

LIFE IN FELLOWSHIP

SPRING 2016

CONTAGIOUS JOY:
KIM VOGEL
PAGE 10

MY STORY

BY BIG DADDY WEAVE

*If I told you my story
You would hear Hope that wouldn't let go
And if I told you my story
You would hear Love that never gave up
And if I told you my story
You would hear Life, but it wasn't mine*

*If I should speak then let it be
Of the grace that is greater than all my sin
Of when justice was served
and where mercy wins
Of the kindness of Jesus that draws me in
Oh to tell you my story is to tell of Him*

*If I told you my story
You would hear victory over the enemy
And if I told you my story
You would hear freedom that was won for me
And if I told you my story
You would hear Life overcome the grave*

*If I should speak then let it be
Of the grace that is greater than all my sin
Of when justice was served
and where mercy wins
Of the kindness of Jesus that draws me in
Oh to tell you my story is to tell of Him*

*This is my story, this is my song
Praising my savior all the day long
This is my story, this is my song
Praising my savior all the day long*

*For the grace that is greater than all my sin
Of when justice was served
and where mercy wins
Of the kindness of Jesus that draws me in
Oh to tell you my story is to tell
Of the grace that is greater than all my sin
Of when justice was served
and where mercy wins
Of the kindness of Jesus that draws me in
Oh to tell you my story is to tell of Him
Oh to tell you my story is to tell of Him*

*This is my story, this is my song
Praising my savior all the day long*



DON'T MISS video clips related to many of the stories found inside this magazine, including a video story for this song.

[FELLOWSHIPGREENVILLE.ORG/STORYFILMS-SPRING16](http://fellowshipgreenville.org/storyfilms-spring16)

FROM THE EDITOR

Sharing Our STORIES

If you met someone new, and were asked to tell your life story in a mere two minutes, what would you say? How would you quickly tell what makes you who you are today?

Big Daddy Weave has a song currently on the radio that highlights how our personal stories really are all about what God has done and is doing *through* us. The final line of the chorus reads, "Oh to tell you my story is to tell of him."

When our family moved to South Carolina last year and I joined the staff of Fellowship Greenville, we started meeting so many people who told some amazing "God stories." As I began sharing those stories, people wanted to hear more.

And that is how this magazine was born. This church is not about a few leaders and what they are doing—it is about a group of believers who join together to be the hands and feet of Jesus in our schools, offices, and neighborhoods.

So what does that look like

on a daily basis? It looks like one woman devoting 18 years of her adult life to faithfully serve on this staff (page 6). It looks like countless volunteers who show up on Sunday mornings to keep us safe (page 4) and teach our children (page 9). It is also evident in the ways we reach out beyond our walls (pages 14-17) to support other churches, care for orphans, and share our resources.

And it is perhaps most evident in the stories of lives changed—some quite literally—from *the inside out*, with God working through each one of us. Don't miss the beautiful "God stories" of Kim Vogel (page 10) and Jon Evans (page 18).

Each person in our midst has a story worth telling. God does not waste even the tiniest or seemingly inconsequential parts of our stories. He loves to use them to encourage and inspire others, and ultimately to bring glory to him.

We are honored and humbled to be a part of the story he is writing through you, and look forward to sharing more of your stories in the coming months.

Wendy



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GREENVILLE**

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We live in an age and culture full of misconceptions about Christianity. As a result, many people are left with negative impressions of Christians and the church as a whole. At Fellowship Greenville, we want to live in such a way that others can't help but see what authentic Christianity looks like. Our hope is that the misconceptions people might have carried for a long time will begin to fade away as we seek to become a community of grace, passionately pursuing life and mission with Jesus. We long for people to be drawn back to Jesus, seeing him and the life he offers in a fresh, new way.

LIFE IN FELLOWSHIP TEAM

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PARKING TEAM



PARKING TEAM, WEEK 2:
(left to right) Annie Gray, Kai Haskell, Cody Irick, Renauld Davis, Glynn Beverly, Rob Evans, Michelle Evans, and Jon Schrader.

CONNECTING THROUGH TEAM

BY CHELSEY BRILLIANDT



"We want to keep you in a good mood from the time you arrive to the time you leave."

As I pull through the entrance of Fellowship Greenville on this frigid morning, I am immediately greeted by bright yellow vests and bundled happy faces. I am cheerfully waved through to the next parking area as if it wasn't 25 degrees this morning. By the time I am directed to my parking spot, I have already interacted with three different helpful welcomers and have forgotten about any frustrations I had while rushing to get to church this morning.

I exit my car and promptly walk straight to the entrance to get my hot coffee. My goal this morning is to be warm and to interview this amazing parking team that serves on the second Sunday of each month. I go to the window and watch them work. Waving

flags and gloved hands to direct cars and pedestrians to the appropriate places. I look at my watch and the time reads 8:35. Any minute they should be coming inside, I assume. I wait another five minutes and I see them start to head toward the doors. These eight people seem to be the last people in the parking lot this morning.

They take off their safety vests and put the neon orange flags away until the next service, then immediately start discussing which lots are full and the strategy for getting people in and out for the 10:10 service, which we all know is chaos. This conversation, led by Cody, whom I immediately recognize as a veteran of this parking lot team, instructs how to move people to the back of the main lot. I wait patiently for them to

conclude this conversation before introducing myself and asking questions.

My first question is how long have they been here this morning and when are they done, the basic information anyone would want to know when serving. The response shocks me. Cody tells me he gets on site at 7:00am and sets up all the cones and signs, then cleans them all up around noon. This team has been together for about three months and they all act as though it's as easy as any other serving opportunity around.

When I ask how they got involved in this particular ministry, I get a variety of answers, but one consistent thread appears: *they were asked*. Whether through personal invitation or email they were invited into this ministry. "I had been looking for somewhere to serve and I got an email about it at the perfect time," recalls Glynn. "I was asked personally by Josh about a year ago," Cody remembers.

Jon had been looking for a way to serve so he could be here while his wife, Missy, was working in Fellowship Kids, and this was a perfect fit.

When I was first told about this team, it was described as a group of men. But as I look over to my right, I see Rob and his wife Michelle, standing there. I ask them how long they have been serving together and Michelle says it's her first time. "We wanted to spend Valentine's Day together." She follows up with, "I feel like if you can serve in this temperature you can serve through anything." Rob teases, "I offered to do something nicer for her, but she wanted to do this."

I'm intrigued by what motivates them to continue serving in the parking

lot, month after month. I ask, "What have you seen while serving that maybe has shocked you or made an impact on you?" Cody laughs, "So many nice cars!" Rob continues with, "Yeah, I already have my next car picked out now," which Michelle adds with a laugh, "It's a truck." Cody somberly continues, "It goes both ways—there are plenty with dents and scratches too. It really is a neat way to see the variety of people who attend here."

