Meet the Authors:



Tom Corbell, Hospice Pastor

Tom is a Lutheran pastor who has served Jesus in both North and South Carolina for 49 years. Six of those years he worked as a Hospice Chaplain, and he encountered cancer daily. The privilege of praying, working with and supporting cancer patients and their families is an honor.

Michael David Gira, Jr., Cancer Survivor



David is an ordained United Methodist Pastor and graduate of Duke Divinity School. He and his wife, Amy, live in Raleigh, North Carolina, and have three children. In 2017 he was diagnosed with stage four lung cancer. In his book, How Cancer Cured Me, he shares many ways he experienced God's healing. Writing for Cancer Companions, he continues to proclaim Christ's hope and healing power to others experiencing cancer. <u>https://www.davidgira.com/how-cancer-cured-me</u>



Niki Hardy, Family Member and Cancer Survivor

Niki is a British author, speaker, podcast host and cancer thriver. Through her books Breathe Again: How to Live Well When Life Falls Apart and One Minute Prayers for Women with Cancer, and her free Trusting God Through Cancer Summit and Chemo Chair Prayers podcast, she helps people discover life doesn't have to be pain-free to be full, then go live it. Download her FREE book bundle or find other resources at <u>nikihardy.com</u>.



Dan Held, Cancer Caregiver

Dan is a cancer caregiver who lives with his wife (Sue) of 55 years in Dayton, Ohio, where Sue has been free from breast cancer and colon cancer for two years! Dan is an ordained pastor and a licensed therapist with a heart for families touched by cancer at any stage. He is dedicated to promoting the message of more love and less fear in all aspects of his ministry and life. Check out his blog at <u>www.danielkheld.com</u>.



Dominique McLin, Cancer Caregiver

Dominique has walked alongside her husband, mom and dad during their respective cancer journeys all while working in a demanding position with a major healthcare company. Dominique and her husband Elvin live in Ellisville, MO and are blessed with 5 adult children and 5 grandchildren. Dominique and Elvin received support from Cancer Companions and consider it an honor to be able to give back to the ministry and provide support to others diagnosed with cancer.



Elvin K. McLin, Cancer Survivor

Elvin is the husband of Dominique. They live in Ellisville, Missouri where they share five beautiful adult children and five beautiful grandchildren. Elvin is an entrepreneur who began his journey with cancer in 2019 with stage three and stage four kidney cancer. As he was healing from the first encounter with cancer another battle with cancer reared itself in the form of prostate cancer. Elvin has been welcomed by Cancer Companions to become a Board of Directors member.

Jenni Ritzert, Cancer Caregiver



Jenni's husband, Mark, passed away after a courageous battle with pancreatic cancer. They benefited in amazing ways from a Cancer Companions class called "Seeing God in your Cancer Journey." Mark was able to fully realize God's extravagant love and Jenni learned to lean on God and others throughout those difficult times. Jenni retired in 2020 from Wright Patterson Air Force Base. She prays the devotionals she wrote will help caregivers as they journey through cancer with their family/friends.



Thomas W. Sherrod, Cancer Survivor

Tom is a retired hospital chaplain who works part time for Atrium Wake Forest Baptist Health System in North Carolina. He organized and facilitated a cancer support group for twenty years as part of his hospital ministry. He is married for fortyfour years and enjoys his three daughters, two sons-in-law and five grandchildren. He is a recent survivor of prostate cancer and is immensely thankful for all of God's grace and provisions through it all.



Ashley Taylor, Cancer Survivor

Ashley is married to James, and they have two daughters, Grace and Hannah. All four are big Tar Heel fans, having attended the same school, UNC-Chapel Hill. In 2020 Ashley obtained her roofing license to help with her family's business. She is a breast cancer survivor. She has been grateful for the opportunity to join the devo team for Cancer Companions, to reach out to others for God's glory for His goodness in her cancer journey.



Karen Tripp, MS LMFT, Cancer Caregiver

Karen is the Executive Director of Cancer Companions, the premiere national Christian cancer ministry (<u>https://www.cancercompanion.org</u>). Her roles have included authoring several Christian books including God is Bigger Than Your Cancer and working as a licensed marriage and family therapist. She is a daughter of a colon cancer survivor. Karen uses her experience to teach how to step into another person's struggle to help build their faith while strengthening your own.



Sharon D. Ware, RN, M.A., M.S.N, Ed. D, CCHC-C, Cancer Survivor

Sharon is an Eastern Orthodox Christian. She retired in 2015 from nursing when she was diagnosed with metastatic ovarian cancer and given a few months to live. Her life was turned upside down. She underwent chemotherapy and multiple surgeries. Cancer Companions along with her faith in the Lord allowed her to cope with her new normal. Sharon is still receiving chemotherapy seven years later and believes her ultimate victory is trusting in God.



Karen Y. Wonders, PhD, FACSM, Cancer Caregiver

Karen is the Founder and CEO of Maple Tree Cancer Alliance, and Professor/Program Director of Exercise Physiology at Wright State University. Her passion is to advocate for exercise as part of the national standard of care for cancer. Her nonprofit organization provides free exercise training to thousands of cancer survivors every month

(<u>www.mapletreecanceralliance.org</u>). Dr. Wonders and her husband have 7 children—aged 16 and younger. If you think her hands are full, you should see her heart!



Justin Wood, Childhood Cancer Survivor

Justin lives in Bowling Green, Kentucky with his wife and six homeschooled kids. Through his life Justin has become a wonderful mix of entrepreneur, English teacher and foreign missionary. He is a survivor of childhood cancer. Justin is very grateful for Cancer Companions and the opportunity to be a part of this devotional writing process.