

# Ben & Kelly Spitler

Name	Consulting Specialties
Ben & Kelly Spitler	TIPs Pastor

Pastors Ben and Kelly Spitler just completed 35 and 1/2 years of pastoral ministry at the Gaithersburg Church of the Nazarene (GCN) on the Mid-Atlantic District. GCN is a beautifully diverse church in the Maryland suburbs of Washington D.C. It is a church that feels like family and has been faithful to carry on the mission of Christ to go out into the world with the good news of the Gospel. They have a desire to serve in the community and to keep the family circle open to everyone.

Kelly was born in Salt Lake City, Utah and spent a few of her childhood years in Loveland, CO. But spent most of her life on a farm in Chester County, PA, southwest of Philadelphia. Ben is an Ohio guy originally, but spent a few years in Pennsylvania and Georgia as a child.

Kelly graduated in 1981 from West Chester University in West Chester, Pennsylvania with a bachelor's degree in Philosophy. She graduated from Nazarene Theological Seminary (NTS) with a Masters of Divinity (MDiv) degree in 1986 and will receive a Doctor of Ministry (DMin) degree from that same institution in April of this year. The focus of her doctoral dissertation is emerging adults (ages 18-30), the church, and how to have a vibrant ministry that retains and equips them. Kelly has served for many years on the Mid-Atlantic District's Board of Ministry as well as co-director of Children's and Teen Camps, Women's Ministry Team and Pastoral Support Committee.

Ben graduated in 1982 from Mount Vernon Nazarene College with a bachelor's degree in Behavioral Sciences. He also went on to graduate from NTS with an MDiv in 1985. He's served on the Mid-Atlantic District's Board of Ministry, Advisory Board, Finance Committee, co-directed Children's and Teen Camp and served as a Zone Facilitator.

Kelly and Ben met and married while at NTS in 1985. They moved to Gaithersburg the following year. They have two grown daughters. Rebekah who is 32, lives in Columbus, Ohio and works as a neuro-feedback technician. Abby who is 29, co-pastors with her husband Jared the Church of the Nazarene in Brookville, PA. Abby and Jared just had their first baby in December, a little girl named Ember (Emmy) Morning!

Both Kelly and Ben enjoy reading, hiking, tennis and working in the yard. Ben still likes playing some basketball, football, softball, golf—basically anything with a ball. Kelly enjoys volleyball, is a great cook and enjoys having folks into their home. They live in a 107 year old farmhouse that they bought and renovated in 2001.

Ben and Kelly have a strong desire to follow Jesus, make a difference in the world and encourage His church. They love the church, love God's Word, are willing to do just about anything and are grateful for all that God has blessed them with and given them the opportunity to do.