



on. mission

October 2020

review

*Sierra Leone Mother and Child.
Read more from our partner, JRCHC on page 44*

**KINGDOM
COME**





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There is so much God is doing through
Kingdom Come and our ministry
partners! We will be sharing partner
updates, stories, prayer requests,
and how to connect with our
partners, and some exciting new
features available only online!

**KINGDOM
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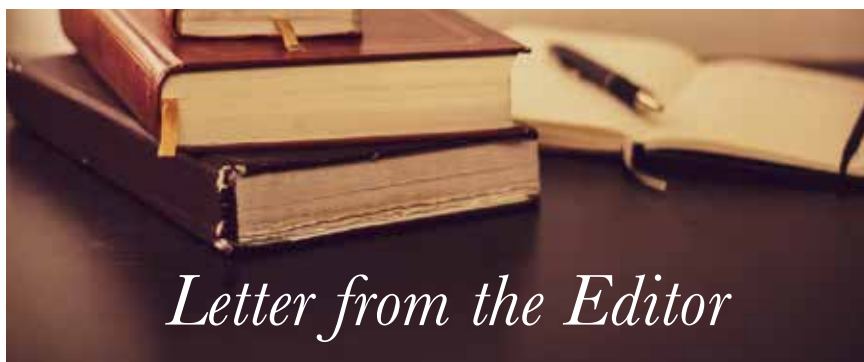


Table of Contents

- 4 Letter from the Editor
- 6 Skin in the Game
- 9 A Legacy of True Worth
- 10 Mission and Vision Drive Strategy in the Church
- 14 Prayer is Investing in Our Ministry Partners!
- 16 How to “Stand in the Gap” in Prayer
- 18 Light in the Darkness
- 26 Crisis Spells Opportunity
- 29 It’s All About Relationship
- 30 One Mission: To Reach Every Man, Woman, and Child
- 34 Flexibility
- 38 Reaching the Community through Changing Times
- 40 Why Circles Are Better Than Rows
- 42 We Have Been Made for a Time Such as This: Responding to a Global Health Crisis
- 46 Love God, Love the Church, Love the World
- 54 God is Working
- 56 Why the Church will Kick COVID in the Face Mask
- 58 Partnership is not One-Directional
- 60 Fanning into Flames the Passion for the Mission
- 62 Firehouse Church
- 64 Community Volunteer Help Wanted
- 66 Ministry Partner Directory



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Letter from the Editor

For the past couple of years our team has been exploring ideas to grow *On Mission* magazine to not only offer more insights and stories from our Kingdom Come partners but also be a better tool in the hands of our Chapel family. We are excited to announce that the magazine is expanding into a print and web-based publication! Integrating *On Mission* into the website will allow greater latitude for more in-depth stories to better share how God is working through our ministry partnerships. Please watch for new features and opportunities for partners to share about their ministries beyond basic text and photos at thechapel.com/kingdomcome.

The new *On Mission Review*, which you are now reading, will offer a look in Kingdom Come's 2020 rearview mirror, as well as a view of the road ahead with special articles,

features, reports, interviews, partner spotlights, prayer helps, and more. This publication is designed to be a companion that you can easily take with you for prayer, learning, and encouragement.

Although the world seems to have turned upside-down since this past March, our Kingdom Come partners have proven to be resilient, innovative, bold, and steadfast in their mission even during these uncertain times. As you journey through these pages and join us online, we hope their stories and insights will inspire you to learn more about them and how they are partnering with us to reach every man, woman, and child with repeated opportunities to see and hear the transforming gospel of Jesus Christ!

On mission for the sake of the gospel,

Amy Tartick

“Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.” Colossians 3:15 NIV





Skin in the Game

by *Michael Ramos*

Though maybe more of a sports phrase, I remember years ago sitting in an energetic strategic planning meeting hearing someone enthusiastically shout out in frustration, “C’mon...put some skin in the game!” This was the first time I’d ever heard this. I realized by the tone that they weren’t being negative, but hoped to encourage everyone to invest, to dig deeper into their commitment, to decide to be a significant team player in this creative brainstorming session focused on implementing significant change!

