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REWRITING CONTEMPORARY DESIGN

A new and inspired take on iconic design

story by Christian Lee
photography by Jordan Weiland

As they set out to put down roots in Lakeland, young, energetic homeowners Hillary and Jason DeMoss took on a hefty renovation project. Their house off of Cleveland Heights Boulevard has morphed from a dilapidated historic 1920s cottage to a stylish, hip, fresh home. This isn't a time warp, though. By rewriting contemporary design with timeless appointments, it's a new and inspired take on iconic design era.

Twelve years ago, Jason and Hillary met and fell in love as students at Southeastern University. Today, they have been married for eight years. Jason is the director of spiritual formation and communication at Oasis Community Church, a role he has had for five years. "I have the privilege to help people on their path by opening up spaces for our congregation to engage God and one another," he says. Hillary is the director of leadership at Southeastern University, a position into which she transitioned after the birth of the couple's daughter, Elana, because it allows her the freedom to spend part of her week at home.

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Hillary and Jason assist and support each other in their respective careers and at home, and they worked together as a team on their home renovation project. Says Jason, "Hillary and I are opposite on every metric, which has given us a roller coaster of love. Over the years, though, we've learned to appreciate the differences that God has given each of us, and we are both better people because of it."

With the help of many friends, including John Kasakia and Pat Foster, Jason and Hillary began an ambitious first-home renovation after discovering and recognizing the potential of their 1920s cottage. "We were in a bit over our heads, and our community rallied behind us to make this project a success. This home and our family are forever indebted to them." Over time, the old house had become dilapidated, lacking a consistent and harmonious flow. Jason and Hillary found continuity could be achieved by staining the floors a single color and selecting a balanced, modern, and cohesive color palette. "We took a large canvas and made our own storyboard for the home. We pinned up ideas for each room and collaborated with our designer friend Mary Galletta in picking colors."



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