

Meet the Member

Jason & Kim Vinson

Jason and Kim Vinson have been members at Eternal for 6 years and currently live in Tega Cay. Jason grew up in Rock Hill and attended Clemson graduating in 2000 with a degree in Computer Science. Kim grew up in Columbia, SC and graduated from the University of South Carolina in music education and later received her masters at the University of Georgia. Kim took a job as a middle school orchestra conductor and taught strings privately in the Atlanta area. Jason became a software programmer in Atlanta and did that for over 10 years before switching to the customer side of business – product management. Today Kim teaches music at Providence Classical School in Rock Hill and Jason works with a software company that helps banks protect their customers from financial crime.



Jason's spiritual journey started when he was a child, growing up in a Methodist church and having a grandfather and two uncles as ministers and a father who taught Sunday school class. However, during college, his faith was put on the backburner and didn't take it seriously until age 25 when he lost his job and had to deal with mounting debt. He had the head knowledge about faith from childhood but not a repentant heart and the stress of being out of work and possibly losing his home made him realize that he wasn't in control and turn to God. His prayers were ones of repentance and for divine intervention into his situation. The Lord answered his prayers for peace in his heart and within 12 hours he received another job offer through God's provision. Jason is quick to acknowledge that this was not the prosperity gospel, but it was a clear answer to his prayer to show him that God is ultimately in control. Just a couple of months later he met Kim.

Kim also grew up in a Methodist church, but in the 5th grade stopped attending church except for Christmas and Easter. When Kim went off to college, she had a rough freshman year but next semester, she established two friendships that helped her on her spiritual journey: a cousin and a friend from the music department. Both, but in separate ways, encouraged Kim to experience her faith in a personal way. Kim always felt God's presence in her life, but it wasn't until that second semester that she confessed a personal faith in Jesus Christ. That summer, Kim got hired as a camp counselor at Holston Presbyterian Camp. She grew in faith, and established a love of working with kids and being outdoors.

Kim and Jason both had jobs and lived in the Atlanta area with separate career paths. They met by God's providence at a friend's birthday party in 2003 when Kim offered to share a box of girl scout cookies with Jason. It was love at first bite. A year later in 2004, they were married.

Jason and Kim have three children; Joshua, 14, Rachel 13, Rebekah (Beka), 9 and a mixed breed terrier named Nico age 63 (9 human years). Rachel and Beka love dance and Joshua, like most teenage boys today, loves to play video games and anything electronic. They attend Providence Classical School in Rock Hill and can commute back and forth with their mom who teaches there.

Their tradition is to take one child at a time on a special trip when they turn 10. Joshua chose Universal Studios. Rachel selected New York City and Beka's trip is to be determined. The family likes camping...I mean real camping in tents and have hiked in many of the state parks in the Carolinas.

Their family loves to travel. One of their favorite family vacations was to Israel in 2017 visiting such sights as Jerusalem, Caesarea, Masada, the Dead Sea and Jaffa. A close second was an Alaskan cruise in 2018. Jason and Kim's hobbies include hiking, reading, music and cooking. Jason enjoys fitness and running and participates in the F3 program (Fitness, Fellowship and Faith) in the Fort Mill area.

When they first moved to Tega Cay they did some church hopping including visiting Eternal. But it wasn't until Dan Gray, an Elder in the church, mentioned after an F3 workout in 2014 that the church had called a new pastor that they

went back for a second look. That was Don Logan's first Sunday as the senior pastor, and they've been active ever since. Jason is a deacon; Kim is active in the music ministry and the kids help in preschool.

Their favorite verse is I Samuel 7:12, "Then Samuel took a stone and set it up between Mizpah and Shen. He named it Ebenezer, saying, 'Thus far the *LORD* has helped us.'" As Samuel placed a stone to remember the time and place that the Lord helped him, Jason and Kim can also remember times and places where He spoke directly into their lives.

A favorite hymn is *Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing*. The second verse of the hymn is the connection to the verse.

Here I raise my Ebenezer hither by Thy help I've come
And I hope by Thy good pleasure safely to arrive at home
Jesus sought me when a stranger wondering from the fold of God
He, to rescue me from danger Interposed His precious blood

Written by Paul Veerman