

Hello Christians of Fawn Grove,



I am Pastor Timothy Amos Funk. But I encourage you to call me "Pastor Tim." I do look forward to joining you in ministry at Fawn Grove for the sake of Jesus Christ.

Right away, let me tell you that I am a Biblically based and Gospel centered pastor. I believe the heart of our faith is: Trusting Jesus Christ as Savior and Acknowledging and following Him as Lord.

Now, here are the details of my life and family. I am a second-generation minister. My father, Amos Funk served Central PA United Brethren, Evangelical United Brethren, and United Methodist Churches for over 60 years, including Grace Church in Windsor PA, from 1938-1942.

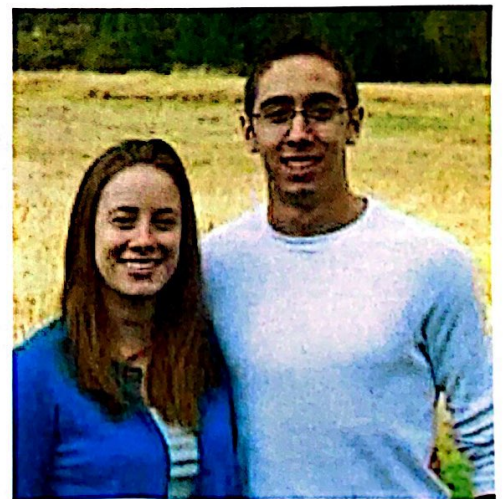
I was born (12/4/1958) and raised in the Chambersburg area and accepted Christ at a revival service in my home church, St. John's United Methodist Church, when I was ten years old.

At thirteen years of age God called me to the pastoral ministry. However, I did not respond to God's call immediately. I had other things I wanted to do. After some soul-searching and wrestling I became serious about the matter at the age of 19. It was then I decided to attend Messiah College (class of '83) and Wesley Theological Seminary (Class of '88) to prepare for the future God laid out for me.

In my last year of college, I met my future wife, Sharon, who had recently graduated from Messiah (class of '82). We married on June 30, 1984. Sharon has been a great wife and partner in ministry. She has taught Sunday school, led women's prayer breakfasts and coordinated worship teams in the various churches we have served.

From 1985 – 1988, while in seminary, I was an assistant pastor at Potomac United Methodist Church in Potomac, Maryland. It was a great learning experience. From 1988 – 1994, I served my first official appointment, the Catawissa Circuit, a three-point charge consisting of Bethel, Fisherdale, and St. Paul's United Methodist Churches. During this pastorate my two children, Rebekkah and Jesse were born. Rebekkah is now 33 years old. She teaches Health and Physical Education at Mechanicsburg High School. Jesse is 29 and works at Pyramid Health, a drug and alcohol rehab center in York. Jesse is an active member of Chapel Church in Red Lion and has preached for me at my present church while I am on vacation.

From 1994 – 1998 I ministered with the believers of Bethany United Methodist Church in Felton. During that time, I formed a middle aged, small group, Sunday school class in the parsonage. In addition, we began a contemporary worship service. In fact, I brought Bethany's newly formed praise team to Fawn Grove one time to lead a worship



experience. My good friend and colleague in ministry, Mike Druck was pastor of Fawn Grove at the time and arranged the service.

Then for 16 years, from 1998-2014, I served Waggoners United Methodist Church just outside of Carlisle, PA. During that appointment the congregation purchased 25 acres next to the church and built a large pavilion, softball ball field/recreation area. Softball leagues, Upwards Flag Football, chicken BBQs and Gospel Music Fests gave us an opportunity to witness to the community. We did touch lives.

Though it was hard to leave Waggoners, I accepted the call to St. Paul's, Red Lion in July of 2014. Here, a praise team has been formed in an attempt to bring younger families to an aging congregation. (In 2015 I performed 33 funerals.) To also reach out into the community and attract younger people, St. Paul's coordinates an afterschool program at a local elementary school and invites children to our summer Parking Lot Party, a glorified VBS program from the middle of June until the middle of August. Finally, to reach all ages, St. Paul's, with help from 4 other area churches, hosts a community meal the second Monday of each month.

Now, it is not all ministry and no play. When I am not pastoring, I enjoy sports of all kinds, watching and attending auto races (drag racing, sprints and NASCAR), walking the Gettysburg Battlefield. But, most of all, I love to fish, especially for smallmouth bass in Canada and the Susquehanna River from my kayak or my boat.

That is my story, or at least part of it. In the days ahead I am very much looking forward to hearing the stories of how God has been at work in your life and to help you discover the next steps the Lord has for Fawn Grove UMC.

In Christ's Love,
Pastor Tim Funk