



PORTLAND
fellowship

Dear Friends,

update february 2019

Annual planning meetings at Portland Fellowship are encouraging and energizing for both our board members and for those of us on staff. For the first part of the day, we take time reflecting on the amazing things that God has allowed us to accomplish throughout the previous year. As shared at our most recent annual planning meeting, we completed almost all of our goals for last year, which included revamping Reach Truth (our online program for youth); revising and printing the third edition of Taking Back Ground Year Two; building a new patio/courtyard adjacent to the Fellowship House; and a slew of other minor goals, such as upgrades to the facility and program developments.

The second part of the annual planning day encompasses planning and preparing for the year ahead. For 2019, we plan to continue developing the back side of the patio/courtyard (potentially becoming a parking area for those living in the house), create some promotional videos for the Taking Back Ground program, and add a video track to the Hope Group Online site for wives who are seeking support after learning of their husband's struggle with homosexuality. The planning part of the annual meeting is always done prayerfully, with open hearts to how God would lead us. It's sobering to plan the year, as it really is the Lord that directs our steps. Of course, God gives us vision, and we can plan accordingly, but in the end, we really have no idea what kinds of circumstances, trials and challenges await us.



Jason and his eldest son, Trevor.

Uncertainties face us all. I have friends who are wrestling through loneliness and wondering if they will find their future spouse this year. I recently talked with parents who are waiting and desperately hoping for a restored relationship with their children. And someone else I'm close with is dealing with a parent suffering from Alzheimer's, wondering how much time they have left together.

I've faced many of these uncertainties throughout my life (both at Portland Fellowship and at home), and I'm facing one of those yet again. At the end of last year, my fifteen year old son, Trevor, was diagnosed with a condition called Chiari malformation. In layman's terms, his brain tissue is slipping into his spinal canal. Thankfully, this is not a life-threatening condition, but it is causing Trevor neck and back pain, nerve pain down the back and legs, ringing in his ears, dizziness when standing, and tremors. My wife Amy, Trevor, and I have seen four different surgeons in the past couple months, and we now have a course of action which includes brain/neck surgery sometime this spring. Of course, the concept of brain surgery has taken an emotional toll on our family, but we are being hopeful and optimistic about the course and outcome set before us, and we would appreciate your prayers.

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

ISAIAH 61 : 1

post office box 14841
portland, oregon 97293
telephone 503_235_6364
fax 503_235_3896
e-mail pf@portlandfellowship.com
portlandfellowship.com

This year at Portland Fellowship will have its own uncertainties. We are fully aware of the social climate in which we live. Sadly, many people who don't know the Lord have a deep disdain for this ministry, simply because it exists. One individual we know of has even created an entire organization with the goal of destroying ministries like Portland Fellowship.

Of course, there is much wisdom in planning and preparing, to whatever degree we are able. We can do our research, learn from others, and plan the best course of action, but through it all, we must remember the most important thing: putting our hope, faith, and trust in God, who is sovereign over all. Our peace comes through the person of Jesus who is our Prince of Peace. Our assurance comes through abiding in the Holy Spirit as He comforts, corrects, and encourages each of us. And, our strength comes through the joy found in the Lord. This spiritual reality gives me hope, and should give us all hope. This year may be peaceful and smooth-sailing, or it may be filled with unforeseen difficulties; either way, we can rest in the truth that God is able to do everything He leads us to do. *"Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen."* —Ephesians 3:20-21.

As always, thank you for being a part of this amazing work and for standing alongside us with your love, prayers and support.

In Christ,



Jason Thompson
Executive Director

Conference Opportunity: God's Voice



"But this command I gave them: 'Obey My voice, and I will be your God, and you shall be my people. And walk in all the way that I command you, that it may be well with you.'" — Jeremiah 7:23

of this conference is to teach, strengthen and encourage believers and Christian leaders across all denominations to stand on the inerrant, unchanging and life-transforming power of the Word of God. Speakers will include Janet Mefferd, Peter LaBarbera, Rev. Al Baker, Stephen Black and more, with Dennis Jernigan leading worship.

For additional information and to register, visit www.godsvoice.us.

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.

If you or someone you know has been confused and concerned by the different beliefs infiltrating the Church regarding sexuality, consider attending the GOD'S VOICE conference, February 22 & 23 in Oklahoma City, OK.

Hosted by First Stone Ministries, GOD'S VOICE will bring biblical clarity to the recent confusion surrounding the issues of "re-voiced" sexuality and "LGBTQ+ Christians." The purpose

events calendar

february 8 Hope Group

For family and friends of gay/transgender-identified loved ones.
Dinner will be provided.
6:30 p.m. at the PF house.

tuesdays in october Taking Back Ground

Group for those struggling with unwanted SSA.
Additional group for wives/fiancées of men struggling with SSA.
7-9:30 p.m.

thursdays in october Upper Room Community

PF's live-in discipleship program.
12:30-3:30 p.m.

Speakers, counseling, youth support and personal support can be arranged through the office.

Check website for additional updates at www.portlandfellowship.com