

David and Sarah Little, BOL in...arden (2024-02-09 09_56 GMT-7)

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SUMMARY KEYWORDS

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Dave:

I've got the camera off. And yeah, thank you so much for joining me today. I really appreciate you coming in, and I'd love for you to just start by introducing yourselves and sharing a little bit more about,

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kind of your, your story.

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Sarah:

All right, well, I'm Sarah Little, and I married this man . . .

David:

Seven years ago.

Sarah:

About seven years ago. Yeah, we're coming up on our seventh anniversary. So yes, it took us later in life to find love, love of my life. And we have, well, like basics I guess - we have four kids between us and eight grandkids. And we got a new grandbaby, one year-old fun, which which is really fun. We have one in chiropractic school. So yeah, a lot, a large range of ages. We both lived here for a long time. I moved to Colorado in 77 and he moved here in 89? And yeah, so we met at Discovery Church, and that's our church. And, yeah, and I'd say, he asked me at lunch, and I said it was a date. That's our, that's kind of our ongoing fun argument. He said, but it wasn't a date. Yes it was. Three hours later, it's a date! But yeah, and like you said, I'm when a CPA. I, right now, I'm just considering like going inactive with my license. But, so I'm the detail person. So we're a good combination. And I've, we're both retired. I'm retired. And we like to travel. We have a little camper, a little travel trailer.

Sarah:

In fact, we're planning a Southwest trip this spring.

Dave:

Oh, lovely.

Sarah:

Yeah. And then we started doing some international travel. We're going to South America in August. Oh, good. So we yeah, we love traveling together.

02:11

What else? Is that about it?

Left off at 2:17 / 50:44

David:

Yeah, we are interesting. Balance. And we offset each other. We laugh because when we were just having coffee when we went for a hike I said how far did you go. four miles. She said, No, it was 3.84. So it kind of set the stage and here's how we do this. I'm from Southern Iowa. She's from Grand Island, Nebraska. Okay, so yeah. Three kids would work. Army officer, retired seven years. utility industry VP of utility was. And by the way, she ran a pension fund from the state to sugar and hottest, the

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DC portion. Right or accounting

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longer. That's it? Yeah.

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And I had public affairs HR, I'm an HR guy, basically HR and customer service under me. And then the company put up for sale. I said, I'm gonna be history to VPS doing what I did. So I knew the company. Well, we all knew each other. I started my own consulting firm, and closed it in 2022, 33 years. Wow. HR stuff became an honorable Headhunter for utility companies. And then we laughed because I really married into emergency planning when I married Sarah, because she has had a goal and participated for many years with the Broomfield VOAD or whatever it used to be called revert. Yeah. So an emergency planning for me in the utility industry, too. So it's kind of been a natural transition. And we've just kind of moved with it. Just do what we do. Looking for accolades. It's just there to help. We are the leads for one of the ministries in our church and it's called discovery Boyd. So we have an emergency planning group of 20 some people there and basically, I'm a PR guy, so to speak. I mean, Sarah, she's got the ideas and we helped make it work. So we're very, although we don't live in Broomfield, we live in Thorton now, huge supporters of roofing like what it stands for Mmm. Good stuff like what we're witnessing here. So

05:06

yeah, VOAD stands for Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster. And I talk a little bit about the history of what VOAD is. It came about with Camille, what was the big hurricane back like in the 70s. So Camille, where and you had all these nonprofit organizations and faith based organizations that have like emergency branches, wanting to help and like coming, you know, honing in on the area, and no coordination. I mean, yeah, it was just a mess. helter skelter and helter skelter and the government

