

THE SALTSHAKER

NOVEMBER 2024 | VOLUME 284

MEET KYLE AND GRETCHEN PARKER



How did you first find out about our church?

We found out about the job through Barclay & Doug Godwin and Charles McGowin.

What have you enjoyed about AVPC the most?

The people are friendly and their diversity of background and interest makes it an intriguing place. The 'churchy' part we have enjoyed thus far include the music and AVPC's commitment to kids.

How long have you been a Christian?

Gretchen: I grew up with Christ in the home but really took hold of my faith at university.

Kyle: I was saved during my college years.

Where were you born and raised?

Gretchen: I was born in Colorado but raised in Texas.

Kyle: I was born and raised in Colorado.

As a young man/woman, I thought I would be...

Gretchen: I thought I would be a mom and wife — in high school I dreamed of being an NBA wife.

Kyle: I never really thought about family life. My thoughts centered around a career in medicine to pay for fly-fishing around the world.

My first job was...My worst job was...My favorite job was...

Gretchen: My first job was as grocery bagging specialist. My worst job was an administration assistant to the Dean of Mathematics at Washington University. My favorite job was a Starbucks Barista.

Kyle: My first job was cutting grass. My worst job was catching rattlesnakes for a research scientist at CSU. My favorite job was teaching waterskiing.

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MEET THE PARKERS CONTINUED

I always thought it would be great to...

Gretchen: I thought it would be great to live in Italy.

Kyle: I thought it would be great to live 25 feet from an awesome trout river.

When I have free time I enjoy...

Gretchen: Reading, gardening, movies, and travel.

Kyle: Getting a haircut, fly fishing, reading, camping, and jazz.

The ultimate vacation for me would be...

Gretchen: A month in Italy.

Kyle: Fly fishing Patagonia.

My favorite restaurant is...because...

Gretchen: Ferrante's in Spokane Washington — first restaurant we discovered after moving there which proved to be a family favorite owned by a great couple we grew to enjoy.

Kyle: I have a lot of them, La Cocina and Bisetti's in Colorado, Ferrante's in Spokane, Red Agave in Eugene, Red Iguana in Salt Lake City, Southwest Kitchen in Daphne, and Crescent City in Hattiesburg.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



Thank you to all of our teachers and volunteers for a great Children's Sunday. It was a joy watching and taking part in the worship led by the children of AVPC. Thank you for helping make that possible.

MEN'S MINISTRY

2024 MEN'S RETREAT

Everyone made it back in (mostly) one piece from the 2024 Men's Retreat! Thank you to all who helped make it such a sweet time of fellowship. We pray that the seeds that God planted during this event will continue to grow and produce fruit in the men of AVPC.



YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

FRIENDSGIVING



NOVEMBER 21 | 6:30 - 8:30 PM

Are you a young adult? Do you have a friend? Do you enjoy a good pumpkin pie? If you answered yes to one or more of these questions, please join us on November 21 from 6:30 - 8:30 PM for a time of feasting with friends. Location TBD.

AVPC NEWS

SAVE THE DATE

NOVEMBER 24

- Kyle Parker Installation Service

NOVEMBER 25 & 26

- Hanging of the Green

DECEMBER 8

- Children's Christmas Pageant
- Children's Tree Lighting in the Park

DECEMBER 15

- Congregational Meeting
- Lessons & Carols

DECEMBER 24

- Christmas Eve Candlelight Service @ 4:30 PM and 6 PM

OUR CONDOLENCES

We want to express our deepest sympathies to the following:

- Marilyn Russell for the recent loss of her brother, Bill Otto.
- Lauren Moore for the recent loss of her grandmother.
- Dan Whitaker for the recent loss of his mother, Jane Major Whitaker.

You are all in our thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

SAVE THE DATE

If you are available on November 25 and 26, please consider helping out with the Hanging of the Green. Contact Natalie Short with questions.

minutes

SESSION MEETING • SEPTEMBER 17, 2024

- Session approved purchase of a replacement Fire Alarm system at a cost not to exceed \$25,000 with funds taken from capital reserves with unanimous consent.
- Session approved a handicap access door opener not to exceed \$10,000 with funds coming from the capital reserves with unanimous consent.
- Session approved the preventative replacement of a hot water heater in the educational building at a cost of \$2,275 with \$1,365 coming from capital reserves and \$910 coming from God's House Kindergarten with unanimous consent.
- Session approved, as recommended by the finance team, that the proceeds from the recent sale of land to Jefferson County be added to capital reserve with unanimous consent.
- Following applicants were approved for membership with unanimous consent : Jim and Patrice Bonner, Kyle Carter, & Shea Turner.
- Session approved Jeph Guinan as the 2025 Missions Conference preacher with unanimous consent.

DIACONATE MEETING • OCTOBER 8, 2024

- Facilities team have planned for light renovation to parlor before year's end, which will require volunteer assistance to replace ceiling tiles.
- Altadena park Improvement Committee has installed a new camera with plans to install a "camera in use" sign in the park.
- Property sale for bridge was completed and the payments have arrived.

MISSIONS NEWS



The great news for November is that our missionary in Kosovo and longtime friend, Doni Mehmeti, is planning to be here! This visit he will be accompanied by his wife Albina and their 2 children. What a blessing for us!

