

## Alumni Spotlight: David Wright (MAUML '16 and Th.M. '18)



**Current title:** Reverend and Executive Director of the Black Ministerial Alliance TenPoint, Inc.

**Family:** I've been married to my wife, Shelbey, for 25 years. We met at Harvard Law School, defending indigent people accused of crimes. We have three children, Nathan, Micah, and Elizabeth.

**Favorite professors:** Rev. Dr. Mark Harden and Rev. Dr. Virginia Ward

**Favorite class:** Living Systems Ministry and Field Based Mentored Ministry

**Favorite memory:** Working with Abram Kielsmeier-Jones on our Field Based Ministry project!

### What have you been doing since you left Gordon-Conwell?

I have been doing ministry as the Assistant to the Pastor at Peoples Baptist Church in Boston. I have also worked on the successful merger of the Black Ministerial Alliance of Greater Boston, Inc. and the Boston TenPoint Coalition. As the executive director of these organizations, I have developed supports and programs to help churches engage their local communities. I have helped revive Lena Park Community Development Corp. and continue to serve on its board.

### What are you doing now?

I am the executive director of the merged entity, the BMA TenPoint, helping this organization to support churches as they engage our communities for the cause of the Gospel. I am also an adjunct professor at the Boston campus of Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary and teach (wait for it) Field Based Mentored Ministry.

### How has God woven together your Gordon-Conwell education with other life events to bring you to where you are now?

I went from the MAUM to the Th.M. in Practical Theology. This gave me a new perspective on ministry and how it could be done in a way that is less transactional and more transformational for the cause of Christ. As a result, I can support churches in a more engaging and meaningful way, and I can provide students with perspectives on ministry that will help them innovate and create approaches to ministry that are relevant, significant, and effective.

**What has been Gordon-Conwell's biggest impact/influence?**

In addition to learning practical ministry strategies from Practical Theology, I think the biggest impact has been the relationships, with professors and fellow students and my own students, that I have been blessed to have made. I have maintained a number of those relationships and am blessed to be in touch with many of the students I have taught.

**What piece of advice would you give to young alumni who are just entering the working world?**

Sometimes, both in seminary and in the "church" world, we get locked into expectations of how things "should" go and what the future "should" be. God is doing new and wonderful things all the time. He is inviting us to join Him in His redemptive work in creation. The process and activity, as well as the location and time, will be different for each of us. Be comfortable trusting God to lead you into a future ministry that is very different from what you see around you.