

Human beings need an authentic community where we truly belong: where we can celebrate and where we can cry; where we can be challenged to be our very best and where we can be forgiven when we have been our very worst.

We need a community where we can be welcomed and accepted, no matter who we are, where we've been, or what we've done, but where we can grow in our relationship with God and with one another.

We need a community where humility is genuine, radical life change is expected, spiritual growth and transformation is celebrated, and prayer and worship are central.

We need to be part of a community that is not about <u>us</u> except to help us to be our best as we love, serve, and influence the world around us.

The Body of Christ—the Church—is intended to be this community, but for many of us, the contemporary "church" that we experience is tired, stressed, embattled, and afraid; a place of confusion, conflict, and fragmentation; a poor imitation of the broken world around it.

That world is broken. Apart from God, human beings will continuously find new ways to isolate, manipulate, fragment, and abuse other human beings and the world God created. Followers of Jesus are commissioned and empowered to live differently—to be limitless in our generosity, outrageous in our compassion; faithful to Christ and accountable to one another in the use of our resources, our influence, and our sexuality; joyful, hopeful, and confident in our identity as God's beloved children irrespective of our circumstances.

The Fellowship Community is committed to rebuilding the community human beings need within the Body of Christ. We are a network of churches and leaders called together to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ by growing in Christ's likeness, living by God's Word, and joining in God's mission to the world. We are apprentices of Jesus, beginning in the PC(USA) and reaching out in every direction, irrespective of denominations and labels, to welcome, challenge, befriend, and embrace anyone who seeks to grow in joyful obedience to our Redeemer and service to the world he is redeeming.

The Fellowship is not a club or an agency—it is not designed to rescue institutions or advocate ideologies. The goal of the Fellowship is to create and sustain a movement within the Church that will replicate itself in a thousand different locations and give contemporary disciples the community we so desperately need.