

## Reverend W. Douglas Mills, PhD

Dr. Mills was appointed to Mountainside United Methodist Church in July of 2017. He is an experienced pastor who has provided leadership in New Mexico and Northwest Texas, including a new church start in the Four Corners area of New Mexico. He is proud to have served as an ecumenical leader to our denomination as he forged relationships with other religious leaders in tumultuous times. Dr. Mills is committed to making a difference both locally and globally. His position as the Associate General Secretary for the General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns presented an opportunity for world travel that has enhanced Dr. Mills' knowledge, which is passed on to the congregation through his teaching sermons. Dr. Mills' combination of teaching experience in the university combined with his own theological/historical education and world travel provides an opportunity for learning/discovery as well as life-changing worship.

Dr. Mills received his graduate degrees from Duke University Divinity School and Texas Tech University. His theological degrees (M.Div., Th.M.) are in historical and liturgical theology and his doctoral work (Ph.D.) in American Religious history. Dr. Mills taught nine years as a professor of Religion at Eastern New Mexico University in Portales, where he also served five years as chair of the Department of Religion. A popular teacher on campus, Mills received a number of accolades, including a John Templeton Foundation prize for teaching in science and religion.

Pastor Mills and his wife, Christy, have two children. Their daughter, Sarah, is a college student majoring in biology who loves art and dancing; and their teenage son, Jackson, is a sophomore in high school who enjoys fishing and horseback riding and is a black belt in jujitsu and kickboxing.