What a great aphorism! “Put some skin in the game!”

You may have known this already, but we are always looking at our participation with Kingdom Come partners, from local to global and everything in between, as fundamental

in our commitment to have “Skin in the Game”! We don’t want to just be a church of observers, but a church of participators.

Why? Because Jesus, in Mark 16:15 wasn’t telling us to consider talking to our family about Him. He wasn’t suggesting that we just have a conversation with our friends. And He definitely didn’t want us to hold on to what we know about Him and only talk to the people at home. He said, “...Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation.”

And what that means to you, me, and the partners we work alongside with is, that we are committed to invest our personal time, our talents, and our generosity through financial giving to join together with others toward the mission of reaching every man, woman, and child with repeated



opportunities to hear and see the gospel of Jesus Christ. Have you heard this before?!

We are in partnerships by both invitation and recommendation of like-minded, Holy Spirit guided people and ministries who share the same desire of reaching people with the life changing Good News in both word and deed. What are some of the ways they do their work?

- By humbly creating summer opportunities for children in the inner city that will teach biblical values, while encouraging their parents to consider who God can be in their families' lives.
- By opening up the lower half of their house seven days a week as a school and at night as a safe haven that will educate women toward respectable

careers, rather than selling their bodies to feed themselves and their children.

- By leaving the comfort of their homeland and tongue to learn a second language in a pre-literate nation in order to teach biblical stories (oral teaching) that they believe will be a catalyst to church planting someday.
- By educating refugee spiritual leaders in the understanding and healing of trauma caused by war-torn environments, and at the same time training them toward evangelism and discipleship.
- By creating an opportunity for volunteers to stay for eight days and putting on display the love of Jesus by cleaning debris, repairing homes, and giving hope with the gospel message after a natural disaster.

- By making meals early in the morning to feed hundreds each day while praying and sharing the grace of God through Jesus to many who have never heard His name.

We have been invited, accepted, and right now serve alongside partners like these who are called to many different areas of ministry, some by what God has put on their hearts, and some by the personal experiences He has allowed in order to speak boldly into a people or community that is completely foreign to us.

Partnership is a relationship arrangement we serve in together to intentionally engage in gospel conversations. Through our prayers we trust this will lead to someone coming into a

personal relationship with God through accepting what His Son has done for us all on the cross.

It is an all-out investment of time and friendship. It's about being present and compassionate in listening to the hurts and struggles of people, helping with tangible care, and explaining that we do this because of the life we have in Jesus.

I hope you will take your time in reading the articles and pray for each ministry partner and person you hear about once you are done reading. We seek to be invested. We can be counted on in our commitment. And because of who we are in Christ, The Chapel will always have skin in the game!





A Legacy of True Worth

by John Gannon

As we are all navigating through this season of uncertainty defined by COVID test results, social distancing, mask wearing, and many other limitations, the lack of clarity has been unsettling. Our routines and ways of life have been altered as we have experienced interruption and, in certain instances, loss. The loss of loved ones to the loss of employment and finances have led to a loss of shelter or transportation for many. Our ability to rely upon regular activities and past practices has been paused from worship inside our churches, to schools for our children, medical appointments, and vacations. Even our milestone events such as graduations and weddings are ever-changing.

As we pause to catch our breath, I'd like to contrast all of that with what God's Word conveys to us, His people. As Christ-followers we rest in Jesus and His sacrificial love, as demonstrated on the cross.

In Psalm 24:1 we read that "the earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world and all who live in it." We are called to intentionally share the resources we have received from the hand of God. This encompasses our time, talent, and treasure as we live as disciples of Christ.

By resting in God's perfect provision for every aspect of our lives we find contentment, which cultivates a heart of gratitude, and esteems the needs of others above self. May a heartbeat of ever-increasing generosity compel us to leave a legacy of true worth.

First Timothy 6:6 tells us, "But godliness with contentment is great gain." May we be eternally minded as we live sacrificially engaged with partners in the gospel both near and far. We have been blessed and desire to live with open hands to support and join our missional partners as faithful stewards of all we have received.



Mission and Vision Drive Strategy in the Church

by Jerry Gillis and John Camardo

Hey, Chapel family!

