

MEET PASTORAL CANDIDATE REV. TONY SPEARS



AN OPEN LETTER TO OUR HOPE METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

“To this end we labor and strive because we have set our hope on the living God, who is the Savior of all people, and especially of those who believe.” — 1 TIMOTHY 4:10

I have been praying for you, my brothers and sisters, my peeps. We are on a journey which may seem distant in our eyes, however, we will soon merge and walk on together to the glory of God. I feel the anointment of the Divine Spirit and I pray that you do as well.

Who am I? Although I would be officially Reverend Tony Spears by the time we meet (my ordination is Oct. 13), I am content with being called Tony. I am a Texas Boy, living in San Antonio (my hometown), Austin and Houston most of my life. I look forward to my first trip to Georgia, other than a stopover at the airport. Let the record show: I do not wear cowboy hats or boots.

Currently, I am a volunteer with MCC San Antonio, working as their Outreach Coordinator in addition to duties as worship leader and Bible study facilitator. This was the site of my first call, serving as Gap Pastor until the Senior Pastor came aboard. I am thankful they have continued to support me.

I began my journey with MCC Austin back in the early 90's when my then-boyfriend brought me into the fold. Of course, I initially went to be with him. However, once I heard the words: “Jesus loves you just as you are,” I knew I was home. In Austin, I served various ministries over the years—deacon, hospitality, decorating, choir, worship leader and so on.

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I gave in and answered the call to ministry in 2011, attending Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary. I've got a lot of sermons out of being there for four years. Since graduating in 2015, I have, of course, preached, conducted marriage ceremonies and memorials, and provided counseling.

By the way, my Bachelor's degree is in Journalism from University of Texas at Austin. I do bleed burnt orange but please love me, anyway.

You may want to “get all up in my business.” Let me answer THE question: I am single and content to be so. I have a reputation for giving great hugs. I enjoy reading, research and Netflix. This big bear of a man is fond of baking, though I've been trying to avoid that temptation. Music keeps me centered and going so you may find me singing to myself. I can carry a note, it may be the wrong note, but I can carry it.

Church family, all I ask of you is to be open. I don't expect you to leave your background, your faith traditions or your brains at the door to the church. My intention is to present you through The Word with something to think about by offering a variety of perspectives and the everlasting promise of hope. I encourage feedback, after all I am still learning.

Love and Blessings,
Rev. Tony Spears

