

SEAN HARRIS  
FAYETTEVILLE, NC

Pastor Sean Harris has been the Senior Pastor for Berean Baptist Church and Academy in Fayetteville, NC since 2006. He served as a member, lay teacher, and deacon at Berean from 1987 until he became the Senior Pastor. As the Senior Pastor, he oversees Berean's ministry to over 1,100 residents of Fayetteville and Fort Bragg, the education of over 400 students, and a staff of 80 employees. In addition to pastoral responsibilities, Sean also teaches OT and NT survey in the Academy. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in US History from Thomas Edison State College and a Master of Divinity with a concentration in leadership from Liberty Baptist Theological Seminary, Lynchburg, VA.

Now retired from the military, Sean entered the US Army on May 5, 1987 in Boston, MA, trained as a fire support specialist, and graduated US Army Basic Airborne School at Fort Benning, GA. Most of his career was spent in the 82d Abn Div where he served as a forward observer, team sergeant, platoon sergeant, firing battery first sergeant and division fire support sergeant major. His tours outside the Division include observer/controller at the Joint Readiness Training Center and ROTC instructor at Central Michigan University. He graduated from the US Army Sergeant's Major Academy (Class #55), completed all levels of the non-commissioned officer (NCO) education system, and numerous other courses relating to his specialty in the field artillery. He is a member of the All American Centurion Club and a lifetime member of the 82d Airborne Division Association. He was the 1993 82d Abn Div NCO of the Year and is a member of the distinguished Sergeant Audie Murphy Club (SAMC), the Honorable Order of St. Barbara (the patron saint of artillerymen), and is a distinguished member of the 319th Abn FAR.

His personal decorations include the Bronze Star Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal (with 3 oak leaf clusters), Army Commendation Medal (with 7 oak leaf clusters), Army Achievement Medal (with 7 oak leaf clusters), Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (with Arrowhead), Southwest Asia Service Medal (with 2 bronze stars), Kosovo Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, NATO Medal, Kuwait Liberation Medal, Master Parachutist Badge (with bronze star), Air Assault Badge, and Ranger Tab. He has deployed to combat four times with the 82nd Abn Div in Panama, Southwest Asia, and Kosovo. It was during his last deployment to Iraq that Sean sensed God's call to pastoral ministry.

In 2012 Sean and his son, Austin, began mowing yards together. Today H&H Lawncare is a full service year around lawn care and landscaping company that provide employment for 8-10 young men from the church and academy. H&H services both residential and commercial properties and serves as another way for the pastor of Berean to connect with Fayetteville. Sean enjoys the time working outside and especially the time teaching and mentoring the young men with practical skills they can use for the rest of their lives. His favorite recreational activity is downhill skiing, a hobby he began as a young man in the mountains of New England. He is married to his wife of over 25 years, Pamela Sue Gilbert, who hails from Garden City, Michigan. Sean and Pam have one granddaughter.