



MARCH 2020 UPDATE

FELLOWSHIP DENVER FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

In December 2019, we started an initiative called First to the Lord. It's a two-year journey with two goals: First to take tangible steps of faith in trusting our Father with everything we have. Second, to see our impact in Denver and beyond multiplied by raising \$7 million for gospel movement.

As we cross the 3-month mark, it's happening! Many of us are already experiencing God in a fresh way and learning to trust him more freely. And God has begun distributing our gifts in ways that will give life to people in Denver and the world. In this update, you'll find stories of both!

If you've started giving toward this work, I hope this update encourages your faith in the steps you're taking. If you're new to Fellowship, I invite you to join us on this journey whenever you're ready. Through 2021, every gift goes toward First to the Lord.

As you read through this update, would you stop and pray when something catches your attention?

I'm grateful for you!



Hunter Beaumont
Lead Pastor

THE LORD'S WORK **IN** US

GRAHAM & MAGGIE'S STORY

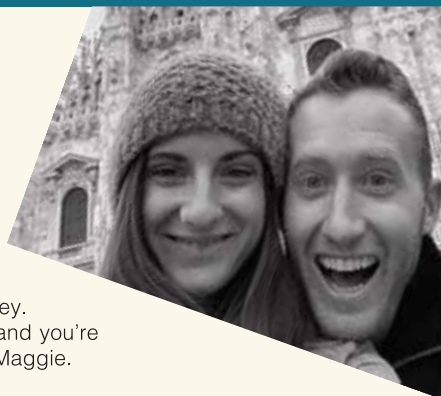
When we started First to the Lord, Graham and Maggie Lightner knew it was a journey they needed to take, even if they wouldn't have chosen it! Generosity "is an area I wanted to grow in," says Graham, "But I knew I wasn't going to grow without something external pushing me. I'd built up patterns and habits over time, and those weren't going to change until I was challenged."

Knowing they're not alone has encouraged them in their journey. "When the whole church and your friends are going through it, and you're being led through it, it's exciting to see what God will do," adds Maggie.

One of the biggest obstacles they've faced so far is the unknown of a job transition. How do you lean into generosity when you're not totally sure what the next couple of years will look like? "First, we looked at where we had taken paths that we didn't even realize we were on, so we could see if they line up with the gospel or not," says Graham. Then, they made a commitment that says, "If we do this, we have to trust God. There's no other option."

Trusting God turned out to include more than finances. Last fall, they met a teenager who needed a place to live while finishing high school. It seemed like the Spirit was leading them to invite him to live with them. "We like to travel a lot and spend time in the mountains," says Maggie. "Now we have to think about what it means to give our home, our time, our energies first to the Lord also." That's how they ended up as quasi-parents to a high schooler. ***"It's been so much harder than I thought," says Graham. "And more joyous than I imagined it would be."***

Graham and Maggie Lightner live in Athmar Park. They work as COO of a small business (Graham), yoga instructor and part-time mermaid at Denver Aquarium (Maggie). At Fellowship Denver, you'll see them leading one of our worship bands.



THE LORD'S WORK **THROUGH** US



▼ **EXPAND OUR EQUIPPING CAPACITY**

In February, we launched searches for two strategic staff positions:

- An **Executive Pastor** to focus on executing our mission and building the next version of Fellowship Denver.
- A **Pastor of Community & Mission** to support our Fellowship Group leaders and make sure everyone who attends Fellowship Denver has an opportunity to be in a discipleship community.



▼ BECOME A MULTI-CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

In February, we started our search for **North Metro Lead Pastor**.

In July, **Clark Nunnelly** will join our staff as Pastor of Community and Mission for North Metro.



▼ GROW OUR SENDING CAPACITY

In 2020, First to the Lord is supporting this church planting work:

- **Via Church** – Denver, CO
- **The Town Church** – Greeley, CO
- **Acts 29 French-speaking Europe**
- **Paris-area church plant** TBD
- **Redeemer Mumbai** – India



In 2020, First to the Lord is supporting these FDC members working in global missions:

- **Uriah & Marissa Mundell** – Eastern Europe, Cru
- **Evan & Bronwen Crowley** – Croatia, Josiah Ventures
- **James & Lisa Dougherty** – Asia, OMF International
- **Christie Smith** – Australia, YWAM
- **Joni Marble** – Europe, World Venture
- **Alyssa Alderman** – Africa & Middle East, Young Life



▼ GROW OUR SERVING CAPACITY

In 2020, First to the Lord is supporting these Serve Denver partners where FDC members are playing leadership roles

- **Hope In Our City** – refugee community
- **Save Our Youth** – at-risk youth
- **Denver Institute for Faith & Work** – leadership development
- **The Cell Church** – prison ministry
- **Open Door Ministries** – homeless



**IN 2020, FIRST TO THE LORD WILL CONTRIBUTE
\$300,000 TO SUPPORT GOSPEL-MOVEMENT
WORK BEYOND FELLOWSHIP DENVER.**

FIRST TO THE LORD ➤ PROGRESS

FIRST TO THE LORD IS A TWO-YEAR INITIATIVE TO ACCELERATE GOSPEL MOVEMENT IN DENVER AND BEYOND.

UPDATE

DECEMBER 1, 2019 – FEBRUARY 29, 2020

GOAL TO DATE:

\$944k

ACTUAL TO DATE:

\$929k



All gifts to Fellowship Denver from December 1, 2019 thru December 31, 2021 go toward our \$7m goal. In addition to sustaining all of our current ministry, your contributions will:

- Grow our pastoral staff so as to fully **equip and release our members for ministry**
- Fuel our transition to a **multi-congregational church**
- Supply start-up costs and pastoral leadership for our **second congregation in North Metro**
- Support church planting and **missions** in Colorado, the western U.S., and around the world
- Resource local ministry to our **most vulnerable neighbors**

HAVE A QUESTION ABOUT GIVING?

Contact miranda@fellowshipdenver.org or 303.862.4082

AUTOMATE THE IMPORTANT

Set up a weekly or monthly giving schedule at fellowshipdenver.org/give