

## Ambassadors of Reconciliation

I use a lot of words. I like to tell stories; sometimes ad nauseam, according to the rolling eyes of my family. I seem to have a penchant for run-on sentences, and my grammar is not so stellar, but I love to preach and teach, counsel, and write. I even wrote a book, for what that's worth. Words kind of go with the territory. That is why it is rather embarrassing to admit that I struggle with words; at least in finding the right ones.

The plan was for me to write a piece describing the summer sermon series and ministry in the midst of a pandemic. But then, yet another black man was murdered by a white officer, and there was no holding back the flood of societal pain and anger. Our country is hemorrhaging, and despite the barrage of posts and tweets...

Words fall short. And yet, silence speaks volumes. And so I've been asking questions about the use of words:

- What is helpful?
- What is the motivation for these words?
- Is it partially an attempted appeasement to my conscience?
- Does my well-intentioned attempt actually bring harm?
- What will point people to Jesus?
- What does love require?

I keep coming back to the well-worn passage from 2 Chronicles 7. *"If my people who are called by my name will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sins and restore their land. My eyes will be open and my ears attentive..."*

It's a call to pray, but also a call to humility and repentance inside the House. The people who carry God's name are called to humbly turn from [our] own sin—prejudice, hypocrisy, and apathy—and seek God's face.

God will hear, forgive, heal, and restore. God will use His people to be a

conduit of grace and truth. But the prerequisite is humble, repentant prayer.

I John 2:4-6 struck me, as well:

*"If someone says, 'I know God,' but doesn't obey God's commandments, that person is a liar and is not living in the truth. But those who obey God's word truly show how completely they love him. That is how we know we are living in him. Those who say they live in God should live their lives as Jesus did."*

We are to be ambassadors of reconciliation and agents of transformation. We are to be tenacious advocates for justice, give refuge for the oppressed, and protect the implicit dignity and God-image birthed in every human being.

We are to pray for and come alongside our black brothers and sisters who live in the reality of inequity and racism every day. We are to speak against injustice and systemic racism imbedded within government and societal structures, but also to come alongside those who are trying to make a difference from *within* government, police departments, and public agency.

We are to call out the racism, both subtle and blatant, that exists in the Church and in our own hearts. We are to be light-bearers, grace-seekers, and bridge-builders.

Jesus, strip us of our pride, our paralysis, our apathy. Bring your conviction, your forgiveness, your healing. Help us to become learners, to yield, to listen. Teach us to pray, to build up, to obey.

Be, in and through us, the Living Word.



Rob Schrupf, Lead Pastor



## Financial Update

### 2020 Annual Fund

Last month: \$66,020

Next month's need: \$91,667

Where we should be: **\$366,667**

*"For the last 12 years, God has cultivated Greyhouse to be a safe space for our community — a taste of home and a rock in times of chaos. Our customers continue to file in during a pandemic because they care about Greyhouse, and I have to believe that's in part because they know Greyhouse cares about them."*

- Sarah Fleming, Campaign & Transition Coordinator

Jesus is transforming the lives of Purdue students, and you have a role in their stories. Give today at [pcch.org/give](https://pcch.org/give).



\$333,915

\$1,100,000

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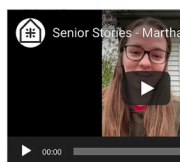
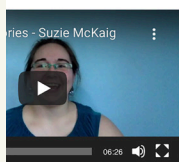
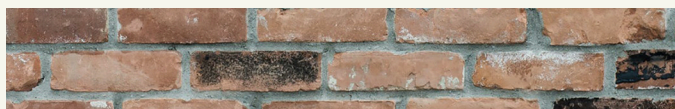


# CAMPUS HOUSE



## Renovating Hearts in the COVID-19 Pandemic

As crews prepare to build Campus House's future home, the Lord continues to transform our community and align us with His heart. Read more about this transitional season of ministry, follow along with the "Summer Renovation Project" teaching series on our website, and stay updated on the new House's progress through weekly photos at [reframingthehouse.com](http://reframingthehouse.com).



### Senior Stories

Eight graduating seniors shared how God has moved in their lives at Purdue. Listen to their testimonies at [pcch.org/senior-stories](http://pcch.org/senior-stories).



### How Can We Pray For You?

Submit and view prayer requests and praises on our website's updated prayer page at [pcch.org/prayer](http://pcch.org/prayer).



700+  
HOURS  
LOGGED ON  
ZOOM

"I have never felt His love, peace, and grace more than I have this past year. God's work through Campus House had a role in breaking down my past, unhealthy image of Him and painting a loving, compassionate, and accessible Father who truly does care for me. He opened my eyes to a whole new relationship with Him that I can't wait to continue."

Peyton Kreiss, Junior



### Coming Alongside Greyhouse

Support Greyhouse by purchasing coffee and tea subscriptions, merchandise, gift cards, and more at [greyhousecoffee.com](http://greyhousecoffee.com).

