

Jim Kuehn's Spiritual Journey

An Elder since 1999, Jim is essentially a life long resident of Harrison having moved here at the age of three from Shelbyville, IN. Jim and his wife, Norma, live in Harrison Township and were led to visit FCC after Jim heard FCC Lead Minister Bill McConnell speak at a Promise Keepers retreat. They have four children, Erin (Sandlin), Josh, Nate and Amber. After a long career at P & G that began at age 18, Jim is now employed at Jones Lang Lasalle as a Stationary Engineer, the same role he filled at P & G. Jim's interests include Family, Faith, Friends and Fishing. He has served in a wide variety of ministries including Life Group leader, ALPHA Team, Jail Ministry, Nursing Home Ministry, Mission Trips and Pastoral Care visitation.

Favorite Scripture: 2 Corinthians 12:9.



I was born in Shelbyville, Indiana, May 24, 1954. At that time, my parents lived and worked on a dairy farm. I am the youngest of three children. When I was three years old, we moved to Harrison, because Dad accepted a job at Gulf Oil Refinery. Our first home was at 517 Dair Avenue, where we lived until I moved out on my own at the age of 19.

I grew up in a wonderful family setting, although, I'm sure I didn't know it at the time. I was raised in the Methodist Church—we attended services every week, and my parents were very involved in other things there as well. I attended Sunday school, sang in the choir, served as an altar boy, and attended church camp and many other activities. I knew about God, but I didn't know Him (if you know what I mean).

My childhood and teenage years were filled with school activities and sports. I participated in various clubs and played the saxophone in the school band. I loved to play baseball, basketball, football and tennis. Winning at them seemed to make me happy, losing at them made me mad and not a very pleasant person to be around. The teen years were very difficult for me, as I began to change physically, emotionally and spiritually. I looked to all the wrong things to make me happy, to give me a feeling of self-worth.

My life began to change in high school, when I became involved with a wonderful young woman who was so different from me. She lived a different kind of life with different values and goals. I tried my best to convince her my lifestyle was what she needed, but her conviction held her fast and opened my eyes to my real condition.

At the age of 18, I went to work for Procter & Gamble. This is it, I thought. Now I am going to have everything I wanted. I was going to feel fulfilled at last. I married that wonderful young woman from high school (Norma) when I was 20. We purchased our first house at 1007 Iliff Avenue in Harrison and began a family. We were blessed with our first child, a daughter (Erin) and not long after that a second child, a son (Josh). Life seemed to be good, but there was something missing in my life.

I began attending church with Norma, but I wasn't getting the feeling I was looking for. What I got instead was a sense that God wanted to do something in my life that would change me forever. After many long battles for ownership of my life, on a Sunday evening (December 10, 1978) in a little Baptist Church in Harrison, Ohio, I lost the battle but won eternal life. Today, God continues to grow me as I seek to serve Him.