

JEN GREGORY

GCI Board Member
Munster, IN

Background:

How do you serve in GCI?

I have been an Elder in GCI since 2017. I served as co-pastor of CenterPointe Church in Grove City, OH along with my husband Tony, for 2 ½ years. I am also a member of the GCI Board of Directors.

How did you connect with GCI?

I found GCI through my husband, Tony. When we began dating he told me about this “awesome church” he attended, so I asked if I could go with him one weekend. He agreed and I have attended ever since!

What are some of your reasons for choosing to participate with GCI in ministry?

I love being a part of GCI’s ministry for many reasons. First, it is important to me that my denomination endorses women in leadership roles. I am a firm believer that Jesus uplifted women to be evangelists to help spread the good news (See John 4: 1-42 and John 20:17-18), as well as serve in other important leadership roles. Our denomination has followed his example by allowing women to be ordained and to serve in leadership.

I also admire our denomination’s commitment to constantly evaluating our understanding of God’s word. It was before my time with GCI, but we re-examined our thinking and made some significant changes based on the Holy Spirit’s revealing of truths to us. I appreciate a denomination that is open to that kind of fundamental shift toward biblical truth.

I also appreciate our commitment to the Love Avenue or expressing the love of God to others in the way that means the most to them. Not everyone receives love expressed to them in the same way. Our congregations and individual members work hard to learn how to best express that love to their neighbors in a way that is most meaningful to them. Some people might need help with food, others with clothing, while still others might need child care. Some people simply need an ear to listen to them.



Get to Know Jen



1.

Who has invested in you to support you in your ministry? First and foremost, my husband and daughter have been my biggest supporters and encouragers for me in this ministry. They have both told me that God created me to be a chaplain, and I've always been one... Now I've finally figured it out! Secondly John Karlson, former Pastor at CenterPointe Church and current GCI elder encouraged me in this ministry. He suggested I come to the hospital where he works as a chaplain to fulfill the internship requirement for my Pastoral Counseling degree. That is where I realized that I loved the work of hospital chaplaincy. John taught me and encouraged me in this calling. I am forever grateful to him.

2.

What are 5 things you can't live without? I can “live without” just about anything. But, life is better with coffee, tacos, exercise, electric blankets and hockey.

3.

How do you experience/feel close to God? There are three main ways I experience God: First through the love of my family. I know God is reaching through them and showing me his love by the way they make me feel. Second, I experience God in my work as a chaplain. I always feel like God has his hand on my shoulder when I'm talking to patients and families. I don't always know how to respond to every unique situation, but God has guided me every step of the way. I don't get nervous about talking to people because I know God is always with me. Finally, I experience God in nature. There are so many beautiful things that God has created. I love mountains, the moon and beautiful sunsets. I think nature is a gift from God to make us appreciate the beauty in the world.

4.

Everyone who knows you knows you love: Hockey. I am a Chicago Blackhawks fan. Tony and I had season tickets for nine years and got to see the Blackhawks win three Stanley Cups! We also are on a quest to see a game in every NHL team's arena. Of the 32 current teams in the NHL, we've been to 18 of the arenas. We've also been to the Hockey Hall of Fame in Toronto.

5.

Describe your perfect day: My perfect day would be spent cooking with my family. We all love cooking from scratch and eating healthy. Cooperating with one another, learning from one another, and spending the time together having fun and being silly while creating a delicious meal together would make it a perfect day.

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