

EDUCATION

- High School Diploma Winterset Community High School
- Bachelor of Science - Biblical Studies, Missions, Secondary Education, History Pillsbury Baptist Bible College, Owatonna, MN
- Master of Science - Curriculum & Instruction University of Minnesota, Mankato, MN
- Master of Arts - Leadership (in process) Crown College, St. Bonifacius, MN
- Substitute teacher authorization: Iowa Colorado

WORK HISTORY

- North Ridge Church, Broomfield, Colorado (2019-2020) Lead Pastor - Church Revitalization
- New Heights Church, Indianola, Iowa (2011- 2019) Church Planter/Lead Pastor
- Westwind Church, Waukee, Iowa (2008-2011) Church Planter/Lead Teacher
- Fellowship Community Church, Norwalk, Iowa (2006-2008) Pastor of Family & Youth
- New Hope Church, New Hope, MN (1996-2006) Pastor of Student Ministries
- Emmanuel Baptist Church, Flint, MI (1992-1996) Associate Pastor
- Pillsbury College, Owatonna, MN (1986-1992) Associate Professor/Coach (Coaching methods for Football and Softball, (Phys Ed Dept) Men's Football Coach, Women's Softball Coach)

Introducing Geoff & Deb Safford Candidate for Lead Pastor



To view Geoff's recent sermon, worship set, teaching series, or other public presentations, go to **Youtube** and search Geoff Safford / North Ridge Church

Please describe your conversion and call to ministry.

I surrendered my life to Christ at a very young age, at a Billy Graham crusade. I grew up in a grace-filled home and was baptized at age 10. My call to ministry was very clear at Bible camp after my freshman year of high school. I grew up in a church where my call to ministry was nurtured and encouraged. I had great mentors and coaches that empowered me to experience what ministry was like. I followed that call to Bible college and have been in ministry for over 30 years.

How has your life and ministry experience prepared you to serve a church in your preferred location and setting?

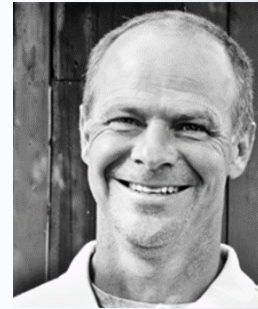
God has allowed me to be a "generalist" in ministry. I've had the opportunity to work in large cities, and small towns. I've had the opportunity to work in large congregations and in church planting. I've been blessed to minister to all ages and groups of people in multiple churches I've served in. My wife has been completely committed and supportive for every location we've served.

How has your wife been involved in ministry?

My wife has been involved in ministry in multiple facets (staff and volunteer). She felt a call to ministry and has been very involved in the music ministry as well as administrative roles. We both feel called to partner in ministry and she has always supported me and my roles.

Would you like to describe more about your position?

The teaching of the Bible will be the main emphasis of Sunday celebrations. God's word is relevant to everyone. While the Sunday morning teaching will equip believers in their spiritual journey, it will also engage non-believers in what a relationship with God looks like.



Geoff & Deb currently live in Erie, Colorado
They have 4 grown children (3 in the Des Moines area and 1 in Michigan) and 1 grandchild (Jackson)
Geoff was raised in Iowa, Deb is originally from Minnesota
Deb's gifts are Hospitality & Worship
They have been married over 30+ years

MINISTRY PROFILE

Effective pastoral leadership with more than 30 years of vocational experience in mentoring, leadership, teaching, equipping and empowering others in their pursuit of the Gospel.

PROFESSIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Church Planter (planted churches in both rural and suburban culture)

Trained as Church Planting Catalyst with the Southern Baptist Convention Completion of Church Consultant through CCU (February 2019)

Trained in Multiply Church Planter Training through the SEND Network

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCES

Chapel speaker for various professional and collegiate athletic teams
Minnesota Vikings / Minnesota Twins University of Minnesota Golden Gophers Simpson College, Indianola, IA - Football & Soccer Teams

Speaker for various conferences and camps: Breakout Speaker - EFCA Challenge National Student Conference (2014) Challenge National Student Conference Main Speaker (2010) Interim Director- EFCA National Youth Conference (2008) North Central District Spring Conference (EFCA/BGC) – Duluth, MN (2008)