

My Green Lake Story: Sarah Purpura



Sarah, her brother David and their parents Dawn and Mike

When I was in grade school, I came to the Children's Center. As I grew up, I attended Quest, and came back as a youth counselor when I was in college.



Left to right: Jeffrey and Julie Kimsey-Carroll and Michael and Dawn Purpura

My parents Michael and Dawn (Kimsey) Purpura met at Green Lake the summer of 1981. My aunt and uncle (Jeffrey and Julie Kimsey-Carroll) met the following summer. My grandparents (George and Joyce Kimsey) spent many years attending different conferences at Green Lake and my grandparents (Jeannine and Frank Tomaszewski) worked at the assembly,

and lived in one of the white farmhouses at the front of the property for a time.

I've been up there every summer since the summer of 1992 - my parents brought me up three short months after I was born, which would have been



Sarah (second row, third from left) and the Quest staff

"I love to walk through the grounds hearing the carillon, thinking of how God has woven my family's story into this place, and how He continues to be faithful to us and so many other people through the ministry of Green Lake."

August of 1992. I've cherished every summer night there - from climbing towers with my cousins, to getting into a little mischief with the Quest staff. I've read a lot about the history of Green Lake, and how the land changed hands over time. It is wonderful to see God's faithfulness in it all - how it has been grown and cultivated to be a place where those who know the Lord can marvel at His creation and those who don't can meet Him for the first time.

I've brought a lot of friends from home to experience Green Lake and have watched them fall in love. They talk about coming back all year!

When I walk on the rugged old roads, and stroll through trees, the words of this hymn come to mind: "O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder, consider all the worlds Thy hand hath made." I'm thankful for this display of God's beauty. I love to walk through the grounds hearing the carillon, thinking of how God has woven my family's story into this place, and how He continues to be faithful to us and so many other people through the ministry of Green Lake.



Sarah and family at Kimsey-Edwards House, Green Lake