When I ask them to elaborate on what their goals are, Cody immediately says, "Our priority is definitely first-time guests." John adds, "You also just want people to be safe." Cody sums it up well, "We want to keep you in a good mood from the time you arrive to the time you leave."

When the subject returns back to how they feel about serving in the parking lot, Renauld articulates that, "It's amazing to see the appreciation from everybody, they wave and smile at us all the time." Kai, who explains that he jumped in for the first time this morning, "I was shocked at how happy people were as they were coming in." I sometimes am guilty of frustration in the parking lot, and I'm excited to know that these volunteers feel appreciated.

I catch up with Annie, who several team members describe as the "poster child



of the parking team," a few minutes later. I confirm with her, "So, I've heard you serve every week?" She says yes, but she didn't this morning because Kai wanted to step in and help. "I think that it's great when people want to serve. I especially love this team of men I serve with. It's such an encouragement to see men with a heart to serve in our church." When I ask her similar questions to those I asked the group, she answers, "I have been serving since the fall. I had stepped out of my Sunday morning staff responsibilities and I wanted to feel connected again and for church to not seem like just a sea of people. Serving on the parking team is high impact to a lot of people very quickly."

She then tells me about some of her experiences while working in the parking lot. "Last week a man brought me cookies! I have lots of people who roll down their windows to say hi and children who wave at me. It's a very visible reward when you see the parking lot filling up. I often see the same people parking in my area and I can talk with them."

The whole parking team serves us all in an amazing way and they do it with joy. I don't know about you, but I don't always have a smile on my face at 7:15am in 25 degree weather. I often am ruminating on all the petty sacrifices I think I'm making to be at church, but it's such a blessing to know that in a world that's "all about me," we still have strong men and women stepping outside their comfort zones, literally, to serve others. Next time I pull into the parking lot, I will definitely have a new perspective on what serving really means and what sacrifice really looks like.

SUPPORTING OUR TEAMS



Officer Pete LaRue is one of the Greenville County Law Enforcement team members who work at Fellowship Greenville on Sunday mornings. For the past eight years you may have seen Pete patrolling the building and paying close attention to our safety. But what you probably did not know was that Pete was also paying attention to something else: *the gospel*.

Pete's previous exposure to religion was his Catholic upbringing. He says, "For all of that, I couldn't tell you one thing about the Bible." Charlie's academic approach to teaching was a sharp contrast that caused him to read more Scripture and ask questions related to the Gospel. Eventually this led to his joining a men's small group and he and his wife joining a community group.

Pete is much more reflective about how the Bible affects his life now. "It helps at work because I know the outcome is not on me. Knowing God's in control takes the pressure off." In his work with the US Marshall's Fugitive Task Force, Pete is now able to offer hope in his interactions, without it just being "lip service." He says that is because now *he actually believes it*.



CELEBRATING

18 YEARS of service

BY BETH BEUTLER & LAURA SMITH

When Laura Smith moved back to Greenville in 1996, and took a ministry assistant "job" on the staff of (then Southside) Fellowship Greenville, she had no idea it would take her on such a meaningful 18-year journey of personal and professional growth.

Laura came on board about a year after I had started my 10-year journey on church staff, and I had the privilege of working closely with her for nine years. Several weeks ago, I was given the opportunity to interview Laura on the celebration of her retirement, shortly after we'd had lunch together to celebrate. We both were amused and thankful for the ironic and meaningful timing, and the opportunity to connect at the bookends of her career. I asked her several questions and here's what she had to share.

Tell us a little bit about your family, hobbies, or anything else you'd like to share to know you a little better.

My husband, Tom, and I will celebrate our 33rd anniversary this year. We have a blended family with two children (Randy and Amanda) from Tom's previous marriage and two of our own (Kevin and Jen). We also have three grandchildren (all Amanda's) who live in southern Alabama. We have dabbled in a variety of hobbies over the years, but

none of them have stuck long-term. We look forward to finding some new shared interests in this season of life. One idea we've toyed around with is becoming master gardeners.

Now that you look back, what can you say about your career at Fellowship?

At the time of applying, I looked at it as just a "job," but looking back on it, I know that God had much bigger reasons for plopping me in the middle of a church staff. He wanted to show me more about himself.

What has been the most meaningful part of your role at FG through the years?

As the church body and staff grew over the years, I became more involved with communications and publications. I have always enjoyed wordsmithing, making sure our communications are clear, creative, consistent, accurate, and gracious. Since the area of communications touches all areas of ministry, I had the privilege of working directly with almost all of the staff members at one time or another to help create a variety of printed publications and

electronic promotions with the help of some very gifted graphic designers.

If you could give advice to your 10-year-younger self, what would you tell her?

I would tell her not to stress herself out trying to be someone she is not. God has created us all with unique personalities and gifts. There were times when I would look at another staff person and wish I could do what they do. But as I've grown older, and hopefully a little wiser, I've learned to lean into the gifts God has given me and focus on how I can best use them to glorify him. That's when I am most fulfilled in my work.

What challenges do church employees face?

There are far more advantages than disadvantages to working at a church. But I guess one challenge is that it can be tricky separating work from worship on Sunday mornings, especially for those who have significant responsibilities on Sundays. And since we work, worship, and volunteer in the same place, there is little time or energy left to be involved in other things, or with other people, outside of

the church.

You've seen the church go through many changes since you started on staff. What has been the most exciting one?

When the church moved from Woodruff Road to our current location here on Highway 14, it opened an exciting new chapter. We began to see people from all different types of religious backgrounds come through our doors. God has continued to bring growth here, and now we are adding new buildings! It's been fun to watch the staff grow over the years too. I'm amazed by the uniquely gifted and creative people God has brought here. It's been such a privilege to know them and work with them! I can't wait to see what God has in store for FG in the months and years to come.

How did working on a church staff impact your personal walk with God?

This goes back to what I said about God having big things in store for me, beyond just providing me with a "job." At that point in my life, I was not walking by faith, but more by feelings. I was a believer, but still being tossed to and fro by my emotions far more often (Laura's story continues on the next page.)

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

—PROVERBS 3:5-6



Laura and her husband Tom



The Smith family



Tom and Laura's grandchildren

than I cared to admit. I was unsettled. But God knew (no surprise!) exactly what my restless heart needed. He surrounded me with godly, gracious, amazing people on staff who modeled genuine lives of faith. I learned, by their examples, what it looks like to know God and to let his love flow through them into the lives of others. They are the real deal, and they impacted my walk with God in huge ways.

What Scriptures are particularly meaningful to you and why?

