

Rev. Dr. Earl A. Bland

Dr. Bland is the pastor of the Charleston Presbyterian Church, which is a congregation in the ECO: A Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians. His first sermon was given on December 14, 2014 at the Stuhr's Funeral Home Chapel on 232 Calhoun Street. He had been called by the ECO to serve as a Church Planter in Charleston, SC. He had previously served the James Island Presbyterian Church on James Island, SC and the Lawrenceville Presbyterian Church in Lawrenceville, GA. He has also served as pastor of the Morrow Presbyterian Church in Morrow, Georgia, the McAllister Memorial Presbyterian Church in Covington, Virginia, and the Cameronian Presbyterian Church in Rockingham, North Carolina. Before his ordination in 1989, Dr. Bland was the student pastor of the New Providence Presbyterian Church in McAfee, Kentucky while he also attended full-time at the Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky. He has been serving Presbyterian congregations in the pastoral ministry since 1986.

Dr. Bland holds two bachelor degrees in music (B.M.C. Bachelor of Music Composition and B.M.T. Bachelor of Music Theory) from the University of Missouri-Kansas City graduating in 1982. In 1989, he graduated with a Master of Divinity from Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary. In 1992, he completed a Doctor of Ministry from Columbia Theological Seminary on the subject of encouraging laity to witness using their personal testimonies in sermons.

During 24 years in the pastoral ministry, he has held pastorates in Kentucky, North Carolina, Virginia, Georgia and South Carolina. He has been invited to preach at revivals in Methodist, AME, Baptist and Presbyterian Churches. He has been heard on local radio and television in North Carolina and Virginia.

He is married to the former Laura Ann Williamson and has 5 children: Craig, Shaun, Rebekah, Scott, and Maddie. Earl and Laura have 6 grandchildren and a Great Dane named Maggie.