

## Alumni Spotlight: Richard Haney (MDiv '79)



**Current Title:** Executive Director, Frontier Fellowship

**Family:** Wife: Pam, Children: Leah Gaertner, Charlotte Rippy, and Emily Davis

**Favorite professor:** David Wells, Jack Davis, and J Christy Wilson

**Favorite class:** Puritan Spirituality with J. I. Packer

**Favorite memory:** We were at Gordon-Conwell during the blizzard of '77. I was Resident Advisor at Building "B," and we could barely get out the door since the snow was so high. The thought of shoveling all the walkways left me dizzy. But many

people came out and helped me make short work of clearing the walkways! Such a great community!

### **What have you been doing since you left Gordon-Conwell and what work are you doing now?**

I spent thirty-five years as a parish minister among Presbyterians. That included serving as a mission pastor, a church planter, and five interim pastorates. For the last ten years, I have been executive director of a mission mobilizing agency, Frontier Fellowship.

### **What do you love about your work?**

Frontier Fellowship does primarily two things—we mobilize churches and build partnerships with global mission ministries. I love working with churches and global partners. And I'm passionate about seeing all people groups receive the Good News.

### **What are the particular challenges of non-profit work in general and/or in your specific context?**

Leading a remote team presents challenges for good communication. Leading a non-profit offers the ongoing challenge of raising funds for ministry. Building cross-cultural partnerships is challenging because of culture, relationships, geographical distance, and the appropriate sharing of resources.

### **How has God woven together your Gordon-Conwell education with other life events to bring you to where you are now? How did you come to be doing your current work?**

After thirty-five years serving congregations, I finished an advanced degree in missiology and turned to a mission's vocation. My early exposure at Gordon-Conwell to J Christy Wilson, mission classes, and fellow students pursuing cross-cultural vocations

all paved the way for my “later-in-life” call to serve a mission agency.

**How has your Gordon-Conwell education served you in your past and current work?**

I received a good foundation in biblical studies and theology at Gordon-Conwell. The importance of diligent work in hermeneutics has served me all these years. I thank Gordon Fee, Dave Scholer, and Doug Stuart for lessons in biblical studies. I thank David Wells and Jack Davis for fine-tuning my skills in theology and ethics.

**What piece of advice would you give to young alumni who are considering working in the non-profit sector?**

Dig deeply in learning about particular non-profits before jumping on board. Talk to board members as well as staff. Look for clear vision and strategy from the leaders.

**Do you have any publications or links to share?**

[Visit Frontier Fellowship.](#)

