

## Story of Faith: Cheryl Meichsner

I was born and raised on the Oregon Coast and lived there for 60 years. Never did I imagine the adventure that God had planned for me with our move across the country to beautiful Covington, Georgia.

My life together with my husband started when we were married in a little white church in Scottsburg, Oregon. I worked at a bank, and he worked as a carpenter. When we started our family, I stayed at home for ten years to raise the babies. As the three children got older and went to school, I started work at a law firm as a legal secretary, and worked there for 29 years.

When we became grandparents for the first time, we were overjoyed. Then our daughter and son-in-law moved to Georgia, and took my grandbaby with them. I was heartbroken when I thought of the distance between us.

I missed my grandbaby so much, and wondered if we could possibly move to Georgia too? For three years we prayed and discussed the possibility of moving to the South. Could I retire? Could I make new friends? Could we find a new church home? Could we sell our house? Will I be homesick? Was it God's plan for us? How could I leave all that was familiar, for so many unknowns? My many worries were obstacles, and my faith was tested. But God's timing and plans are perfect, and as we prayed and sought His wisdom, He led the way, opened doors, and grew my faith as I trusted Him with my future. God turned my worries into a dream, and then my dream into a reality. I relied on His faithful promise in Jeremiah 29:11 "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

God's extra blessings: Our son was able to move with us to Covington, our youngest daughter moved closer, and we were blessed with more grandchildren. And we found a church to call home.