Proverbs 3:5-6 says, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths." I have gone back to this Scripture when I am tempted to make decisions based on my own feelings

and desires. God knows me better than anyone else and what's best for me in any given situation. Sometimes it's as simple as being obedient to his Word.

Also, Romans 8:1, "There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus" is comforting when I feel weighed down from past sin. God's grace and forgiveness are everlasting!

What are some hopes you have for your retirement years?

I haven't really spent too much time dreaming about that just yet. But for the first six months, I'd like to catch up on projects around the house that have been on the back burner for a while. I also want to exercise more and try a lot of new recipes. I look forward to doing everything at a more relaxed pace. I joined a Bible study group a few

weeks ago and am enjoying making some new friends and spending more time in Scripture. That's one of my big goals—to spend more time praying and studying and listening.

There are so many ways I could spend my time, but I want to respond to the things God prompts me to do in the midst of it all—even simple things like writing a note of encouragement to someone.

I want to take more time for things like that. Of course spending more time with my husband is one of the biggest benefits of retirement! We've been talking about places we might want to visit in the coming years and are building a bucket list. One thing I'd like to do is go on

an African safari, but I'm not sure he's with me on that just yet.

Well, Fellowship Greenville, you may not have known it, but if you read anything that the church has published through the past two decades, more than likely Laura's careful attention has been applied to that publication, providing a consistent standard of excellence. I have no doubt she will continue to thrive in her retirement because of her joyful spirit, her desire to follow God's lead, and her concern for her family and friends. We are grateful for her years of service, the legacy of excellence she is leaving, and most importantly, for her growing walk with God. Thank you Laura, for your dedication and may the Lord infuse your retirement with many meaningful experiences!



It was before Christmas and we were talking about baby Jesus, the greatest gift ever given. Then I was quizzing them, "Who was the greatest gift ever given?" They all gave the same answer, "Jesus!"

When Rebekah Bush came to pick up two-year-old Henry, I said "Ok, Henry, tell Mommy who was the greatest gift ever given?" He looked thoughtful, then twisting his foot cooly, he shyly said "my mommy." I cried—most precious thing I ever heard! —Caroline Kruithof

One of my favorite times in class is snack time because I get to sit at the table with the children and just talk to them. We talk about things that happened that week, pets, or what they are going to do later that day. One of them always starts the "which hand is the goldfish in" game, so I usually have about sixteen hands held up to figure out which eight have the goldfish. They absolutely love it when I guess the wrong one, or if they've tricked me and it's not in either, or in both. Those little grins and giggles make my day!

One day at snack time, I had gotten up to refill a water cup, and a little girl followed me to ask how old I was. I wish I had a camera to get the expression on

her face, eyes as big as they could be, when I told her I was 48 (at the time)—she was in awe that she knew somebody that old, I think!

Another favorite memory is when one little girl brought her bag to me to put out in the hall, and I asked her to tell me about what she had drawn on it. She had drawn pictures and written that she loved her mom and that she loved me. That forever is etched on my heart!

I love hearing these precious children quote their Bible verses. Usually my husband leads them in learning these, and he will ask if anyone remembers the one from the week before. We usually have at least one that can quote it for us, and we have some that still remember previous month's verses. I know how important it is to hide God's word in our hearts, and it is truly a blessing to me that these children, at four- and five-years old, already have started doing this. Every minute with them is just priceless. —Connie Cannon

I am in my third year teaching in Fellowship Kids and it has been a real joy and blessing to me. I teach the middle service kindergarten class and have the privilege of my daughters teaching with me. It started out with

my now fifth grader helping me, but she moved out on her own to assist the older children so now my second grader helps me. She is great at helping visitors adjust, setting up snacks, and helping with crafts and activities.

We have an average of 10 kids on a Sunday and really enjoy all the different personalities! I love seeing their face light up when they see a familiar teacher greeting them. I love the funny things you never know they're going to say, and I love hearing them get excited learning about Jesus.

The curriculum our church uses is just fantastic—such quality material and themes, fun to do, kids like it, and concepts reinforced throughout every activity. The Fellowship Kids staff does an amazing job preparing our lessons and all materials every week, which makes it very easy to step in and teach.

My daughter and I really enjoy the relationships we've formed with these kiddos and even on days when we are a little tired, they just brighten our day and mood! It really is precious to work with God's little children and help plant seeds for growing God's Kingdom. I'm so grateful for the opportunity to serve in Fellowship Kids. —Jennie Moll



StartingPoint

A 60-minute taste of Fellowship Greenville

MAY 22

FELLOWSHIPGREENVILLE.ORG/STARTINGPOINT



ConnectingPoint

See how the Gospel shapes our leadership and ministries, and take a look at our values and environments for growth

APRIL 10 & 17 (TWO SESSIONS)

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JOIN the team

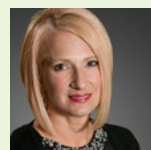
It is in serving others that we grow to depend on God, to learn how he made us, and to find the place he has in mind for us to contribute to the work of his Church. Hundreds of people serve inside the walls of Fellowship Greenville each week. One particular need is in our Fellowship Kids (FK) area.

FK SERVING TEAM

There are a variety of opportunities in Fellowship Kids, from Diaper Divas in the nursery to Worship Leaders and Special Needs Buddies elsewhere. We also need people to help staff the information desk, provide behind-the-scenes support, clean the classrooms, and assist with set-up during the week. Volunteers serve once or twice a month during any of the three services.

FK SMALL GROUP LEADER TEAM

Invest in the next generation by leading a small group of kids, in the nursery, preschool, or elementary. Volunteers serve weekly or monthly during any of the three services.



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HAPPY BIRTHDAY:
Kim celebrating
with sweet friends.

CONTAGIOUS Joy

BY AMY ALLEN

Kim Vogel is a 40-year-old married woman with a 15-year-old son in high school, and has attended Fellowship Greenville for several years. She has dear friends and family who love her deeply. However, the similarities between her story and your's or mine likely end there. You see, Kim has a severe form of multiple sclerosis, is paralyzed, and can no longer communicate audibly. Despite her physical limitations, most will agree that Kim is typically seen wearing a big, beautiful smile, full of contagious joy.

Kim's adventure with multiple sclerosis began when she was 11. Her family didn't realize it at the time, however, because the numbness in her hands was dismissed by the doctor as growing pains. The symptoms went away and life was smooth for the next eight years. Kim's high school years were full of the normal teen stuff, from marching band to babysitting, and dating to youth group activities. After graduation, she met the man who would become her husband, Jim, and began college.

Unexpectedly, the fall of Kim's junior year at the University of Maryland

brought a new round of symptoms. This time the symptoms were relentless, and life would never be the same.

