

Jeff was born in La Mirada, CA and lived near Los Angeles through elementary school. Just before middle school, Jeff and his family moved to Damascus, MD. During Middle School, Jeff became involved in Band and in High School was in both Marching Band and Choir. Because of his love for music, Jeff decided to go to Nyack College in Nyack, New York, where he earned his degree in Music Education. During his time at Nyack, Jeff had the opportunity to sing at Carnegie Hall with his College Chorale, and also lead worship with different groups for the school's chapel. Since he was so close to the city, Jeff decided to attend First Alliance Church in Manhattan at which he met Jim Jensen, the worship pastor. Jim was a good friend and unofficially mentored Jeff while he was on the worship team. This relationship and experience encouraged Jeff to pursue worship ministry. Also at Nyack, Jeff met his future wife, Beth. Jeff and Beth dated their senior year and married in June of 2004. Jeff's first job after college was substitute teaching in Montgomery County, MD and he eventually obtained a job as a full time elementary music teacher in Baltimore County.

After one year of teaching, Jeff and Beth moved to Hickory NC to work as group home parents for the County Department of Social Services as live in parents in their group home system working with girls ages 12 to 17. Jeff felt God's call into full time music ministry while at the group home, and enrolled in Crown College's Online Masters program. After working at the group home for 2 years, Jeff and Beth resigned from their positions. While looking at a job posting for a worship position, Jeff found an advertisement for the New Life School of Worship, a training program for aspiring worship leaders that focuses on theology and practical music skills. Jeff and Beth moved to Colorado Springs during the summer of 2007. While at New Life, Jeff had the opportunity to learn from Pastor Ross Parsley and Pastor Glenn Packiam. Beth found a job posting for Hillside Lutheran Brethren Church in early spring of 2008 and Jeff sent his resume in for consideration. After their visit to the church in early June, Jeff and Beth felt a strong connection with the people of Hillside Church, and God's calling on their lives to minister in New Jersey. Hillside Church voted to extend the call to Jeff for the position of Director of Music and Worship. After accepting the call, Jeff and Beth moved to New Jersey in early August of 2008 and now live in Kenvil.