

# Niall & Christy Philyaw Biography



Sunday, October 21, 2018

## Niall

*I experienced the blessing of being raised in a strong Christian home and a faithful church*

*(Grace Presbyterian Church in Peoria, IL). I trusted in the death and resurrection of Christ at the young age of six years old. My father asked me if I was ready to ask*



*Jesus to forgive me of my sins and come into my heart. I said “yes” and received forgiveness and new life of my Savior. The next 33 years have been spent understanding and living out that childhood decision. As a junior at Peoria Christian School in 1997, I felt God calling me to full time ministry through the preaching of Pastor Tom Mahairas from New York City, who was used by God to lead a spiritual revival at my school. I then attended Moody Bible Institute, where I first practiced ministry in the city of Chicago and grew to love theology. After two internships in Peoria, IL, I came to Waushara Community Church (EFCA) in Wautoma, WI in 2002. Right before this move to Wisconsin, I married my wife, Christy. We have four children, having adopted our fourth from Uganda in 2013. In 2012, I became senior pastor at Three Lakes Evangelical Free Church, where I am currently serving. I am excited about what Christ is doing at Grace Church, and prayerfully committed to taking this next step with you, Lord willing.*

## Christy

*I was 5 years old when I prayed to accept Jesus as my Lord and Savior. My dad prayed with me that day in the car. My family worshipped at Glad Tidings Assembly of God in East Peoria. It was in this church that I developed my love for Jesus and music, which found its expression in worship. Even from a young age, I always knew I wanted to marry a pastor and be in ministry with him. After Niall and I married, I loved serving in the youth ministry at Waushara Community Church, and it was there that I began leading worship, which I continue to do at Three Lakes Evangelical Free Church. Currently, I am also leading our mom’s group, which reaches out to many mothers with pre-schoolers in the Three Lakes community. I have a strong heart for children, which fits that ministry.*

*I am blessed to be a mother of 4: Derek, Brayden, Katelyn, and Grayson. My desire is to use my gifts and abilities for God’s glory and for helping people love and worship Christ wholeheartedly.*