didn't know what they were doing. They didn't know what each other was doing the people that needed help. So that was the birth of the actually, it was under FEMA and Department of Homeland Security, they created a National VOAD. And so, and there still is a national go out. And it's there's four CS principles, and I always forget one of them, but like communication, collaboration, cooperation, you know, whatever the other one is. Compassion, that's the one I like. Um, and so they brought the major national organization, Salvation Army, American Red Cross, and, you know, got them talking to each other. And then state VOADs were created. And Colorado has a VOAD, and which has been instrumental in Colorado does have disasters, and, and I got to see it really firsthand with the marshal fires that Colorado VOAD stepped in. And I mean, you know, FEMA descends, and it's, and you've got, you know, the really worked very well, I thought, and in Colorado, I brought all the organizations together started meetings, everybody's talking, figuring out who's going to do what so Broomfield has is this. So then you have community VOADs, and so we're on the Colorado vote up VOAD website. I mean, if you go there, it's like partner VOADs, or whatever it's called. And, it all started with Karen steel. And, and Karina, Martin Martin, with the precious child, because back when Kent Davies was the emergency manager, he said, you know, what, if we had a disaster, you guys would be perfect to help. You've got the food, you know, and then you've got the goods, you know, so it would be Could you help me like, get community involvement in this. So they, so I'm a training junkie, and I and I started seeing them at various trainings, and I didn't know them, but I, but then when I found out there Broomfield, I introduced myself, we, we got to talking and they they had formed VERT at the time. vollen, and whatever it stood for voluntary emergency response team or something like that. And they called they gave me a call and asked if I wanted to participate with them. And I was like, Sure, and I don't know, this was a number of years ago now 1012 years ago. And this was pre Dave. And so I started, you know, we and then we, like formed bile. I mean, we got we started getting it together, I will encourage them to go under the VOAD and actually because it's like, why not become like, official? And so anyway, so it's, it has pretty much thrived. Right now we're at the point where like, we're needing new blood. You know, it's like we've a lot of us been involved for a long time, and we need to bring people up, that will keep it going. But so yeah, we have quarterly meetings. And we're the marshal fire we got made a lot of great connections on knowing like what organizations are around, like, getting connections with other VOADs like Boulder County VOAD and that type of thing. So

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The national has put together principles of how you interface with volunteers, rights and responsibilities. So the volunteers are treated like second class citizens are treated with respect. So the when you do a call out, here's what you need. So where it is. So that's really put together some really good guidelines, but we are expected to capitalize on which we have done yeah. Specific examples. Sarah headed up the volunteer coordination, Marshal fires and we Broomfield VOAD really jumped in and helped Boulder, Boulder County big time. neighbors helping neighbors, neighbors helping neighbors. She'd made it seamless because she basically headed that up. Broomfield VOAD put together an emotional spiritual care team. That is that is now a functioning team so that if the balloon goes up someplace else, they can come in and help. And it was huge during the Marshall fires, they went to the donation center, and just mingled with folks who were stressed.

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And there was training of that. Kathy Escobar, from the refuge headed that she Yeah, she was the champion, okay. And, and then, and a person's child really stepped up to when it came to the goods management and like helping with that, and even getting the Donation Center, the old Macy's building, Karina had that connection to get that set up. So you know, it's always like everybody helping is just wonderful.

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But it is about relationships. It's who you know. And what we're trying to do is actually bring along some folks, and it's coming, but it's just, you know, the large faith based community population we have involved and they want to participate. And they want to know how we can get our people to participate. And I think, you know, the type of disaster influences how much someone's interested too. So it's just it has a personality all its own every time. But when we helped with the pandemic, we'd get a call and say, Can you help direct traffic at a testing site? Or she did that entry, we put on the personal protective equipment, they filled the vials. People came to them to give the shots when they ask us, and we jumped in and help walk up to me and give them what we hope to get on three. Yeah,

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over the Firstbank center, that big inoculation Oh, yeah, yeah.

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And the night of the fire, I headed for the first bank center, Sarah set with a laptop at home. And her phone number got put on the precious child website,

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that Facebook page just for meeting volunteers. It's

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gone all of a sudden, yeah,

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150 calls, and I respond to every one of them. And it was, well, first of all, I have to say it was the now we can look back at kind of what's going on, right? The we're just I mean, like we say, we live in Thornton. And, and my sister, you know, texted me and she's like, Do you believe what's going on? And I'm like, no, what, and she and I looked outside and you can see this, you know, even all the way out. And and she said there's a huge fire and I so immediately turn on the news. So then I contacted our emergency manager at that point. I said Boaz ready if you need anybody, just let us know. He's telling it. Let me get back to you in about 20 minutes. So then he texted me and he said, we could use 15 volunteers over at the first bank center, we're going to be an evacuation site. So then Dave, and I are like, prepping, and we're here

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with our care without a conditions in

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essence. And he's the he's the vice chair. And so we're like, and I'm the I'm the preparedness response and recovery manager for Boyd. And so we're we're both getting our Go kits, and we're both thinking we're gonna go to First Bank, and I'm like, wait, I said it, actually, you have the idea. You know, it's like, you would be better going over there and actually working with the people and the volunteers. I'd be better coordinating, taking the call, yeah, who to send to you. So we thought we would figure that out. And so I did not move. I had I have a TV on I had to, you know, trade setup, and, you know, papers and laptop and, and, and the and you kept calling me and I was like, I can't talk I said do you have something important to say to me?

