

# WOMEN'S MINISTRY

## fayetteville

March 2020

## Faithfulness in Prayer

I am the youngest and only girl in my family, and my mom and I had a really special relationship. Growing up, she was an amazing cook and hostess. She taught me about serving in our church and helping the poor in our community.

In 2012, my mom was diagnosed with Alzheimer's. Our relationship changed as she progressed through the stages of the disease, and I moved from the role of daughter to caregiver.

My mom's personality changed as the disease progressed. She was generally soft spoken and shy, but not so in the later stages of the disease. She lost some of her inhibitions and had no care about social norms. She would greet everyone she met with a hug and kiss. I think mostly because she didn't want the person to think she didn't remember them, so she just greeted everyone like they were a dear friend. I am sure this caught many strangers off guard and made others feel uncomfortable. But I know it blessed many who were marginalized. Those who no one would hug or looked dirty and maybe didn't have family, she would hug them and kiss them and tell them God loved them. She truly loved like Jesus did. She showed warmth and acceptance and love to everyone she met.

*"See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!" [1 John 3:1a NIV](#)*

After she greeted you with a hug, she would tell you that she would pray for you. Growing up, I am sure she prayed for me; but she never talked about the specifics. In the last several years of the disease, she was very bold to tell everyone she met about her prayers. She would repeat over and over that she prayed for me and my husband and our kids every night. There were little slips of paper in her bedroom and her purse with names of those she wanted to remember to pray for. I was often cynical and thought she was incapable of coherent prayers at that stage of the disease. But the truth of [Romans 8:26](#) is *"... the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans."* I believe God communed with her even when she lost the ability to speak at the end of the disease. She lived out [Romans 12:12](#) - *"Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer."*

My mom passed away last August after a 7-year battle with Alzheimer's. I can get sad over the things she is missing out on in my kids' lives, but I have to remind myself that as a believer in Christ, she has the promise of a renewed body and mind in eternity. By her example, I am now challenged to love others extravagantly and to pray faithfully.





### ***Reflect and Respond***

- Do you need to update your prayer list and keep it in a spot so you won't forget to pray faithfully?
- How can you show love and dignity to those you come in contact with?
- How can you love on those who are marginalized in our community?

### ***Faithfulness in Prayer*** was written by **Mary Beth Simpson**

Mary Beth serves on staff at Fellowship Fayetteville as the Tuesday Morning Bible Study Coordinator for Women's Ministries. Her desire is to equip women to know and understand the Bible, and be able to apply it to their current stage of life.

In her current season of life, Mary Beth and her husband of 18 years are raising a teenage daughter, a middle school son, and a son in elementary. She met her husband Jesse in college at the University of Arkansas where she was majoring in marketing.

Although raised early on in a small farming town in eastern Arkansas, Mary Beth has made NWA her home for the past 20+ years.

She enjoys all water sports and is longing for the warm days of summer so she can enjoy the trail system around Fayetteville and spend time at the lake. Most days you can find her listening to podcasts while driving her kids around Fayetteville to activities.



*Past issues: Fayetteville Women's Devotional eNewsletter*

## **IMPORTANT NEWS**

### **for our Fellowship Congregation: New Web System Conversion PLEASE READ!**

For over a year, we have been working with a third party company to help us securely migrate to a new church management system. And on Friday, March 13, your web account will be on a new platform! What does that mean for you?

1. On March 9-12, our Fellowship website and database will be off-line due to a system conversion (i.e. all online registrations and online payments will be suspended). If you are needing to register for an event, make a payment, or place a one-time online gift, you will need to do so BEFORE those dates using Bank Account draft only or AFTER those dates using any form of payment. Credit Card usage will resume March 13.
2. Please LOGIN TODAY to your Fellowship account at fellowshipnwa.org and double-check that all your contact information is accurate in "Family Members" (name, phone, address, email). When conversion is complete, you will receive an automated email that will allow you to reset your password, giving you continued access to your current groups, registrations, and giving history.
3. On the weekends of March 13 (Fayetteville Campus) and March 20 (Rogers Campus), we will be rolling out a NEW CHILDREN'S CHECK-IN system. Plan to arrive a little earlier to services on those dates so that you will have plenty of time to learn the new touch-screen monitor system.

If you have questions regarding **payments or your account information**, please contact us at [questions@fellowshipnwa.org](mailto:questions@fellowshipnwa.org).

**FOR RECIPIENTS OF THIS eNEWSLETTER:**

*\*Please take note that event registration buttons here will no longer work after 4pm on Monday, March 9 due to the web system conversion. As a recipient of this emailing list, you will be sent new registration and information links after March 16.*

If you have questions about **event registrations** mentioned in this publication, please contact [fayettevillewomen@fellowshipnwa.org](mailto:fayettevillewomen@fellowshipnwa.org).

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## Women in Community

Shepherds, Coaches, and Leaders... oh my!