It has most certainly been an interesting year, but in God's faithfulness we have been given new opportunities to get after the mission of the Church: to reach every man, woman, and child with repeated opportunities to hear, see, and respond to the gospel of Jesus Christ. Simply put – gospel saturation.

We believe this mission can only be accomplished by seeing each disciple of Jesus fully transformed and mobilized in the mission (what a disciple is) as they love God, love the Church, and love the World (what a disciple does).

The mission of the Church informs what we choose to strategize toward. This is why the Five-Year-Vision was first shared with our congregation about three years ago. It is missional at its core. It is positioning The Chapel

to release more resources toward discipleship efforts. During this season in particular, there is even more reason to press in and focus on the equipping and development of people for the sake of mission.

As we approach year four of this five-year focus, here is an update of what God's provision and your faithfulness have allowed to happen.

EXPAND

Engaging in community investment and campus multiplication

We wanted to ensure all of our campuses had a location that served as an outpost for the Church in the region. That included Lockport, Cheektowaga, and Niagara Falls.

As of today, we own the entire Lockport campus property, the entire Cheektowaga campus property, and the entire Niagara Falls campus property with no debt!



PARTNER

Strategically connecting God-given resources to gospel-centered endeavors

We committed to press forward in growing partnership efforts. Not only have we seen a deepening of existing relationships and a number of new partnerships develop over the past three years, we have also seen God provide more than \$4 million to be invested in those partnerships.

RELEASE

Eliminating existing debt to create future missional capacity

We committed to avoid taking any new forms of debt and to work toward debt elimination. As we have been expanding and partnering, we have made incredible progress to reduce debt by nearly a third. As of today, we still have about \$7 million outstanding debt that we would like to eliminate.

Given all of this, what do we want to see happen in the remaining two years?

1. Niagara Falls still needs to be built out prior to being occupied.

2. We are refining our partnerships and outreach efforts. In this season, our focus is on quality and depth of relationship, and missional alignment.

3. We want to eliminate ALL of our debt.

When we say “we,” we mean everyone that calls The Chapel their church family. We all play a part. Everyone is needed. This is not an effort of the staff team at The Chapel, it is for all of us. God’s mission and this vision require the active participation of all of His people.

God is doing some incredible work in WNY.

If you are participating, we are thankful for your help in those efforts and grateful to serve alongside you. If you feel like you have been less engaged or on the sidelines, come join our entire Chapel family as we pray, gather, serve, learn, partner and give – together!



“Prayer moves the heart of God and Jesus Himself is interceding for us. Praying gets our focus off of ourselves and onto the needs of others.”

- Malini Asir



Prayer is Investing in Our Ministry Partners!

Malini Asir, Hindustan Bible Institute & College, India

There is a beautiful prayer found in the Scripture. It is the prayer of Jesus for His disciples in John 17:9, “I pray for them. I am not praying for the world, but for those you have given me, for they are yours.”

Our Lord Jesus set the perfect example for us to pray for ministry partners. One of the main reasons to pray for the ministry partner is because they are “God’s.” At the core of the prayer is the relationship we have with God and with one another.

First, prayer is a demonstration of our relationship with one another. The core of Christianity is relationship that was initiated by God, Who sent His beloved Son to build the bridge of connecting us back with God. God Himself initiated the relationship with man and has given us the command to love one another. It is very important

for each of us who are called by God to join Him in His mission of reconciling people to God. We can do this by praying for our ministry partners. We are co-laborers in Christ and with Christ. More importantly, we are “God’s family,” so we need to pray for one another.

Second, prayer is our demonstration of our interdependence with one another, as beautifully shared in Jesus’ prayer for His disciples. John 17:10, “All I have is yours, and all you have is mine. And glory has come to me through them.” Our Lord’s prayer helps us to understand that we cannot work independently of each other. The outcome of our missional work brings glory to God. It is the cumulative work of all of us in His mission that brings glory to God. We also see in verse 11b, “they may be one as we are one.” We clearly see the triune God is interdependent on each other:



God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit, so the prayer sets the standard for us to be interdependent in our missional work. The same way the Lord prays for all His disciples to be one, we should be one in praying for each other and working together in interdependence in the missional work.

