



PORTLAND  
fellowship

Dear Fellowship Partners,

update october 2003

I want to begin October's letter to you by expressing how grateful I have been over the past few months since assuming the executive director post here at Portland Fellowship. Many of you know that I've been connected with PF since 1989, when, as a young nineteen-year-old, I sought help for my struggles with unwanted and unasked-for same-sex desires. In the years since, I've not only diligently pursued my own healing, but have responded to God in the mission of "... *binding up the brokenhearted and proclaiming liberty to captives and freedom to prisoners*" (Isaiah 61:1).

I am grateful to see God move in the hearts of his people as he leads them to Portland Fellowship. These men and women are embarking on their own journey toward healing in our *Taking Back Ground* program. As you read our newsletter each month, you may find what we do interesting without realizing the monumental step each one makes when they decide to leave homosexuality. Few men and women in today's society go against the cultural tide and choose to fight against their fleshly desires and follow the Lord and His righteousness. I am very excited for each of these brave new participants and pray they will embrace everything God has for them.

This summer was incredible. The Sy Rogers Seminar held at Trinity Fellowship Church was powerful. Two hundred people attended the Saturday seminar and an additional one hundred young men and women were encouraged to "stay clean in a dirty world" by Sy. When so many of us feel guilt-ridden and condemned by our struggles, Sy helped put things into perspective by reminding us to run to God for healing and cleansing when we get dirty and messy instead of turning away from Him because of our shame. If you would like to receive Sy Rogers' material, visit his website at [www.syrogers.com](http://www.syrogers.com).

The weekend after Sy had different type of excitement. Twelve fantastic guys who went through our summer video series, *Wild at Heart*, spent a day together rafting down the Deschutes River. One chapter in the program is entitled, "An Adventure to Live". Although I consider every day at PF an adventure, getting thrown out of the raft when going through a rapid known as "Boxcar" added a little more adrenaline to my life!

Not only have I been grateful for the adventures this summer, but I'm grateful for the ongoing generosity of Portland Fellowship supporters. Since Hinson Church announced selling the Fellowship House to us, we have received tons of encouragement and prayer. Owning the Fellowship House has been a dream of our founder, Phil Hobizal, since we first occupied the house in 1992. I'm appreciative to Hinson for giving us this opportunity, for donors who have already committed to this process, and for all those who are praying for this endeavor to come to completion.

The 'Fellowship House Fund' Campaign is now underway. Hinson has agreed to sell the house to us for \$600,000. We are seeking a grant from the Murdock Foundation, which two years ago generously helped us to remodel the third floor, otherwise known as "The Upper Room." In His



"An Adventure to Live"

"He has sent me to bind  
up the brokenhearted to  
proclaim liberty to captives,  
and freedom to prisoners."

ISAIAH 61 : 1

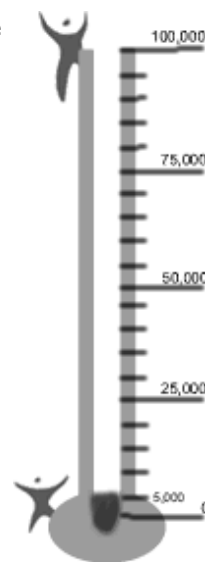
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dynamic way, the Lord has blessed us with commitments from faithful supporters totaling one hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars. A few weeks ago, a man that I met only once before, came to the office asking for me. He said he knew we needed to purchase the Fellowship House and proceeded to write out a check for \$5,000. I can't tell you how thankful am to this man and his wife.

I remember growing up in churches with big thermometers indicating a goal for a project. It was great to watch the mercury rise and get closer to the goal. With the possible grant from Murdock, we are set to raise \$100,000 on top of the current funds already committed. We will start the thermometer with the \$5,000 that was given. Please pray for this endeavor. Owning the Fellowship House would not only give us stability in our location but it will allow greater use of our monthly resources.

I count it a great joy taht the Lord allows me the unique privilege to serve Him, and you, at Portland Fellowship. Thank you for your love, prayers and financial support for us.



Serving Him,

*Jason Thompson*  
**Jason Thompson**  
 Executive Director

**Fellowship House Fund**

Watch and contribute to the progress through our website: [www.portlandfellowship.com](http://www.portlandfellowship.com).

**ministry update**

We are in the process of restructuring our monthly Family and Friends group to better serve you and your needs. During this process, we are seeking your feedback.

We have an evaluation form that we would like you to fill out that will assist us in this process. If you have attended one or more monthly meetings, please contact the office and we will mail or email you a form. Thank you for your help.

We are pleased to announce two new members to the Portland Fellowship's Board of Directors.

We welcome John Shafe, former pastor of Cedar Mill Bible Church and Ben Burns, a minister for Campus Crusade for Christ to the Board.

We know you both will make wonderful contributors to this ministry.

Jenni Severson has completed her term on the Board. Thank you for your dedicated service to Portland Fellowship. You will be greatly missed.

**thanks**

We extend another word of thanks to the individual and his wife who helped us begin the Fellowship House Fund with \$5,000.

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Thank you Trinity Fellowship for opening your doors by inviting Sy Rogers and Portland Fellowship to present the powerful message of sexual redemption.

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Thank you Michael, for helping supply lighting for the basement.

**prayer**

Please pray for the new *Taking Back Ground* participants. Each participant comes in with a mixture of anxiety and anticipation.

Pray for God's assurance and direction in each of their lives.

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Please continue to pray for the purchase of the Fellowship House.

**portland fellowship** is a nonprofit, 501(c)3 nondenominational organization. We are exclusively supported through private donations, support services, and offerings. Thank you for your gifts.

**october calender**

**october 5**

*The Neighborhood Church*  
 Speaker: John Paulk  
 Tualatin, Oregon  
 Service: 6 p.m.

**october 6**

*Monthly Board Meeting.*  
 Board members and staff: 7 p.m.

**october 9**

*A.W.A.R.E: Abstinence Program*  
 Speaker: John Paulk  
 Vancouver, Washington

**october 7, 14, 21, 28**

*Taking Back Ground*  
 Discipleship program for men and women seeking freedom from same-sex attractions.  
 Tuesday's 7 p.m.

**october 10**

*Family and Friends Group*  
 If you have a loved one involved in homosexuality and want guidance, encouragement and support,  
*Second Friday of each month: 7 p.m.*

Check website for additional updates at [www.portlandfellowship.com](http://www.portlandfellowship.com)  
 Contact office to schedule a speaker or for a personal appointment.