

Robert Brian Pendergraft, PhD

CONTACT

Home:
203 McFaddan Lane
Temple, TX 76502
256.348.4287
rbpendergraft@yahoo.com

Office:
UMHB Box 8012, 900 College Street
Belton, TX 76513
254.295.4683
rpendergraft@umhb.edu

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Church Music, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, TX, 2015.
Dissertation Title: A Credobaptist Defense of Including Children in Worship
through a Biblically Appropriate Application of Developmental Psychology

M.M.E. in Music Education (Vocal/Choral), Samford University, Birmingham, AL, 2009.

B.M.E. in Music Education (Vocal/Choral), Samford University, Birmingham, AL, 2008.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Associate Professor, James and Lena Hagan Chair of Church Music, Department of Music,
College of Visual and Performing Arts, University of Mary Hardin-Baylor, Belton, TX,
August 2016-Present.

CSMN 3342 History of Christian Worship
CSMN 4341 Designing & Facilitating Worship Services
MUCB 2300 Worship Ministry in the Local Church
MUCB 3310 The Songs of Worship
MUCB 3300 History of Church Music and Worship
MUCB 4110 Field Experience I
MUCB 4120 Field Experience II
MUCB 4130 Field Experience III
MUCB 4300 Philosophy of Church Music and Worship
MUEN 1020/3020 Worship Band
MUSI 1180/3180 Church Music Internship
MUSI 1331 Music Theory I
MUSI 1340 Music Appreciation
MUSI 2120 Advanced Music Technology
MUSI 2220 Church Music and Worship Administration
MUSI 2268 Introduction to Music Education
MUSI 2280 Introduction to Church Music
MUSI 2310 Worship Ministry in the Local Church
MUSI 2340 Applications of Commercial Music Theory
MUSI 2360 History of Rock Music
MUSI 3150 Worship Lab

MUSI 3344 History of Church Music and Worship
MUSI 3356 American Music History and Literature
MUSI 3361 Elementary Music
MUSI 3362 Secondary Choral Methods
MUSI 3368 Secondary Instrumental Methods (co-taught)
MUSI 3381 The Songs of Worship
MUSI 3384 Intergenerational Music and Worship Ministry
MUSI 4006 TExES Review
MUSI 4181 Recording Arts I
MUSI 4282 Contemporary Church Music Trends
MUSI 4310 Philosophy of Church Music and Worship
MUSI 4341 Worship Design
MUSI 4390 Foundations of Worship
UMHB 1101 First Year Seminar
UMHB 1005 Fine Arts Experience

Adjunct Faculty, Department of Ministry and Worship, School of Church Music, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, TX, January 2014-May 2015.

MUMIN 4342 Church Music Education I (Graduate)
MUMIN 4362 Special Issues in Church Music Education (Graduate)
MUMIN 4551 Worship Resources Practicum (Graduate)

Graduate Assistant, MUMIN 4342 Church Music Education I, Dr. John Simons, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, TX, 2013.

Associate Conductor, Fort Worth Children's Choir, Fort Worth, TX, 2013.

Graduate Assistant, Music Education Department, Dr. Moya Nordlund, Samford University, Birmingham, AL, 2008-2009.

MINISTRY EXPERIENCE

Associate Pastor, First Baptist Church, Salado, TX, February 2017-Present.

Minister of Music, Woods Chapel Baptist Church, Arlington, TX, March 2012-August 2016.

Minister of Music, First Baptist Church, Dalhart, TX, May 2009-July 2011.

UNIVERSITY LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

Area Coordinator for Academic Studies in Music, University of Mary Hardin-Baylor, 2019-2024.

Program Coordinator for BAS in Worship Leadership, University of Mary Hardin Baylor, 2023-present.

Program Coordinator for BM in Church Music, University of Mary Hardin-Baylor, 2016-present.

Program Coordinator for BM in Music Education, University of Mary-Hardin Baylor, 2023-present.

Program Coordinator for BS in Worship Technology, University of Mary-Hardin Baylor, 2025-present.

Program Coordinator for BS in Music Business, University of Mary-Hardin Baylor, 2022-2024.

President-Elect, Faculty Council, University of Mary Hardin-Baylor, 2025-2026

Chair, Advising and Retention Committee, University of Mary Hardin-Baylor, 2025-2026,

Chair, C3: Conversations in Christianity and Culture Committee, University of Mary Hardin-Baylor, 2019-2022, 2024-present.

Chair, Guest Artist Committee, University of Mary Hardin-Baylor, 2024-present.

Chair, Core Curriculum Committee, University of Mary Hardin-Baylor, 2021-2022.

PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP

Member, Biblical Worship Section Steering Committee, Evangelical Theological Society, 2017-present.

Member, Prayer and Worship with Children with Disabilities Lily Grant, Advisory Board, 2023-present.

Past-President, Executive Council, Southern Baptist Church Music Conference, 2021- 2022.

President, Executive Council, Southern Baptist Church Music Conference, 2020-2021.

President-Elect, Executive Council, Southern Baptist Church Music Conference, 2019-2020.

Educational Division Representative, Executive Council, Southern Baptist Church Music Conference, 2017-2019.

Editorial Assistant, *The Artistic Theologian Journal*, School of Church Music, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, 2012-2015.

President, Singing Men of Texas-Panhandle, Baptist General Convention of Texas, 2011.

President, Collegiate Alabama Music Educator's Association, 2008-2009.

Vice President, Collegiate Alabama Music Educator's Association, 2007-2008.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Southern Baptist Church Music Conference

Evangelical Theological Society

Texas Music Educators Association

Texas Choral Directors Association

Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia

Phi Kappa Phi

Pi Kappa Lambda

Kappa Delta Pi

Alpha Lambda Delta

SCHOLARLY OUTPUT

Book Chapter

“Building Ramps Instead of Stairs: Universal Design in Planning Intergenerational Worship” in All Ages Becoming (2023), Abilene Christian University Press.

