

Letters From Outpost



AUGUST 2024

Prayers & Praises

- **Praise God** for the opportunity to talk with churches about the Elijah Company toolkit.
- **Praise God** for people continuing to find us and reach out for support.
- **Pray** that churches would be emboldened as they start their own support groups, that the Body of Christ would continue to become a safe space where people can find healing and encouragement.
- **Pray** for those who are reaching out to Outpost, that they would find encouragement as they press into what God has for them.
- **Pray** for the men attending Joshua Fellowship's Summer Intensive Capstone in mid-August, that God would strengthen them to receive His presence and love.

Events Calendar

- Jul 2-5: Staff enjoyed a mid-year sabbath week
- Jul 13-18: Dennis attended Living Waters Leadership Training in Kansas City.
- Jul 30: JF Summer Intensive leaders met to plan the group's Capstone Experience weekend.
- **Sept 14-21: Fall Auction Fundraiser**

Fall Auction

The fall auction fundraiser is almost here! Postcard and email invitations will go out in the next 10 days, and **registration opens August 15**. Be sure to mark your calendar and register early to save your spot.

Even if you can't join us in person on Saturday, September 21, you can take part in the online auction that starts September 14. More information is on the website already, so be sure to check it out!

© 2024 Twin Cities Justice House of Prayer.
All rights reserved. Nothing may be copied without prior permission.
www.outpostministries.org
outpostinfo@outpostministries.org
763-592-4700

The Walk of Faithfulness

Dear Friends,

In the early 2010s, Outpost followed God's lead to create a new support group, which we named Elijah Company. Rather than ministering to those seeking wholeness in their sexuality and identity, this group was designed to minister to the families and friends of strugglers. As the group began, we also embraced those who reached out because their family member or friend had recently "come out" to them as a member of the LGBTQ+ community, and they didn't know what to do.

We chose the name Elijah Company (EC) because it reminds us that those who move in the spirit of Elijah will turn the hearts of fathers to their children, the hearts of children to their fathers, and turn the disobedient to the understanding of righteousness (Malachi 4:6, Luke 1:17 CSB). As I reflected on the life of Elijah, I noticed even more connections for those of us needing the support of a group like EC.

When a loved one announces "I identify as LGBTQ+," it is easy to feel like Elijah as he flees to Mount Horeb (Sinai) in 1 Kings 19: overwhelmed, confused, defeated, and alone. What happens at Horeb is an encouragement when we find ourselves in that same place emotionally. Starting in verse 9, Scripture recounts how God meets Elijah, listens to the hurts of his heart, and then gives Elijah instructions for the next phase of his calling. Most importantly, though, God answers Elijah's hurts with the truth of the situation: "Yet I will preserve 7,000 others in Israel who have never bowed down to Baal or kissed him!" (1 Kings 19:18 NLT). What a promise: God will preserve His children!

In this same way, Elijah Company exists at Outpost to encourage and support those seeking to walk faithfully with God while their loved one is struggling or has embraced an LGBTQ+ identity. Additionally, the group provides a space where these family and friends gather to pray for one another and their loved ones. We meet with the God of the universe, who loves each one of us and cares what is on our heart. As we meet with God, we receive truth and instruction so that we may walk in faithfulness. There are practical considerations, to be sure, but the bottom line is always to see what God is teaching each participant and asking them to do next.

Over the past year, more and more of our phone calls and emails come from people who need a place like EC. And churches are reaching out to see how they can provide support to families within their body. In response, we are creating an Elijah Company toolkit: a set of recommended and created resources that any church can use to launch their own group. The kit includes a set of four Bible and book study resources and also a set of 52 guided prayer sheets. The kit will be available to download from the "Resources" page of our website beginning August 5. The studies and prayer sheets are chosen and designed to facilitate encountering God and being equipped as individuals and a group to walk faithfully alongside a friend or family member who identifies as LGBTQ+.

Our hope and prayer is that this toolkit would encourage and equip local churches to begin a small support group within their own bodies. Our staff is available to help with all aspects of setting up the group, ordering resources, and training facilitators. We are also planning to hold monthly Zoom calls for the facilitators and pastors of new groups to attend for support and encouragement. If you or your church is interested, please contact the office and we can help you get started.

Maybe today you are confused and adrift due to a family member or friend's decision to "come out." As God reminded Elijah in 1 Kings 19, "you are not alone!" We at Outpost are here to provide support, encouragement, and resources. Whether you join Elijah Company here with us, or start a group of your own, we pray that you will find a way to encounter God, be equipped with truth, and be strengthened to walk in faithfulness to God and compassion toward your loved one. Amen.

Wendy

Family and friends of strugglers and/or LGBTQ+-identified individuals are invited to a planning meeting for Elijah Company's fall semester meetings on Thursday, September 12, at 7:00 pm at the Outpost office in Golden Valley and on Zoom. If you are interested in participating, please contact the office so we can send you directions and connection information.

*Elijah
CO.*



OUTPOST MINISTRIES

PO BOX 22429 • ROBBINSDALE, MN 55422-0429

Inside:
Walking in
Faithfulness



9 . 2 1 . 2 4

Let's stay connected!

Return the slip below with your gift and/or a note to our staff. You can also use it to update us about any changes to your address, email, or phone number.

If you would prefer, follow this link to donate using our secure online form:



Thank you and God bless!

Fall Auction Help

We're still furiously getting ready for our fall auction and can use your help. We need some key items to help us build some exciting baskets for everyone to bid on. Here's what we are looking to gather by the end of August:

- \$35 gift cards to Minnesota State Parks, Red Robin, Barnes & Noble, Mad Hatter Tea Room, and AMC or Emagine movie theaters
- \$25 gift cards to Bill's Imported Foods, Cost Plus World Market, area grocery stores, and fast-casual restaurants like Chipotle, Qdoba, Panera, Noodles & Company, and so on
- \$15 gift cards to fast food restaurants like Chick-fil-A, Wendy's, Culver's, Jimmy Johns, and the like plus \$10 gift cards to Sencha, Caribou, and other local coffee shops
- 1,000—10,000 Marriott Bonvoy reward points that can be transferred to the TCJHOP account to help us purchase other gift cards

If you are able to help, please pick up one or more items from the list and contact us to make arrangements for drop-off at the office. Alternatively, you can mail them in to us. Drop us a quick note at outpostinfo@outpostministries.org or call the office at 763-592-4700 and leave a message with us so we can be watching the mail. Thank you so much for your support!

PLEASE CUT ALONG DOTTED LINE

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City, State, Zip: _____
 Phone: _____ Email: _____

Here's my gift of \$500 _____ \$250 _____ \$100 _____ \$50 _____ Other _____

To support the ministry of _____ (List staff name or other designation)
 _____ Charge my Visa, MasterCard, Discover, or American Express _____ Check Enclosed

I authorize Outpost to charge my credit card for the above amount. Should I choose to change or cancel this transaction, I will contact the Donor Relations Manager within 24 hours at 763-210-2636 or donations@tcjhopp.org.

Signature for Credit Card Authorization: _____

Outpost is a ministry of the Twin Cities Justice House of Prayer, which is incorporated under the Minnesota Nonprofit Corporation Act. Contributions are solicited with the understanding that Outpost Ministries has complete discretion and control over the use of all donated funds. No goods or services are provided in connection with these gifts unless otherwise noted.

Mail to:
PO Box 22429
Robbinsdale, MN 55422



ON: Office Use Only
 Last Four _____
 Date _____
 Staff: _____

Credit Card #: _____ Exp. Date: _____/_____/_____ CVV (3 digit code): _____

Staff will shred the bottom portion of the form to protect your privacy.