Third, prayer is our demonstration of sharing the powerful name of Jesus with one another. John 17:11-12, “Holy Father, protect them by the power of your name, the name you gave me, so that they may be one as we are one. While I was with them, I protected them and kept them safe by that name you gave me.” All of us are faced with several challenges that come from the evil one, especially those who are serving in South Asian countries. God’s people go through suffering and persecution because of

our faith in Christ. It is important for us to pray for our ministry partners to stand firm in Christ, and also be protected from the evil one—we are all in spiritual warfare. We have the powerful name, the name of Jesus Christ, to fight the battle. The essence to fight and win the battle is the intercessory prayer for our prayer partners. So we should be praying for our partners to be protected and also to stand firm in the midst of spiritual warfare to fight the battle and conquer valiantly.

Prayer is an investment that we make in our ministry partners’ lives. Together, we are making disciples of all nations. It is a great privilege to invest in prayer for our ministry partners as our Lord Jesus has already set a beautiful example for us to follow.

Let us invest generously in our ministry partners with our intercessory prayers every day and for every one!



How to “Stand in the Gap” in Prayer

Steve Gillis, Patch Our Planet

Why is it important to pray for your ministry partners? Because it fulfills the New Testament command to pray for all people (1 Timothy 2:1). It follows the example of Jesus (John 17:20-21, Romans 8:34, Hebrews 7:25), and it echoes Paul's call to keep on praying for the Lord's people (Ephesians 6:18).

To intercede means to plead on another's behalf. We may not think about how we can stand in the gap for others until a message, a post, a phone call, or an alert shows up right in front of us. So what about the day-in-day-out prayer time?

Thomas Watson said, "Prayer as it comes from the saint is weak and languid; but when the arrow of a saint's prayer is put into the bow of Christ's intercession it pierces the throne of grace."

We know that prayer moves the heart of God and that Jesus Himself is interceding for us. Praying gets our focus off of ourselves and onto the needs of others (Philippians 2:3-4). With that in mind, here are four practical ways you can intercede for your ministry partners in the days, weeks and months ahead:

1. **Pray for their faith:** "...but I have prayed for you that your faith may not fail..." (Luke 22:32 ESV).
2. **Pray against temptation:** "And when he [Jesus] came to the place, he

said to them, 'Pray that you may not enter into temptation' (Luke 22:40).

3. **Pray for unity:** "And I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, keep them in your name, which you have given me, that they may be one, even as we are one" (John 17:11).
4. **Pray that your partners will stay on the right path:** "But we pray to God that you may not do wrong—that we may appear to have met the test, but that you may do what is right, though we may seem to have failed" (2 Corinthians 13:7).

In Galatians 6, God's Word calls us to help carry one another's burdens. While we are also clearly called to "bear our own loads" (Galatians 6:5), often that load can become too heavy to handle on our own. Discouragement can quickly set in. When a load becomes too great to endure, our Christian brothers and sisters can step in to provide strength and encouragement during those challenging moments.

The Lord is looking for those who would "stand in the gap" (Ezekiel 22:30). Jesus stands in the gap for us, so it makes sense that we should model His example to one another (Luke 22:31-32).

Will you stand in the gap?

A narrow, dimly lit street in an old city, possibly in India, with a yellow and black auto-rickshaw in the foreground. The street is flanked by traditional buildings with balconies and windows. The lighting is low, creating a moody atmosphere. The auto-rickshaw has a yellow body with black accents and a decorative border of stars and dots. The text "नमस्तीय" is visible on the side of the rickshaw.

Light in the Darkness
by Amy Tartick



India is a country filled with mystery, blending ancient cultures and stunning architecture with modern conveniences and transit systems. The geographical landscape in India offers the heights of the Himalayas, lush jungles, river valleys, arid deserts, and palm fringed beaches. Although it is approximately one-third the size of the United States, India is the seventh largest country in the world. Having more citizens than the US, it is home to more than 1.3 billion people with nearly 80% being Hindu, worshipping 33 million different gods, while only 2.3% are Christian. One-third of the world's unreached people groups live here in darkness waiting for the light of the gospel.

