



PORTLAND
fellowship

Dear Friends,

update april 2025

As I look back at our March Portland Fellowship retreat, I am still processing what happened. Every year, though the retreat follows a similar format, there are things that will always be different: the people and the stories they bring, their life experiences they recount to you, how they found PF, and why they are there. There are so many memories built in these times when we share our differences with one another. I hold these moments close, as they are unlike any other.

There are things at the Taking Back Ground retreat that don't change either. One thing that remains the same is the Lord. He is faithful to show up and constant in His presence there. He can be especially sensed during the Surrender Service time, when His heart is moved by the things that are laid down to make room for more of Him. This year, we saw the confessions of wounded souls seeking healing and wholeness touch His heart. We heard Him in the sound of bitter weeping as someone grieved giving up the one thing that was supposed to bring hope, only to find out it was a lie. Jesus was right there with them at the altar. These are the things that change me.

On the lighter side of the Surrender Service, this year a participant from Texas (with that Texan accent) was recounting his time of learning at PF. As he shared, he said he had a "mental sunrise" from the Taking Back Ground material. Laughter erupted! This participant has a way of telling what he hears from the Word that you can't help but laugh out loud. Even though his surrender was serious, he has a special gift of spreading joy. Another example of something that doesn't seem to change at the TBG retreat is the time of fellowship and getting to know each other to a greater depth. Sometimes it is during conversations that the discovery of another's heart changes yours. Other times, it's playing a game and laughing so hard that your sides hurt, and your face is sore the next day. Those times are simply the best.

As I have sat and processed the retreat weekend, I realized there is another constant, unchanging thing: the unexpected surprises of the Lord. I went to the retreat with a heart posture of wanting to pour out and into others. I expected to be so tired when I got home that I would be in bed by 5pm, but I wasn't. I began to see that as I listened or just sat with some of the participants, that was me pouring into them. As I did that, the Lord poured into me. Instead of this "duty" as a leader, the Lord showed me being at the retreat was a privilege. He even answered some of my own personal questions with Scripture or in worship. Oh, and let's not forget the unexpected surprise of the beautiful weather we were blessed with!



"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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The continual faithfulness of the Lord does not cease to amaze me. On the last day of the retreat, which is Sunday, we have a time of blessing. Everyone is given the opportunity to get up and talk about how another person blessed them and/or encouraged them. It is such a sweet time to hear of how the Lord uses someone who believed they were so broken they couldn't be a blessing to do exactly that—be a blessing.

The Sunday morning time of sharing is so amazing because when participants get up to give their “shout out” to one another, you can see the change that's happened in them. The same man or woman who said “yes” and laid their idol down for the Lord is now radiant and joyful. For some, they are still grieving the loss, but the deep peace and change is still evident. When asking them how they are, a similar reply comes from each one: “Something's different.”



Without fail, I come home from the PF retreat amazed, and to my surprise, refreshed. I am grateful to be able to witness the changes the Lord makes to those who say “yes” to Him. I am also grateful to be a part of this ministry and to walk arm in arm with the other leaders. The last thing I hope never changes is the work the Lord does at the Portland Fellowship retreat. Year after year, because of the Lord's transformation that takes place, the TBG retreat is still amazing. *“So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.” (John 8:36)*

Thank you for your continued support and partnering with the work that happens at Portland Fellowship. We are deeply grateful for you!

In Christ,

KathyGrace Duncan
Women & Transgender Ministry Leader

HOPE 2025 Online RHN Conference



This year's Restored Hope Network conference is HOPE 2025 Online: *Washed*. Join us for this virtual gathering June 20-21.

HOPE 2025 will address same-sex attraction and transgenderism from a transformational perspective. Come hear powerful biblical teaching and inspiring life stories of former LGBTQ-identified individuals transformed by the love of God.

Some of the HOPE 2025 Keynote Speakers will include Dr. Julie Hamilton, Andrew

Rodriguez, Rev. Dr. Anne Gillies, and Jonathan Daugherty. For registration and information on group or individual rates, visit www.restoredhopenetwork.org

“And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.” (1 Cor. 6:11)

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

tuesdays in april

Taking Back Ground

Discipleship program for Christians struggling with unwanted SSA/gender confusion.
6-8:30 p.m. PST

tuesdays in april

Hope Group

Discipleship program for friends & family of LGBTQ loved ones.
6-8:30 p.m. PST

april 10

Jason Speaking

Jason will be presenting PF's *Differing Views* chart to the interns at Midvalley Fellowship.

Speakers and personal support can be arranged through the office.

Check website for additional updates at www.portlandfellowship.com