"I was so blessed to have Jim with me, along with great family support, during that time of uncertainty and then diagnosis. My years spent under great teaching at various churches, with wonderful worship ministries, were going to be relied on soon and very heavily," Kim recalls.

As is typical in situations like this, there was a lot of denial in the first few weeks and months surrounding the diagnosis. Kim didn't like to even hear the words or the initials M and S. Nevertheless, she finished college and walked across the stage at graduation using a cane. She remembers thinking, "This isn't what I had planned for my life! Far from it! It is going to mess everything up!" Kim felt confused, and frustrated by the fact that there were no medications, at that time, to help. She may have had a bachelor's degree, but it came with a broken spirit.

"I remember one night when I was about 21," Kim says. "I was driving my car—probably too fast, I had a lead foot—when a song came on about God

being the Potter and me being the clay. I would normally sing along, but not to those words! I knew that I should, but I couldn't."

Kim had a very difficult time embracing that concept, not out of pride or arrogance, but rather from a reluctance to give up control over her life. After years of resistance, Kim finally stopped fighting and submitted to God's plan for her life. At that point, Kim felt, "a huge burden was lifted." She received an incredible freedom and peace from God. She is so glad God was patient with her during those difficult years, "He promises to walk with us through hardships, not keep us from them."

Fear not; for I am with you; be not dismayed; for I am your God. I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

—ISAIAH 41:10

In Her Own Words

When asked to share about how her diagnosis shaped her life, Kim shared:

Five or six years ago, one Sunday morning, in a small group meeting, we were discussing spiritual gifts and especially the calling on our lives. We were going around the room, each person sharing what they felt their calling or gifts were, and I was thinking, well, I must have one! Certainly, there is a purpose for my life! God has a plan for me too! I decided right then that I would write my thoughts down when I got home—seeking God and asking him to use me however he wanted.

First, there was a question that I needed God's help with. I was completely confused by what I read.

Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

—JAMES 1:2-4

I cried out to God, asking what that meant and how could that happen... joy in the midst of trials? He answered my concern over the following months and

years. Today, I completely understand and agree with that passage!

He gave me security, peace, and freedom. The Holy Spirit would continually bring Scripture to mind. Praise and worship songs would 'play' in my head. I found that when I focused on repeating the Scripture that I could remember, and praising him despite whatever was going on, joy welled up inside of me! I finally understood what Paul meant. Nothing could ever extinguish the light in me, the joy in my heart, or this wonderful feeling of security. There is nothing more important and more rewarding than pursuing and obeying God's will. I had a major priority shift from my will to his.

I was going to meet a new group of doctors in the coming weeks. The Holy Spirit told me, in the middle of the night, to give the new doctors the testimony that I was going to write. Back then, I didn't have this computer (I'll get to that in a minute) and my voice was stronger, so I recited to a friend what I wanted typed out. I didn't get much sleep that night as I wrote the testimony in my head. God has continually provided me with a fabulous network of friends and family to essentially 'be my arms' when I need something done and much, much more! The following morning, one of my 'God-appointed' friends did just that.

It wound up being a three paragraph paper. It was initially read to a small group, then to the Precepts Bible study that I was part of, and then at a church back in Maryland. They proceeded to publish it in their weekly bulletin. By this time, a few thousand people had read it. God was showing me that my life will bring him glory, by sharing my story and displaying Christ in me! A whole mission field was opened up to me, telling others that their life is precious too.

God wants you to join him in navigating your life, together. God can turn weakness into strength and use the meek and unlikely, in human eyes. He wants to use each of us!

The paper was shortened into a note card (shown below). I did, indeed, give one to each of the new doctors. One was sniffing after reading, some said amen, and lots of hugs followed. Interesting thing: every time I go to that office I am asked, "Did you bring any of your cards?" My doctor has asked me to give some to the interns that are shadowing her. All the various health professionals are so intrigued and amazed by Christ in me. I get to boast about him whenever I go to the doctor!

It was at this time that one of the new doctors introduced me to this communication device (computer) I am using to type this. I was her first patient to have one! It has been (Kim's story continues on the next page.)



GroupLIFE

LIFE IS BETTER CONNECTED

Kim's story also highlights the way in which group life is so integral to our faith walk.

The group of people surrounding her at Fellowship Greenville have, quite literally, become the hands and feet of Jesus to Kim and her family. We want to create as many opportunities as needed to make sure you are connected with others in the church body. So, we have small groups for all ages and all seasons of life.

- » **Men's Groups** – small and large groups meeting at church or in other locations, throughout the week
- » **Women's Groups** – small and large groups meeting at church or in private homes, throughout the week
- » **Mixed Community Groups** – small groups meeting in private homes, throughout the week
- » **Adult Bible Fellowship Groups** – small and large groups meeting at church, on Sunday mornings
- » **Senior Groups (Caleb's Kin)** – large group meeting at church, monthly on the third Thursday (April 21 and May 19) from 10:30am - 1pm
- » **Growth Groups** – short-term, content-focused small group studies that meet at church on Sundays mornings
- » **College and Early 20s Groups** – connecting college-age and post-college people in community, meeting in various locations throughout the week



Visit our web site to learn more about the groups that meet your need:
FELLOWSHIPGREENVILLE.ORG/GROUPLIFE.

a wonderful addition and a tool to regain some independence!

A few weeks ago, I went to meet a new neurologist at the same practice. I got such a kick out of what he did. After meeting me and talking for two minutes, he left the room, came back with three of his staff members and proclaimed, "I've never seen anything like this! Her attitude! Her smile!" He then said, at the end of the appointment, that he is going to put me in the next MS Newsletter. As I was leaving the appointment, he took a picture of me with his cell phone. We'll see what happens with this opportunity. I have learned to see every opportunity to glorify God. My life is his to use as he wants.

I can say that because of what Jesus has done for me, I live expecting great things. I am full of hope and I will keep singing and worshiping him no matter what lies before me. He is worthy to be trusted and praised! In fact his word commands it.

*Clap your hands, all peoples!
Shout to God, with loud songs
of joy! —PSALM 47*

In Community

Kim's story does not end with her touching testimony. "Loving others" is one of our core values here at Fellowship Greenville. As a community of grace, we want to take opportunities to care for one another in practical ways.

Kim has all of the normal mom responsibilities that come with being a wife

and mother, but needs help to accomplish tasks she would love to be able to do on her own, like cooking and cleaning. God has raised up a network of people who support this family, and his love pours out of them as they address the various needs Kim has.