14:08

Yeah, yeah. And

14:13

yeah, yeah,

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absolutely. Got it done. So, I have a couple questions to follow up. One of which is how do you get these kind of disparate organizations that maybe have different approaches to doing things, different ideas about best way to do things to kind of like come together and, and get something done, especially in a situation like that, where there's heightened emotions people are stressed maybe about themselves, even in that moment, but yet they're, they're part of this group and very

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profound question. Yeah, we had the discussion all the way over here and some ongoing, various than I did with who you're talking to.

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My my experience with martial fire was I'm If you're entitled, I don't know if you know that name, but he's, he actually lives in Boulder, but he is a lawyer. He's a national disaster guy.

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That's a section divider.

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In fact, the night of the marshal fire, I answered the phone when the phone calls, and I, you know, told my thing, and he said, You're doing a great job. And I was like, who is that. And it was Aaron Haitus. And he, he actually drove over the Firstbank center and trackday down that night and met him. But he brought all organizations together, he's he's got a lot of experience. And Ian Anderson, who was the head of Colorado at that time, they're, they're very, they're good buds, and they came together. And they they brought, they started the meetings, and they got all the organizations together, and everybody, you know, introducing themselves what they specialize in. And then it he divided it up into committees, I mean, and this is a national board model, you have you have unmet needs, you have construction, you have volunteers, you have goods, donation management, and and then he said, Okay, now you go to whatever meeting whatever group that you you're, you know, fits you. And he said

and attend more than one, you know, if you want. So we did that for quite a few weeks, you know, where we just and then the committee's each committee kind of had a guideline on like, okay, what can we do? How do we go about doing this, so, just the structure of the organization of that to start out with and then bylaws were created, and, you know, and eventually, they got their nonprofit designation. And a place was found, you know, so it's, it's a process, but you're like six months later, and you're like, you know, we're not moving fast enough. And, but it's Aaron's, like, believe me that you guys are doing great, you know, the coordination is really happening and you're moving along faster than he'd seen in a lot of other places in the country. So

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This is typically what this looks like. So he kind of painted scenario and then built on it and

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then once once it was set up, he stepped out so he so he's there and Ian Anderson too once the local I mean, disaster has always start local and end local so you know, first you have like your immediate and we had like Facebook groups that were popping up and two of the nonprofits that exist right now were created like right after the fire marshal together and superior rising and and so you have a lot of that going on and then you gotta bring everybody together and then and but now like so I was involved for a year and then I just said you know, I'm gonna step down and now as we went we went back to an event the other night and it's an it's back to local I mean, it's the people that live there in the county and the and the maybe some like Lutheran Family Services and different groups that have national presence that live people that live there, but it's back to local and and so it spreads out everybody helps comes together. Yeah, we need

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you certainly don't want to be complacent about it. But I don't know what it looks like now you know, so it's like, okay, we've got some foundation to build on. And we have some experienced people and I think probably for me the most is stable steady, they have a heart they want to do something

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they want to everybody wants to help we the night

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of the fire we were having people drop off garbage sacks full of Beanie Babies. And well I had a guy who would tell you to clean out my house backed up he's picked up bleach so we're really sorry, sir. Would you do with us? And then you gotta move it all. Yeah. Training no donations with the Donation Center, the old Dillards or Nordstroms rather than North schools

18:59

Oh, yeah.

