

## **The Bingamans at a Glance**

Rev. Kerry Bingaman was born and raised outside Sunbury, PA and has called River of Life A/G his home church since he was in his early teens, when the work was still in its first years under its founding Pastor, Rev. Benny Ortiz. At that time, it was called First Assembly of God. It was during these formidable years that he was filled with the Holy Spirit and sensed God's leading for ministry, which was over 22 years ago.

A 1990 graduate of Valley Forge Christian College, and an ordained minister with the Assemblies of God, Kerry is married to his wife and ministry partner of over 17 years, Ileana (Lily), whom he met while ministering in her home church in Hoboken, New Jersey. Together they have shared the call of God upon their home and have complimented each other on every level of life and ministry. Kerry is a gifted Preacher/Teacher who ministers with the passion of an Evangelist, the voice of a Prophet, and the heart of a Pastor. Lily is a teacher through and through, and has carried a ministry heart for the children, youth and women since the earliest days of her calling. With her bachelor's degree from East Stroudsburg University, she has a dual certification to teach in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and is currently doing coursework for her master's degree at Bloomsburg University.

The leading of the Lord has afforded Kerry and Lily a wide range of ministry experience, a broad understanding of the church world and its needs. Together they have ministered in every corner of the local church, from infants to elderly. Kerry has held ministry positions as Youth and Children's Pastor, Senior Pastor, and Itinerant Evangelist that have exposed he and Lily to a wide variety of cultural and demographic ministry settings. From short term missions ministry in Guatemala, to inner city outreach in a home missions church; and from an affluent small town church, to an older established church in the suburbs; and then life on the Evangelistic road: - Ministry has given them a larger glance at the church today than many ever get to see.

Though their drive for ministry has always been central, Kerry and Lily found time to enjoy the blessings of raising three great sons, as well as take time for a few lesser joys this temporal life offers. A preacher by calling, Kerry is a licensed carpenter by trade, who also enjoys outdoor enjoyment that comes from hunting and fishing. He also has some God-given artistic talents that have been a source of relaxation, and ministry blessing at times. Lily is an avid reader, and insists on an occasional "Charlie Brown day" On those days, she doesn't have to get out of her PJ's and gets to relax in her bedroom all day with a good book or some old movies. Apart from Kerry and her boys, Lily finds great joy in securing new bruises and injuries while playing with her black Labrador pup, Maggie. Over the years, she has dabbled a bit with crafts and scrap booking, though spare time is often a rare commodity. Like most happily married couples they cherish any opportunities for an evening out, apart from their teenagers. Their oldest son, Jon (25) resides in Tampa, FL and is to be married in August 2007. Kevin (16) is itching to start driving, and is the family's resident expert on all things scientific. The youngest, Josiah (15) loves his hair, his musical passions, and a special female interest in the Youth group.

In all, God has fashioned the Bingaman's into a family that has shared, with closeness, the joys, challenges, and disappointments that come with God's calling. God has been faithful to them through every one of them.