Pat Moyer, Kim's mom (shown right), describes it like this, "As Kimberly's parents, my husband and I have walked this journey with Kim and her family. Kim was still living at home at the time of her initial diagnosis. We were greatly concerned. The disease progressed and we continued to pray for healing. But God's ways are not our ways. We all moved to South Carolina about nine years ago. Kim's new next door neighbor told us about this church and we began to attend. While we continued to pray for healing, Kim gradually lost her ability to move her legs and arms and more recently, her ability to speak audibly. But she continued to come to Sunday services and women's Bible study and then Bible Precepts.

"Kim made friends in these studies and the women began to walk out Jesus' life in Kim's. They organized and came to Kim's to help her with Precepts homework. They came and helped with household chores and physical therapy. They did laundry, meals, and even helped in the morning to get their son off to school. They spent



precious time with her, pouring into her life. They were, and are, great witnesses to family, friends and neighbors, saved and unsaved, of what following Christ should look like to give oneself without expectation of return."

Mary Wilson (pictured below) shares how she has witnessed God's community of grace showing this love in action, "God brought a blessing into my life six years ago, her name is Kim Vogel. This blessing is just a small part in the beautiful tapestry he is weaving, and I had the privilege and joy of watching it unfold. The first time I met Kim was in a Precept Bible study, which I happened to be leading. A friend, Lisa Mallory, brought Kim to the study, and Kim's face shone with joy in the anticipation of studying God's Word. Lisa shared with the group how she had gone over to check on Kim one morning and saw tears running down her cheeks. These tears were not due to sadness, but because she had something in her eye and was unable to get it out, because of her paralysis.



"After sharing this with our group, one of the ladies exclaimed, 'she can't be left alone every morning, we will just have to do something about that.' So began a group of organized volunteers who would go to Kim's each morning after her husband left for work and before her mother, father, or

aunt came in the afternoon. Within a short time there were enough volunteers to cover the week. Some of the things we do for Kim include: doing the laundry, cleaning the refrigerator, and helping her order and pick up things to decorate her house. One friend, Caroline Kruithof, drove Kim's son to Langston Charter Middle School each morning for three years, and put on Kim's makeup. One of the ladies, whose husband was a contractor, was able to get a new cement patio installed at contractor's pricing, so that Kim could be rolled out to enjoy the beauty of her backyard. But out of all the things Kim enjoys, her favorite is Bible study and talking about her Lord," explains Mary.

"Shortly after we began helping Kim, she began to go to physical therapy. She was told it would be wonderful if the therapy could be performed at her home on a regular basis. Who should God bring into the Bible study, but a physical therapist who had recently moved to Greenville!"

Mary continues, "There are other threads of blessing that God is weaving into this tapestry. If anyone asks why people keep coming to help Kim so faithfully, Pat and Kim always have the same response, 'they love Jesus and are doing what he asks them to do. You see, they work for him.'"

Kim still attends the Precepts Bible study, where one of our ladies sits next to her to act as her hands and feet. She has been a true blessing and a joy in my life, as I watch God calling women into his service, and see their willing obedience. These women are not just studying God's Word, but living it out in their lives. When I am feeling discouraged, I know that it is time to visit Kim. I always come away filled with joy, for being with Kim encourages me in my walk with the Lord. I could go on and on about how I have observed God work in meeting Kim's needs, but suffice it to say, he is enough.

Chris Gibbs puts it this way. "Helping Kim blesses anyone who gets to do it and one who helps walks away much better than they were. This is not simply a result of becoming aware of all the things that you take for granted, but rather because someone who seems to have far less than you in reality has so much more... thanks to her nearness to God. You desire the relationship she has of total surrender."

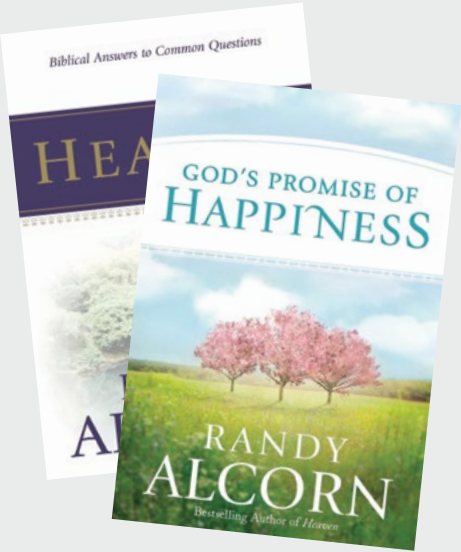
In addition, Fellowship Greenville began organizing meals with our Taste of Grace Ministry for the Vogel family, which has been a blessing to the family. There are currently 15 ladies who help with this schedule and it has been continuing each and every Tuesday for the past four years!

Maggie Rexford, one of our Taste of Grace volunteers comments, "It has been my joy to be part of the meal rotation for the Vogel family. I look forward to when it is my turn. Walking in their front door and being greeted with the most beautiful smile from Kim is awesome! I love visiting with her. She has taught me so much. When I first read her testimony a few years back, I tucked her written story in a place where I could easily get to it. On the front it says *Psalm 23:5... my cup overflows*. She is a prayer warrior! I have grown to love Kim and her precious family so much, and I thank God for the privilege of serving. I am the one who is blessed."

Kim's mother, Pat, adds, "I recently read an article by David Jeremiah that said 'If there is one thing we can always expect in walking with God, it is to expect the unexpected.' I would pray for healing and see a miracle happening before my eyes every Sunday I brought Kim to church. My precious daughter, who can't move or speak, would just smile and friends and strangers alike would walk up to her and give her love and say how much she blesses them with her presence and smile. They give her encouragement and she gives them joy.

"Again, God's ways are not our ways. Even though I still pray for healing, I can now praise him, thank him, and give him glory for what he has done, in and through Kim. Can God work all things together for good for those who love him and are called to his purposes? Kim is proof... expect the unexpected!"

BookREVIEW



HAPPINESS

Randy Alcorn, author of *Heaven*, has recently released his second book *Happiness*. In it, he makes an effort to take us back to the foundation of what Scripture says about happiness and joy. Often times, it seems to me that Christians become very cautious when people start talking about their happiness. After all, our culture worships happiness and demands that we pursue our own happiness, no matter the cost. Alcorn reminds us, however, that happiness is actually a biblical idea that comes from the character of God, and that our culture shouldn't define it for us.

After three years of study and writing, Alcorn has put together a comprehensive and theological book on what happiness truly means. He explores themes like the universal desire for happiness and how true happiness is actually rooted in the character of God. He helps redefine our idea of happiness from a biblical perspective and explores how we can grow, practically, as Christians in our God-centered happiness. In a world where happiness is idolized by the culture and viewed with suspicion by the Church, Alcorn's book is a needed remedy.

BY JONNY BRUSH

One of the ways we can live on mission with Jesus is by meeting the needs of those around us, as Jesus so often did. Delivering a meal to a grieving family, encouraging someone with a listening ear, and providing a ride for someone unable to drive are just a few of the ways we can offer tangible expressions of grace.

