

Matthew White

Pastor

Senior pastor with 22 years of ministry, including 11 leading a multi-staff congregation through revitalization and a building expansion. Steady preacher, careful with budgets, and committed to raising up the next generation of leaders. Comfortable navigating denominational politics and difficult congregational decisions.

Contact Information

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Education

- Doctor of Ministry, Fuller Theological Seminary, 2016
- Master of Divinity, Asbury Theological Seminary, 2001
- Bachelor of Arts in Religion, Seattle Pacific University, 1998
- Ordained Elder, United Methodist Church, 2004

Key Skills

- Congregational leadership
- Capital campaign and building projects
- Multi-staff supervision
- Strategic planning
- Expository preaching
- Conflict resolution and mediation
- Denominational relations
- Budget and stewardship oversight
- Succession planning
- Pastoral counseling
- Cross-cultural ministry

Professional Experience

SENIOR PASTOR | HARBORLIGHT METHODIST CHURCH, BELLINGHAM, WA
2014 – PRESENT

- Lead a congregation of about 620 members across three weekend services, with average weekly attendance of 410.
- Grew annual giving from \$1.08M to \$2.36M over nine years while keeping general fund reserves above six months of operating expenses.
- Directed a \$4.7M building expansion that added a fellowship hall, six classrooms, and a counseling suite, completed on time and 3% under budget.
- Supervise nine staff members and chair a 12-person church council, including annual performance reviews and succession planning.
- Preach 40 Sundays per year through a four-year teaching plan covering both Testaments.

SENIOR PASTOR | PINECREST WESLEYAN CHURCH, BOISE, ID
2008 – 2014

- Took over a declining 180-attender congregation and grew weekly attendance to 295 in six years.
- Restructured the leadership board from 18 members to a working team of nine, shortening decision cycles considerably.
- Launched a Spanish-language service that grew to 60 weekly attenders within two years.
- Resolved a long-running staff conflict that had stalled the church for two budget cycles before arrival.
- Preached 44 Sundays per year and taught a midweek leadership cohort of 15 emerging leaders.

ASSOCIATE PASTOR | WESTBRIDGE COMMUNITY CHURCH, SALEM, OR
2003 – 2008

- Oversaw adult ministries, including 28 small groups, four classes, and a men's mentoring program.
- Preached 10 to 12 Sundays per year and taught regularly at the church's training institute.
- Coordinated short-term mission trips to Mexico and Kenya, sending 90 people across five years.
- Counseled an average of six families per week through marriage, grief, and vocational decisions.

CHURCH PLANTING RESIDENT | TRAILHEAD CHURCH PLANT, EUGENE, OR
2001 – 2003

- Helped launch a new congregation that grew from 12 core members to 140 attenders within 24 months.

- Led worship, organized small groups, and preached one Sunday per month.
- Built the church's first volunteer onboarding system, used for the next several years after planting.