



# the fellowship message

"Proclaiming freedom for the captives." ISAIAH 61

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## Celebrating 25 Years of Faithful Service by Patrick & Cynthia

*This month, we are celebrating Jason Thompson's 25th anniversary of ministry on staff here at Portland Fellowship. In a day and age where it is almost commonplace for Christian leaders to compromise or fall away, it's encouraging to see a leader persevere in faithful commitment to God and His Word. We honor and celebrate the dedication Jason has shown over the years to lovingly serve the Lord and His people. His steadfastness is a hopeful example of what God can do with a fully surrendered life.*

As a surprise for Jason (he would never have knowingly agreed to this), we dedicate this month's newsletter to him by sharing personal testimonies we've gathered from some of the participants and ministry partners he has impacted over the past 25 years. We hope that you are encouraged and blessed as you read about how God is producing eternal fruit in and through Jason. From the PF Board of Directors, Staff and volunteers, thank you, Jason, for your integrity and service to the Gospel of Jesus Christ!



Jason with his wife, Amy, and their sons, Trevor and Cody.

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*It has been a pleasure watching you grow into a faithful man of God and seasoned leader. You have stayed true to the gospel and our message of hope for those struggling to live a godly life. It's good to see the vision that God gave us years ago continue on. Know that you are not alone in your journey! —Phil Hobizal, Former Director, Portland Fellowship*

*Thirty-six years ago when this ministry began, I had no idea how God would bless and increase it. Jason has consistently, joyfully, tirelessly, courageously and sacrificially served the Lord through Portland Fellowship by providing creative and excellent leadership these many, many years. Thank you, Jason. —Jerry Heacock, Chaplain*

*Eight years ago I began going to PF for discipleship and Taking Back Ground. Three years later, I had graduated from TBG and Upper Room. During that time of testing and growth, Jason was always a kind and consistent friend and source of encouragement. I thank God for his hearty work, and hope to see our friendship continue. I'm sure his work has affected my life more than I can know! Our Father is good to His children. —Timothy Werth, TBG/URC Alumnus*

*I recognized my first few months at PF that there was a calm, focused, passionate presence guiding the organization—it was Jason, and when I heard him speak for the first time, I found myself thanking God that He chose Jason and gave him the exact right mix of gifts to lead PF. We thank God for you all the time, Jason, and we pray for another 25 years of your winsome voice and calm leadership in these turbulent waters. Thanks for always lifting up Jesus and His ways. —Dust Kunkel, TBG Husband/Alumnus*

Jason, you and PF have been our lifeline in these last few years as we have walked alongside our son. Your kind and gentle manner radiates the love and grace of Jesus in such a powerful way. Your ministry has given us so much hope, loved on us when we needed it most, and helped us become better followers of Christ as we've learned so much about relating to others. Thank you so much. May God bless you and your family immensely for all you do! —**Diego & Yanick Mesa, Hope Group Parents**



When we first came to PF, we were broken parents in need of healing and a way to right our world which had just been devastated. While we didn't get that fast easy fix we initially were seeking, we did find a way to breathe again. Thank you for walking with us on this journey called life and showing us, by your humble example, how His grace truly is sufficient. —**Brett & Kathy Odell, Hope Group Parents**

I am blessed and honored to call you a friend, Jason. I have always admired your heart for the lost and confused, and the way you humbly walk out life with great godly representation. I'm so glad God put us on the RHN board together, where we came to know each other's heart for ministry. God bless you, Jason! —**Denise Shick, Director, Help 4 Families Ministry**

Jason is a strong voice of faith and compassion, communicating a consistent message of love and fidelity to God's Word. At a time when standing firm on truth is increasingly unpopular, Jason has demonstrated humility and courage, rare but essential elements of Christ-like leadership. I am encouraged and challenged by his example and grateful for his consistent witness to the power of God to transform those who put their trust in Him. —**Georgene Rice, The Georgene Rice Show**

Jason, I am so very thankful for God raising you up to be a light and voice for people who find themselves with unwanted SSA. Thank you from a family member of a son who is 18 and has struggled many years with identity issues and SSA. Although my son is not ready to partake of PF's ministry, I am thankful you are there for those that are ready! —**Molly Alexander, Hope Group Parent**

With so many people falling away, Jason's steadfast commitment to the Lord has been a beacon of hope to me. He never promised a specific outcome, but demonstrated that life transformation is possible through walking with the Lord. He is a testament of God's faithfulness and goodness, giving me hope when I need it most. —**Derek Hines, TBG Alumnus**