19:02

These are pallets and just and and versus child. They coordinated the stuff. And you know what, it's an

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ark in town. They were, they were great. They actually ended up bringing the big trucks and taking the stuff and washing it and they said don't worry about if it needs to be thrown away. We'll take care of it. And I mean, I forget the name of those containers, like great big cardboard boxes. And they sit on a pallet so that they could move them and then get loaded onto the truck

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weight

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and, yeah, when I think of just you know, the emotional spiritual care of people, we did so yeah, they, it was just, but it was a community effort here. Yeah, community coming together from Broomfield. Pretty crazy. So

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it takes somebody available coordinate that answer your question. Okay, if you need a lead, who's experienced and knows how to bring groups together, and there was there was conflict there. There always is. Yeah. Like stepping on toes or somebody feeling that somebody was like, you know, being the big person in the room or whatever, I forget the term they used. But there's some of that. And then then then within then we came back. And we actually, Erin gave a, one of the meetings was a session on the four C's, like the collaboration, the coordination of getting back to the yeah, let's get back to the basics and that type of thing. And really,

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buddy from here, there was one particular head of one of the Oregon nonprofits that could have really, really caught her backup because she was kind of stepped on a little bit in class, she just wait for this, we'll get out of the plane and fire. We are here. We'll support you here. So we can, but we don't need to be in the limelight. And that's the good thing about Broomfield. That'd be humbling. Did what it needed to do. And from a historical standpoint and from my perspective, and I would think that's probably pretty important. It's just a personality, like people to do stuff they said Sarah, played a key role, but she said I'm not looking for any accolades. Let's just go get this thing done. So make it happen. Yeah. One sorry,

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you don't, you're not number three, talking about being humble.

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Some so thank you so much. I appreciate that. And I wondering, so I had a couple other questions. One is what motivates you personally? So it's a question for each of you, David and Sarah, you know, which, what? What motivates you personally for this work? You know, that sort of thing. And why is it? Why is it important to you? I've heard pieces of that as we've been talking, but I'd love to hear just in your own words with that.

22:11

Sarah has had no problem talking this morning, which I think is awesome. Yeah. My mind is pretty spiritual. Mine comes from the fact that I think deep down I'm so grateful for God's presence in my life. And I think it's, it's for me, I have kind of a helping orientation. God supportive, God driven, God filled. And it just prepared, you know, that's for it. That's about it for me. I mean, it doesn't take much. It's just that I'm grateful for it, too. So,

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yeah. Know that. Thank you. Yeah. bless, bye so much, and want to share that in return. Thank you, man.

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It's mine is also spiritually driven. And, and it's a desire to serve and to offer that hand when people are really hurting. And I struggled for a while, like, versus like, the unhoused. Or, or, you know, there's, there's hurt all the time everywhere, versus just helping an emergency or disaster. And I'm like, I'm almost feeling like that's, you know, am I is that too narrow? And, but then, I've always, this is terrible. I am not attracted to disaster. That doesn't sound right. But it's, but I've, I've always felt like I had a certain presence and a disaster. I remember when I was 12 years old. And I was had written my bike to Dairy Queen, and there was a car crash in that one of our major intersections in my own town. And one of the cars that was the car was filling up with smoke and the guy in the pickup truck, and he was standing outside the car in the car just fine. It'll be okay. It'll be okay. And I just walked over there. And I just looked at him and I opened the door to the car and turned it off.

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Like, hello, like cars filling in smoke.

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And so anyway, so yeah, just doing what needs to be done at 12. And then I was in and the police came in, I left. But um, but and then when I was in college, I trained to be EMT. And when I was a ski patrol, and I, so I always have been kind of like that bit. And then as I'm not sure I think I heard about the CERT program, the community emergency response teams and Denver had a CERT and I think it must have been the Department Homeland Security was doing a big push at that time for CERTs to get started. It'd be nice if Broomfield has CERT. But so if anybody knows that has interested in that, but anyway, so then I went through that I got my ham radio license that I have, but I'm too afraid to use it. So I just And then so it was just a natural. It's just been a natural progression. And yeah, and then it's almost it's interesting events. And then discovery has been very supportive. The church, and we're blessed to actually have discovery, they have a number of local ministries, but we're actually a local ministry, which is, yeah, which is kind of strange, emergency manager being a local ministry. But then we also, you know, stepped up and, and have worked with city and county of Broomfield and discovery as an as an actual disaster shelter. And we're working with the American Red Cross now to become a national shelter.