Doni and Albina are changing this year from serving with 'A Jesus Mission' to working with Mission to the World, our denomination's international sending agency. Their new email address with MTW is doni.mehmeti@mtw.org. Please consider sending them a note of encouragement.

After orientation at MTW, their time here in the US will be divided between Columbus, GA and Birmingham, AL. They will be here at AVPC on Sunday, November 3. With MTW, the Mehmeti's will be involved in their church plant, Church at Newborn, in Prishtina. The church is a fellowship throughout the week and also meets Wednesday evenings for prayer and communion. Their focus is preaching and teaching the Word, and they will continue to produce online content for their digital platform.

The Missions Team is eager to partner with the congregation in praying for and financially supporting our missionaries. We hope you can make it to meet and hear the Mehmeti's in person on Sunday, November 3. They will share in both worship services and in two Sunday School Classes (Fellowship Hall and Conference Room Communities).

GOD'S HOUSE KINDERGARTEN

With Thanksgiving right around the corner, we are so thankful for the Men and Women who came and visited the Children for Community Helper Month. We had visits from the Rocky Ridge Fire Department, James Spann, local men and women who are surgeons, nurses, construction workers, police officers, and more.

We Praise God for these men and women who serve our community so well and are thankful for their willingness to teach the children a little about what they do.

- Lydia Moore , GHK Administrative Assistant



YOUTH HAPPENINGS

Paul reminds us in Ephesians 5 that Jesus did not only give His life to ransom individual sinners, but He gave His life to create the Church. From the opening chapters of Revelation we see that Jesus is not sitting on His throne with a remote interest in what is going on, but the one who holds the seven stars in His right hand is intimately aware of what is happening with His bride. The reality is that to be a follower of Christ is to be a part of the body, the fellowship of believers, the Church. It is to love the Church, despite its blemishes. We are not only called to be the essence of Christ to a watching world, but to each other within the Body as well. This is a central message for our students here at AVPC. It is a message that they are receiving and they are finding joy in serving our church. One of those ways is by engaging with our children's ministry, where twice a year we run a Bridge Night for the kids. I am always so encouraged to see our students, whether they be in junior high or high school, fully engaged in serving an important part of our congregation: our children.

Peace,
Clint Cvacho
Youth Director

SAVE THE DATE
November 15-17
Senior High Fall Retreat at Shocco Springs



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY CONTINUED

When I discovered I was having a surgery that would require a more extensive season of rest and recovery, I was overwhelmed on numerous levels, until I remembered my first Sunday evening away would be AVPC kids and youth night – always my favorite nights of the year. Although I was so sad to miss, I knew our youth have faithfully spent a year loving and serving our AVPC children, modeling the beauty of our covenant family doing life together. Watching our teens repeatedly enter the world of our children with humility on their level makes me want to know more of our Savior. What a rich gift we have in our AVPC Youth!

For Christ's Crown and Covenant,
Catie Lumpkin
Director of Children's Ministries

SAVE THE DATE

December 8

**Children's Christmas Pageant &
Christmas in the Park**



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

11/1	Woody Armstrong	11/11	Walker Bobo	11/20	Frances Holmes
11/1	Dan Dougherty	11/11	Art Marxer	11/21	Carol Collins
11/1	James McCallister	11/11	John Ward	11/21	Rachael Gray
11/1	Everett Taylor	11/12	Merrie Loper	11/21	Davis Jackson
11/2	Patricia Burgess	11/12	Brandon English	11/21	Thomas Jackson
11/4	JC Foster	11/12	Joseph Putman	11/21	Mark Weldon
11/4	Everly McGlothlin	11/13	Carl Jacks	11/23	Julia Taylor
11/4	Molly Faith Shepherd	11/13	Mike Oaks	11/24	James Bobbitt
11/4	Debbie Pennington	11/13	Jack Parker	11/25	Juan Dunlap
11/4	Ezekiel Putman	11/13	Jeff Schofield	11/28	Pierce Gamble
11/5	Shepherd Edmonds	11/14	Rebekah Gray	11/28	Wyatt Nelson
11/6	David Coley	11/14	Amy Grace Shepherd	11/29	Graham Jackson
11/6	Molly Parker	11/15	Ginger Jackson	11/29	Benji Parker
11/7	Hannah Snow	11/16	Layne Savoie	11/29	Scott Pennington
11/8	Gretchen Parker	11/16	Shawn Schofield	11/29	Luke Richards
11/10	Welden Gamble	11/18	Frank Thielman	11/30	Justin Armstrong
11/10	Melissa Parker	11/18	Karl Zier		

WOMEN'S MINISTRY



Thank you to all who attended the brunch during the Women's Wednesday Bible study. It was a great time of fellowship and a great opportunity for Gretchen Parker to meet the women of AVPC.

SAVE THE DATE: WOMEN'S RETREAT 2025

Friday, February 28 - Saturday, March 1

More details coming soon!

SEPTEMBER FINANCIAL REPORT

	BEGINNING BALANCE	INCOME	EXPENSES	TRANSFER	ENDING BALANCE
GENERAL FUND	\$52,987	\$140,855	\$95,886	(\$6,669)	\$91,287
MISSIONS	(\$14,622)	\$22,961	\$29,074	\$6,669	(\$14,066)
TOTAL	\$38,365	\$163,816	124,960	\$0	\$77,221