Leonard Bailey, MD, is the Distinguished Professor of Surgery of Loma Linda University School of Medicine and Surgeon-in-Chief of Loma Linda University Children’s Hospital. He developed a vision for infant heart transplantation during his residency program when he saw that otherwise perfect babies were dying from hypoplastic left heart syndrome - a congenital heart defect that defied successful reconstructive heart surgery.

He performed over 200 experimental transplantations in infant research animals at Loma Linda University to determine the feasibility of transplantation in the very young before his first human transplantation in October 1984 when he transplanted a baboon heart into the infant known as Baby Fae.

In November 1985, he performed the first successful human to human heart transplantation in a newborn baby.

Dr. Bailey lectures and operates regularly throughout the world. With many scientific publications, he is an internationally recognized authority on congenital heart surgery and infant heart transplantation.

Dr. Bailey was honored with the 2006 Pioneer Award at the ISHLT 26th Annual Meeting and Scientific Sessions in Madrid, Spain.