

Greetings in our Lord Jesus Christ!

December 2015

It is a pleasure to write you as we conclude 2015 with joy and hope in our hearts. The Lord has been so gracious this year and it is through your love and response to His leading that we have been deeply blessed. As a staff, we desire to share our hearts with you.

I am in awe of all that God has done this year. As I complete my first full year on staff here at Portland Fellowship, it's incredibly humbling to realize I play a very small part in God's grand design. While others in this ministry are seasoned speakers and teachers, and at times I feel like I'm surrounded by spiritual giants, God is calling me to step out and share the truth of what He's done in my life. Whether it's been speaking to a group of troubled teens in Idaho, sharing about transformation at a local church conference or writing about God's work in our newsletter, the Lord has certainly stretched me this year and given me many opportunities to represent Him and PF in our community. I'm amazed at how God continues to bless our ministry in a culture so hostile to the message of healing for sexual brokenness! I'm continually grateful for all of the friends, families and churches who faithfully support the Lord's work here at PF. As we launch even more online programs in 2016, I'm confident that together we'll be able to encourage many people who are searching for God's healing. — Patrick

Brian and I have had the pleasure of serving here at PF for over seven years! I love this ministry so much and what the Lord does here. Though our programs are centered on the context of same-sex attraction and healthy relating, so much more happens at PF: We are seen. We are known. We learn that we belong with God in His Kingdom, and with each other. It's a beautiful, synergistic process that drives us into the depths of who we are in Him. So many people come to PF really identifying with the scripture that says, "Hope deferred makes the heart sick" (Proverbs 13:12). I know that I did. But the process of healing and restoration that happens here is the second part of that verse: "A dream fulfilled is a tree of life." So many dreams and longings are fulfilled in and through Jesus as we partner with Him in this ministry. Brian and I are excited about this next phase of life as he goes back to school to fulfill his dream of becoming a counselor! Our passion is to value and care for people, and we want to continue doing that well. Thank you! — Cynthia

This coming year will mark my 25th year of ministry service here at Portland Fellowship. As I pause and reflect on this reality, I find it amazing that God would choose me to serve in this unique part of the body of Christ. My son Trevor, who is in Jr. High, recently caused me to remember my career aspirations when I was his age. My plan was to be a policeman or possibly a detective. I think possibly my least-desired vocation would have been that of a minister to those struggling with sexual and relational confusion, and even less desirable, to speak publically of my own struggles and confusion. This is evidence, once more, that God's plans are not our plans and His ways are not our ways! And I am grateful. God has allowed me to stand alongside amazing men and women who deeply love Him and are beacons of light in this dark world. He has also allowed me to encourage others who are in the process of fighting for righteousness and learning to trust God in all His ways. And I am thankful that I have you, my friend, to walk alongside me with your love through prayers and encouragement. My wife, Amy, and I wish you a wonderful Christmas season, and may the Love of Jesus fill your heart and your home. — Jason

May the Lord bless you and your family in the next year. We look forward to all the Lord has in store in the days ahead. Please don't hesitate to contact us if we can be of assistance in any way.

Serving Him,

Jason Thompson Executive Director