And, it is here that we find two of our Kingdom Come partners hard at work in God's harvest field shining that Light! With us today, we have Dr. Bobby Gupta, HBI Global Partners and Dr. Lamech Inbaraj, True Happiness Ministry. You are invited to pour a steaming cup of good, strong tea, and join us at the table for conversation on what God is accomplishing in India.

On Mission (OM): *Please help us better understand culture in India. If there were one thing you would like Americans to know about life in India, what would that be?*

Lamech Inbaraj (LI): Life in India is often taken for granted because fate is part of the Indian belief system.

So Indians will justify everything almost always under the fate norm. Be it violence, good work, whatever, it is all because of fate.

Bobby Gupta (BG): The last 140 days were very hard to describe in a general sense in India. It has gone through an evolution and each state, city, and district has also evolved through time to take on different forms, based upon conditions in these locations. We have seen them go through varying choices as a result of the different experiences they have had... Regions that did not have pandemic restrictions soon realized their liberal choices had a negative impact... People have made many adjustments nationally and the new norms are continuously shifting. It is very difficult to assess what is happening in India... There are great opportunities for the Kingdom of God but filled with challenges as everything is new... There is a great hope if we can understand there is a need for change that can enable hope in the context of hopelessness.

OM: *In the past 10 years, how has life changed for a pastor, or for our Indian brothers and sisters in Christ, in your context? Are some areas worse than others?*



BG: In the last 10 years I am sure life has changed everywhere for all pastors and nothing has been the same. I think the most exciting thing that is happening as a post-global context is that churches have grown, pastors have matured to take responsibility for the Great Commission and the sustainability of the Church. They have also risen to the state where they understand how to partner not only locally but also globally... My observation has been the large majority have come to realize this mission belongs to the Lord and their church is sustained by God... The Church is growing, the people are growing and the unreached are being reached, disciples are being made, transformation is taking place, and the message of the gospel of Jesus Christ has begun to be viewed not in numerical but in spiritual formation... New movements have been formed inside movements. I believe the next 10 years, in spite of COVID-19, are going to be amazing years for the Church. If the Church understands this is what God is doing and lines up with His mission and mandate to



multiply churches, disciple people, and teach spiritual formation, this will establish the understanding that we have the Kingdom of God now and we don't have to wait for it to be in the future.

LI: The life for pastors has deteriorated so much in the last 10 years in multiple ways. For example, anyone can make false complaints that are investigated but a pastor, even if his complaints are valid, can be ignored. In the north, to be a Christian is even more intimidating.

OM: *Shortly after the pandemic lockdowns in India, we learned that instead of just “hunkering down” for the duration, your ministries were providing food and other necessities to those in need. Can you describe what this was/is like for your team serving on the front lines?*



LI: Serving on the front lines has always been a value and passion. So during this lockdown period, God helped us to serve thousands and thousands of migrants, women, children, poor, and widows. So for our team to serve the needy at this time when no one dared to venture out, our team did what they could, which is their obedience to God's call on their life.

BG: First of all, it was an act motivated by God. It was God working in us and burdening us to respond to an unusual circumstance we were observing. We watched thousands of young people carrying their backpacks and beginning a journey between 100 to 800 kilometers (60 – 500 miles). They were poorly dressed, unprepared but they were determined to go home. There may have been a capacity for them to reach home but they were not the only ones. There were children, wives, pregnant women embarking on this journey. When asked why are they not embracing the opportunity to stay, they repeatedly said that there was no work and the landlords had asked



them to vacate the houses... When we saw the circumstance and condition of these migrants, God just tore our hearts. He asked us what are we going to do? By faith we just stepped out and started to do whatever we could... All of a sudden it became a national effort of people from all over the country that were part of the ministries of HBI and our church planting movement called INEC [Indian National Evangelical Church], reaching out and serving the migrants with ministries of compassion in providing food... At the peak, on average our distribution impacted 6,000 people per day. It helped us build bridges into communities and demonstrate God's love... It was an amazing time for them to reveal God's love, the peace and power of God, just serving them unconditionally and without fear. Only the grace of God protected us through the period of time.

