Neil Smart is a 1963 graduate of the US Naval Academy who was commissioned in the US Army Corps of Engineers. He commanded an Engineer Bridge Company and a Reconnaissance Airplane Company in combat in Viet Nam. He taught at the US Military Academy at West Point, New York and later served in the Pentagon; thereafter commanding several Units responsible for flood control and navigation on the Mississippi, the lowa, the Illinois and the Red Rivers.

Neil began piano lessons in Vienna, Austria at age 6. He undertook many years playing for church services in Taipei, Taiwan when he was a freshman in high school and has continued wherever he was assigned around the world. In the Northern Neck he has played for many Musical Theater Organizations, helped out at Bethel and served as Music Director at Campbell Presbyterian in Weems for eight years.