



# FCC Membership Biography

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## *Kim Albrightson*

My name is Kim Albrightson and I am from Woodville, Wisconsin. I grew up in a semi-normal Lutheran home. My dad was a pilot, a hobby farmer and rarely went to church. My mom was a substitute school teacher and director of music at our church. I have one older sister and one younger brother. I graduated from college and I was married for over 15 years. We had three children who are now grown and living out of state and I pray for them every day. I am an architectural designer and own my own business creating new homes and renovations and I also have a new branch of the business rearranging spaces ultimately transforming and improving the flow of the home or business and the flow of the relationships of the people occupying the spaces.

I was about 12 years old at bible camp, sitting on a rock next to the water - a huge Rock. The sun was shining - brighter than I had ever seen and I was filled with the Holy Spirit and I knew Jesus was with me - He would always be with me for the rest of my life! I received Him into my heart and fully, fully accepted the love that He could bring me and the love of the Father, and the gift of the Holy Spirit.

When I went home and told my mother and my sister - Lutheran's who do not believe in "born again" - they laughed at me. So, I did not tell anyone else of my experience. But, I knew this light was now inside of me - something which never let me despair to the point of giving up, something that allowed me a freedom that others did not have when I went out into the world. But, I did not understand it or study it or truly know what it meant. I just knew it was there.

I tried to give this light to as many people as I possibly could - I just kept trying to give it away. Because of the trauma I had been through in my childhood and because I didn't find safety with my parents or my home, I looked for safety with everyone I met. I would try to give them this light by trying to help them to be happy - in any way shape or form that I could. I literally traveled all over the world trying to bring light and help as many people as possible - but without understanding the incredible importance of Christ being our Savior. Instead, I allowed in all beliefs and all notions of "God" - trying to be fair and open minded. Eventually, I began to feel my light waning. The darkness was creeping in from all of the various spirits people carried, would bring to me and now I could not escape.

Then, in January of 2019, after returning from a trip to Peru, Jesus stood in my bedroom and again I was filled with this enormous love and peace and profound light.

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Jesus said to me "Get to Hudson. Find a church. Get a job. Get an apartment. Go now and do not look back."

About 6 months before that, a dear friend from my childhood had given me a Bible. I hadn't had one in years and I don't know that I ever actually opened it or read it. I started to read that Bible every day after that. My plan was to check out all the churches in Hudson until I found the one that fit. But, when I came to Faith Community Church I knew I was home! I did not need to look any further. Jesus had brought me home to exactly where I needed to be!

I was baptized on my 58th birthday, September 22nd 2020 in the St. Croix River in Hudson by my pastor Tim Prince, without whose friendship I would not have found my way to that water, and my Christian Counselor and friend, Kathy Helgeson. All the people who had helped get me to that point - which was no small task!! - were there to celebrate the joy of this new birth!

I know I have a long, long way to go and so much to learn. I am still a small child in Christ. But the old man has fallen away and the new man is here to stay. I have given my whole life, fully and completely, to serving the Lord in every way I possibly can.

At Faith I serve on the hospitality team, ushering people into our sanctuary. I utilize my architectural design skills to design and layout the sanctuary, stage and other key spaces in our church. I sing on the worship team joyfully praising God and leading others in worship and praise. I took the course Christianity Explored then began taking Biblical Counseling classes with Pat Stream and am now in my fourth class - Freedom groups for Biblical Counseling - and I am studying for the ACBC Biblical Counseling certification and have observed counseling by both Pat Stream and Larry Szyman. And, I joyfully participate in Faithworks, helping others and seizing these opportunities to be more like Christ. All these things are important to me and I truly love to serve. My passion is to lead a truly biblical life, humbly following Jesus' exemplary life, joyfully connecting with others, singing and initiating creative solutions which encourage people to follow Christ.

Every day I read the Bible - morning and night. I have participated in countless classes and studies of the Bible. I actively participate in the River Missional Community with Tim and Darcy Prince and the Worship Team Missional Community with Kevin and Shannon Christopher. I listen to Christian music, watch Christian movies, every time I get into my car I put on the armor of God by reciting Ephesians 6:10-20. There are a lot of other Bible passages I have memorized and more are on my list to memorize. The truth of His word, the gift of eternal life, of His forgiveness and His resurrection fill me with so much love and hope every day. Essentially, I immerse myself in the loving presence of God through prayer, scripture and with those who live His message - to love one another as He has loved us. Each day, I feel more and more peace - a peace that surpasses all understanding, because it comes out of nowhere and fills me with an inner calm that radiates out and makes me smile, knowing I am a child of God! I know God is there. He is my one true friend who I can trust unconditionally. He guides me and protects me and loves me. It is that kind of love that forgives my many, many sins - too many to list here - and has set me free by dying on the cross!

I would like to continue my journey in Christ Jesus at our church and become a full-fledged member of Faith Community Church. I humbly ask that you consider allowing me to officially join this beautiful Christian Community and serve the Lord through this church.