical Dictionary of Christian Education*, Baker Academic, 2001.

\_\_\_\_\_ and Valerie J. Davidson, “Children, Protection in Church” in *Encyclopedia of Christian Education*, 2015.

\_\_\_\_\_. “Christians Contribution to Law,” in *Encyclopedia of Christian Education*, 2015.

\_\_\_\_\_. “Risk Management” in *Encyclopedia of Christian Education*, 2015.

\_\_\_\_\_. “Protecting the Children” SEBTS, 2019.

#### CHAPTERS IN BOOKS:

\_\_\_\_\_ and Ken Coley, “John Dewey: A Pragmatic Educator” in *A Legacy of Religious Educators: Historical and Theological Introduction*. Lynchburg, VA: Liberty University Press, 2017.

\_\_\_\_\_. “Finances” and “Risk Management” in *Case Studies in Pastoral Ministries*, Rainer Publishing, 2017.

#### REVIEWS:

Lawson, J. Gregory. Review of *Christian Educators Handbook on Spiritual Formation*. Edited by Kenneth Gangel and Jim Wilhoit. *National Association of Professors of Christian Education Newsletter* (Spring 1996).

\_\_\_\_\_. Review of *Educational Ministry of a Church*. *Faith and Mission* 14 (Spring 1996).

\_\_\_\_\_. Review of *Exodus Principle: a Five-Part Strategy to Free Your People for Ministry*. *Faith and Mission* 14 (Spring 1996).

\_\_\_\_\_. Review of *How to Build a Small Groups Ministry* by Neal McBride. *National Association of Professors of Christian Education Newsletter* (Spring 1996).

\_\_\_\_\_. Review of *That Godless Court?* by Ronald Flowers. *National Association of Professors of Christian Education Newsletter* (1997).

### PAPERS PRESENTED

Lawson, J. Gregory. "Peter: A Jewish Fisherman and Disciple-Maker." Baptist Association of Christian Educators Conference, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary, April, 2016.

Lawson, J. Gregory. "Peter: A Jewish Fisherman and Disciple-Maker." Everyday Theology Conference, Liberty University, March 2015.

Lawson, J. Gregory. "Contemporary Legal Issues in Educational Ministry." Presented at the Annual Meeting of the North American Professors of Christian Education, Chicago, Illinois, October 1995.

Lawson, J. Gregory. "Utilization of Home Cell Groups in Leadership Development." Presented at the Annual Meeting of the North American Professors of Christian Education, Dallas, Texas, October 1992.

### FORTHCOMING PUBLICATIONS

*Peter: Disciple-Maker* – Rainer Publishing, 2020.

### COMMUNITY SERVICE

Community Cleanup  
Special Olympics

Served as Alderman on the City Council in College City, Arkansas from 1995-96

### PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS - Past and Present Organizations

Academy for Evangelism in Theological Education  
American Society of Church Growth  
Christian Legal Society  
National Association of Church Business Administration  
North American Professors of Christian Education

Pennsylvania Bar Association  
San Diego Christian Writer's Guild  
Southern Baptist Church Business Administration Association

REFERENCES

References will be granted upon request depending upon the particular need.