

Rev. Jason C. Reynolds

Rev. Jason C. Reynolds earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering from Washington University in St. Louis, a Master of Arts in Divinity from McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago, and an Executive Education certificate from the Kellogg School of Management, Northwestern University. He is currently pursuing his Doctor of Philosophy degree in African American Preaching and Sacred Rhetoric at Christian Theological Seminary. The focus of his PhD work is the effects of Artificial Intelligence on Black Preaching. His interests also include ethics, narrative preaching, and rhetorical analysis of scripture and sermons.

Reynolds has taught at McCormick Theological Seminar as an adjunct professor for MDiv students. He has also been a teaching assistant at Christian Theological Seminary for “Intro to Preaching” under Dr. Courtney Buggs. Reynolds has also led numerous preaching seminars, most recently “Preaching with AI and Preaching Today: AI and Fascism” open to preachers looking to further their preaching knowledge but may not have access to seminary.

Reynolds is the full-time Senior Pastor of Emmanuel Baptist Church in San Jose, CA, a multigeneration church that is the largest predominantly African American organization in Silicon Valley. Under Reynolds’ leadership the church has renewed the church’s mission, vision, and values; reenergized the church’s growth; reduced \$4M of the church’s debt; began a free after-school program (Legacy Preparatory Academy) to decrease educational gaps for students in need with community and County partnerships; and is current in a renovation project called The Legacy Continues to revitalize space for fellowship and children.

Driven by his dedication to the community beyond the church, during the pandemic Reynolds led Emmanuel to partner with Santa Clara County for 18 months to provide space for 92,000 residents to be tested and 68,000 residents to be vaccinated. The functioning clinic was the second largest vaccination site in the County, surpassed only by Levi Stadium.

Reynolds also has a unique gifting and love for the creative arts, which led to his writing and producing several worship theatrical plays for the church, including “Miracle on White Road”, “The Magnificat”, “In Defense of the Cross”, and “The Incarnation”. In 2021, he wrote, co-produced, and co-directed Emmanuel’s first short film, “The Other Side of Christmas.”

Reynolds is currently a member of the Community Advisory Board for the Chief of Police of San Jose, CA. He also serves as Ecumenical Leader for Bethany Fellows and on the

Leadership Team of the Black Pastor's Network in the Bay Area under Transforming the Bay for Christ. In 2018, Reynolds became a Senior Fellow of American Leadership Forum Silicon Valley, a group dedicated to bringing together courageous, diverse networks of cross sector leaders to work towards an equitable and thriving Silicon Valley. In 2014, he became a founding member of "Claiming the Beloved Community" - an interfaith group of clergy and laypeople called, and an extension of People Acting in Community Together (PACT) - to improve the relationships and accountability of local law enforcement.

In recognition for his community service, Reynolds has been the recipient of numerous awards and commendations from groups including the California Legislative Assembly, The City of San Jose, the African American Community Service Agency, and the Santa Clara County Public Health Department. Most recently, in 2026, Reynolds received a Commendation from the City of San Jose and a Recognition from the California Legislature Assembly during Black History Month. In 2022, He was named Man of the Year by the National Coalition of 100 Black Women Silicon Valley.

Reynolds has been happily married to Poch'e ("Po-Shay") Reynolds since 2008, and together they have two sons - Jadon Reynolds and Jason Reynolds, II (affectionately called "Bubba"). Reynolds is an avid pickleball player and loves spending time watching movies and discussing the intersections between culture and faith.