

Father's House Church International

Discover Who We Are (101)

Our History:

The church started out as “Church on The Move” Pastored by Daine Demaree.

The name was changed by the next Pastor, Greg Stephens, to Father's House Church International. Pastor Greg left after 13 years to work at Rhema Ministries.

Pastor James Everette, with his wife Vilma, were recommended to the Board of Trustees by Pastor Greg. After some prayer and invitations to minister, the Board and Pastor James agreed that he would be the new Pastor of Father's House Church International (FHCI). Pastor James & Vilma Everette took the responsibility of leading the church in September of 2014.

Pastor James received his BA in Christian Studies at Master's International School of Divinity. He has always been under the teachings of Kenneth E. Hagin and Kenneth Copeland. He received his license under Rhema Bible Training after being grandfathered into their ministry program.

Vilma has her BA in Behavioral Science and a Master's in Family Counseling. She has a passion for seeing children and women grow into the persons God designed them to be. Vilma runs the Women's Ministry, with a team of leaders, and has seen it grow into a powerful testimony of God changing the lives of women.

Our Vision is to see the **Gospel proclaimed**, an intimate relationship **with God** obtained, **connecting people** with one another and providing opportunities to **serve others**.

Our Mission is to impact our community, city and the world by equipping the saints to walk in the authority of God's Word. We are a house and people that worship Jesus and create an atmosphere of intimacy with Jesus. We are a church that values the Word, worship and unity with our fellow believers and allow the Holy Spirit the freedom to move among us as He sees fit.

Our Culture consists of a Spirit-filled, multi-ethnic church that walks in love, walks in faith and is led by the Spirit of God. Our culture can be better defined as "how we do things here at FHCI." We will create and maintain a culture of excellence in all that we do.

Our Goal is to help you see your value in the kingdom of God. Once you see your value and specific gifting and talents, we would love to have you become part of our church vision. **(Gospel proclaimed, intimacy obtained, connecting with people, serving others.)**

We will develop you through teaching, training, coaching and mentoring so you will impact your area of influence with the love of Christ. We encourage everyone to complete the three classes we've made available. These classes tell who we are, how you can develop your gifts and serve, and how our leadership model is structured.

While attending church services regularly will help you grow, your real growth and development will take place as you read the Word in your private time, and stay in fellowship with other believers who can encourage you in your walk with God. Connecting with others and serving in your local church is one of the most fulfilling privileges we have.

Most people have operated under the umbrella of "the pastor gives all the ideas and the people carry out the ideas." We want to change this culture, so that the pastor gives the direction and vision and then empowers others to work as a team. The teams come up with plans and ideas to accomplish the vision. This process allows us to work together in accomplishing God's mandates and utilizes the gifts God has put in you. This creates value in you and fosters innovation and creativity.

Our Core Values start with our belief in One God, manifested in three persons-the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. **(Mark 12:29, Matthew 28:19)**

We believe the Bible is the inspired Word of God recorded by holy men of God who spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit. We accept the New Covenant, (New Testament), as our infallible guide in matters pertaining to conduct and doctrines. **(2 Timothy 3:16, 2 Peter 1:21, 1 Thessalonians 2:13)**

We believe man is a created being, made in the likeness and image of God, but through Adam's transgression and fall, sin came into the world. "All have sinned and come short of the glory of God." "As it is written, there is none righteous, no, not one." Jesus Christ, The Son of God, was manifested to undo (destroy) the work of the devil and gave His life and shed His blood to redeem and restore man back to God. **(Romans 5:14, Romans 3:10, Romans 3:23, 1 John 3:8)**

Salvation is the gift of God to man, separate from works and the law, and is made operative by grace through faith in Jesus Christ, producing works acceptable to God. **(Ephesians 2:8)**

Man's first step toward salvation is godly sorrow that produces repentance. The New Birth is necessary for all men, and when experienced produces eternal life. (2 Corinthians 7:10, 1 John 5:12, John 3:3-5)

Water Baptism is by immersion, is a direct commandment of our Lord, and is for believers only. The ordinance is a symbol of the Christian's identification with Christ in His death, burial, and resurrection. (Matthew 28:19, Romans 6:4, Colossians 2:12, Acts 8:36-39)

Baptism in the Holy Ghost and fire is a gift from God as promised by the Lord Jesus Christ to all believers in this dispensation and is received subsequent to the New Birth. This experience is accompanied by the initial evidence of speaking in other tongues as the Holy Spirit Himself gives utterance. (Matthew 3:11, John 14:16-17, Acts 1:8, Acts 2:4, Acts 2:38-39, Acts 19:1-6)

Sanctification is holiness and without holiness no man can see the Lord. We believe the Doctrine of Sanctification as a definite, yet progressive work of grace, commencing at the time of regeneration and continuing until the consummation of salvation of Christ's return. (Hebrews 12:14, 1 Thessalonians 5:23, 2 Peter 3:18, 2 Corinthians 3:18, Philippians 3:12-14, 1 Corinthians 1:30)

