

## CANDIDATE PROFILE: JAMES SEWARD

James is a familiar face to many at College Church. He grew up in the church and was part of the core team that launched our first church plant, Holy Trinity Church. He also served as our pastor of singles and young adults. James met his wife, Karen, at College Church, where they married in 2006.

James pastored for five years as the associate pastor of education at First Baptist Church of Lindale (TX) before being called to serve as the senior pastor of Maple Avenue Baptist Church (Ontario, Canada), where he served from 2013 to 2023.



James embraced Jesus at a young age. His family began attending College Church when he was in fifth grade. He was discipled as a youth by people like Pete Willson, Dave Tweeten and Jon Dennis; and then later by people like Diane Jordan, Randy Gruendyke, Todd Augustine and Kent Hughes. James was baptized as a teen at College Church and, in 2007, ordained into ministry by College Church. James served as ministry associate for 20s from 2002-2004 and then as pastor in that role from 2004-2008.

James graduated from the University of Chicago (with a degree in humanities) and the Wheaton College Graduate School (in biblical exegesis). He was the chair of the board for Charles Simeon Trust Canada as well as an instructor at its workshops, a contributor to blogs on The Gospel Coalition (Canada) website, and a contributing editor for the Biggest Story Curriculum. He currently serves as the director of ministry for the Neopolis Network. He teaches the Logos Adult Community, volunteers in Wonders of Worship and serves as a ministry associate with Adult Communities.

James and Karen have five children who are part of HYACKS and KMs. He has a heart for biblical exposition, training, pastoral care and the marginalized. He wants to help College Church be seen as a hospital for sinners more than a museum for saints.