

began during a time of prayer while Michelle Watson, wife of Gravelton Baptist Church's Pastor Sean Watson, was working on the Core Team for a Women's Conference last May. Watson felt a call to bring the women of her local community together for fellowship and encouragement.

Realizing the task was bigger than she could manage on her own, she contacted two other pastors' wives and friends, Susan Inklebarger and Monica Muncey.

The group of three women soon became a group of 12. She also contacted long-time friend, author and speaker, Rachel Lovingood, who has written such titles as "In Our Shoes," "Real Life, Live It: Tell It" and "Salvaging My Identity."

"You may ask, 'why salvaged?' All that kept coming to my mind was 'junk to treasure,'" Watson explained. "Rachel and I were talking and she said, 'Michelle the word you're looking for is

SALVAGED! And so it was birthed. Then God gave us Romans 12:2.

"Our goal is to show women that there is hope, that there is a place to run to when life gets you down, that no matter what you have going on or what stage of life you are in God has something for you. If you are weary from the journey, God can send you refuge; if you are fighting the battle of your life, God can fight for you; if you are just needing (to be) recharged, He

can do that too.

"Young, Seasoned or in-between God is there. He can Salvage you and make you something beautiful. The great thing about Jesus is He doesn't care where you have been or what you have done. All you have to do is call upon His name and He will save you. It's a promise from Him (Romans 10:13). Every woman needs to know there is a safe place to turn to in difficult times.

and a part of this journey."

The evening came to a close with door prizes donated by area businesses. Each woman in attendance also took home a goodie-bag filled with a themed notebook and other thoughtful items. The finale of the evening was an announcement that next year's event, "Gloria," will take place on October 4, 2018 at Clear Springs Baptist Church — that is, unless they need a larger venue again.

## Historic Overlay, Short-Term Rentals OK'd by MPC

By Mike Steely  
steelym@knoxfocus.com

In a landmark meeting of the Knoxville-Knox County Metropolitan Planning Commission Thurs-

opposes STRs in R-1 neighborhoods because they are transient and not compatible with the single family residential zone. He said that short-term rentals are

## Board of education reverts to previous wording on controversial harassment policies

By Pete Gawda

After weeks of discussion about changing the wording on policies concerning harassment of students and harassment of

Monday evening work session saying, "I don't think you need to put in anything, if this board says there will be no harassment in regard to any student for any reason that seems to

*"It is not the policy  
that protects the  
people—it is the*