

# Rich Hendrix

**Name**  
Rich Hendrix

**Consulting Specialties**  
TIPs Pastor

With more than 35 years of pastoral ministry experience Richard Hendrix is a dynamic, people-oriented pastor with a passion for helping people discover the love of God and become committed followers of Jesus Christ.

## My Story

I always wanted to be a pastor. From the earliest time I can remember responding to the question, "What do you want to be when you grow up?" I always answered, "I want to be a pastor!" My respect and admiration for my dad and my maternal grandfather, who were both pastors, was so great that all I ever wanted was to grow up to be just like them, to follow in their footsteps and be a pastor. By my high school years when my friends were talking about careers in law or medicine or teaching or business, I knew I wanted to be a pastor. And I knew it is what God made me to be and do.

I came to saving faith in Jesus Christ during the Cuban Missile Crisis, when I feared that the world was about to be destroyed by nuclear war. I was profoundly aware of the fact that, though I loved God, I had not yet trusted him with my life and received the pardon and forgiveness of sin that only comes through faith in Jesus Christ. Since that day in October 1962 I have found many more reasons to trust Jesus than just the desire to avoid hell, but I mark that occasion as the new birth for me. My childhood and adolescent years that followed were times of growth in my faith and my desire to follow Jesus and serve him with my whole life.

Following high school graduation from Rift Valley Academy in Kenya I went to Philadelphia College of Bible (now Cairn University) to prepare for ministry. In college I met my wife Jennifer; we fell in love and got married after my graduation in 1974. Following Jennifer's graduation in 1975 we moved to Illinois to attend Trinity Evangelical Divinity School where I graduated in 1977.

During our college and seminary years I served churches in New Jersey and Wisconsin as Youth Pastor where I began to learn how to teach the Word in ways that helped students respond to God's call in their lives.

In the years after Seminary graduation I served three churches in California and Arizona for a total of 31 years. My greatest delight has been in seeing people respond to God's grace in their lives and put their trust in him.

Jennifer and I have two grown sons who are married to wonderful women who are our daughters just as surely as if they were our biological children. We have three wonderful grandchildren we are absolutely crazy about.

The current chapter of my life and ministry is helping churches through the transition between pastors. I love shepherding churches through this process by giving grace, demonstrating care and instilling hope for an exciting future.

After all these years, I still just want to be a pastor.