

MEET JAMES ROBERTS



James grew up in the Church of God. He holds a Master of Divinity from Pittsburgh Theological Seminary (2016), and a B.S. in Biblical Studies from Cincinnati Christian University (2005).

James began his ministry at Breiel Blvd. First Church of God in Middleton, OH, where he served for nine years, first as a Student Minister for six years, then moving into an Associate Pastor role working under Pastor David Colp. He continues to serve with David as an Advisory Board member at St. Joseph First Church of God.

In 2007-2008, James was slated to plant a church with Church of God. He was one of a number of church planters who had their plans cancelled because of the economic downturn. He was encouraged to look for an associate role in a larger church ministry, but none were found within the Church of God. He took a role at Crossroads, a large, conservative and evangelical UMC congregation, to gain larger church experience.

Since 2008, James has worked at Crossroads Church (UMC) in Pittsburgh, PA, a multisite church of approximately 2,000 attenders. He began his journey at Crossroads as the Lead Student Pastor, and after four years moved into an Executive Pastor role. Currently, he serves as Campus Pastor of the largest Campus, North Fayette, with about 1,400 regular attenders.

In his role as Campus Pastor, James manages 23 staff members, writes and teaches 50 percent of the weekends, oversees a \$2 million budget and has overseen a 12 percent attendance increase during the past year. He serves on the four-member directional leadership team of the church and oversees the Lead Team that guides all the campuses.

James has been married for 17 years to Jeana, who works as a corporate Relocation Specialist. They have one daughter, Katlyn, who is 12. The family enjoys traveling, cooking Blue Apron meals, and family game nights where Katlyn wins way more than her fair share.

IN THEIR WORDS...

“James has a relationship with Christ that is deep and authentic. He influences through relationship, has a clear sense of direction, and creates teams that accomplish goals. He wants to honor Christ always, and cares passionately for people who are far from God. He is wired to be a Senior Pastor.”

-- Senior Pastor of Crossroads Church

“James is a visionary leader and extremely gifted communicator. He brings energy, enthusiasm, a great work ethic, and the ability to teach, lead, and disciple. James is very encouraging, team-oriented, and gets people motivated and excited about the vision.”

-- Staff Member at Crossroads Church

“Pastor Roberts has been extensively vetted by the United Methodist Church, met their education requirements, and has completed the work required for ordination. James initially pastored in the Church of God and has strong roots in the Church of God. He and I have had significant conversation about his beliefs and ministry, and I have no reservations about him becoming the next pastor at Church at the Crossing.”

-- Doug Talley, Indiana State Pastor for Church of God

“Evangelism has always been one of my core passions. In my early days of ministry, I studied churches that did evangelism effectively, while also being equally effective at helping the new disciples mature into disciples that made disciples. I quickly came to understand that systems were a key element in this process. Connecting and integrating people into the local body and helping them to become disciples who grow and mature became my passion.

I deeply understand the need to constantly innovate in order to gather the harvest that surrounds the church. I always strive to innovate at every level to maximize the potential for the Kingdom's outreach and discipleship. When I read about the Senior Pastor opportunity at CATC, I felt impassioned toward CATC's mission. I sensed that God could partner us together to make a significant difference in the Indianapolis region for God's glory.”

-- James Roberts