



# eric.c.powell

5731 Hacienda Court | Fontana, California 92336

eric@ericcpowell.com | 909.343.7408

<http://ministry.ericcpowell.com>

## OVERVIEW

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Characterized by a relevant and creative approach to leadership, ministry, and the arts, Eric's nearly 20 years of experience has cultivated spiritual growth, artistic development, and community engagement in the various roles and ministries he has served.

Eric has considerable experience in helping churches navigate through transitional times, has served in ministry coaching situations, and has a heart to see local churches become passionate, thriving agents of change in their communities. His recent years in Montana as a lead pastor and NAMB church planting missionary has afforded him the experience to interact with a network of churches as well as gain experience as a lead pastor building a church that truly made an impact for Christ in the community.

## STRENGTHS

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### PASTORAL SHEPHERDING

Whether as pastor, worship leader, technical director, or ministry coach, Eric's primary concern is the spiritual growth of those he shepherds. He gives great emphasis to building personal relationships, demonstrating a lifestyle of discipleship, and encouraging spiritual growth in small group and large group gatherings.

### WORSHIP AND ARTS DEVELOPMENT

Eric's 15 years of Worship & Arts leadership consists of guiding struggling churches through worship style changes, Biblical teaching on worship and the arts, organizing the technical and administrative aspects of worship ministry growth, as well as successfully building worship ministries from the ground up into thriving and effective teams. As an accomplished vocalist, musician, band leader, songwriter, and graphic designer, Eric is known as a pastor to artists. He identifies with and can speak to the heart of the musician/artist while helping to encourage a relationship with our creative God. Experience with contemporary, rock, nextgen, and modernized hymn worship styles with strong vocals and keyboard. Novice djembe, congas, and guitar.

### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

With a desire for all ages to discover the full and fulfilling life that Jesus offers, Eric encourages the local church to be intentional about serving the needs of their community. Such community engagement (outreach) grows those who are serving as well as those served. While we can learn much about our faith and doctrine, we have not truly learned until we live it out. Eric has proven success creating inroads with community organizations, positively changing the way outsiders see Jesus.

### CHURCH PLANTING

Having served as founder and lead pastor/planter of Encounter Church in Helena, Montana, Eric has developed a true passion for church planting and young ministries. Through this time as a NAMB church-planting missionary, his skills and experience now cover a broad spectrum. Preaching, vision-casting, discipling groups/individuals, and coordinating successful outreach efforts, are all skills that any church, especially new church plants, should find essential.

### COACHING AND CONSULTATION

Eric has successfully challenged stalled ministries to move outside their circle of comfort in communicating Jesus' unconditional love in creative and sometimes non-traditional ways. Whether through outreach, music worship style, the visual arts, or overall ministry approach, Eric specializes in guiding churches toward their next steps of growth.

## EDUCATION

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### CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, Fullerton, CA

B.A. in Communications (Advertising/Graphic Design/Mass Media) | *December 1992*

### HOPE INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY, SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE OF WORSHIP, Fullerton, CA

M.A. in Worship (Theology/Professional/Personal) | *May 2005*

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## POSITIONS

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### **FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH, Riverside, CA | Interim Worship Leader | November 2013 to Present**

Consulting worship leader of a church in transition. Programming worship, coaching musicians, singers, and techs in the best practices of the creative and administrative processes of a Worship Arts ministry. Encouraging the team to offer excellence to God and the congregation while encouraging people to stretch their faith while expanding their circle of comfort.

### **HEADWATERS COVENANT CHURCH, Helena, MT | Worship Arts Coach / Consultant | May 2012 to August 2012**

Consulting artist, musician, and band leader of A new church start/plant. Working with leadership in coaching musicians, singers, and techs in the best practices of the creative and administrative processes of a Worship Arts ministry. Encouraging the team to offer excellence to God and the congregation as they create an atmosphere where people can be free to fully experience God.

### **ENCOUNTER CHURCH, Helena, MT | Lead Pastor / NAMB Church Planting Missionary | April 2009 to August 2011**

Lead planter and pastor for an edgy, non-traditional church plant targeting those who do not connect or have given up on church. Worship style is edgy, energetic, and rock-oriented utilizing some secular music as appropriate. Also *Hillsong United, Fee, Starfield, Jesus Culture, Matt Maher, Crowder*. Responsible for all areas of church development including team recruitment, vision casting, fundraising, marketing, discipleship, and more. Utilized skills included preaching, worship leading, community networking, successful, outreach, graphic design, website creation, and managing a church plant budget. A full-time salaried position.

### **HANNAFORD STREET BIBLE CHURCH, Helena, MT | Pastor of Worship Arts | September 2004 to April 2009**

Led praise band and singers in rehearsals and worship for two contemporary Sunday morning services. Saw increased attendance from 400-600 over 5 years. Worship ministry participation included rotations of about 30 musicians and techs. Typical music style was light rock contemporary worship like *Tomlin, Redman, Hughes, Walker, Hillsong*. Also led weekly AWANA worship with 100 attendance. Recruitment, rehearsal, and spiritual formation of worship team participants, technical volunteers, limited seasonal choirs, and featured artists. Other duties include service programming, internal and external church publicity, supervision of technical ministries, and other administrative tasks. A full-time salaried position.

### **FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH, Riverside, CA | Worship Leader | September 2001 to September 2004**

Led praise band and singers in worship for Sunday morning contemporary/blended service and traditional evening service. Saw increased attendance from 90-130 over 3 years. Also includes leading church-wide worship for celebrations, vacation bible school, etc. Responsible for recruitment, rehearsal, and spiritual formation of worship team participants, technical volunteers, seasonal choirs, and featured artists. Other duties include service programming, internal and external church publicity, supervision of technical ministries, and other administrative tasks. A 30+ hour part-time hourly position.

## EVENTS

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### **NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER EVENT, Helena, MT | Worship Coordinator & Leader | May 2008 through 2011 (4 yrs)**

Organized musicians and vocalists for state NDOP event at Montana State Capital in Helena, Montana. Responsible for providing music for all state attendees.

### **PK LAST CHANCE MEN OF INTEGRITY, Helena, MT | Worship Leader | March 2006 through 2008 (3 yrs)**

Led praise band and singers in Montana Promise Keepers Jesus Conference worship experiences. Over 250 in attendance at Helena Civic Center. Responsible for leading attendees in worship, rehearsing praise team prior to event, and collecting appropriate music and media elements for PowerPoint/MediaShout/Sunday Plus.

### **HANNAFORD STREET FALL CONFERENCES, Helena, MT | Worship Leader | September 2004 through 2008 (4 yrs)**

Led praise band and singers in worship for Annual Community and Pastors conference. Over 500 in attendance. Responsible for leading attendees in worship, rehearsing praise team prior to event, preparing video and print publicity, and more. Speakers have included Bob Russell, Crawford Loritts, Jr., Leith Anderson, Dr. Charles Ware, Matt Heard, storyteller/humorist Stephen James, and magician/humorist Scott Cowen.

### **UNDERSTANDING WORSHIP SEMINAR, Huntington Beach, CA | Worship Team Keyboardist | September 1998**

Played keyboard with praise band and singers for conference worship and workshops. Understanding Worship Seminar was designed as an interactive seminar helping church leaders to transition and integrate contemporary worship into their services.

## ONLINE

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Visit my online ministry profile, photos, sermons, and media clips at <http://ministry.ericcpowell.com>