



Julie is mom to Katie (13) and Hollie (11). She has been married to Bill for 18 years. Julie was born in Pierce, Nebraska and has also lived in Kearney, Nebraska, Lincoln, Nebraska and Omaha, Nebraska; relocating to Elmhurst a few years ago. She and her family joined ECRC in 2009.

- 1) Why do you feel God called you to be a mentor mom? I remember how hard it was to have two children under the age of two (and one throwing up in the sink as the other lost her lunch in the hallway). With both girls needing my attention at once, having even one hour of free-time seemed like too much to ask for—until now. Now Katie and Hollie are in middle school and I am excited to spend some of my newfound time with MOPS moms in need of the occasional reminder that there is a light at the end of the tunnel; and when you finally see it, you'll wish you had stayed in the dark a little longer because more important than waiting for things to get better, is realizing they already are.
- 2) What is your best advice to moms with preschoolers? When kids go berserk, put them to work.
- 3) What do you most enjoy doing with your kids? Hearing about their day as we walk home from the bus stop and introducing Katie and Hollie to my favorite movies, songs, and travel destinations. With your husband? Anything that gives us a chance to spend time together, even Nascar races.
- 4) What is your favorite part of MOPS? Listening to speaker presentations and enjoying fellowship with other moms.

Julie is the founder of the online ministry DiggingOutTogether.com. Through her blog, Time Out for Digging Out; podcast, Finding the Message in the Mess of Everyday Living; and speaking topics Julie encourages women to learn from what they live through and do something to improve their lives. She is studying to become a board certified life coach and, in her spare time, enjoys spending time with family; leading Elmhurst CRC's newcomer's ministry Moving On After Moving In; and proving (mostly to herself) that inch by inch, yard by yard, what seems impossible is only hard.