

Meet the Member

Troy & Kristy Fleming

Troy and Kristy were married on November 3, 2018, bringing together Troy's daughter, Aidan, from his first marriage and Brooke and Rachel from Kristy's...all three now in high school. Bringing two families together can be challenging, but Troy and Kristy committed afresh their vows to each other and to God to make it work for not only them but for their three daughters. A book by Ron L. Deal that has helped is *The Smart Stepfamily – 7 Steps to a Healthy Family*. They are working to do just that.

Troy was raised in the town of North Branch, MN 40 minutes north of Minneapolis with a population less than 10,000. He received a scholarship to play golf from Winthrop University in Rock Hill graduating four years later in 1994 with a degree in finance. He landed at the First Union National Bank in Charlotte and ascended the ranks from a personal banker to a top salesman over the better part of 10 years. During that same period, he received his pilot license and flew for the Randy Humphrey racing team and became a flight instructor.



In 2002 he was influenced both spiritually and economically by David Ramsey, a personal finance radio show host, author, businessman and well-known Christian. In October of 2002, Troy made a profession of faith in Christ that penetrated even into the way he viewed his finances and the advice he gave his clients. As a result, he left the bank and went to work part-time for the accounting firm of Beacon Small Business Solutions while continuing to teach flight instruction. Troy has been doing tax preparation services for the last 10 years. Today he owns a tax services firm named TK Tax LLC with an office in Baxter Village.

Kristy grew up in Buffalo, NY graduating from the University of Buffalo in 2000 with a degree in Physical Therapy. She married a man who she met in college, and they moved to Charlotte for him to get his seminary degree. Over the next 15 years Kristy juggled her career in physical therapy and Christian ministry while raising two girls. But because of her husband's unfaithfulness, the marriage ended. She admits that during this turbulent time in her life she began to rely more closely on God. Kristy grew up in a Mennonite church and knew the gospel at a very early age, but in 2016 it became her source of strength and encouragement. Like Kristy, Troy experienced betrayal in his first marriage which ended about the same time. Divorce is never easy and their faith in Christ sustained them both even before they met.

Troy and Kristy were introduced through mutual friends, Mark and Rene Gillming. Troy prepared Kristy's tax returns and was impressed that even during the tough financial times she was facing, she tithed. Encouraged by Mark and Rene's nudging, Troy pursued the relationship. They began dating which culminated in their marriage in 2018. You might say "Blessed be the 'tithe' that binds". A book that was helpful for them was "Boundaries in Dating" by Henry Cloud and John Townsend.

Troy started attending Westminster Presbyterian Church in Rock Hill after his conversion and attended Eternal, as a church plant in the early 2000s. However, with family issues and a changing work situation he left to attend a church in Rock Hill. Fourteen years later he and Kristy have come back to Eternal. Troy is active in the video ministry and participates in the Wednesday evening men's community group.

Kristy takes part in the Tuesday morning women's community group, assists on Sundays with the 4- and 5-year-old class and co-leads the college age women's ministry.

Kristy loves reading, gardening, hiking, Yoga, and spending time with her friends. Troy likes golf, flying planes, reading, hiking and NASCAR. They live in Tega Cay with their dogs, Biscuit and CJ and a pet Bearded Dragon named Blaze. (It's a lizard.)

Troy's favorite verse is Exodus 3:14-15. *God said to Moses, "I am who I am. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: 'I am has sent me to you.'" God also said to Moses, "Say to the Israelites, 'The Lord, the God of your fathers—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob—has sent me to you.' This is my name forever, the name you shall call me from generation to generation."*

Kristy's favorite verse is Jeremiah 29:11-13. *"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart."*

Troy and Kristy are a delight to chat with and, by the way, they are always looking for a source of live crickets to feed Blaze. Any thoughts?

Written by Paul Veerman