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We actually had the shelter exercise put on by the Medical Reserve Corps of Colorado in sequence city, Broomfield discovery was,

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yeah, there was five different emergency departments from counties to five different counties there, and it was there, it was quite an operation. So, um, and so please, it's And then sometimes, honestly, I get discouraged, because I think, you know, nobody's coming to training or, you know, like, it's just like, this is just like, What am I accomplishing? And, and, or, you know, God, like, what's going on, and then, but then something happened, and then it just seemed like, low so I'm sorry, I'm, like, all over the place. Let me step back to discovery and, and had their support. And, and I encouraged like, safety and discovery and kind of got that going with the staff. And then and it just, I don't know, when it came to me once one of the staff there and she said, You know, God just seemed to put everything like in order for you. Because no sooner had we put started that ministry discovery that like a year later than COVID hit, you know, and then and then of course, after that was Marshal fire, and right now we're like, no more disasters, no merge masters. You always pray Well, you always pray no disasters. But um, so it's, I mean, we truly never live without discouragement. But it's, then I that then it goes back to like God, you know, like, it's using your gifts and then your motivation in such a way that you just have to trust the spirit that you're being led in the right way that to serve that. God wants you to serve. You

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you have a can-do attitude that is really supportive with spiritual basis. And I think it's pretty good because it keeps you focused. I know you get frustrated, like, How come when they are signing up for more than Ark entry? That's great.

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That's a good dream. Yeah, Bromfield public health is doing it. Now. We we've had the faith based organizations, which a lot of our members are so Broomfield has, how many members do they have? And members are organizations. So it's an affiliated volunteers, 33 organizations in Broomfield that are a part of VOAD. And, and faith based organizations and nonprofits are in a unique situation where you don't know who's going to come in your door. And so Narcan seem to be a natural thing. It's not really like a disaster or emergency, because then you go down the path of well, war is, you know, the cold weather, you know, cold weather care is that should that should be an emergency. And actually, we had to draw the line. But, so I'm kind of crossing it. What's our candidate? Yes. Yeah.

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No, it's It's interesting. It's the you know, falls into that category of love your neighbors, all the love? That's

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yeah, yeah.

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So you know,

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I don't, it's so frustrating to be able to respond to that one question you had like, what? What is it? What is it take this, my phone went off? Yeah,

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yeah, that's notification. A news report. So they're alert.

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But just the challenge is keep Dude, we laughed about the one lady that said, could you just timer disasters a little bit better? Can I get them into church bulletin? And then she said, that doesn't make much sense. But it's great, but thank you up, because I understand that they know they're going to

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get the word out. Yeah. Using the channels they have. Yeah. So I want to take just a step in a slightly different direction, which is to learn a little bit more about you both and I know you mentioned you're from southern Iowa originally and from Bradford. And so So how did you end up in Colorado? Maybe specifically this kind of part of Colorado?

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my company was about to be sold or afforded to the chairman of the board. And I, if I'd have been as your company that bought me, I wouldn't keep me. I mean, they probably would have for some role I was a VP, but I just set you, I'm gonna start my own company, or so I teamed up with a fellow that lived out here that was frankly consoled. We had a bar, I moved into Colorado. And we had a partnership. We ultimately a year later determined we really didn't like each other. We just had to kind of a different style. And so we agreed to some non-competes. And then I formed little Associates, Inc. and the associates, I had maybe four associates at one time, but it was me yet my name was on everything. And I became a headhunter. And so I moved to Colorado in eighty nine because that's where my business partner was at that time. But then when we separated our partnership, then I just started my own. And then there were a couple guys that I knew we bought a little shopping center and, you know, became owners of a little shopping center along with little associates and it just grew. And then when my when my wife died, I had moved out here from the mountains, to close the grandkids. And that son that lives here, daughter in Aurora, daughter in Texas, and sighted it may be time for me to depart a little bit from my Jesuit education and go to discovery like I wanted to and that's where Sarah and I knew each other than. I met her from church. Life Story. Yeah. Life Group. My parents brought me here.

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Okay. They came from Nebraska.

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seventy-seven, okay. I actually graduated from Fairview High School in Boulder. All right, yeah. Yeah. And then and I lived in Boulder 20 years. So and then when I could afford to buy a house, I moved to Westminster. And, yeah. So I've actually never lived in Broomfield.

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Lowell, and Midway right in between there.

