

## Curt & Judy Ashburn

Curt and Judy Ashburn met in college and got married in 1975. After Curt earned his Master of Divinity from Eastern Mennonite Seminary, they moved to DC in 1981 to start Washington Community Fellowship on Capitol Hill where Curt pastored until 1986. They moved to their current home in Anacostia in July of 1986 where they raised their three children, Jonathan, Matthew, and Rebekah.

Throughout the '80's their commitment to Christian racial, economic, political, and religious reconciliation was deepened by their mentors from the African American community, John Stagers, Rev. Samuel Hines, Herb Barksdale and Tom and Barbara Skinner. They started a nonprofit ministry in 1988 and bought Camp Oak Hill in Judy's home area, Lancaster County, Pa. where they spent their summers running camps for children primarily from SE DC. The camp now operates year-round hosting events such as retreats, family gatherings, and weddings.

In 1989 Judy received her Spiritual Director certification from Shalem Institute for Spiritual Formation in Bethesda, Md. After that, she earned her master's in counseling degree from James Madison University and in 1996 met Dr. David Allen and worked for him as a therapist at the Renaissance Clinic in Arlington, Va. Under his supervision, she became a Licensed Professional Counselor, served as a volunteer therapist for the homeless at Gospel Rescue Ministries (GRM), and in 1999 was named clinical director and started the Bridges for Women program which provided an alternative to prison for women arrested for prostitution. In 2000 she became the director of the Fulton House of Hope, a one-year residential addiction treatment program for women. She received her Addiction Counselor Level II Certification in 2003. In 2011 she moved on from GRM to become the head of treatment for Samaritan Inns. In 2015 she was instrumental in Samaritan Inns opening the Clark Inn, the first residential treatment program for women with children in Washington, D.C. She continues to be instrumental in the expansion of programs for the homeless at Samaritan Inns.

Curt resumed coaching football and from 1995 through 2016 he coached at Gonzaga for 3 years and DeMatha Catholic for 19 years. In 2009 Dr. David Allen asked Curt to use his work as the basis for teaching the homeless men who were in treatment at GRM. That led to a collaboration with Dr. Allen that continues to this day and includes teaching his theory, publishing his books, and offering retreats and seminars on trauma recovery. Curt also started his own publishing company as an offshoot of his work for Dr. Allen called Sudden Change Media.

With the influence of their daughter, Rebekah, entering the Catholic Church and getting to know the people at St. Teresa's, Msg. East and the sisters at the convent, Judy came into the Church in 2009 followed by Curt in 2011. You can learn more about that time and Curt and Judy's conversion to the Roman Catholic Church by watching their January 2020 appearance on "The Journey Home" that aired on EWTN. Just go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ixOxvQ4coll&t=3s> or search YouTube for "Curt and Judy Ashburn Journey Home."