



Dan and Morgan Busse

HEARTBEAT

I have a passion to see lives changed, to see people encounter God in everyday life. My desire is to encourage and equip the church to glorify God as growing disciples who make disciples. I am honored to serve, love people, preach, build teams, and see God's vision for a local church flourish.

PERSONAL

Born: Spokane, WA. 1976.

Family: Married 25 years to Morgan Busse

4 Children: Philip (22), Kaitlyn (20), Caleb (18), & Makayla (18). Yes, life has been busy.

EDUCATION

Liberty Seminary

Lynchburg, VA

Masters in Church Renewal and Missional Leadership (2012)

Dallas Theological Seminary

Dallas, TX

THM Program with a Masters in Leadership and Education (2003)

Eastern Washington University

Cheney, WA

BA in Communication Studies (1999)

MY STORY

I did not grow up in a Christian home. My focus was popularity and sports. In high school God graciously rescued me, hearing the gospel for the first time at age 16. I began a life-long journey of pursuing Him and making a difference for Him. I have been in paid ministry for almost 30 years, the last 19 as a lead pastor. I am in awe of the incredible impact God has had in my life, my family, the church, and in the community.

I love to see God work through relationships, ministries, teaching truth, team development, and outreach. My StrengthsFinder results are: Futuristic, Strategic, Activator, Belief, and Woo. I am an "I" on the D.I.S.C. and an ENFP. Simply, I am wired as a relational inspirer; through engaging teaching, developing people, building teams, and leading forward. God has used me in loving people, casting vision, empowering leaders, strategic ministries, equipping others, and encouraging the local church to be a community of changed lives changing lives (discipleship).

RELEVANT MINISTRY EXPERIENCE AND HIGHLIGHTS

Senior Pastor Capital Baptist Church Salem, OR

We came in 2023 to a church that had been in decline for over a decade. There appeared to be a resurgence and revitalization prior to our arrival. In our short time there we have seen more people come to Christ, baptisms, and new members than in the prior 5 years. About a 20% growth rate, new ministries and outreach, as well as substantial growth in young families, teens, and children. However, this has also caused significant growth pains and a desire to “go back” for some families. I am glad to share more details and why we are open to leaving.

Lead Pastor River Club Church Fredericksburg, VA

River Club was a 10-year-old church plant when I started there in 2018. I served there through 2022 in a season of growth and need to navigate the Pandemic. My time was a period of church development and unifying vision, bringing strategy and stability. Prior, RCC had been through significant staff turnover and difficulties. I developed a healthy ministry focus, poured into staff and leaders, as well as greater community outreach. Even during the pandemic, we saw many new families and growth. Attendance was 325 post pandemic (425 pre), and I led a ministry staff of 7. [Website](#).

Revitalization Pastor Cornerstone Church El Dorado Hills, CA

This was an intentional revitalization effort to help a declining church find new life and mission. Cornerstone grew both numerically and in health while I was there. We focused on reaching people, developing healthy leadership, and a holistic discipleship strategy. Connecting people to prayer, dynamic preaching, and growing in community. This is a miracle story as we merged after a few years with a new church plant in 2016 (Vintage Grace). God moved in such a significant way during our time there, and now they are around 1500 people and sending out church planters. [Website](#).

Lead Pastor RiverPoint Church Newton, KS

RPC grew from a two-year-old church plant to a large and thriving congregation. With our contemporary, authenticity, and family focus we had new families almost every weekend. Our real-life approach to relationships and discipleship saw many changed lives. Over 65% of the growth was new believers. In my time there we grew from 200 people to 600 adults on a weekend service (plus over 200 kids and students). Sadly, the church has recently closed. [Website](#).

Family Ministries Pastor Sonrise Church Portland, OR

After Dallas Seminary, I continued in youth and family ministry (2003-08). Sonrise became a multi-campus church with over 2500 people. I had the role of leading the Family Ministries and being on the Executive Team. I oversaw the ministry to about 400 Children, 200 youth and over 150 volunteers. I encouraged, disciplined, trained, and led the leaders (both paid and volunteer) of these ministries. In addition, we started an intern program. Some highlights include mission trips, camps, being an elder, hiring and leading staff, and a building campaign. This was a fantastic church but after a decade of youth ministry I transitioned into senior pastor ministry. [Website](#).