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Okay, yeah, that when I was in Westminster is when I started going to discovery. It was a brand new church. And so I'm one of the original 23 years ago. And the bookkeeper

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I'm curious to just a little bit more just share share about discovery church and like, what's its maybe mission vision? Or like, how did it get started? Why, since you were there at the beginning of

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the story and the church, why it was planted. I couldn't tell you that organizations and that kind of thing. But when it wasn't it's the church like up out of Longmont, Erie that planted it. Anyway. And so there's still we saw a few members that were like, original, like, planted the church. From the other Yeah, church, and it's not a non non denominational or non Dom, as my brother would say. And, and it's, um Well, I was permission, love God, serve others, basically, and then share the reason for your hope. And I think that's, yeah, that's our mission. And that's what it's always been, and what I was attracted to it because the, it was, like, just the basics of Christianity. It was like, like, almost like, I'd say, the Creed, like, you know, follow the apostles to the Nicene Creed and, and then everything else is open for discussion. I mean, there's, you know, it's, they're not, they're, they're open as to, you know, if it's not definitive in the Bible, then you know, it can be interpreted in a number of different ways. And, and so but there's that we do believe obviously, in Christ and you know, all that. So it's, um, so that attracted me to it because I wanted I didn't want like a lot of boundaries. And, and I it for me, it was like coming home. Because I went through about in my teenage years where I was involved in the Southern Baptist Church, and that turned out bad poorly, and I think so but then God always protected me and took care of me. And then I when I was brought back to discovery when I was brought to discovery, it was like coming home, and I just like I honestly I cried every Sunday for a whole year. I was just like, And yeah, grace and love. And you know that the important stuff? Yeah. So and I've been through three pastors at Discovery, we're, you know, on the third now, but it's in we've gone from a portable Church and the and there's there's God stories that the land we have now Do you know where we're at at a Zuni and 144? Yes, yeah, it looks like a barn. Yeah. So the fact that we have the 18 acres there, that's a god story. The attorney of Kansas, it is yeah. And the and the church almost folded at one point. And that's a god story. I mean, I could tell some of the stories that they just bring me goose bumps still. But so I feel like, I feel like God lives at Discovery amongst everywhere else, but but he is able to call discovery his bride, I hope. Yeah, yeah. Then

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I'm on the other board of discovery. And one of the things that we are looking at now in association with the Broomfield Housing Alliance, is that the number of breakers we haven't, how can we put together some facilities on there that are going to serve serve, serve the community. So the heart of discovery is loving God and serving God and certainly, by helping others.

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Highly community oriented, very, and very involved.

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I had but I'm a Jesuit product, you know, preach the Catholic, Hardline, great Italian mom, you know, just to start off studying, you know, just solid, the heart of the whole thing. And I was growing, and my wife was the church organist, just so everything was by the numbers. And boy, you know, you didn't deviate from that. But I had gone to discovery because son Mike and his wife, they wanted to be baptized. And so I went to discovery and drilling. You know, this is kind of neat, because it's not filtered that the girl with the Catholic Church, but it's not filtered through a priest is so loving, caring open. won't care what you did what's happened to him? You're sure welcome areas. Wow, that is really. And so when even long before I believe it was a week for me personally, it was huge. And this is kind of, so when my wife died. I said, You know what, we're gonna go to school. And it's, it's incredible. So, yeah. Well, I echo everything you said. I mean, it's just a little special place to introduce God. That's God driven. No question, but we don't flaunt that. We just do it. Because we love and we care. Yep. And I think the ministry is a classic example. Discovery wants to help serve involvement.

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Yeah, that our relationship with the city and county is just, it's, it's special. And yeah, and and the way they support us, and hopefully we support them. I mean, we're all about like, whatever you need, you know, and we help. Yeah.

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collaborations.

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We're pretty quiet. We haven't had much to say.

