

Life Christian Counseling Network



September, 2009 - Vol 2, Issue 8

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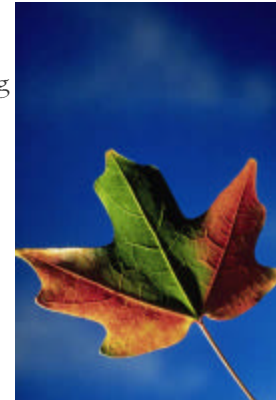
[Melwood Church of the Nazarene](#)

Dear Peter,

We are back! After our newsletter's summer hiatus, Life Christian Counseling Network is back for the fall season. We are very excited about upcoming events this fall and winter and are even more excited to be able to share these events with all of you!

God bless,

Life Christian Counseling Network



Upcoming Events



Mt. Carmel Baptist Church (Washington DC)

Saturday, September 26th - Homecoming Fellowship. Mt. Carmel is having an indoor picnic to help welcome back members of the church that have been out of town for various reasons. The event will held at 12 noon. For more information, call the church at 202-842-3411, ext. 3.

Melwood Church of the Nazarene (Upper Marlboro, MD)

Thursday, October 29th - Blood Drive. The Melwood Church of the Nazarene is holding a blood drive at their church from 1 pm to 7 pm. Come and give the gift of

Life to those in the DC metro area. For more information, call the church at 301-599-6700

Jay Farris - Featured Counselor



Jay Farris, M.A.

Following 26 years of military service Jay Farris joined Life Christian Counseling Network as a therapist working with individuals and couples. Jay has tremendous experience in crisis management, mediation and arbitration, marriage and family therapy, and behavior therapy. God has uniquely prepared Jay through his extensive life, work, ministry and educational experiences to provide support and guidance to those working toward reconciliation, healing, and the development of life skills that free them to experience and share the hope, love, joy, peace and purpose that God intends for them.

As a military veteran, Jay has personal knowledge of the special challenges our military veterans and their families endure. Jay has served the Lord as a Gideon, in numerous church leadership positions, in prison ministry through Prison Fellowship, and within the community as a coach of youth sports teams.

Jay earned a Bachelor's degree in Criminology and a Minor degree in Psychology from Florida State University, a Master of Arts degree in Criminal Justice from Michigan State University, and a Master of Science degree in Counseling from Capital Bible Seminary located in Lanham, Maryland. Jay is a husband of 33 years, a father of three grown children, a father-in-law and grandfather.

To schedule an appointment with Jay, call 301-292-2778, or email us at info@lifechristiancounseling.com.

Message from the Director



Yesterday a dear friend walked through my front door and back into my life. We haven't spoken for seven years because of a deeply wounding misunderstanding. Childhood wounds left over from growing up were raked open by the misunderstanding and created a tremendous gulf of hurt and fear between us, separating not only us, but also our children, who loved each other like siblings.

As we held each other, cried, asked for, gave and received forgiveness, it felt like a homecoming.

As we talked for what seemed like hours, we cried for the joy of restoration and cried for the grief of so many lost opportunities. She has missed our birthdays, Christmases, graduations, the celebrations of our family, and my recovery from the grief of my mother's death. I have missed their graduations, the celebration of her children going off to college, and the death of her mother and sister.

Jesus talked a lot about loss: His most famous stories are the parables of the lost sheep, the lost coin, and the lost son. Hurt and grief can be so painful that it may feel like we will never be able to recover from what has been lost. But the hope of forgiveness and restoration is greater.

As we talked we realized that we have never stopped praying for each other. We have prayed for each other's children and families, and we have prayed for reconciliation.

This is the day that the Lord has made! We will rejoice and be glad in it!

Blessings,

Christine Buckingham, LCPC
Life Christian Counseling Network