

# Meet the Teacher



**Mark Reeves**

## Music

### About Me

I hold degrees from Samford University and the University of South Florida, and am a licensed/ordained pastor through Converge, International (the Baptist General Conference), and the Evangelical Free Church of America. I've been mentored by some great musicians over the years: vocal pedagogy with Catherine Barlow, an operatic soprano and graduate of Curtis Institute of Music; and piano with Dr. Sandra Lawler, Dr. Charles Turon and Dr. Witold W. Turkiewicz (also a Curtis Institute graduate). I'm the founder and director Two Rivers Performing Arts School, and the worship pastor at Buffalo City Church, in Jamestown, ND. I also direct Dakota Vocal Union, a men's chorus based out of West Fargo, ND.

Early in my career I worked in radio as the Operations Manager of WVSU, and Librarian at WDJC in Birmingham, AL, and WJIS (The Joy FM network) in Sarasota, FL.

I have adjudicated choral clinics and festivals, and conducted numerous all-county choral concerts in Florida and North Dakota; and have served on the Executive Board of the Florida Vocal Association. Alliance Music Company and Lifeway Music have published my compositions. I've had the privilege of performing with or directing with the Gatlin Brothers, Walt Disney World, Four Him, First Call, the Florida Masterworks Chorale, Gloria Musicae and the Lake Geneva Symphony Orchestra.

I married Julia Grubbs from Brooksville, FL, in 1984 and together we have six grown children and twenty-two grandchildren (some of them are pictured below)! My favorite authors include C.S. Lewis, Richard Foster, A.W. Tozer, J.R.R. Tolkien, and C.S. Forrester. I'm also a pretty big Star Trek fan!

My life-verse comes from the Old Testament book of Ecclesiastes 9:10a: "Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might..." From my teenage years, knowing and understanding God's will and purpose for my life has been very important to me. He has always proven himself faithful to lead and guide me every step of the way, as I have sought him during my 63+ year journey on planet earth! For this reason Psalm 9:10 is a close runner-up to Ecclesiastes 9:10: "Those who know your name trust in you, for you, Lord, have never forsaken those who seek you."