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No, I really appreciate it is wonderful. And, and I'm wondering if there's anything from either the story of VOAD relationship, your connection to the church that we haven't discussed yet? Just a very general open ended question. Well, I haven't said Yeah, yeah. Some of the some of that is important to you, or that you want to share and make sure it'd be? Well, there's

38:54

I'm hoping to open more. So as a preparedness chair, offer trainings, I mean, I coordinate with training we offer and there are some trainings that are only for like the Broomfield VOAD organizations, but but we encourage like, we would love to have businesses being part of VOAD, it doesn't have to be a nonprofit or a church. It could be I mean, businesses stepped up huge no martial fire there was moving companies that were you know, and and, but and some trainings are hopeful I hope to offer more to the whole community. So not so it can be individuals um, and so the the CPR we're doing like about every three times a year a CPR AED first aid training, and it's free and and that is going out into in the in the loop. And then also the Broomfield Community Foundation has a newsletter that they put that in and we are we're getting more people to come to that. And then the the preparedness, we're having a preparedness, you know, just personal preparedness. I mean, you can't, you can't help others if you can't help yourself. So you got to start with your own family and being like, knowing what to do in an emergency and like, can you? Is our buy safe? And do you have what you need? And so then you can

go out and help somebody else. So that's something that I'm this offered, hopefully every year at least, and that's coming up May 4. So I just want I guess what I'm encouraging is people to check this out. Well, yeah, come to the training. Yeah, see what's going on? Yeah.

40:34

Can you tell me a little bit more I just mentioned this because I am a part of a it workout group and that there's a guy. Interesting fellow, but he was talking about, he has been researching people that are, you know, what are called preppers. Right? This is not what you're talking about. That's different, but what's the slipstream? What's the line between like being personally ready, and I'm just curious, between like, being personally ready, and like maybe going a little bit overboard to like, like a bunker, and like stockpiling weapons, or whatever kind of thing?

41:09

I think the line is fear. Oh, interesting. Yeah, no, I think, you know, if you live in fear, then you're you feel like Armageddon is gonna happen any day, well, then you might be a prepper. You might be appropriate. But we have a kid in our basement, we struggled to keep the water, you know, we struggled to keep it rotated, and that kind of thing. We've talked about how we have kind of go kits, but our kids are more like certain type kids where you have a pry bar and things like that, that go kit really should just be I think listeners need to make a list. So said, we're still struggling at trying to be prepared ourselves. Um, but it's but it's just a lot of it's just common sense. You just have to the trick is thinking about it in advance. Because when the emergency happens, you're just like, What do I grab, like, I have to evacuate there's a fire down the street, you know, it's like, yeah, you can't think clearly and so, so at least, to have a list and saying, okay, my portable charger, my laptop, my, you know, my pills, you know, I mean, like, what do you grab? And so just trying to prepare people for that. And then community family communication plans? i Sorry, I could go on. But, um, the so just common sense versus here. Yeah.

42:33

Yeah. And we, we try to make a judgment on the extreme. preppers versus logical preppers. I mean, my neighbor was an extreme prepper. I said, What can I give you, John for help on watch my house? ammunition. He's an extreme prepper. And he had a, he had a basement full of ammo. Whereas were the more common prepper we're just trying to what, what if the balloon goes up? Do we have some water? Do we have our medicine? Do

43:01

we have food? You know, I mean, we have a flashlight, we just do three days? I mean, we don't do you know, I mean, it could turn into weeks? Yeah, but we don't do long. Hands

43:12

and and trenching. We're basically so there's levels of it's a very good question. Because you have you have people that are just prepping.

43:23

You do I mean, but then there is a line that I kind of think about sometimes, like I so the guy who teaches our emergency preparedness he's he's that you know, he's very much into it, which is great, because then he can teach it. He's got Yeah, and we're in, you know, have stuff on your flash drive and keep that somewhere separate for your financial preparedness, you got to be financially prepared. That's another class a lot of give. And then but um, is like a bathtub liner. So like, you know, so you can fill your bed like while the white you say the electricity the grid has gone down, and the and the sanitation plants can't purify without electricity. And so you while the water is still safe, you can fill your there's a liner and a cover and a pump. You can fill your bathtub with water and he's now that's gallons and gallons of water. So I mean, so that might be a little on the extreme side, but still it's like okay, if I was that cost and fit my kit generators, I mean, I tell you people that have generators, I mean other people that don't if it comes down to it, you're gonna be wanting to to kind of come over and charge my phone or whatever, or charge my portable charger

44:48

but anyway, so yeah, it's it's an interesting question. Yeah. Is there is

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this whole thing is about relationships, so you're getting to know You