Let us know when you or someone you know might benefit from physical, emotional, or spiritual support. Also, visit our Facebook group dedicated to sharing and meeting practical needs: [FACEBOOK.COM/GROUPS/FGCARE](https://www.facebook.com/groups/FGCARE).

CONTACT Amy Allen
864.234.7033, ext. 1212
AALLEN@FELLOWSHIPGREENVILLE.ORG

FELLOWSHIP CARE
Support for life's storms...



Roots Community Church

"In a lot of ways we're different, but in a lot more ways we're the same. We're both trying to draw peoples' attention and hearts toward the grace of Christ that we've received."

BY WENDY WILLARD

A friend of a friend of a friend. It doesn't sound super spiritual or particularly inspiring, and yet that's essentially how God connected Fellowship Greenville with a young church community on the other side of the country.

It was August of 2014 when three members of our Outreach team traveled to the Pacific Northwest to meet with Scott and Vicki McCracken, a missionary couple we support there. Jonathan Parker, Director of City Involvement, was only in Oregon for a few days, but he was told—through a friend of a friend—that he just *had* to meet this "church planter guy" who spoke about outreach as if he worked at Fellowship Greenville.

And so it was that Jonathan and Travis met for what was later described as a "speed dating" episode of "How I Met Our Missionary." It was a brief coffee date between strangers, squeezed in between meetings and flights, which began a partnership that has blessed both communities in ways we're likely only just beginning to recognize.

The Roots of a Church Plant

Travis and Erin Vice began their church planting journey shortly after they were married in 1999 when their pastor and mentor planted a church named "The Well." They joined that team not because they felt particularly called to plant churches, but because they didn't feel like they *weren't* called. That little double negative started them on a trajectory they maintain today.

When Travis moved into leadership at The Well, the elders repeatedly asked if he was interested in planting another church, but he always turned them down... until one day he didn't.

"After returning home from leading worship at a conference in Split, Croatia, I started to wonder if church planting was part of my call or wiring," Travis said, "The words of the speaker that week were echoing in my head as our plane touched down. He said something like, 'God loves you so much that he wants to do more in you than what he may do through you.' I felt like I went halfway around the world to hear those words."

Within a few months, Travis and Erin submitted themselves to a grueling four-day assessment, which confirmed Travis' calling, and led to a residency to increase their exposure to, experience with, and knowledge of church

planting. After two years, they started a core team to plant the church community they envisioned, Roots.

Making the Connection

It was just ten months after they launched Roots that the drummer on his worship team said that infamous line, "Hey, I know a guy who knows a guy..." and Travis sat down to have coffee with Jonathan. Travis described the meeting like this, "We discussed what it meant to do church and what it meant to live in light of the Gospel. We began to realize pretty quickly how much we had in common and how we had similar passions and similar hearts for ministry. I didn't know where he was from or the size of his church. Through the discussion, he asked me about our needs. I responded pretty quickly that we were in need of help with our children's ministry."

Jonathan didn't forget those needs. He returned to Greenville and set up a Skype meeting between Rob Marks, Missy Schrader, Travis, and Erin. "It was really exciting to have two people across the country who were willing to talk with me about kids' ministry. At that point I had been searching for curriculum for our kids, but was struggling to know where to go, what to find, and how to afford something that was good."

A package arrived on the Vice's doorstep a few months later. This box immediately brought Erin to tears, which left Travis wondering what was going on. **Watch the video clip: "You've got mail."**

"Inside that box were homemade, handmade felt pieces to teach our littlest ones and we've been using them ever since," said Erin. "The thing that really struck me was that it wasn't even a store-bought thing that you guys bought for us, but that somebody had taken time out of their day and their schedule and all the things they had to do for their church on Sunday, to take time for our church, so our kids could experience God through felt pieces and Pat the Bible."

Fellowship Kids also gave Roots some elementary school curriculum and continued to answer questions about how to point kids toward God and have a relationship with him. All the virtual interaction got Jonathan thinking, "What would it look like to bring the Vices to Greenville for a week to give them full access to our staff and resources?"

Beyond Curriculum

In December of 2015, they found out. The couple met with representatives of almost every area of ministry at Fellowship Greenville. They attended services, shared meals in members' homes, were welcomed by community groups, and learned everything they could about Fellowship Kids and family ministry. **Watch the video clip: "A Trip to Greenville."**

During that visit, Travis shared about the hesitation one



Access all video clips for this magazine:
FELLOWSHIPGREENVILLE.ORG/STORYFILMS-SPRING16

of his church leaders expressed when the idea of the trip first came up, "He urged caution, saying, 'Be careful... what is it this church wants from us?'" In our culture, it seems like everyone wants something from you, and few people give with no expectation of return.

Travis and Erin planted a church community in their hometown, so they should have had plenty of help and affirmation at home, right? To the contrary, church planting has a tendency to be isolating. They felt loneliness, even though friendly faces surrounded them. "To have a voice like Fellowship Greenville reaching out to us and seeking us out made us feel like we're not alone. We view it as a huge blessing from the Lord that there is a church like yours that is not connected to us but is affirming us," Travis explained. "It's evidence of the Lord's hand and his provision in our lives, not just with monetary or physical needs, but with our emotional and spiritual needs as well. Someone out there believes in what we are doing, loves us, and is praying for us. It causes us to glorify God, not to say look at what we are doing, but look at what God is doing in and through our community."

Erin added, "It's a beautiful thing to see the Church coming together to work on something, us on the west coast and you on the east coast, to turn people toward Jesus and know him. It doesn't matter if we come from the same church or even the same denomination. I love that people are willing to invest in something because of God and not because of wanting their name on something, with no strings attached. You guys are loving us without expecting anything in return."

As with any great partnership orchestrated by God, there's a

beautiful bless-and-be-blessed relationship between Fellowship Greenville and Roots (ROOTSCOMMUNITYCHURCH.COM). As a larger, more established church, we're able to offer Roots resources and experience. As another fellow traveler along the road of church development and discipleship, Roots is able to share its own struggles and processes with us in such a way that causes us both to grow. Travis summed it up best when he said, "In a lot of ways we're different, but in a lot more ways we're the same. We're both trying to draw peoples' attention and peoples' hearts toward the grace of Christ that

we've received." **Watch the video clip: "Prayer Requests."**



Vice family, January 2016



Fun family selfie time!



BE RECKLESS



Truly I tell you, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, "move from here to here," and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you. —MATTHEW 17:20

TALES OF reckless faith

BY KAREN RIGSBY

In her book, *Tales of the Not Forgotten*, Beth Guckenberger shares about a time when she and her husband, Todd (shown left), were leading a group of youth on a mission trip in Queretaro, Mexico.

