

# WOMEN'S MINISTRY

## fayetteville

October 2019

### Trust and Obey

[Psalm 42:7-8, 11](#)

Six years ago, my husband and I went to the beach in Destin, Florida. It was a favorite vacation spot for us over the years, but this year was different. As I sat watching the ocean, I was not in peace. I was wrestling with a decision God was asking me to make. As I watched the tide drifting in and out, I vacillated back and forth. I struggled with my present security and significance, with fear of the future, to trust Him with unknowns. It seemed the Lord was saying, "Come out into the ocean with me; I'm here." And my fearful, human response was,

"But Lord, there are sharks out there. Yes, I know You're there, but there are things that can harm me." He was patient and gentle with me in saying, "I am enough." For hours I sat staring at the ocean, its enormity, strength and surging. And at last, I agreed to trust God in my fear. To do what He asked, scared.



Since then, we hadn't been back to the ocean until this summer in Pensacola. I was out in the surf, enjoying the contrast of cool water against a humid August. As I was floating, I felt the Lord saying, "Here we are." Yes, I was physically in the ocean, not on the beach; but I understood. I thanked Him for the time to be on vacation, to see the ocean again after six years. He was patient and gentle as I realized, "I am here not in desperation, but in peace." I had been scared but obedient. It had been hard and long, with many tears. Yet in this moment, I was on the other side in peace and joy.

For me, sometimes obedience wasn't joyful; it was sheer...obedience. I cried, "I don't want to do what You ask. I don't trust You. I don't believe Your plans for me are good." These are harsh things to admit, but I felt them. Yet He did not leave me in the ocean to splash aimlessly, in danger of rip tides, jellyfish, and sharks. He was faithful.

Even last year I found myself praying, "I obeyed You. I did everything You asked. What do You want from me now?" The Lord was patient and gentle as then He asked me to wait. "Wait." And eventually, He answered. It was hard and long, and I cried.

But this summer at the ocean was a monument to His faithfulness, His patience with my scared soul and His loving, good plan. [Psalm 42](#) was an anchor for me then. As I reflected on it after our vacation this summer, it still is profound:

7 Deep calls to deep at the roar of your waterfalls;  
all your breakers and your waves have gone over me.

8 By day the Lord commands his steadfast love,  
and at night his song is with me, a prayer to the God of my life.

11 Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me?  
Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my salvation and my God.

### **Reflect and Respond**

- What does [Psalm 42](#) mean to you?
- How are you wrestling to trust and obey God?



### **Trust and Obey was written by Evan Crawford -**

Evan is an Arkansas native and has attended Fellowship since the mid-nineties. She has been on staff at Fellowship since 2006, and currently coordinates worship and production elements for adult services at Fellowship Fayetteville. Evan volunteers at Celebrate Recovery Fayetteville as a women's small group leader and worship leader. Evan's interests include singing, playing piano, running, painting, and acting in and directing plays. She and her husband Roger have been married 16 years.

Contact Evan if feeding people brings you joy. If hospitality is one of your spiritual gifts. She is looking for new members of the Sunday Morning Hospitality Team! This is a group of people who take turns providing food each Sunday morning that fuels the worship team leading our celebrations. Please contact Evan at [evcrawford@fellowshipnwa.org](mailto:evcrawford@fellowshipnwa.org) if you are interested in volunteering or learning more.

Past issues: [Fayetteville Women's Devotional eNewsletter](#)

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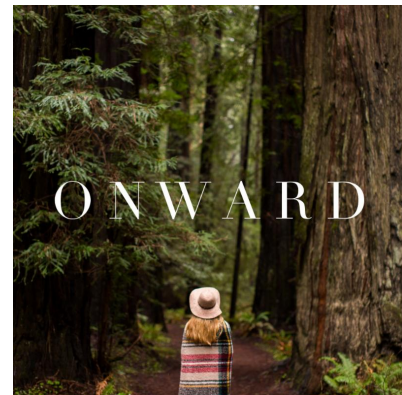
## ONWARD

**A Twenty and Thirty Something Event**

**Monday, October 14**

**6:30pm - 8:30pm**

**Fellowship Fayetteville Student Center**



This event is open to women in their twenties and thirties to gather together to worship the Lord and find encouragement as they move onward through their respective seasons. No matter whether you are navigating the newness of motherhood, a career, post-graduate life, or marriage, we all need Jesus and are all on this journey together. Make plans now to join us! To register, text #onward to 479-308-0410.

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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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## likewise: a new ministry for 55+

[Titus 2](#) gives us instructions for how older men and women are to serve and lead in the church. Likewise is a new ministry of Fellowship Fayetteville for those over 55. We want to hear from you!



If you are over age 55, text #likewise to 479-308-0410 to complete our survey and help us launch this initiative.

For more information contact Joe T. at [jorobinson@fellowshipnwa.org](mailto:jorobinson@fellowshipnwa.org) or Julia at [jurobinson@fellowshipnwa.org](mailto:jurobinson@fellowshipnwa.org).

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## Homeschool Connection



Are you a homeschooling family interested in meeting other families that homeschool? Let's get connected!

This fall, moms and dads of homeschooling families from Fellowship Fayetteville will be getting together once a month to visit, collaborate, find support, and work on community projects.

Sign up [HERE](#) and be on the lookout for upcoming events. Questions? Contact [fayettevillewomen@fellowshipnwa.org](mailto:fayettevillewomen@fellowshipnwa.org).

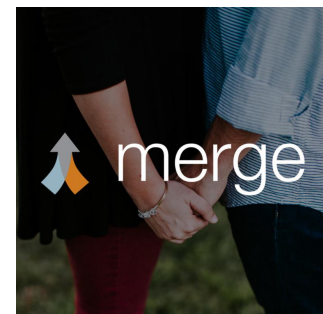
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## Getting Married?

### **MERGE Premarital Workshops**

**MERGE** is an 8-week, premarital experience offered each year in the Spring, Summer, and Fall on the Fellowship Fayetteville campus. These workshops are designed to provide engaged and seriously-dating couples a unique opportunity to learn, seek wisdom, and receive counsel on marriage from a Biblical perspective. Cost is \$85 per couple and space is limited. Sign up early and be sure to fill out and submit the required online survey.



**Spring Session: February 9 - April 5, 2020**

*Stay tuned for registration information for additional 2020 sessions!*

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## Service Opportunity

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 Mondays or 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.

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## Women's Ministry Team



**MARGO BODISHBAUGH**  
Shepherding Leader



**MELODY COUCH**  
Discipleship Leader



**LORIE MCMILLEN**  
Tuesday Evening Studies



**MARY BETH SIMPSON**  
Tuesday Morning Studies

Want to learn more about Fayetteville Women's Ministry?  
Reach out to one of our team members to learn how you can get plugged in!  
[fayettevillewomen@fellowshipnwa.org](mailto:fayettevillewomen@fellowshipnwa.org)  
479-659-3684

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*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://www.fellowshipfayetteville.org).*