OM: *Were there opportunities to partner with other organizations doing likewise in India, and if so, what did that look like?*

BG: The most significant partnership that was enabled in Chennai was with Dr. Lamech and his wife, Jasmine, through "True Happiness." For almost 60 days we provided and cooked food initially for 50 people a day but this soon grew to 300 people a day. Jasmine would take off in one direction, and Lamech and I would go in a different direction. So simultaneously we were both involved in facilitating in serving the street dwellers and the migrants that were left with nothing overnight stranded on the street... The knowledge and the experience of Lamech and Jasmine certainly were equipping our staff and ourselves. Jokingly I told Dr. Lamech that we are changing roles where he is the teacher and I am the student. But every day we had the joy of going together and serving the Lord.

LI: Of course we partnered with HBI, RAPHA Unlimited, and a few more, in feeding the poor during lockdown. That was a great opportunity to build synergy for together we could do more.

OM: *Where and how did you see God at work through your team as they met the basic human needs of others?*



LI: We felt that God considered us to be His hands and legs during this time as thousands of people needed help. I thought after the pandemic the persecution might calm down, but it does not seem to have lessened now.

BG:...We saw God at work, when we observed individuals who were emotionally disturbed, listened to them, built the relationship, prayed with them, and went back day after day to let them know we cared. We saw how the Lord changed the hearts of our team members. They were skeptical, even to let me go serve. But slowly as they watched they also began to become part of the efforts. They looked forward to go every day to serve people... all through that process God touched their hearts. A new passion was born in our team members to serve God without fear... Individuals we have been discipling also became part of touching lives. They started demonstrating their faith in Christ... What was most exciting was when we were not present, they would take the responsibility to serve people like we would have in the name of Jesus. The unconditional passion we began to see in their lives was amazing. They would use their own resources to buy water, fruit, and food to provide to individuals that were going back home... It was just amazing to see how God was working in their hearts... If there was one thing that was significant in all of this it was our opportunity to pray with people. Every time we prayed and asked God to do miracles, He

used it to stimulate faith in their lives. Praise the Lord.



OM: *It was reported before the pandemic shutdown that persecution of Christians in India was continuing to rise in many states and that several pastors suffered physical violence from attacks by Hindu radicals. Have your relief efforts during the pandemic along with other Christian organizations influenced or helped reduce persecution in India?*

LI: I don't know if it reduced persecution. You see the hands that have received help might hit back and people would say that is your fate.

BG: I am not sure if I can say it helped reduced persecution because those who want to inflict persecution on the Church are continuously doing it. However, the wider religious movements have been observed to have worked together. A deeper relationship has been developed in the context of serving to help the migrants and people suffering in the context of COVID-19. These relationships will have long term implications and will enable favor for the Church in the future.

OM: *What do you think it will take to turn around this persecution so that Christians can live without fear in India?*

LI: Change of government and commitment to the rule of the law. Now the radicals are deep into the village level with one goal: to persecute.

BG: It does not appear there will be a turn around as long as there is a movement that is against the other religious movements... Christianity is not a religion and as long as we focus on building the relationship between Christ and the lost, the Church will grow. If

we try to be a religion and enable the superiority of Christianity over religious belief systems of others, we are likely to experience persecution. Jesus said we should expect persecution. The Church in India has not shunned it. It has been embraced because it has enabled the growth of the Church in the country. It is my personal belief that we should not look for that moment when we would be released from the privilege of suffering, but we should be like the Apostle Paul willing to identify with the suffering of Christ.

OM: *As your brothers and sisters in Christ, how can we best pray for you and for India?*



Hindustan Bible Institute & College serves the Lord in India in developing God-class transformational leaders to disciple the nations, planting churches where no churches exist, mobilizing churches for fulfilling the Great Commission, and involving in the holistic transformation of communities through partnerships and alliances.

BG: Please pray that God will help the followers of Jesus Christ to sincerely use the opportunities to deepen their relationships with Christ, understand the Kingdom of God, and be willing to experience the holistic transformation of the mind, heart, spirit, and soul, so that the world can see Christ in us. Pray for the ministries of HBI, as we keep moving forward in giving opportunities for every man, every woman, every boy, and every

girl to hear, understand, and respond to the gospel and be disciplined into worshipping communities.

