

**Jeremy Mark Hoover**  
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### **Philosophy of Ministry**

My desire is to help enrich the life and fellowship of a church and effect outreach in the community. My goal is summarized by Ephesians 4:11-13: Using my gifts of preaching, teaching, and oversight, and by developing the gifts of others, I desire to "equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ." I accomplish these goals through biblical preaching and mentoring other believers one-on-one and in groups.

One way to equip a church is through instituting a transformative model of spiritual growth that focuses on the "weightier things" that God calls us to. I have recently been teaching about four transformational relationships that are essential to our growth as we focus less on what we do and more on who we are and who we are becoming. These four relationships are with: God, other believers, neighbors (those we encounter who need mercy; Luke 10:29-37), and strangers (those who pass through among us whom we can share the light of the gospel with). If we build on our relationship with God by focusing on the other relationships, we will achieve spiritual transformation as God renews us (Romans 12:1-2).

A longer statement about this is located on my website:

<http://www.jeremyhoover.com/5/post/2010/06/four-transformational-relationships.html>  
and <http://www.jeremyhoover.com/2/post/2010/06/how-to-practice-the-four-transformational-relationships.html>.

Followers of Jesus must be empowered to follow his lead in their lives without explicitly seeking permission to do good works. Churches can form ministries, but individuals can often do ministry simply on their own or by partnering with an existing group. An equipping church will meet this challenge by observing the fivefold ministry in Ephesians 4:7-16, locating various leaders within that paradigm, and equipping church members to do ministry in their daily lives. The senior minister (preacher) should be a catalyst for this by modeling an equipping lifestyle and mentoring other staff members and church leaders to do the same. Through this, the body is released for ministry, which is the true gauge of spiritual growth (Ephesians 4:12-16).

### **Ministry Gifts**

I am a self-starter, creative, and an effective communicator with over ten years of preaching and teaching experience; eclectic in my study and able to incorporate diverse interests into ministry applications; able to build relationships with all types of people and help them see and move towards a goal; organized, knowing how to prioritize, meet deadlines, and follow a project through to completion; coachable.

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## **Current Work Experience**

*Preacher, Horton Road Church of Christ, Jackson, MI, July 2006-present time*

- Preach a weekly sermon incorporating visual slides into lessons; sermons are often presented in series with implementation steps to help congregants see both the larger picture and their role in it; and teach two weekly Bible studies
- Mentor individuals to assist them in spiritual growth with a view towards greater service and leadership; such efforts have led to improvements in our greeting ministry, an after-worship coffee hour, and youth and children's ministries
- Cast vision each week from the pulpit regarding the transformative goals we are pursuing as we seek greater faithfulness to God
- Work within a congregational leadership structure to organize and execute projects and events to encourage greater church involvement among members; these include summer interns; church picnics; greater involvement with a local shelter; and evangelism projects
- Host the church teenagers (and friends) to our house every week for fellowship

## **Other Relevant Experiences**

*Adjunct Instructor, Rochester College, Rochester Hills, MI, Fall 2006 and 2008*

- Taught "Introduction to Youth Ministry," a junior-level course; required keeping up-to-date in the youth ministry field in order to effectively communicate strategies of youth ministry to students

*Small Groups Minister (part-time), Westside Church of Christ, Windsor, ON, Fall 2004-Spring 2005*

- Organized and implemented a small groups program from the ground up by researching and applying results in practical and creative ways
- Helped congregants see the larger picture of the small groups program
- Wrote the weekly small groups material each group used for discussion
- Involved people who weren't previously involved beyond Sunday morning
- Taught a weekly youth class and twice-monthly experiential-creative devotional

*Youth Minister, Church of Christ, St. Joseph, MI, June 2001-July 2003*

- Organized a youth ministry that involved both elementary and high school ages
- Taught Sunday School, led a Sunday evening session for teenagers and their friends, and coordinated and led a rotational VBS-style Wednesday evening session for children in kindergarten to sixth grade

*Student, Harding Graduate School of Religion, Memphis, TN, 1999-2001*

- Studied for two years and obtained a 4.0 GPA in my studies

*Student, Rochester College, Rochester, MI, B.R.E., 1999*

- Graduated summa cum laude with a 4.0 GPA and was Valedictorian

**References: Available upon request**