

YOUTH LEADER TRAINING

Speaker Bios

Rev. Paul Boyd



Paul Boyd is the RUF campus minister at Middle Tennessee State University in Murfreesboro, TN. He is from Atlanta and graduated from West Georgia University with a degree in Mass Communications. He then worked for a campus ministry out of college and soon after went to graduate school in St. Louis at Covenant Theological Seminary. After graduation he met his wife Rachel in Jacksonville, FL. They got married and started a new RUF at the University of North Florida. In April of 2007, Paul accepted the position at MTSU. Paul and Rachel have three boys: Drew, Josh, and Jake.

Paul has many hobbies, including college football, golf, basketball, reading, and video games (he is trying to quit).

He is always up for Starbucks coffee or a Chick-fil-a sandwich.

Rev. Les Newsom

Les Newsom is a native of Memphis, TN and a graduate of Reformed Theological Seminary in Jackson, MS. Upon graduation, Les started the ministry of RUF at The University of Memphis. While at Memphis, Les met Ginger Hubbard and they married in June of 1996. After serving five years in Memphis with RUF, Les and Ginger moved to RUF Ole Miss in 1999 where they have served ever since. All told, Les has been working in youth ministry for almost 22 years.



Rev. Jean Larroux



Jean Larroux is the church planter of Lagniappe Presbyterian Church in Bay St. Louis, MS. He is married to the former Kimberly Fulford of Greenville, Mississippi, and they have 3 children: Jean F. Larroux, IV (15), Ann Elizabeth (12) and Hannah Grace (11).

Jean & Kim met at Ole Miss and have been married 16 years. Along with their three children they have a golden retriever named Stonewall "Jackson" Larroux. Jean graduated from

Reformed Theological Seminary in Jackson, Mississippi with an Masters of Divinity degree emphasizing missions. He has served churches in central Mississippi and North Alabama before joining the staff of Independent Presbyterian in 2000. When he's not at work Jean can be found on the water sailing or fishing while listening to Jimmy Buffett. If it is deer or turkey season he is likely somewhere in the Mississippi, Tennessee or Louisiana woods freezing or slapping mosquitos depending on which season it is.

Rev. Joey Stewart

Joey Stewart is the Executive Director of RYM. He graduated from the University of Mississippi in 1988 where he also became involved in the ministry of Reformed University Fellowship (RUF). After college he attended Reformed Theological Seminary in Jackson, MS and graduated with a Master of Divinity in 1992. After spending several summers ministering to youth at IPC Memphis, Alpine Camp for Boys, Twin Lakes Camp, and



Grenada PCA, he became the Director of Youth and Educational Ministries at First Presbyterian Church in Yazoo City, MS, where he ministered for nearly 5 years. In 1993 he accepted a call to become the organizing pastor and later senior pastor of Grace Presbyterian Church PCA in Cookeville, TN, where he served for 14 years. He then accepted a call in February of 2007 to become the Executive Director of Reformed Youth Ministries (RYM). Joey has served on the RYM Board of Directors since 1990.

Joey married Connie Cawthorn in June of 1990 and together they have four fallen yet fabulous children, Ashley (18), Joe (16), Hannah (13), and Jennifer (8). The Stewart family currently resides in Cookeville, TN. Joey loves Dallas Cowboys football, movies, Lost, 24, golf, and desserts!

Rev. Greg Doty



Greg Doty is the Pastor of Student Discipleship at the Evangelical Presbyterian Church of Annapolis, MD. Originally from the great state of North Carolina, he graduated from the University of North Carolina-Asheville with a degree in history and received his Master of Divinity from Covenant Seminary in St. Louis.

Greg married his college sweetheart Leanne and they have two beautiful girls, Renee and Kaitlin. He enjoys Chick-fil-a, the St. Louis Cardinals, and kayaking.

Mr. Blake Smith



Blake Smith has been the Director of Youth Ministries at Trinity Presbyterian Church in Montgomery, Alabama, since January 2001. He grew up in Ozark, AL, and attended Troy State University where he played on the basketball team. His bachelor's degree is in Kinesiology and Health Promotion (just another way of saying PE). His wife Megan was on the volleyball team there, which is where she began to notice him and

eventually asked him out. They were married on May 13, 2000, and now have three little girls: Emma Kate (5), Madelyn Grace (3), and Lillian (6months). He enjoys time with his family, golf, and basketball.

Rev. Steve Lanier



Steve Lanier | Assistant to the Pastor,
Redeemer PCA, Jackson, MS

A native of Rome, Georgia, and a graduate of Darlington High School and Shorter College, both in Rome, Steve has been involved in Christian ministry for virtually his entire life. After college, he remained in collegiate life by serving as a campus pastor with Youth for Christ. It was during this time that he met Sherry, a native of Atlanta and a graduate of Belhaven College. The two were married in 1977, and moved to Jackson the following year to continue their ministry with Youth for Christ in the local schools.

Steve later earned a degree in Marriage and Family Therapy from Reformed Theological Seminary. This opened up opportunities to work as a therapist with teens and their families and to work as a certified Alcohol and Drug Counselor. Most recently, Steve served as the Director of Outreach & Missions at Trinity Presbyterian Church; he now continues that ministry as Assistant to the Pastor at Redeemer Church. In addition to his responsibilities at Redeemer, Steve also serves as an adjunct faculty member at Belhaven College where he teaches a Youth Ministry class.

Steve and Sherry have one daughter, Mandy, who inherited her parents' passion for winning over others to Christ by demonstrating His love for them. She is a graduate of Belhaven College, where she met her husband, Brad Bailey. Brad and Mandy have given the Laniers one grandson.