Divine Healing is operative by the power of God through the prayer of faith, and by the laying on of hands. It is provided for in the atonement of Christ and is the privilege of every member of the Church today. (Mark 16:18, James 5:14-15, 1 Peter 2:24, Matthew 8:17, Isaiah 53:4-5)

Resurrection of the Just and the return of our Lord: The angels said to Jesus' disciples, "This same Jesus shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven." His coming is imminent. When He comes, "...the dead in Christ shall rise first; then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air..." (Acts 1:11, 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17)

Christ shall return to the earth as King of kings, and Lord of lords, and together with His saints, who shall be kings and priests; He shall reign a thousand years. (Revelation 20:6)

Laying on of hands is according to God's Word and in obedience to Jesus command, "They shall lay hands on the sick and they shall recover." (Mark 16:18)

At Father's House Church International, we want to foster and maintain a culture of excellence in how we serve. In serving others we are serving the Kingdom of God.

Below are characteristics of our church culture:

Love God's Word...daily read and meditate on His Word

Walk in Love...have a loving environment

Walk in Faith...not controlled by what we see

Led by Holy Spirit...allow Him freedom to move among us

Learning...we want to be teachable and able to accept correction

Honesty/Righteousness...speaking truth in love/doing righteousness

Accountability...taking responsibility for actions

Discipleship...disciplined and committed to Jesus

Leadership...implement leadership principles from MAXIMUM CEO

Team building...not working alone

Innovation...thinking outside of the box

Creativity...doing things with calculated risk

Succession...duplicating ourselves and mentoring others

Generational...vision and mission sustainable

Believers who invest their heart, time, family and finances in the building of a local church deserve to have the confidence in church leadership. People are looking for leaders to conduct themselves with integrity and respect when making decisions that affect their lives.

Our Church oversight structure is made up as follows:

We are guided by a leadership staff team that is led by our Senior Pastor. This team is responsible for assisting the pastor in the day to day functions and plans of the church.

We are strengthened by a team of leaders that aid and assist in ministering to the body. These are individuals that exhibit the character and maturity of a servant of the Lord as mentioned in **2 Timothy 2:24** *“And a servant of the Lord must not quarrel but be gentle to all, able to teach, patient.”*

We are protected by a Board of Trustees who provide oversight and guidance to the pastor. We are affiliated with Kenneth Copeland Ministries and Rhema Bible Training. Our pastor is accountable to the Board of Trustees and other ministers.

We believe God’s heart is to take people on a four-step journey (our vision) (pages 8-18)

1. Gospel Proclaimed
2. Intimacy With God Obtained
3. Connecting With Other People
4. Serving Other People

1. Gospel Proclaimed!

This is the greatest responsibility we all have as believers. The two primary ways we reach others is through our weekly services and our personal sharing Christ with others. (Tell others your story)

Our services focus on four values:

A. We believe church should be enjoyable.

"I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord"" Psalm 122:1

B. We believe church should be a place where the Word of God is taught.

*"Now early in the morning He came again into the temple, and all the people came to Him; and He sat down and taught them."
John 8:2*

C. We believe church should be a place where faith and love are developed.

"We are bound to thank God always for you, brethren, as it is fitting, because your faith grows exceedingly, and the love of every one of you all abounds toward each other." 2 Thessalonians 1:3

D. We believe church should be a place where people can accept Jesus as their Lord and Savior.

“If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.” Romans 10:9-10

How to share Christ with others:

One of our primary purposes is to reach people who are away from God. Every one of us can do our part by following these four principles:

1. Accept the personal **Responsibility** (Jesus told us to go)
2. Build a personal **Relationship** (People need someone they can relate to)
3. Share your personal salvation **Story** (How has God impacted you?)
4. Give a personal **Invitation** (Invite them to receive Christ and come to church)

We share Christ as a fulfillment of the Great Commission.

*“Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age. Amen”
Matthew 28:19-20*

Jesus gave His Church a mandate to reach the world in these areas:

“But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” Acts 1:8

Our "**Jerusalem**" is our City and the areas we have spheres of influence. The primary way we reach our City is through our Sunday and midweek services and through equipping and preparing believers to go out and be ministers (servants) in their communities.

Our "**Judea and Samaria**" is our state and nation. The primary way we reach our state and nation is by encouraging believers to engage with society and being informed citizens. We encourage believers to develop their gifts and apply them in their communities by holding positions of leadership in government, education and business.

Our "**Ends of the Earth**" is the missions field. We will support missions and help those interested in working in the mission field through investing resources and workers as needed.

How you can help join us:

1. **Pray** for each of these areas that we might reach people with the Good News of Jesus.

“Then He said to His disciples, “The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore, pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.” Matthew 9:37-38

2. **Go** to these areas to serve others and show them God’s love.