With only one day left on the trip and a disinterested group of youth, Beth and Todd jumped into a taxi and set off to find the nearest orphanage. They had \$200 in pocket change and felt God leading them to step into a different story.

After a bumpy one hour long ride, they were delivered to a beaten up orphanage and left to figure out their next step. As only God can do, the director of the orphanage was a retired wheelchair-bound American veteran who understood the heart of those cast aside and spoke English. When asked how they could serve the orphans and orphanage with \$200, the director said, "we have a broken window and the children have not had meat in a year." The next day, with

a window, meat, and an entire youth group, the Guckenbergers showed up at the orphanage to step into God's story. This was the first step in the Guckenbergers moving to Mexico, establishing Back2Back Ministries, and living lives of reckless faith.

As Beth reflected on this and other "reckless faith" experiences she and her husband have had, she wrote,

"Time and again I've been led to trust God, with my little mustard seed of faith, to see how he not only shows up in our circumstance—but he shows off!"

"It's not because he needs to prove himself; rather, he is demonstrating to a forgotten population—the orphans that I serve—that he will be their Father and Protector and Provider. It's about living with faith, with the certainty that God will show up, exactly where and exactly when he's needed. Is it a reckless faith—a willingness to trust even when you don't understand?"

So, what does it look like for your family to step into God's story with reckless faith? What does it look like for you to trust even when you don't understand? In Matthew 17:20, Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, 'move from here to here,' and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you."

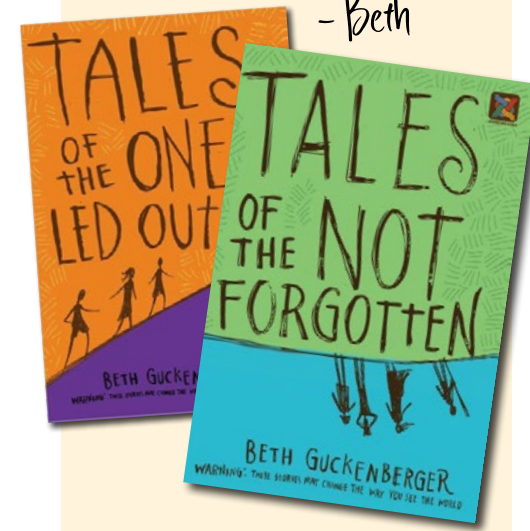
What are some "mountains" (problems or challenges) you would like to see moved in your life? What do you think Jesus meant when he said, "Nothing will be impossible for you?" What does this mean for your family?

TIP: To step into orphan care right here in the Upstate, consider running or walking in the *Miracle Hill Challenge* on June 4, 2016 at Furman University Paladin Stadium. There will be a 5K run/walk and a mile fun run. Find more information on **Miracle Hill's website (MIRACLEHILL.ORG)**.

THE BACK STORY Back2Back Ministries is an international Christian non-profit organization dedicated to being a voice for orphans. Fellowship Greenville partners with Back2Back through monthly support and short-term teams. We also commissioned and support FG members—Jeff and Ashley Coppins—to full-term ministry with Back2Back. **WATCH THE VIDEO CLIP: "MESSAGE FROM BACK2BACK."**



All mission opportunities start like this: looking at what we have in our hands and asking who needs it, then figuring out the best way to build a bridge between the two. Some days all I have is a listening ear, but this day I had some students, pocket change, and a whole day to serve...
—Beth



Copies of Beth's books are available at the Faith@Home Center.

ORPHAN Sponsorship

In the village of Vonzua, Liberia, the bright light of Jesus shines brilliantly from the Vonzua Christian School Campus, where Pastor Joe and Joy Zubah are investing their lives. More than 300 Muslim students attend the Vonzua Christian School and 54 orphans live on the campus. The Zubah family has established a sweet partnership with the Muslim village as they love on the village children and care for them with tender mercy.

Miatta is one of these village children. She was abandoned when she was two and left to care for herself. She wandered around the village looking for food. Spotting a kettle of hot food, she reached for the spoon to take a bite when a village woman grabbed the spoon and slapped her on the face. She was left with a massive scar on her face and a rip in her heart. Today, at age 16, Miatta lives with the Zubahs and is sponsored by a Fellowship Greenville family. Through the daily care of the Zubahs and notes of encouragement from her sponsors, Miatta is experiencing the love of Jesus. She is no longer defined by the scar on her face, but by a smile instead.

In a partnership with **Vision Trust Liberia**, Fellowship Greenville is joining the Zubahs to reach this village for Jesus. Currently about 40 Fellowship Greenville people sponsor village children. Through these sponsorships, the school children are fed twice a week and minimum needs of the school are met. **If you and your family would like to join the Zubahs in transforming a village for Jesus, visit the Faith@Home Center to sponsor a child, or connect with us through any of the methods below. You too can impact a child like Miatta.**

FG Outreach on Facebook
[FACEBOOK.COM/FGOUTREACH](https://www.facebook.com/FGOUTREACH)

FG Outreach on Twitter
[TWITTER.COM/FG_OUTREACH](https://twitter.com/FG_OUTREACH)

FG Outreach
[FELLOWSHIPGREENVILLE.ORG/GLOBALOUTREACH](https://www.fellowshipgreenville.org/globaloutreach)

> > > Follow Jon's testimony to see how God is changing him...



FROM THE INSIDE OUT

BY JESSICA SATTERFIELD

"If God had not intervened, and people had not prayed for me, I wouldn't be here today."

Jon Evans grew up always being a big kid. He liked to play soccer when he was younger, but was always the biggest guy in his group of friends. His friends even call him "Big Jon," not only because of his size but because of his large personality. Once Jon entered college at Bob Jones University, instead of putting on the "freshmen 15," he gained 100 pounds. In college, social activities revolved around food. Jon continued to gain weight his freshman year, weighing

330 pounds and standing 6'2". Despite his weight, he had a great college experience. He was involved in plays and even had his own radio show.

His senior year of college, Jon decided to move out on his own. He found a new job, one to which he knew God wasn't calling him. Three days after starting this new job, Jon's car was stolen. Jon's view of God, at that time in his life, wasn't of a gracious and kind God, but rather a god waiting for him to mess up. He thought his stolen car was an act from God encouraging him to repent and turn away from his job. Without a car, Jon was forced to become dependent on his dad to drive him to work every morning. His dad worked out at the gym before work each day and invited Jon to join him. He



began working out with his dad, making healthy eating choices, and ended up losing 120 pounds. He finally reached his goal weight of 210 and went out to celebrate... *with a big meal.*

Since then, he has learned that "food is not a celebration."

