

## *Pastor Larry and Andrea Yerger*

Pastor Larry Yerger and his wife Andrea met at the age of 15 when they were bandmates at Deerfield Beach High School. They've worked in ministry since college, serving in churches as both volunteers and clergy in Georgia, South Carolina, Minnesota, Texas, and Florida. Andrea has always been Larry's "right-hand-everything" and our ministry together is synergistic and complementary. They most recently served as Chaplains for the Florida Department of Corrections.



Pastor Larry attended the University of West Florida earning a B.S. in Biology and doing Graduate work in Environmental Biology. He worked as a Research Biologist before entering Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, Georgia, earning a Master's of Divinity. Andrea also attended the University of West Florida, earning a B.A. in History (with a minor in Psychology) followed by Graduate Studies in History. She worked as a Paralegal and a Human Resource Professional. She is an Ordained Elder and Deacon in the Reformed/Presbyterian Tradition.

Larry and Andrea, wherever they live and work, are involved in volunteering - somewhere/somewhat, believing that 'servant leadership' is the best exemplar of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ's teachings. Currently they serve as Master Gardener Volunteers trained by the University of Florida, and CERT Members for Charlotte County. Larry has been serving for 10 years as a Volunteer Chaplain for the Charlotte County Sheriff's Department.

So what do they do for fun? They enjoy music of all types, days at the beach, putting their Master Gardener training to work in their yard and community, reading, attending estate sales and resale shops searching for 'treasures' to restore/repurpose. Larry is a "jack of all trades" - master of some - when it comes to home repair and Andrea likes to craft when she has the time. Their home is shared with 3 "feisty feline fur" children who bring smiles to their faces every day.

Pastor Larry traveled to Israel and China studying religious history and experiencing the Church in very different cultural contexts. What he saw/learned was life changing and he brings these experiences to others through biblical preaching and teachings - and even casual conversation.

Pastor Larry believes in, and practices, "relationship" evangelism, and endeavours to fulfill his goal of "being able to talk to anyone about anything (religious or common knowledge) for at least 5 minutes" - sans sports. He preaches straight from the Bible, educating the listener on historical times, a bit of Greek and Hebrew translations, and outlining {and demonstrating} the ways in which Christians can live a life of biblical faithfulness during these challenging times.

*"As for me and my house, we shall serve the Lord."*