



## Christopher Hess

### RISEN CHURCH

### About the Family

My wife and I met at a college Bible study in 2012 and were married on June 14, 2014. We both work at our local community college, where we have the privilege of engaging our community while providing for our family. In 2019, we welcomed our daughter, our greatest joy. As a family, we love spending time outdoors, gathering around bonfires, and simply being together.

I earned my Master of Divinity from Liberty University and have served in ministry since 2008, when I began as a youth pastor at the age of 18. In 2025, the Lord led us to plant a church in the very town where I first began serving, and we are grateful to continue investing in the community that has shaped so much of our story.

### About My Church Plant

We planted Risen Church in August 2025. Our core team met in our home for 18 months before launch. The Lord was faithful, and we had two baptisms during our very first service.

I was born in Richlands, in the foothills of Appalachia. We planted in Richlands, but our prayer is to see seven more churches planted within 10 years in southwest Virginia. The Lord has blessed us to plant pregnant.

The coalfields of Virginia have lost many resources, and one of them has been faithful churches. We pray that Risen Church will not only be about becoming disciples, making disciples and glorifying God in Richlands, but also produce leaders to plant in the coalfields.

Join us in praying and believing that the Lord can move mountains and will move in them.

Find out how you can

**Pray.**

**Participate.**

**Provide.**

#### PRAY.

Pray for boldness to share the gospel and open hearts among the people to whom we speak.  
Pray that through this ministry, more people would come to saving faith and live on mission.  
Pray for stamina and longevity for ministry amidst attacks from the enemy.

#### PARTICIPATE

Build relationships with missionaries and their families.  
Send notes of encouragement.  
Learn birthdays and anniversaries, so you can send gifts and cards.

#### PROVIDE

Learn the ministry strategy and context, so you can provide relevant resources.  
Support a missionary financially.