Articles

The Artistic Theologian “The Almost-Reformation of Music and Worship in the Southern Baptist Convention, 1926-1946,” (April 2018): 19-32.

The Artistic Theologian “Worship of the Nations: A Survey and Preliminary Analysis of the Ethnodoxology Movement,” Scott Aniol, Robert Pendergraft, et al. (April 2015): 2-21.

Conference Presentations

(Forthcoming) Paper Presentation, “Revelation and Response as Input and Generate: AI and the Worship of God,” Baylor Symposium on Faith and Culture: Technology and the Human Person in the Age of AI, Waco, TX, February 2026.

Invited Paper Presentation, “Creedal Hospitality: Welcoming Worshipers with the Nicene Creed,” Evangelical Theological Society Annual Conference, Boston, MA, November 2025.

Invited Paper Presentation, “Intentionally Intergenerational Worship Practice in the Old Testament Festivals,” Evangelical Theological Society Annual Conference, Fort Worth, TX, November 2021.

Paper Presentation, “Building Ramps Instead of Stairs: Universal Design in Planning Intergenerational Worship,” InterGenerate Conference, Virtual, May 2021.

Plenary Presenter, “As It Was in the Beginning: Worship in the Old Testament,” Regional Meeting of the Baptist Church Music Conference, Shawnee, OK, April 2021.

Plenary Presenter, “It’s Not Just About the Children: Mandatory, Metaphor, and Meaning,” Intergenerational Worship Resource Summit, Belton, TX, January 2020.

Sectional Presenter, “Truth, Beauty, and Basketball Goals: Overcoming Aesthetic Challenges in Modern Worship Spaces,” Baptist Church Music Conference, Nashville, TN, March 2019.

Sectional Co-Presenter, “Knowledge and Skill: The Partnership of the University and the Local Church in Preparing Students for Ministry,” Baptist Church Music Conference, Nashville, TN, March 2019.

Panelist, “Bridging the Great Divide: Moving Toward Multigenerational Worship,” Texas Choral Director’s Association Convention, San Antonio, TX, July 2018.

Sectional Presenter, “Sequencing and Alignment for Success: A Holistic Approach to Instructing Freshmen,” Big 12 Teaching and Learning Conference, Fort Worth, TX, May 2018.

Plenary Presenter, “Intergenerational Worship: It’s Not Just for the Children,” Texas Baptist Worship Summit, Belton, TX, January 2018.

Panelist, “Faculty Panel: What Happened AFTER Our Faculty Teaching Academy Ended,” Lily Conference for Evidence-Based Teaching and Learning, Austin, TX, January 2018.

Paper Presentation, “The Almost-Reformation of Music and Worship in the Southern Baptist Convention 1926-1946,” Evangelical Theological Society Annual Conference, Providence, RI, November 2017.

Colloquium Presenter, “Preaching to the Children: Martin Luther’s Intentional Inclusion of Children in Worship,” Church Music and the Reformation Colloquium, Waco, TX, September 2017.

Paper Presentation, “Erik Erikson and the Church: How Corporate Worship Sustains Through Crises,” Evangelical Theological Society Annual Conference, San Antonio, TX, November 2016.

Sectional Presenter, “The Application of Jerome Bruner’s Spiral Curriculum to Congregational Song for Children’s Faith Formation,” The Hymn Society Annual Conference, Redlands, CA, July 2016.

Reviews

The Artistic Theologian, Book Review, The Nursery of the Holy Spirit: Welcoming Children in Worship (April 2015): 113-114.

The Artistic Theologian, Book Review, Intergenerational Christian Formation: Bringing the Whole Church Together in Ministry, Community and Worship (April 2015): 92-93.

The Artistic Theologian, Book Review, The Dangerous Act of Worship: Living God's Call to Justice (November 2013): 114-115.

The Artistic Theologian, Book Review, Personal Jesus: How Popular Music Shapes Our Souls (November 2013): 123-124.

The Artistic Theologian, Book Review, The Psalter Reclaimed: Praying and Praising with the Psalms (November 2013): 133-134.

The Artistic Theologian, Book Review, The Great Commission to Worship: Biblical Principles for Worship-Based Evangelism (October 2012): 71-72.

The Artistic Theologian, Book Review, Truth, Goodness, and Beauty Reframed: Educating for the Virtues in the Twenty-First Century (October 2012): 78-79.

The Artistic Theologian, Book Review, From Memory to Imagination: Reforming the Church's Music (October 2012): 79-80.

GRANTS FUNDED

Summer Research Grant, "Hymns for the Gathered Church," University of Mary Hardin-Baylor, 2024.

Calvin Institute of Christian Worship Inaugural Teacher-Scholar Grant, 2019-20.

CONFERENCE ORGANIZER

Baptist Church Music Conference Regional Gathering, Birmingham, AL, April 2021.

Baptist Church Music Conference Regional Gathering, Shawnee, OK, April 2021.

Baptist Church Music Conference Regional Gathering, Bowling Green, KY, April 2021.

Intergenerational Worship Resource Summit, Belton, TX, January 2020.

HYMN FESTIVALS

Festival Leader. "Hymns for the Gathered Church: A Collection of New Texts," University of Mary Hardin-Baylor, Belton, TX, August 2024.

Festival Leader, “Community Hymn Sing: A Celebration of the Reformation,” First United Methodist Church, Temple, TX, October 2017.

Festival Leader, “A Reformation Hymn Sing,” Woods Chapel Baptist Church, Arlington, TX, October 2017.