

KUMC of Koinonia 10th Anniversary Service
Sarah Choe

Hello! My name is Sarah Choe, and I have been given the privilege to share a little bit about my experience here at KUMC of Koinonia. I have started attending this church since the opening of the Manassas campus, so it has been exactly 10 years since I have been a part of this community of brothers and sisters. Even though I am a little bit nervous and not much of a public speaker, I am up here today to give glory to God for all He has done throughout these years. I can confidently say that I am a witness of God's faithfulness to this church, and I want to congratulate this body of Christ for responding to His goodness by faithfully serving His kingdom through Koinonia. Looking back to the past years, God has led us far from where we began, and we can only praise and give Him all the glory.

10 years ago, I began attending this church as a freshman in high school, not knowing anyone in the youth. Coming from a medium-sized church before, I was shocked to find only one pastor with a guitar, and about 10 youth kids gathered in a circle. We introduced ourselves and sang the song "Create in Me a Clean Heart" a couple times... and that is how it all began. We had no "official" service with a praise team and a sermon, like we are blessed with today. I look back and thank God with the fact that we're able to have a full service with dedicated pastors, teachers, and lay leaders that serve this community and the next generation.

Throughout the 10 years, there were many times where we had to say our good-byes to some pastors and welcome new ones. Although these transitions were not easy, God was present in every season, and I believe that each pastor had made a great impact in our lives individually and their faithful servanthood was greatly appreciated and missed.

Personally, this church and community is very special to me because of the Christ-centered relationships that I have been blessed with throughout the years. Through ups and downs, this family of brothers and sisters have anchored each other to keep pursuing for God's will by learning to let go of our selfish plans and desires. This church was also a safe place for me to be vulnerable, seek wisdom, and mature into who I am today.

I hope that KUMC of Koinonia will continue to be that safe place for the future generation, where they can grow in the Lord together and learn to be active in their faith throughout their everyday lives. As we look on to the next season, I pray that God will continue to bless this church by doing things according to His sovereign will and that His grace will be known and worshipped through our lives.

Once again, I would like to congratulate our church for its 10th birthday, for if it weren't our Father, we would not be where we are today. It is the power of God that is at work, and His grace is sufficient to us, so let us keep pursuing God together and be accountable to one another. God bless you all. Thank you!