



PORTLAND  
fellowship

Dear Friends,

update february 2020

We are extremely thankful and hopeful as we walk into the new things God has for Portland Fellowship this year. Each January, PF staff and board members meet for our annual planning meeting to reflect on the previous year, and plan and prepare for the new year. This year's annual planning meeting brought about some key insights that we feel the Lord is using to guide us this year. Even as we celebrate all that God did here at PF in 2019 (marriages restored, strongholds surrendered, families strengthened in truth and grace, testimonies shared), we are challenged by His words to us in Isaiah 43:18-19: *"Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing. Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland."*

One of the biggest revelations our staff and board feel the Lord wants us to address this year is the lie from the enemy that says, "You are the only one struggling with homosexuality, and you're all alone in your struggles." Our Hope Group Facilitator, Amy, talks with numerous wives, parents and family members, and this same lie keeps coming up—the belief that we are isolated in our struggles. And the numbers speak for themselves: out of all of our discipleship programs, our Hope Group Online video series was the program with the most new participants in 2019—friends and family who are hurting and hungry for truth, encouragement and hope. The same is true for many of our Taking Back Ground participants, who consistently tell us how blessed they are by our discipleship program because they had been struggling alone and didn't know there was a safe place they could share their SSA struggles. As we continue to proclaim the hope of transformation in Christ, we are seeking to offer higher-quality resources to those who feel isolated by the weight of sexual brokenness.



PF Staff (left-right):  
Evan & Amy, Patrick,  
Jason, KathyGrace  
and Roy.

To that end, this year we are excited to begin updating our Hope Group Online video series, complete the HGO Wives Group video series, and potentially begin re-recording the Year One Taking Back Ground Online video teachings. Our culture continues to communicate more in the digital realm, and we want to make sure we are reaching a wider audience with better online resources. As we've been praying and considering these video upgrades, the Lord has led us to bring Roy Graves on staff as our part-time Multimedia Coordinator. Roy completed the Taking Back Ground and Upper Room Community programs here at Portland Fellowship, and has been a volunteer TBG leader for the last three years. Roy holds a B.A. in Media Communications (Radio, TV and Film) and a certification in Sound Arts, and we are thrilled to have him tackling these projects.

*"I am so excited to be serving at Portland Fellowship as the Multimedia Coordinator! When I came to PF in 2015 seeking hope and freedom, I had no idea what good things God had in store for my life. I am so thankful for the love, encouragement and discipleship I found in the TBG program and the URC. Finding and embracing my identity in Christ has been a life-transforming*

*"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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*experience. Throughout my years at PF, I found I have a heart for those seeking hope and freedom through Christ, and I'm honored to be able to use the skills I've developed in multimedia production to continue to serve the Body of Christ and point people toward Him. I'm excited to see what good things the Lord will do in 2020!"—Roy Graves*

In addition to updating our online video programs, Lord willing, this year we will complete several facility maintenance projects (repairing the porch stair cases, restoring some of the main floor trim and woodwork, renovating the remainder of the back lot area, etc.). We are always mindful of the incredible gift and responsibility the PF house is, and we want to keep our facility safe, secure and welcoming for all the broken and hurting individuals who walk through our doors.

Finally, we ask you to join us in continuing to pray for the Lord's work in sexual redemption ministries, both in the United States and abroad. God is still at work in our sister ministry in Ecuador, Camino de Salida, and they are reaching people in Quito, Guayaquil, and several cities in Colombia. At the same time, they are facing the same challenges which ministries like PF are facing here in the States—pastors, churches and individuals are beginning to question the truth of Scripture and embrace parts of the "gay Christian" ideology. We continue to pray for Betty, Rufino, Margoth, Elsa, Veronica, Tim and the rest of the teams in Ecuador and Colombia, that the Lord would encourage and strengthen their hearts to keep proclaiming the truth and hope of transformation in Christ.

As always, thank you for praying for us, for partnering with us financially, and for encouraging us. We continue to cling to the promises of Jesus, that even though obediently serving Him may bring hardships and trials, we have the hope of new life in Him. May the Lord Jesus Christ take the broken places in all our hearts and renew them with His love, mercy and grace.

In Christ,

Patrick Silvis  
Program Coordinator

## Conference Opportunity: InCourage 2020



The 2020 InCourage women's conference is almost here! Ladies, this is an incredible opportunity for you to shed your masks and deepen your courage to embrace who God says you are. In a world full of confusing and destructive messages, it is time to talk about the issues that plague all of us: sexuality, identity, shame, abuse, insecurity, comparison, body image, loneliness and more. This one-of-a-kind, trauma-informed resource gathering will explore what it means to be loved, known, rooted and 'in-courage'. PF's own Women's Ministry Leader, KathyGrace Duncan, will be leading one of the breakout sessions.

InCourage 2020 will take place March 13-14 at Rolling Hills Community Church, in Tualatin, OR. Cost is \$85. To register, visit [incouragegathering.com](http://incouragegathering.com).

**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.

## events calendar

### february 7 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 february 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.

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

Check website for additional updates at [www.portlandfellowship.com](http://www.portlandfellowship.com)