45:00

need to know your neighbors. Yeah, it's huge. Now who's at risk? That actually I put in a good word for Dave Heyland, who's he's on the emergency management team now. And he's the newest member for city and county, Broomfield. And he put together a whole thing. And the website is fantastic. Now for for city and county Broomfields, emergency website, they have videos, they have links, they have a preparedness guide they have. So really, I don't need to do anything if people just read that website. But I'm a wealth of background. But he created this whole. He'd had I forget what he called it, but it's kind of like that, just know your neighbors, you know that that's where it starts. So you know, it starts with your house and your family. And then it's your community, you know, and what resources does your community have? Who might need extra help? Is somebody on oxygen? I mean, just you know, all those things. It's, and then yeah, so it really needs to be core and then spread out.

46:07

This was very enjoyable, by the way. Yeah, no, I

46:10

really appreciate you talking

46:11

about emergency management.

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dialogue. And I think you know, that connectedness and knowing who, you know, those circles, that kind of like, yeah, as they extend out, and even what you were saying earlier to about, you know, disasters, they start very local, the little Facebook groups that pop up, and then they spread out and

you get feds, federal government and that sort of thing. And then it collapses back. And I think that's a really fascinating way to think about that trajectory, and then also in your own just life, you know, not just for disasters. But what does that look like? For you? Personally, I think that's really easy. So we

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were during the marshal fire, what was the name of that team from Louisiana? It was coming in. I mean, it was amazing now, they just gets anyway, then we had a tree cutters. Anyway, Team Rubicon, Team Rubicon,

47:05

their air, you know, so and they did help snare guard and the Southern Baptists are huge. Lutheran, I mean, so that's one disadvantage of being a non denominational church is that you don't have this support network. I mean, you've got Uncor, the United Methodist aid, they have that whole operation. And, and the Jewish Family Services, the Jewish they provide all this counseling. I mean, it's just really neat, you know, to see all the different faiths come together. In Colorado, the Islamic community is huge into the I mean, they've got to be concerned, right. And that in the Jewish community, unfortunately, you know, has to be concerned about their own safety. And the

47:48

Latter Day Saints won't call and they think, oh, there's,

47:51

oh my gosh, they're fantastic. Yeah.

47:57

Captain Mike is LinkedIn now. So they've got a they've got a cantina, we jumped in and help with a boulder shooting. And,

48:05

yeah, just the American Red Cross. The mass care the lead for Colorado is a Broomfield resident. Do you know he's awesome.

48:18

We showed up to give a presentation. That's really a Broomfield, it's.

48:29

Well, it's been a real delight speaking with you both. And, yeah. Before we finish, is there anything? Fine.

48:35

So what what? What is where's this going? What is this for?

48:41

Absolutely. The project is called Broomfield Out Loud. And the goal is to collect oral histories from individuals who are associated with Broomfield don't necessarily have to live here but you know, have connections to Broomfield in some way. We certainly do. And we have other folks like, Have you heard of ship the turnpike dog? Yeah, okay. Yeah, so his caretaker lives up in Longmont, but for 20 years, he's taking care of the grave. And yeah, the deacon actually, oh, they

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moved it. Yeah. But anyway,

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that's a long story, too. But you know, it's that sort of thing where he's definitely connected to bring.

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Yeah.

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And the idea is that we'll add all of these stories. And right now, you all are at number 54 that we've gathered. So it's a pretty big project. But but the idea is we'll add them to the Broomfield History Collection, which then we have an online portal where all of our oral histories even from the past, you know, we have oral histories that were collected in the 80s and 90s, you know, of Broomfield residents that were here and like, you know, the lady 1800s that were so great thing and so this is adding to that larger group of oral histories that tells the story. So that's kind of the one very straightforward component, which is adding it to the Broomfield

50:03

history collection. And so this can be accessed on the Broomfield website. It

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will be it's a separate website it's through our we have a collections management software that we use and so they have an online portal that is specific to Broomfields collection, you know, all of our artifacts and archives and archival material is stored on there. It probably won't show up for a while simply because of the energy and time to transcribe.

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But I mean if I was just wanting to look up some of the history how would i what would I Google or how would I yeah

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I'm gonna actually stop our recording masters Yeah, finished with okay. Yeah, so