Shepherd - Coach - CG Leader. Have you heard these terms being tossed around in women's circles at Fellowship over the past year or two and wondered what all the fuss was about? Then let us explain!

Fellowship's mission statement directs us to "...produce and release spiritual leaders who know and express the authentic Christ to Northwest Arkansas and the world", and our ministry structure empowers us to do that. How? In part, by appointing Shepherds who mentor and pour into Coaches, who mentor and pour into Community Group

Leaders, and they in turn mentor and disciple their small group members. It's women of all ages doing life together through community, and challenging each other to carry out the Great Commission!



How about you? Are you ready to step out in faith and join our community of women through leadership in women's ministries? To begin sharing what God has taught you throughout your faith-walk with other women? We'd love to help you figure out what that looks like for you. Just shoot us a message when you're ready so we can meet up and talk...

[fayettevillewomen@fellowshipnwa.org](mailto:fayettevillewomen@fellowshipnwa.org)

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## Discipleship Training

As Christians we are called to not only learn about but also live out the teachings of Christ. Discipling or being disciplined plays a huge part in being able to do that successfully, and to grow and mature your faith so that you, in turn, can invest in and lead others.

If you are a woman desiring to have a positive impact on the lives of other women, one disciple at a time, then make plans to join us for the final two sessions of



Discipleship Training, scheduled for March 8 and 15 in The Gathering Room 199.  
**Registration ends at midnight tonight, March 7.**

[Register Here](#)

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## ONWARD



Our next ONWARD event for women in their 20's and 30's is set for Monday evening April 20 from 6:30pm - 8:30pm in the Fellowship Fayetteville Student Center.

Hosted by our Fayetteville Women's Ministry, this event will provide practical tools, solidarity, and encouragement for young women to navigate their season of life in a way that glorifies God. To register, text #onward to 479-308-0410, or click the Register button below.

Questions? Email [fayettevillewomen@fellowshipnwa.org](mailto:fayettevillewomen@fellowshipnwa.org).

[Register Here](#)

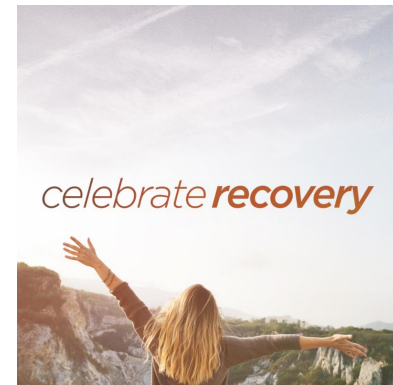
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## Fayetteville CR

Celebrate Recovery is a Biblical and balanced program that helps us overcome our hurts, hang-ups, and habits. We all have issues that may be interfering with our fellowship with God and others. This includes, but is not restricted to, struggling with addiction. All are welcome!

Visit Celebrate Recovery on Friday nights at Fellowship Fayetteville or find a women's step study to begin pursuing the freedom of real life in Jesus Christ and celebrate the recovery only He can bring through His people and His Word. Click [HERE](#) to visit the Celebrate Recovery website for more information!



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## Service Opportunities

### EC Volunteer Openings

- Fellowship Fayetteville's Early Childhood Team is looking for volunteers to serve once a week cleaning rooms in preparation for weekend services. Pick the day and time and bring a friend to help us keep our rooms clean and our children healthy. Contact [Gretchen Friesen](#) for more information.

### Join the Front Desk Team!

- If you have administrative skills and enjoy being around people, we would love to put your talents to use as a member of our front office volunteer team at Fellowship Fayetteville. We are currently seeking a front desk volunteer to commit to serving

weekly for a **four-hour shift on Wednesdays**, plus one or two "floating" volunteers who can fill in for other weekly volunteers when they are unavailable. Contact: [Ray Wagoner](#), 479-659-3615 or [Vicki Kennedy](#), 479-659-3684 for more information.



A special welcome to Jenny Michna who has joined the Fayetteville Women's Ministry staff as Administrative Assistant. Jenny has been married to husband Marty for 23 years and they have four children. She enjoys sewing, watching her children in their activities and cheering for the Green Bay Packers. Welcome aboard Jenny!

Want to learn more about Fayetteville Women's Ministry?  
Email us to learn how you can get plugged in!

[fayettevillewomen@fellowshipnwa.org](mailto:fayettevillewomen@fellowshipnwa.org)

479-659-3684



**DON'T FORGET TO  
SPRING FORWARD**

*DAYLIGHT SAVINGS BEGINS MARCH 8TH!*

*Connect with us!*



*Please forward this email on to your friends and encourage them to subscribe to our monthly Women's Devotional eNewsletter. To sign up or make changes to eNewsletter subscriptions from Fellowship Fayetteville visit [subscribe.fellowshipfayetteville.org](https://subscribe.fellowshipfayetteville.org).*