But after that meal to celebrate reaching his goal weight, he slipped back into old eating patterns and slowly began gaining the weight back. During a season of living in sin, he was overcome by guilt and punished himself by eating. He gained 300 pounds during that time, causing him to weigh over a quarter of a ton.

This had a tragic effect on Jon's health. He was only able to stand or walk for a few minutes at a time. He



GO DEEPER

Jon shared his story with the staff on February 15. To watch a video of that testimony visit FELLOWSHIPGREENVILLE.ORG/STORYFILMS-SPRING16.

was forced to sleep in a recliner and only drive a specific car because of his size. His blood pressure was dangerously high and with every pain that would shoot through his body, he would fear he was approaching death.

Even amidst such difficulty on a daily basis, and the fact that his family and friends were desperately praying for and confronting him in love, Jon wasn't ready for a change. Until, that is, he was sitting at his desk at work one day and saw a picture an acquaintance had posted on social media showing his lunch.

Say what you will about people sharing food pictures, but this one was the catalyst for a serious change in Jon's life. Jon says, "It looked very paleo... which means if it tastes good, you can't have it! OK, that's not true. Basically if you can hunt for it and scavenge for it, it's yours." So Jon sent him a message asking, "Hey, are you doing paleo?" He said he was not doing paleo, but he'd love to get together and talk about what he was doing to live a healthy lifestyle.

When they met, Jon said this friend essentially "railed" on him and his poor choices for 30 minutes, in love. His friend said he felt God was leading him to train Jon in healthy living. Being concerned about the money, Jon began to decline, but his friend was persistent and offered to train him for free. Almost immediately, he took Jon to Publix and helped him buy groceries, and was there for him as he worked out each day. Jon committed to himself and the Lord to begin this new lifestyle.

Although he had always tried quick fixes without any real success, this new lifestyle change began to produce immediate results. Within the first eight months he had already lost 192 pounds. As Jon's body was beginning to change, so was his heart.

He believes that God allowed him to lose that much weight in such a short amount of time to prove that it was nothing Jon did. In fact, Jon feels it is not even humanly possible.

During a conversation with Pastor Charlie, Jon was asked to consider the following statement:

"If God didn't let me have _____, then I would give up my faith and walk away."

As his outward appearance started changing, he began to realize, in his heart, that for so long he had made food an idol. He knew that God has commanded us to love him and love others, but weighing 570 pounds, he wasn't able to do either effectively. He loved food more than God, and his weight had caused him to be more of a liability to others than an asset. Can you love God when you are overweight? Sure. But Jon now understands that the idols in our lives prevent us from truly loving God.

Jon is adamant that if God had not intervened, and people had not prayed for him, he wouldn't be with us today. That's how real this got for him.

Today, Jon is continuing to live in the process of uprooting this idol in his life. God is redeeming this story not only for Jon, but for anyone also struggling with food. Jon has goals of helping others throughout their journey of weight loss, but is also excited to be able to hike, rock climb, ride roller coasters, and get a new tattoo with Jim Thompson this summer.

Grace is woven intricately through Jon's story. God continued to pursue him even in his sin. He sent friends and family into Jon's life at critical points in his story. And God used one particular friend in Jon's life, to be a catapult in the trajectory of his story. God has proven that once we give a feeble "yes" to him, he does the rest. Jon's story is one of beautiful redemption.

Follow Jon's journey at DONTWEIGHT.US.

PUBLIC FAITH

With baptism, a believer publicly declares faith in Jesus Christ. It is not a saving act, but a response to God's work and a seal or token of the covenant that has been made between the believer and God. Although there are a variety of modes used within the Christian church for administering this ordinance, at Fellowship Greenville baptism is by immersion.



Our next Adult Baptism Class will be **Sunday, April 17, at 10:10am** for adults and mature teens who would like to be baptized on Sunday, May 1. It's required that you attend the class before being baptized here at Fellowship Greenville. Booklets are available at the Welcome Center and Information Desk to help you learn what we believe the Bible teaches about baptism.

ADULT BAPTISM CLASS

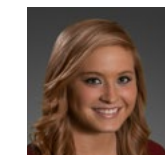
Sunday, April 17, 10:10-11:10am
Conference Room 1 (in church office area)



CONTACT Dawn Richards
864.234.7033 x1509
DRICHARDS@FELLOWSHIPGREENVILLE.ORG

NEXTGEN STEPPING IN CLASS

If you have a child or student interested in baptism, our next *Stepping In* baptism preparation class is a great first step.



CONTACT Kelly Patterson
864.234.7033 x1261
KPATTERSON@FELLOWSHIPGREENVILLE.ORG



Hear Charlie talk about baptism: FELLOWSHIPGREENVILLE.ORG/STORYFILMS-SPRING16.



Request more information: FELLOWSHIPGREENVILLE.ORG/NEWLIFE.



NEXTGEN SUMMER HAPPENINGS

CAMP IS COMING! CAMP IN THE CITY



Look Up Lodge
www.LookUpLodge.com

Camp in the City is Pine Cove's summer day camp program for kids in **rising 1-6 grades**, happening right here at Fellowship Greenville! They're loading up all the fun activities and great staff of summer camp and heading out to you. After five days with some of the most fun and exciting college students in the country, your child will be energized for the upcoming year and ready to face the world with a fresh perspective. Campers will experience Jesus through Bible study, worship, and time with their counselor, as well as participate in tons of great camp activities. We can't wait to see you this summer!

DATES: Monday-Friday, June 20-24 from 9am-4pm

COST: \$254 per camper

REGISTER: PINECOVE.COM/CITY/FELLOWSHIP-GREENVILLE

This fun-filled summer camp, for **rising 3rd-5th graders**, will take place in Travelers Rest, South Carolina. Parents who serve as counselors will attend camp for free, and their children will be charged full price. Look Up Lodge offers many fun-filled areas including: 2 covered ball courts, bouldering wall, campfire area, double zip line, hiking trail, low ropes elements, large ball fields, miniature golf course, paddleboats and kayaks, rec room with game tables, sand-pit volleyball, swimming area, tennis courts, 75' waterslide, and water gun battlefield.

DATES: Tuesday-Friday, July 26-29

COST: \$224 per camper with \$112 due at registration. The balance is due by July 1.

REGISTER: FELLOWSHIPGREENVILLE.ORG/EVENTS

MERGE Summer Retreat

Join MERGE for our first ever beach retreat weekend! **Current 6-8 grade students** are invited to join us in Myrtle Beach for some water park fun, engaging sessions, and time out on the beach together.

Dates: Friday- Sunday, July 22-24

Costs: \$139 per student till May 22 (Regular Price - \$155 & Late Fee starting 7/3 - \$170)

Register: fellowshipgreenville.org/events