



Pinehurst Post

We exist to love Jesus and live for Him.

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

“And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

Philippians 1:6



Getting to Know Grace and Paul DeLong

Paul and Grace DeLong, along with their kids and grandkids, have been a part of the Pinehurst family for many years now. We asked them to answer a few questions, so that we might get to know them better.



Where did you grow up?

Paul: I grew up for part of my life right where I live now. I was born in the house we currently occupy. Of course, it has been remodeled extensively since then. But we consider this the original DeLong homestead.

Grace: I grew up in North Dakota. After I graduated from high school I went to California for awhile, and then came here to where my parents had moved.

How did you meet and how long have you been married?

Paul: We met in church. When I got back from the military service, I was unattached. I returned to my childhood church, and noticed this attractive brunette who had started attending the church

with her family. That this girl would be the woman I eventually married still amazes me. At any rate, we started going together from Halloween of 1970, and we were married April 10, 1971. After forty years, five children, and eight (soon to be nine) grandchildren later, I continue to be amazed.

Grace: All true. God confirmed to me before we were married that I would be marrying Paul. And the night he proposed was the night I had requested the Lord that he propose to me; or, if not, I would take it as a sign that we were not to be married. But he did, and so here we are. He proposed to me on the property we now live on.

What are some of your hobbies?

Paul: I used to be really heavy into model aircraft. That was a childhood hobby that I have only recently outgrown. (By recently, I mean within the last fifteen years or so). Because of that love for aviation, I was recruited (albeit willingly) into the Civil Air Patrol as the Aerospace Education Officer, where I served for ten years in various capacities. In CAP, I found out I could teach. Teaching is currently my hobby. I spend more time studying and preparing for lessons than anything else I do. (Just ask Grace.) Who would have thought that a childhood hobby could evolve into a Christian ministry? But it did in my case, and what I do now has eternal consequences.

Grace: My hobbies are building / rebuilding / fixing / re-fixing, and all things having to do with carpentry. My father was a carpenter, and so is my whole family. I also enjoy restoring antiques and furniture.

What is your favorite thing about living in Snohomish County?

Paul: This is where I have spent most of my life. I have always lived in Snohomish County, except for my military service time, and the five months I spent working in Oregon. This will always be home.

Grace: It is very beautiful here, with the trees and mountains, and all God’s creation around us. It’s an awesome place to raise a family.

What brought you to PBC and how long have you been attending here?

Paul: We came from another Baptist church where there were some problems. We started checking out churches, but somehow always came back to Pinehurst. For me, it



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Getting to Know Grace and Paul DeLong *continued*

seemed like home. I felt that same thing about Hall Boulevard Baptist Church in Tigard when I was working in Oregon. Somehow the Lord just confirmed in my spirit that we should be attending PBC. And the association with Pinehurst has been very beneficial for our family. All of our married children have found their Christian spouses either at Pinehurst, or indirectly as a result of the people of Pinehurst. We have attended Pinehurst for about sixteen years.

Grace: Our girls started going here first, and they loved the youth and their program. I thought if our kids go to church and like it, then that would be the church for us. And we found PBC to be sound in doctrine, they had a

good pastor, a good music program, and wonderful people. Pastor Omer asked us why we wanted to join the church, and I said, "We want to be a part of this family."

How did you come to faith in Christ?

Paul: I was saved as a boy. At my childhood church, we always had an altar call. Even before I intentionally received Christ into my life, I would respond to the altar call because it was what everybody did. One Sunday evening my cousin knelt beside me and asked me if I wanted to ask Jesus into my heart. I said yes, and I prayed to be saved. I was about 8 or 9 years old. Recently I reminded my cousin of

what she had done, and she couldn't remember it. I was a little disappointed, but that doesn't matter, because I remember, and I know my Lord remembers me.

Grace: I don't ever remember not being saved. I did make a commitment when I was in camp, but I always seemed to have Jesus in my life. Even being five years old, I knew God was always with me.

What Scriptures have been especially important in your walk with the Lord?

Paul: There are so many... Some of my favorite passages are Genesis 15:6; Philippians 1:6; Psalm 37:4; Psalm 130; Jeremiah 29:11-13; Proverbs 1:33; Revelation 3:12; Isaiah 54:13; Hebrews 10:14; Mark 10:45; Job 19:25-27.

Grace: I like the passage that says "All things work together for good to those who love the Lord, who are called according to His purpose" (Romans 8:28). And also the Scripture that says we are to think on those things that are pure and of good report (Philippians 4:8). And John 14:14. And one of my favorites is Isaiah 54:2, which says that we are to enlarge our tent, and we certainly have been obedient to that!



Thanksgiving Dinner

Don't forget to set aside Sunday afternoon, November 20th, to join the Pinehurst family for Thanksgiving dinner. You can sign up to bring something for the meal on the two Sundays prior.