LI: Please pray that God increase His love and faith in us.

Thank you for joining us for tea and conversation. This table talk has been edited to fit our On Mission Review format. Please watch our Kingdom Come website for the expanded version!



True Happiness Ministry exists to reach out to every man, woman, and child with the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ through its health, microeconomic development activities, and educational services leading to disciple making and church planting, to disciple a whole nation.



Crisis Spells Opportunity

by Dwight Smith, Saturation Church Planting

Many are lamenting the chaos through which we are passing. I am not. Of course, we lament the deaths that have come with the chaos. But as a missionary and a former pastor, I am not surprised nor dismayed.

I am not surprised because the history of our world has seen many changing points in time. Changing points when the normal of the day was replaced by a new normal. Changing points when whole empires were replaced by another, when wealth was redistributed globally, and many nations who once controlled world commerce found themselves on the outside looking in.

We are in the midst of just such a change from one “normal” to a new normal. And the fear is that we don’t really know what that new normal will look like.

In spite of every new scenario that is spun by pundits and experts, I am not

dismayed. Throughout the history of the Church, God has always used these times to grow His Church. I think it is fair to say that we are in the grip of just such a cataclysmic moment. For many in our world, perhaps most, there is fear, hunger, and the very real threat of a lifetime of potential loss. In just such moments, the gospel shines brightest. Just when Satan thinks he has scored a big win against God and His people, God does something upside down to expectation. He surprises all of us.

All of the reports I get from the places where SCP is working around the world confirm this point of view. Thousands of people are being fed through partner churches. The Christ followers in these churches are diligently telling their grace testimonies. And hundreds are coming to faith and being baptized.

We and our global partners were prepared for such a day as today. We were prepared because of three important



foundations. One: whatever God is going to do He is going to do through all of Christ's people. Two: whatever God is going to do He is going to do through the millions of "average" believers talking about their faith and sharing their grace testimony. Three: whatever God is going to do He is going to do primarily through a decentralized structure.

For example, our partners in India were already prepared for this day. While they had places in which many people met on a Sunday, the front edge of their church life was in smaller, missional, house groups—thousands of them. So, when the church could not meet in larger buildings, they continued in homes. When they couldn't meet as a group in a home, they continued as individual families in their homes.

Other churches around them who had not thought about such a day, began to call them. With their church buildings being off limits and their people out

of sight due to lockdown restrictions, they were afraid. We had talked with these Christian leaders before, but now they were listening. "What was that you told me before in your invitation to training? Our people have disappeared from the 'radar' yet we see you and your people thriving. Why? How? What did we miss?"

Neighbors of our many partner churches and others observed all of this. They received food, encouragement in the face of human hopelessness, prayer, and the story of the gospel. They could see the gospel alive in their Christian neighbors!

When our partners couldn't continue to carry the SCP vision and training in person by visiting the states and nations around them, they turned to Zoom calls. There are now 11-15 monthly Zoom training events going on in some 20 nations where our national partners are encouraging and training hundreds of church leaders. They are inspiring them to

seize the day, turn the table on any satanic machinations, and extend the gospel to thousands of others caught in the grip of fear that this moment of chaos has created.

The Chapel, too, is seeing this movement of opportunity. While you cannot meet physically, you can still invite others into your circle of influence, corporately and personally. You are seeing unprecedented numbers of people tuning in to your Sunday morning stream.

