

Cliff Horton
BIO

I was raised in the Southern Baptist Church. I received Christ as my savior at an early age. I felt called to ministry when I was twelve years of age. I became a Presbyterian while attending Ganado Mission High School on the Navaho Indian Reservation. This was a boarding school and hospital run by the Presbyterian Church at that time, 1956.

After graduating in 1958, I went to Westminster College in Salt Lake City, Utah as a Pre-ministerial student. It was there that I met my wife-to-be, Lucile Smith (Lucy). We were married in the beginning of our Junior year. (November 22, 1960) I graduated in 1962 with a BA in English with a minor in History. We moved to San Anselmo, Ca. so I could attend San Francisco Theological Seminary. I attended a year and a half and dropped out due to a loss of motivation and money.

At that time I felt abandoned by God. I worked a variety of jobs (shoe salesman, postal carrier, etc.) until I was hired by Pacific Gas and Electric Co. After two years, I began working in their Computer Department as a programmer/analyst. I stayed with them until the commute to San Francisco became too time consuming and then went to work for the County of Marin Computer Department as a Systems Analyst. (Commute was 15 minutes!) By that time we had two children. Our Son, Scott, was born in 1967 and our daughter, Dianne, was born in 1971. We had also begun attending the Presbyterian Church in Petaluma, Ca. when Scott was born.

During that period, I felt a renewed call to ministry and I quit my job with the County of Marin and sold our house to return to SFTS in 1976. I graduated with an M-Div. My first church was a two-point parish in Memphis Mo. which was in the Missouri Union Presbytery. I served the First Presbyterian and Pleasant Hill churches from 1979 until 1989. I then accepted a call to Emmanuel Presbytery Church in Kansas City, Mo. This was what I now call an 18 month "learning experience". My next call was to a two-point parish in Fredonia and Neodesha, Kansas. I served there from 1991 until 1998. My last call was to First Presbyterian Church in Rusk, Texas, where I served from 1998 until I retired at the end of 2005. I was also, of course, a member then of Grace Presbytery while serving in Texas.

After retiring, we traveled for a year and then returned to Rusk. In October 2007, I began being a stated supply in Gladewater, TX, (70 miles away) where I was also the moderator of Session. In 2008, I also began driving a school bus in Rusk which I did until June 2015, when my wife had double knee replacement which required me to be home pretty much 24/7. Gladewater church was closed on Easter Sunday 2015. I did pulpit supply in the area until May 2016 when I became stated pulpit supply for First Presbyterian Church in Troupe, Tx, (only 30 miles away!) and also was their Moderator. I preached Yz time (every other Sunday and fifth Sundays) for 18 months when we began preparing to move to Lee's Summit, Mo. to be near our daughter and son-in-law and grandchildren.

I enjoy preparing sermons and preaching. I am looking forward to pulpit supply in this area.