Resident Faith Bible Church Spokane, WA

Faith Bible was the church I became a Christian and grew in. It was also my ministry and leadership foundation. I had the privilege of being in the newly developed resident program, a 4-year intensive program focusing on leadership, bible, theology, and philosophy of ministry for future pastors. I served in the youth and children's ministry in a variety of roles and responsibilities. (1996 to 2000). I left to attend Dallas Seminary. During my time the church had an attendance of 1200. [Website](#).

MY HEART FOR THE CHURCH

Church, as I see in Scripture; is a called, gifted, and focused people. The church should be a family on mission. The mission is to passionately glorify and love God as growing followers who make more disciples of Jesus. A healthy church mobilizes her people to have a Kingdom mindset of multiplication. Church is all about relationships that flourish, doing life better together. Church is a community saturated in truth, inspiring growth, that positively impacts the cities around them (and the world). I believe there needs to be a clear vision and discipleship process that helps people take their next step in biblical maturity through the gospel. A healthy church seeks to be in authentic growing and caring relationships, passionately pursue God daily, reach people who are not being reached, and joyously worship God in Spirit and Truth. MT. 4:19 and Acts 2:40-47

These core verses shape my thinking:

Mathew 28:18-20, 1 Thessalonians 2:8, 1 Corinthians 9:19-27, Colossians 1:21-29, Mathew 16:13-21, 22:37-38, 1 Corinthians 3:5-15, 2 Corinthians 5:14-21, John 4:1-42, and Mark 2:1-12.

These core values shape my leading:

For people to have intentional relationships in and outside the church family (Acts 1:8, 2, & Romans 12)

For people to have authentic and vulnerable relationships with one another. (1 Thess 2:7-8, Gal 6:1-3)

The Bible will be taught expositional (truth), practically (application), and inspiringly (2 Tim 4)

People will actively pursue Christ-like life transformation (1 Tim 4, 1 John 2:6)

To cultivate a heart for the glory of Jesus and a life on mission (Matt 28, 1 Cor 9, Acts 17)

To create opportunities for people to serve as God made them to make a difference (1 Pet 4, Eph 2, 1 Cor 12)

For leaders to have lives that are examples as they invest, equip, and encourage (1 Tim 3, 1 Cor 11:1, Eph 4)

To be Spirit, truth, and grace empowered for all of life (1 Cor 3, Eph 5, Gal 5)

SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

Almost 30 years of paid ministry experience

Leading in a variety of church contexts and sizes, consistently leading to health and growth

Preaching weekly for over 23 years; message series being planned out a year or more in advance

Collaboratively led elder/deacon teams, large staffs, and ministry leaders to accomplish the mission

Broad ministry exposure to several models, programs, leaders, and conferences

Revitalization, merger, church planting, and interim experience. I am a coach and catalyst

Created and led significant community outreaches as well as created and led networks of local pastors

Helped staff, leaders, and congregation overcome hurt and heal from wounds

Led the strategy, culture, and leadership change from stagnant to healthy

I have had the joy of leading many people to Christ, disciple them, and see them disciple others

Experience in leading established and newer churches, valuing heritage and a future vision for growth

A consultant to other churches and coach to other pastors, helping them grow and be more effective

LAST THOUGHTS

It has been a tremendous privilege to help churches in transition and revitalization over the last few years. However, we have taken a season of reflection and prayer to determine what God has next. I want to invest long-term in a healthy church. I am looking to put down roots into a community and a church family over the next 15-20 years to help them embrace God even more and have even greater impact.

¹⁴ When I think of all this, I fall to my knees and pray to the Father, ¹⁵ the Creator of everything in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹ May you experience the love of Christ, though it is too great to understand fully. Then you will be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from God. ²⁰ Now all glory to God, who is able, through his mighty power at work within us, to accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think. ²¹ Glory to him in the church and in Christ Jesus through all generations forever and ever! Amen. Ephesians chapter 3.

References are available upon request. Please only contact with my permission.