Jason has been a personal gift to me as a ministry leader who is trying to sort out grace and truth. When I talk with Jason he embodies a beautiful representation of the hope of God. He has helped to order my thoughts and prayers, and he has brought peace and the presence of Jesus again and again. I'm grateful for Jason and his dependence on Christ. —**Pete Luedemann, Pastor, Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church**

My hearty congratulations to Jason on 25 years of ministry at Portland Fellowship. What an outstanding example of perseverance, steadfastness and faithfulness! —**Bob Davies, Former Director, Exodus International**

We are so thankful for your dedication to helping moms and dads who are struggling. We felt so lost when we found PF over 20 years ago. You have been a constant encouragement to us. We love you and Amy! —**Jane & David King, Hope Group Parents**

September 2003 was such a crazy time of transition in my life, but the Lord truly used you and PF to help me remain on the path that I know the Lord intended for me. I cherish all the conversations and time that you gave me during my time at PF and even the following years from a distance. I pray that the Lord will continue to guide and direct and protect you and PF in all you do. —**Sean Harlow, TBG Alumnus**

Throughout my healing journey, Jason consistently challenged me toward growth and encouraged me along the way. He also helped lay the foundation for the ministry that I lead, supporting those impacted by sexual brokenness. Because of his faithful and intentional service, God has allowed me to bless many others. Thank you, Jason! —**Duan Walker, Director, Mid-Valley Fellowship**

I know it would embarrass Jason to sing his praises, so I will simply say, "Praise be to the Lord for His work in Jason's life—that He uses this humble man who has embraced his own journey and chosen to show others the way to freedom." That is the Lord's kindness and great love poured out on His children. Praise be to Him! —**Renee Naslund, Volunteer Editor for PF**

Jason, your faithfulness to God and the ministry has benefited me immensely. It was through PF that God released me from shame. I am living a process of surrender and obedience to Jesus that was spurred on by your example. Thanks for your service. Congratulations on 25 years! —**Eric Bindewald, PF Board of Directors**

I first met Jason when I came to PF in 1993, and I can remember he looked like a little boy. Since then, I have watched him grow into the man he has become, and I've gotten to hear his heart and see his care for others. He is amazing to me as he faithfully labors every day, on the front lines, for the sake of the call. Thank you, Jason, for your ministry to PF, for the seen and the unseen work you do. I know you please the heart of the Lord.

—**KathyGrace Duncan, PF Board Chairwoman**

From the time I met you in 2003 until I finished my PF internship in 2010, you have been a class act, Jason. Thank you for your commitment and example to myself and thousands of others. The care and passion you have blessed me and encourages me. Congratulations and thank you for your service to God and your love for others.

—**Archie Minnieweather, TBG/URC Alumnus**



Congratulations, Jason, on your many years of faithful service at PF! You will always have a special place in my heart: that of a colleague, friend, fellow comrade and special "little brother" that I enjoyed teasing and joking around with during the years we served together. Love and hugs to you!

—**Rebecca Wade, Former Director, PF Women's Ministry**

Jason was very available to me when I was at the lowest point in my life. I called him daily, even multiple times a day, for help and support as I held on to God. I don't know what I would have done without him.

—**Joe Sauer, TBG Alumnus**

The older I get, Jason, the more I am made aware that faithfulness in the long-term is not always common. You are a beautiful and God-honoring exception! I am thankful for your humble commitment to truth and how you care for people at the heart-level—I have seen it towards me, and I am so blessed. Happy 25th from the entire Well Family!

—**CJ Coffee, Pastor, The Well Community Church**

I was a broken man with a marriage that was on the road to complete collapse when I met you, Jason. You listened, heard and felt what I was going through. Because of you and Christ, my children are not seeing a failed marriage—they are seeing a success. And, Michelle and I are the best we have ever been because of you, PF and our Lord Jesus Christ. Many blessings to you and yours, my friend!

—**Eric & Michelle Nash, TBG/Wives Alumni**

Often, when introducing me to an audience, Jason would quip: "If you ever get a chance to have your dad work for you, go for it!" He could not begin to know how much it has been my privilege and joy to have a small part in his work at this time of my life.

—**Jim Thompson, Jason's Dad, PF Volunteer**

Jason, your integrity, compassion, leadership, intelligence, and winsomeness combine to make you a man I am proud to call my friend. From the early days at PF through your student days at Western, to your careful leadership through the Exodus challenge, to your Christ-like responses to attacks and slanders, you have been a model leader in a challenging ministry. I pray your personal life with the Lord, your family and your ministry will continue to be a center of grace and healing.