// Summer2020 //





## Ministering in a Pandemic

Lea Schrumpf, *Spiritual Formation Director*

In March, our staff exchanged our daily commutes for a few steps down the hallways of our homes to utilize various forms of technology to connect with students, most now-dispersed across the country. Weekly gatherings with small group leaders, a women's support group, and biweekly discipleship groups once held around a table became relegated to Zoom meetings, screens of familiar faces gridded in Brady Bunch fashion. Sunday services were pre-recorded by homebound staff and edited together as Living Room Sessions made available on YouTube so that our congregation might gather for communal worship with their families or "quaranteams"—or virtually with friends. Facebook Live became the format for Senior EXIT, and both FaceTime and phone calls became the new norm for one-on-one discipleship and counseling.

Though technology has allowed us to stay connected in remarkable ways that wouldn't have been possible even 10 years ago, this "new normal" has presented its challenges. Our valiant attempts to host interactive services can translate to "watching church on television," and even the best Zoom meeting is fraught with the frustration of internet glitches and other inherent limitations. Gone are casual conversations by seat neighbors and the chatting of friends as they stroll into or out of our building. Instead, group members sit politely at computers with muted microphones, navigate awkward silences, and experience more of a moderated approach to conversation than lively and organic communication. Staff's most heartfelt words of blessing to seniors over the internet aren't the same as gathering for a shared meal and the laying on of hands in prayer as we send them out; and even the most emotionally-attuned digital presence with a grieving student doesn't feel the same as shared-space embodiment and a hand on the shoulder. To top it off, the many hours



spent in video meetings can lead to a very real level of screen fatigue. It would seem our best efforts can feel costly and often less fulfilling.

Yet, God has allowed this time and these circumstances, and He is not limited by anything that limits us. *"In all things God works for the good of those who love him"* (Rom. 8:28), so there have been gifts. Many students' schedules opened, uncovering newfound space and desire for true connection with God and others. Some students are engaging new rhythms of "abiding" practices—more regular time in the Word and stillness as they seek to grow in knowing God and listening to His voice. A group of women who struggle with sexual addiction continue to meet weekly to encourage one another in the Gospel and share accountability, confession,

***"God has allowed this time and these circumstances, and He is not limited by anything that limits us."***

and intercession. A few students are practicing more curiosity with the Lord about their stories with a desire to understand, heal, extend forgiveness, and repent of self-protective behaviors. Lonely international students have been open to care and friendship, and there have been a few opportunities for staff to meet with students at our homes. Whether "distanced" on a front porch or a walk, these are sweet reunions, sometimes with the added joy of introducing disciples to neighbors—a blending of worlds and a mingling of prayers for friends to know Jesus.

God is still at work in this time; please pray that we would follow Him in it!



## Empowering Prayer & Worship

Dave Shockey, *Pastor of Mobilization*

Zoom meetings aren't my favorite thing. Sitting in one place looking at a computer screen triggers my ADD, and the same scenery (my office) makes my days and meetings run together. However, ministering predominantly online these past few months has opened doors that I wasn't expecting and has resulted in a surprising amount of fruitfulness during this strange season.

I started a virtual prayer team, made up of students who are deeply committed to prayer in our ministry. We meet weekly to pray and share, and we're working on building a prayer curriculum to help our community grow in prayer. They also cover our online prayer page. This page gives people a place to submit prayer requests that are covered by a real person. If requested, students will call and pray directly for the person desiring prayer. It has been awesome to watch this diverse team grow together over the past few months, and I believe this group will help implement some major prayer initiatives in our community. Currently, we are praying about and planning what an ongoing prayer room would look like on campus!

***"Ministering predominantly online these past few months has opened doors that I wasn't expecting and has resulted in a surprising amount of fruitfulness during this strange season."***

In April, we hosted a virtual worship night. A couple of student musicians gathered, and we broadcasted our worship night live on Zoom and Facebook. While, it was very different from our traditional worship nights, many students reported how great it was to worship and feel



God's presence in their homes. Over the course of this pandemic, one of my goals has been to help our people learn how to steward God's presence in their homes, instead of depending on a church building or meeting to connect with Jesus. Our weekly Sunday night prayer service also helped foster this environment. It was awesome to see our Sunday night group form into a supportive community over the course of the semester.

We hosted our first in-person prayer service in my backyard in June. We were socially distant, but students were very excited to pray, worship, and intercede for our church, university, city, nation, and world. Would you pray with us that we would all grow deeper in our relationship with God wherever we are?

Thank you for supporting us through these challenging and uncertain times. I'm confident God is at work and that He is the light that shines in the darkness. Thank you for partnering in bearing that light in the lives of college students.



Students Jordan Bridges and Bryce Walters lead the first virtual worship night on Facebook Live in April.