



DECEMBER 2020 UPDATE

FELLOWSHIP DENVER FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

I'm proud of the way you've persevered this year. And I'm grateful for your response as we hit the midpoint of First to the Lord!

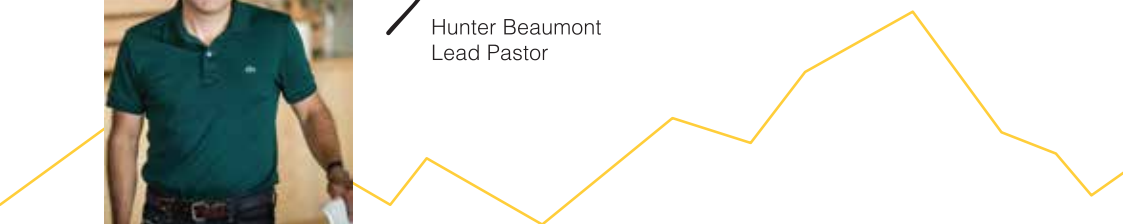
I've been praying that this update gives you hope for the year ahead. As I read Allison's story (next page), I couldn't help but notice how the Lord so often uses years like 2020 to draw people back to himself and to deepen their relationship with him. I'm anticipating that we'll keep seeing things like this in 2021. Your generosity in the midst of a trying year is making stories like Allison's possible!

I'm also asking our Father that the pandemic will subside soon, that we won't have to fear each other's breath and faces and presence, that we can be together to sing and celebrate Jesus, that he will get glory in the worship of his church. I miss seeing you on the regular, and you're in my heart and prayers.

With love,



Hunter Beaumont
Lead Pastor



THE LORD'S WORK **IN** US

ALLISON'S STORY

When Allison Turbiville moved to Denver in 2015, some colleagues connected her to Fellowship Denver. This ended up being an instrumental step in rekindling her faith. "I went to college and law school on the East Coast and spent a few years as an investment banker in New York City. I never intentionally stopped going to church but the environments I was in did not encourage faith, and I never found a church family," she says. "When I moved to Denver, finding Fellowship Denver was life changing!"

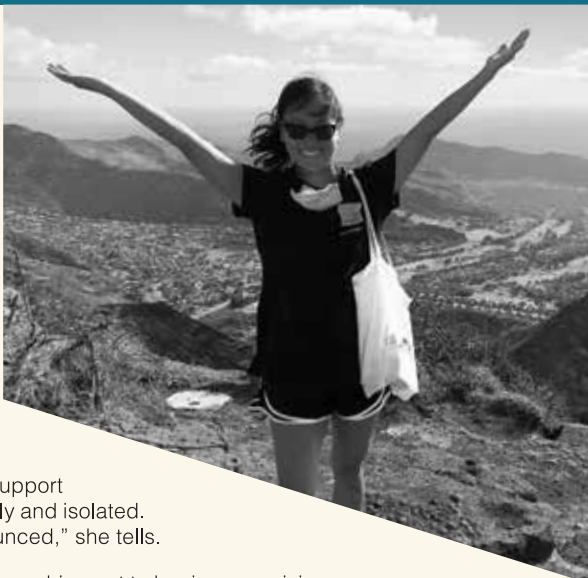
Later, she moved to Washington, D.C. to continue her legal career but again missed the support of a church family. "I started this year feeling lonely and isolated. COVID-19 only made those feelings more pronounced," she tells.

But God was not done with her story and started reaching out to her in a surprising way. "Fellowship Denver started doing virtual services. It was such a great experience to get to worship with my friends." She also joined a Women's Fellowship Group online. "I've met so many amazing women through this group and have gotten to build new connections even in this crazy time," she says. "I'm so grateful for the focus on the text of Scripture. I learn something every week that I hadn't seen before."

She also participated in the spring Daily Life with God learning community. "I've never read the Bible in such a consistent way. One of the questions I meditate on every day while I read is, 'What is God like?' And every day I'm reminded of God's steadfast love, faithfulness, and mercy. I've also been really surprised how often a passage I'm reading corresponds with things going on in my daily life."

At the midpoint of First to the Lord, she decided to make a new commitment. "My journey this year could only be accomplished with the help of God," and she wanted a way to acknowledge that. **"My First to the Lord commitment represents my trust in the Lord to keep growing my faith. I'm truly more content and happy now than I've been in years despite this being one of the most difficult years I've faced."**

Allison Turbiville is originally from South Dakota and is an attorney with the Department of Justice.



NORTH METRO LEAD PASTOR SEARCH

OUR SEARCH FOR A LEAD PASTOR OF THE NORTH METRO CONGREGATION IS WELL UNDERWAY! It is our hope to add this pastor to our preaching team in 2021 while they get to know the North Metro communities and prepare to launch the new congregation. Join us in asking for the Spirit's guidance in connecting us with His will.

THE LORD'S WORK **THROUGH** US

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2021

REBUILD. RENEW.

2021 is going to be a year of rebuilding the rhythms and habits that give health and zest to life. As a church, we're going to focus on rebuilding and renewing life with God. And we are going to invite our friends and neighbors to experience this life with us!

"And Isaac dug again the wells of water that had been dug in the days of Abraham his father, which the Philistines had stopped after the death of Abraham. And he gave them the names that his father had given them."

Genesis 26:18

This short line from Genesis reminds us of an always-true principle: we already know the source of life. We already know where to find water. We don't need new wells. We need to unclog the old wells so that we can drink again. This will be our year-long focus as a church, returning to the sources of life with God.

To help us on this journey, we're going to focus on 52 questions that point us to the source of life. Our Sunday preaching will follow *The New City Catechism*, a resource that explores the foundations of Christian faith.

- **What is our only hope in life and death?** That we are not our own but belong, body and soul, both in life and death, to God and to our Savior Jesus Christ.

Question #1 of The New City Catechism



The New City Catechism

Download The New City Catechism app at your favorite app store. Find resources for personal devotion, Fellowship Groups and children at newcitycatechism.com

END OF YEAR GIFTS



As we look ahead to 2021, this December can be an opportune time to give additional gifts. Any contributions made online, in-person, or by mail on or before December 31 are counted as part of the 2020 tax year. We have included a postage-paid envelope for your convenience!

Questions about giving can be directed to lia@fellowshipdenver.org

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 – NOVEMBER 30, 2020

GOAL TO DATE:

\$2.94M

ACTUAL TO DATE:

\$2.93M



2 YEAR GOAL: \$7M

All gifts to Fellowship Denver from December 1, 2019 through 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**

CARES Act Provisions

As you plan for end-of-year giving, make sure you're up to speed on charitable giving benefits provided for in the CARES Act:

Normally, deductions for charitable contributions are limited to 60% of Adjusted Gross Income (AGI). For 2020 only, individuals may deduct up to 100% of their AGI. This presents an opportunity for those planning major cash gifts to greatly reduce their income taxes in 2020.

Unfortunately, this expanded limit does not apply to gifts to donor advised funds. It also applies to cash gifts only. Gifts of appreciated securities are still subject to their normal limit of 30% AGI.

HAVE A QUESTION ABOUT GIVING?

Contact lia@fellowshipdenver.org or 303.862.4082

AUTOMATE THE IMPORTANT

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