—**Dr. Gerry Breshears, Professor, Western Seminary**

When we think of you, Jason, we think of your faithfulness to the call God has placed on your life. Over several years, we have watched you shepherd the precious sheep God has put in your path. As parents, you have been a great example to us of hope and trust in God. We thank God for you, Jason, and appreciate the way you steward your story for the glory of Christ Jesus. Blessings on the next 25 years!

—**George & Cathy Sesser, Hope Group Parents**

Jason, you are a man who has had a positive impact in my life. You are wise, a natural mediator and leader, a man who keeps his word and you always see positive things in people. You taught me to see and understand a little more about the extent of God's love. Thanks for that wonderful Christmas time with your family, and for coming to Ecuador and letting me serve with you. I praise God for your life and your ministry!

—**Omar Erazo, TBG/URC Alumnus**

I've known Jason now for about 18 years, and if I could describe him in one word it would be solid. He's the same guy when he's helping me build a brick wall in 90 degree heat that he is when he's directing the ministry. I first knew him as the assistant director and it's been a privilege watching him grow into a leader and begin training other leaders.

—**Benjamin Brown, PF Board of Directors**

I remember Jason telling me in my first PF meeting in 1997, "Jen, you have to find out what roots in your life are contributing to your homosexual struggle, and heal those. If you do that, then the bad "fruit" in your life will fall off by itself!" Those words hit me so deeply and have stayed with me for almost 20 years. I repeat them to other people who are struggling or whenever I am sharing my story with them. The Holy Spirit speaking to me through Jason has become a permanent part of my story!

—**Jen Gillette, TBG Alumnus**

Jason, you are a man who strives for integrity and truth! It is an honor to call you my friend and brother and to work with you in ministry. I bless you for your amazing 25 years of love and service in ministry.

—**Stephen Black, Director, First Stone Ministries**

## november - december calendar & services

### tuesday nights in november taking back ground

A powerful discipleship program that equips those struggling with unwanted same-sex attractions to walk in freedom. Wives group meets at the same time. To sign up, call the office or go online. 7-9 pm.

thursday afternoons  
**upper room community**  
PF's intensive discipleship program. Participants meet weekly for devotions, teaching, discipleship training, group processing and prayer.

november 11 & december 9  
**the hope group**  
Join us for a time of prayer, encouragement, support and a great meal. 6:30 p.m.

november 24 & 25  
**office closed**  
The PF offices will be closed for the Thanksgiving holiday and will re-open on Monday 11/28.

november 29  
**jason speaking**  
Multnomah Bible College. 3:00pm

december 26 - 30  
**office closed**  
The PF offices will be closed for Christmas/New Years and will re-open on Monday, 1/2/17.

**additional updates**  
[www.portlandfellowship.com](http://www.portlandfellowship.com)  
Please take advantage of your online profile. If you don't have a username, please email or call.

**speakers, counseling  
and support for youth**  
can be arranged through the office.

## PF Basement Renovations



After some underground pipes backed up and flooded a few months ago, we completely renovated the PF basement meeting area! We have seen the Lord's provision and faithfulness every step of the way--initial bids to remove and replace the sewer line and carpet were around \$13,000, and the final cost ended up being several thousand dollars more. Thankfully, through your prayers and generosity (and the Lord giving us favor with our insurance company), we were able to pay for and complete all of the necessary repairs!

We are excited to utilize this space even more now, as our 2016-2017 Taking Back Ground program has begun and our Year 2 discussions take place in the basement. Please continue to pray that this space remains dry, safe and welcoming for the men and women who gather there each week to share and encourage one another on their discipleship journeys.

## Prayer Points

- *Taking Back Ground*—Pray for participants as they share their stories in small groups and begin working through the program workbooks. The lessons can be deep and sometimes painful or difficult--please pray for God's peace and grace to guide participants as they process their pasts with the Lord and with others.



- *Hope Group Online: Transgender*—Ask the Lord to comfort and encourage parents, friends and family members with transgender loved ones through PF's newest online program. Pray that He would guide people to this resource and use the teachings and testimonies within to convict, bless and inspire those who use it.



**PORTLAND**  
fellowship

The Fellowship Message  
is a monthly publication of  
Portland Fellowship,  
a ministry proclaiming freedom  
from homosexuality through  
the power of Jesus Christ

### MINISTRY TEAM

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Executive Director

**Cynthia Beaudry**  
Ministry Administrator

**Patrick Silvis**  
Program Coordinator

**Heidi Perry**  
Support for Wives

**Kathy Grace Duncan**  
Board Chair

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