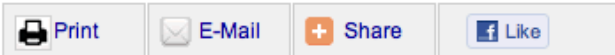


Former Bills star, wife to speak at church

By Julie Mullen For The Courier-News Feb 24, 2011 2:11AM



Jim Kelly, former quarterback of the NFL's Buffalo Bills, along with his wife Jill, will speak this weekend at services at Christ Community Church in St. Charles. The Kellys will speak about how their faith in God guided them through difficult times, including the disease that afflicted their son, Hunter. The family is pictured in a file photograph from 2004. Hunter died in 2005 at the age of 8.

ST. CHARLES TWP. — Former Buffalo Bills quarterback Jim Kelly and his wife Jill will share the story of their life and love this weekend in front of a large local crowd at Christ Community Church, 37W100 Bolcum Road.

As part of a limited national tour, the Kellys will discuss how their faith guided them in hard times, particularly the death of their son, Hunter, in 2005.

The Hunter's Hope foundation was established in 1997 by the couple after Hunter was diagnosed as an infant with Krabbe Leukodystrophy — more commonly known as Krabbe Disease — an inherited fatal nervous system syndrome.

While most children with the rare disorder typically do not reach their second birthday, Hunter lived to be 8½ years old without ever speaking a word.

Following Hunter's death, Jill wrote the New York Times bestselling book, "Without a Word: How a Boy's Unspoken Love Changed Everything," describing how the Kelly family was rescued by God in the darkest of times.

With a forward by country music stars Faith Hill and Tim McGraw, "Without a Word" offers hope to those grieving the loss of a family member.

The NFL Hall of Famer and his wife will speak during church services at 5 p.m. on Saturday and at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. on Sunday.

The talks are free and open to the public.


For more information, visit the Christ Community Church website, www.cclife.org.

Hall of Fame QB Kelly, wife headed to St. Charles

By KANE COUNTY CHRONICLE

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ST. CHARLES – Hall of Fame quarterback Jim Kelly and his wife, Jill, will appear Saturday and Sunday at Christ Community Church in St. Charles.

The Kellys will speak about the Hunter's Hope Foundation, named for their son who died at age 8 after being diagnosed with a fatal disease called Krabbe Leukodystrophy. Jill Kelly has written a book recounting the life, joy, and faith their family discovered during Hunter's time on earth – "Without a Word: How a Boy's Unspoken Love Changed Everything."

The sessions will take place at 5 p.m. Saturday and at 9 and 11 a.m. Sunday. The church is at 37W100 Bolcum Road in St. Charles. For information, visit www.ccclife.org or call 630-485-3300.