



# Pinehurst Post

We exist to love Jesus and live for Him.

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## Getting to Know the Kamps Family

We envision a congregation whose love for Jesus and one another leaves a clear and compelling witness for Christ.

I asked Matt and Missy to answer a few questions in order for us to get to know them better.

### Where did you grow up?

Missy grew up as part of a Navy family, so she moved around a lot. She was born in South Carolina. From second grade on, she lived in Blaine. Matt was born in Seattle, and after some time in California, moved to Lynden, Washington where he spent most of his childhood.

**How did you meet?** In Matt's words: "Missy was living with a family that I happened to be good friends with, and eventually one summer we met and started dating. I was in Honduras at the time, so shortly after we met I had to go back, so we dated long distance for a while. When we saw each other again at Christmas, we knew that we were to be together. We were engaged by June, and got married in December 2003."

In Missy's words: "I had just returned from Africa and was visiting a friend. Matt had just returned from Honduras and was visiting the sibling of that same friend. We instantly had life in common with a love for other people and cultures. We got married a year and a half later but not until after the trials of dating long distance!"

**How did you come to a relationship with God?** Matt grew up in a Christian family and gradually came to take his parents' faith as his own. There have been plenty of ups and downs, but God is faithful even when we are not. Missy has Christian parents too, and became a Christian at an early age, and was baptized in junior high. God has really caused us both to love his word during the course of our marriage.

**What have been your experiences on the mission field?** Matt first experienced missions through short term trips to Mexico in high school. After high school, he spent six months with YWAM and traveled



to Russia. After college, he eventually got a job teaching in Honduras at a Christian school. Missy had traveled to other countries but also helped with a high school youth group and helped lead mission trips to Mexico. Matt spent three years teaching in Honduras, and then met Missy, which brought us back to the U.S. and to Ellensburg for a couple of years. When Missy got her teaching degree, we returned to Honduras for two years and had Elijah there. We think that missions will always be a part of our life, and view our time now as kind of an intermission before we are sent out again. The experience changed the way we look at all parts of life, from how we see immigrants to how we use our money and how we relate to daily life. It has been hard being back in the states, even though it has now been almost four years.

### What keeps you busy now?

Missy is the hard worker of the family, and she has the most important job of taking care of the kids during the day. She also substitute teaches when she gets the chance. Matt works as principal of Everett Christian School in North Everett. We have two boys, Elijah (almost 4), Micah (2 in July), and one more on the way (Missy is due July 9).

### What brought you to PBC?

We were attending a church in Everett for almost three years

and we realized that God wanted us to move on from it, so we began looking for a new church. We found PBC on the internet and decided this would be the last church we visited for a while. When we drove up to the church and walked in the front door, the first person we met was Aaron Holmberg, whom we already knew!

The Holmbergs' first welcome and everyone else's friendliness made us feel comfortable from the start. What made us stay is the commitment of PBC to God's word, and Pastors Brian and Ryan's commitment to teaching that truth passionately and accurately. We are thankful for God's work through them, and are excited to see what God is going to do at PBC because of its focus on God's word and how Christ rules in every part of our lives.

### Do you have a favorite Bible book, chapter, and/or verse?

Missy's favorite chapters in the Bible are Psalm 1 and Isaiah 55. Matt's favorite book is Ephesians and favorite verses are Colossians 1:15-20. Elijah's favorite book of the Bible is Jonah. Micah just loves "Gee-Dus".

### What is your favorite hymn or song?

Matt's favorite hymn is "Take My Life and Let It Be." Elijah's is "My God is so Big." Our family's favorite music is anything by Andrew Peterson.

### What are some favorite books about Christianity/theology?

Missy's favorite book is always the last one she's read, and she is currently reading *Sitting at the Feet of Rabbi Jesus* by Lois Tverberg. The book that first comes to mind for me is *The Discipline of Grace* by Jerry Bridges. But we both love to read, so the list is long.

Thanks Matt and Missy! We're glad you are a part of the family.

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## The Indestructible Church by Ryan Reese

Jesus told Peter that he was going to build himself a church. Though composed of frail human beings (of which Peter and the other apostles would be first), Jesus said the church he builds will be indestructible. The most powerful attacks of the evil one have no chance against the group of followers Jesus is assembling (Matthew 16:18). Christ's kingdom will not be overthrown. But that doesn't mean that every individual church is indestructible. A pastor friend told me that 2011 could witness the deaths of several Southern Baptist Churches in the Pacific Northwest. And we are one of the few historic denominations that has not seen a downward spiral in membership over the last several decades! What Christ said is true—his church will never be eliminated in this world. But it can certainly shrink or become ineffective.

What causes individual churches to sputter and even cease to exist? A lack of faithfulness to the Word of God. When a church fails to accurately believe, teach, preach, and study God's Word, her time is short. When a group of people fails to obey God's Word, and put their theology into action, the Holy Spirit will eventually exit by the back door. Over time the life and structure of a church can become so overrun with man-made traditions that God's revelation in the Bible has little to do with her operation. Let me be clear: our church is not on the precipice of extinction. God is at work here, and has been for a long time. Many of us are growing, stretching, and moving forward in Christ-likeness. But any church that wants to see God's active, building hand upon it must continually conform her life, structure, and belief to the Scriptures.

Through the month of April I will hit the "pause" button on the Gospel of Matthew and preach a four-part series on The Indestructible Church. We will begin with Peter's confession and Christ's following statement about the church in Matthew 16:13-20. From there we will have two messages on Indestructible Leadership, examining the two biblical offices of elder and deacon. The series will come to completion on Easter Sunday with the Indestructible Message of the church. Please be in prayer for our church and for yourself as we examine ourselves this month. Pray that God will continue to shape Pinehurst Baptist Church into an ever greater testament to His glory. ☞

## Meeting God in His Word by Brian Watson

On Sunday, April 10, we will begin our next round of devotion groups. This time around, we will be studying different Bible passages that reveal the attributes of God. This Bible study is called *Meeting God*, written by J. I. Packer, whose book, *Knowing God*, is well known (and is also in our resource center). Over twelve weeks, we will be reading and discussing both Old and New Testament passages about God. The method of study is inductive, which means we will be reading the passage and then asking and answering a number of questions about it.

When we meet God in the Bible, we learn more about our sovereign

Creator, Sustainer, and Redeemer. As we reflect on God's character, we see how great he is, which leads us love him, rely on him, and worship him.

Of course, we are already encountering God through his Word on Sunday mornings in our Bible study and our worship service. However, we need to continually immerse ourselves in the Bible so that our thoughts, emotions, opinions, and experiences are informed and interpreted by Scripture. As Packer writes, "All human ideas, both traditional and contemporary, about God's will, works and ways must be ruthlessly brought into line with what Scripture says." This process will

continue throughout our lives.

Besides knowing more about God through the Bible, we also want to encourage fellowship. We want to get to know each other better and discuss what God is doing in our lives. A third goal is inviting people into our church by inviting them to a devotion group. To invite someone to this group, simply ask if he or she would like to know more about God.

Please sign up for a group today. Sign-up sheets are posted on the bulletin board in the foyer. ☞

### Coming up in April...

Saturday the 9th: Family Movie Night at 6pm

Sunday the 17th: Palm Sunday Brunch

Sunday the 10th: Business Meeting after Morning Worship

Friday the 22nd: Good Friday Service at 7pm

Sunday the 10th: New Devotion Groups Begin

Sunday the 24th: Easter Sunday