“Then I heard the voice of the Lord, saying: Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then I said, here am I! Send me. He said, Go, and tell this people.” Isaiah 6:8-9

3. **Give** your time and resources to reach people for Christ.

“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal: but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in steal.” Matthew 6:19-21

2. Intimacy With God Obtained

God loves us with an intimacy that surpasses all our dreams. He wants us to have a close, personal relationship with him of intimacy, simplicity and obedience. He created each of us with a longing for intimacy -- intimacy with Him. We were created to fellowship with our Creator. We need Him, and He desires us.

"One thing I have desired of the Lord, that will I seek: That I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, To behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in His temple." Psalm 27:4

Intimacy never involves just one person. God has gone to great lengths to express His love to mankind. He gave the very best He had in His only begotten Son, to redeem what Adam relinquished in the Garden.

"God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." John 3:16

You cannot know someone you don't spend time with. Intimacy develops as a result of close contact with someone over time. Trust is built, confidence grows, and hearts change, becoming endeared to one another.

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding, in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths." Proverbs 3:5-6

How is intimacy obtained?

A. Time in His Word... consistently and intentionally

We can only know someone by spending time with them and as we get to know them, we learn to trust them.

*"Jesus said... "I am the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst."
John 6:35*

"He who has my commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him. Jesus said... If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come and make Our home with him." John 14:21 & 23

B. Worship the Lord

In times of worship, we declare the truth of who the Lord is. Through worship we align our will to God's desire and are able to reset our focus on the One who is our Maker, Creator, and Lord.

"God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship Him in spirit and truth." John 4:24

C. Prayer

The Lord gave us prayer as a means of communicating with Him, a way of growing closer to Him. Prayer is a conversation in which we speak to God and He responds. A deep relationship with God can be built by sitting quietly with Him, reflecting on His goodness and love.

"When you pray, say: Our Father in Heaven, Hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come, Your Will be done, on earth as it is in heaven." Luke 11:2

D. Draw near to Him

Moses and Joshua led God's people from Egypt and into the promised land of Canaan. Through almost a century of following the Lord, they learned His views and His way of thinking.

"He made known His ways to Moses, His acts to the children of Israel." Psalm 103:7

"Draw near to God and He will draw near to you." James 4:8

3. Connecting With Others

Real life change happens when we can have authentic relationships. We encourage people to connect with other believers during our weekly services. As well as, meeting in each other's homes so that their gifts and talents can be shared with others. Hospitality is one of the ways many have entertained angels unawares. *Hebrews 13:2*

“How I kept back nothing that was helpful, but proclaimed it to you, and taught you publicly and from house to house.” Acts 20:20

Building relationships and being hospitable provides three things:

A. A place to connect with others.

“To the weak became I as weak, that I might gain the weak: I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some.” 1 Corinthians 9:22

B. A place to protect each other.

“By this we know love, because He laid down His life for us. And we also ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.” 1 John 3:16

C. A place to grow together.

*“As iron sharpens iron, so a friend sharpens a friend.”
Proverbs 27:17 NLT*

Intentionally connecting with people through church and home fellowship is what we believe God designed us for. People form groups around what matters in their life. Connecting with people who share similar interest, or are at the same stage in life as you, builds relationships that will flourish. Being part of a group is a great opportunity to pray for one another and support one another as we grow in our walk with God.

“Those who are planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God.” Psalm 92:13

Some of our pre-existing groups are listed below, however, we encourage innovation and creativity in creating new groups of fellowship.

Current groups:

Marriage

Men

Women

Young Adults

Examples of new groups that can be formed:

Motorcycle/Bicycling group

Singles group

Shared Interest group

Crafts Group

Soccer group

Coffee group

Seniors group

As you can see the list can be endless, but the goal is to promote connecting with others and providing opportunities to exercise spiritual gifts, Bible studies, support and prayer.

Groups are not designed to be a life time commitment. We recommend committing to a group for at least 6 months and then feel free to join another group. If you are growing with the current group, stay with them as long as you like.

You can also host a group if one does not exist within your interest. To be a group leader, just contact our Church Administrator and fill out an application. Once the application is received, you will be contacted by a leader.

4. Serving Others

All of us were created by God to make a difference in the life of another person. God has a place for you where your unique abilities and passions can impact the lives of others. We believe your life will never make sense until you find, develop and fulfill that purpose.

“For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.” Mark 10:45

“For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.” Ephesians 2:10

“As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.” 1 Peter 4:10

At Father’s House Church International:

- Every member is a Minister
- Every task is Important
- Every member adds value to the Kingdom of God

Our big-picture goal is to see every person living God's ultimate purpose for their life, which is to share His love and make an eternal difference in the lives of others.

When this goal is achieved, believers are successfully producing as:

People who are...

- Growing in relationship with God (Intimacy)
- Knowing and living according to the Bible
- Communicating their faith to others
- Giving selflessly of their time, talents and treasure
- Connecting with other followers of Christ
- Reproducing their relationship with Christ with others