



PORTLAND
fellowship

Dear Friends and Fellowship Partners,

update april 2026

For many parents, family members, and friends of LGBTQ-identified loved ones, the journey can feel overwhelming and isolating. Questions surface, emotions run deep, and it's not always clear what the next step should be. Portland Fellowship's Hope Group exists to walk alongside friends and family in this place, to offer support, truth, encouragement, and a reminder that no one has to walk this road alone.

Hope Group is a place where hurting individuals can come to find answers on how to care for their loved one while also standing firm on God's truth. It provides a safe space to share personal stories, receive prayer, and begin learning how to navigate these relationships with both grace and truth.

In the past three years, PF's Hope Group has grown from a monthly dinner and support gathering into a more robust program that now includes both monthly and weekly opportunities for connection and growth. Each option serves a unique purpose, allowing people to engage at the level that best fits their needs and life season.

The weekly Hope Group has become a cornerstone of the program. Meeting from October through May on Tuesday evenings, both in person and via Zoom, this discipleship-based group walks participants through a structured curriculum designed to bring healing, clarity, and spiritual growth. Topics include dealing with grief, understanding the roots of sexual brokenness, restoring relationships, effective communication, and responding biblically to LGBTQ-identified loved ones. Each session includes short video teachings produced by Portland Fellowship, many of which feature testimonies from other parents who have walked a similar path. Participants are given handouts with guided questions to help them process each topic more deeply, and time is set aside for sharing personal needs, asking questions, and receiving prayer and accountability.

One of the most meaningful aspects of the weekly group is the sense of community that develops. Over time, participants form strong bonds as they walk through difficult topics together, offering care, encouragement, and prayer for one another. There is a consistent willingness among participants to look inward, to examine their own hearts, process grief, and grow in ways that allow them to love their loved one more fully and healthily.

As participants move through the curriculum, many experience a shift. They begin to develop greater empathy, learn how to listen well, and understand the important distinction between acceptance and approval. Most importantly, they are encouraged to surrender their loved one to God, trusting that He loves them even more than they do and will never stop pursuing them. I can think of one participant who came to a place of realizing that this was her



TBG alumnus Mike sharing his testimony with the Hope Group last month.

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

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son's life, and his choices were separate from her. It was such a joy to watch this mom experience the freedom that came from releasing her child to God, and learn to live with healthy boundaries in their relationship as a result.

In addition to the weekly group, Hope Group continues to offer monthly dinners on the second Friday of select months: March, June, July, August, September, and December. These gatherings provide an opportunity for those who can't commit to a weekly group to still receive support, prayer, and fellowship in a more informal setting. Each dinner includes a light meal, time for connection, and often a testimony or video designed to encourage and strengthen those in attendance. These testimonies are especially impactful, as they remind families that God is actively at work, even when change is not immediately visible.

At our recent March gathering, attendees heard a powerful testimony from Mike Brown, an alumnus of Portland Fellowship's Taking Back Ground discipleship program. Mike's story served as a meaningful reminder that transformation is often a long journey. In his case, it was a 20-year process before returning to the Lord, followed by additional years of God continuing to work in his heart.

For those of us in attendance, this was deeply encouraging. One of the hardest parts of this journey for family members is the waiting, praying faithfully while not yet seeing change. Stories like Mike's serve as a reminder that God is never finished working, and that hope should never be lost. Even in the waiting, He is moving in ways we cannot always see. At the heart of Hope Group is a simple but powerful truth: the most impactful thing we can do for our loved ones is to pray for them consistently and trust God with their story.

Whether through the deeper, ongoing support of the weekly group, or the connection and encouragement of the monthly dinners, Hope Group continues to provide a place where individuals can find strength for today and hope for the future. No matter where someone is on this journey, they're not alone, and there is always hope.

Thank you for supporting Portland Fellowship as we come alongside broken and hurting families to offer the hope of transformation in Christ. Your partnership and prayers are invaluable as we help friends and family relate to their LGBTQ-identified loved ones with both truth and grace.

In Christ,

Liisa Bradshaw
Hope Group Coordinator

HOPE 2026 RHN Conference



The 2026 Restored Hope Network HOPE Conference will be taking place in-person this year, June 12 & 13 at Focus on the Family's headquarters in Colorado Springs, CO. The HOPE Conference is a Christ-centered conference for those dealing with unwanted LGBTQ issues in their lives. Whether you are a struggler, overcomer, family member, counselor, pastor, or layperson, this event is for you!

HOPE 2026 will include worship, testimonies, breakout workshops, and fellowship. Keynote speakers are Dee Barnes, Dr. James Merritt, Dr. Joseph Nicolosi Jr., and Glenn T. Stanton. www.restoredhopenetwork.org/hopeconf

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 and/or gender confusion.
6-8:30 p.m. PST

tuesdays in april
Hope Group
Discipleship program for friends & family of LGBTQ-identified loved ones.
Both Zoom and In-Person.
6-8:30 p.m. PST

april 18
KathyGrace Speaking
KathyGrace will be sharing with a parents group from Florida on Zoom.

Speakers and personal support can be arranged through the office.

Check website for additional updates at www.portlandfellowship.com