This opportunity is just an invitation: into the message of redemption in the gospel; into the evangelization task given by Jesus our Lord to His Church, and into an opportunity to

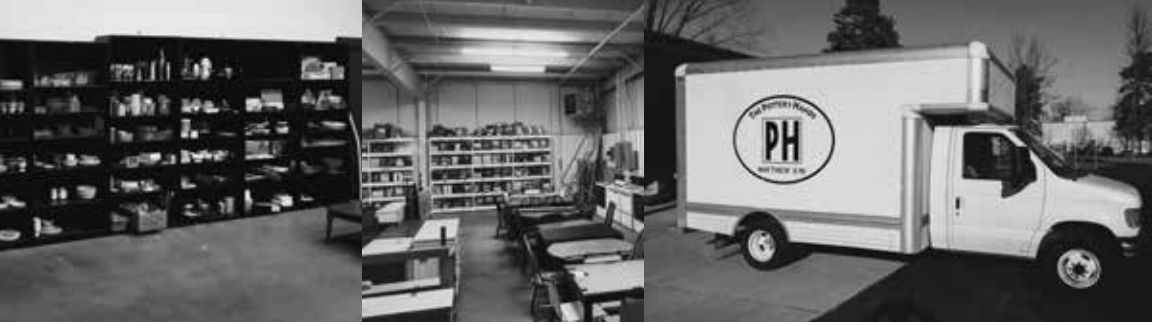
see the growth and multiplication of the Church as we have not seen in our lifetime.

And you, too, can join in this invitation. While there is fear, dismay, despair, and even loss, you are living proof that there is life. Life after chaos. Life during chaos. Because we are the living proof that the grave is empty, and the resurrection of Jesus provides eternal life and daily peace.

As the apostle Paul admonishes us, “So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison,” (2 Corinthians 4:16-17 ESV).



Saturation Church Planting (SCP) exists to glorify God through partnering with church leaders in nations, regions, and cities throughout the world toward the full evangelization of those places through the mobilization of the Church. Over the last three decades, SCP has had the opportunity to work with thousands of leaders around the globe toward this outcome. To learn more about the ministry of SCP, please visit scpglobal.org and dwrightpaulsmith.com.



It's All About Relationship

Teddy Miller, The Potter's Hands

It's all about relationship. Those are the words I heard from God when I was getting ready to retire in 2008. Not to relax, play golf, and vacation. He has reminded me of those words many times since then. During the devotional at a Donation Day in 2018, I was again reminded about getting involved in God's ministry to other people. I wasn't sure what that looked like then, but I knew it had to do with The Potter's Hands.

During 2019 it became clear through conversations with Shawn Pappas, the previous coordinator, that God definitely wanted me involved in Potter's Hands. In the fall of that year, I took over as coordinator.

In 2019, we worked with 36 local agencies, helping 81 families with approximately 500 pieces of furniture plus many kitchen items. God is truly amazing!

I get excited when caseworkers bring clients to appointments on Thursdays. We see how God uses people, who

donate the items they no longer need. This gives us an amazing opportunity to show His awesome love. To see the look on people's faces as they navigate through the warehouse, picking out items they can use to restart their lives from disaster, violence, or addiction. To talk to them about their situation. To pray with them before they leave: now that is relationship.

Just a quick story: late last year a caseworker from Gateway Longview called. She was looking for a queen/full size bed for a teenager who was going to return home. Just hours before her call the Lord provided a queen bed, complete with headboard and footboard through someone else. God's timing is perfect!

What a privilege it has been and still is to serve God in this ministry. I pray that at least in some small way I am fulfilling Matthew 5:16 (ESV). "In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven."



**One Mission:
To Reach Every Man,
Woman, and Child**

by Will Plitt, Christ Together





For Christ Together (CT), 2020 has been a pivotal year. In spite of facing an unprecedented global pandemic and racial injustices that have plagued our nation, we saw the mission of CT experience tremendous expansion, favor, and the opportunity to broadcast the vision for churches collaborating to reach every man, woman, and child with the Good News of Jesus Christ globally.

The CT National Delivery Team worked diligently in 2019 to identify and define our unique lane and contribution for the Church across North America (envisioning and convening the Church for the gospel saturation of North America). When COVID-19 hit in full force, CT was uniquely positioned to be a leading voice for calling together churches, networks, and denominations through these uncharted waters. The message of CT has never been more relevant as the Church moved from a centralized structure to a decentralized presence overnight. This afforded CT the opportunity to be a catalytic influence with pastors on how to work with other churches to mobilize their people for mission to where they live, learn, work and play.

Here is a brief narrative of how God did this: when COVID-19 hit, we made the decision over one weekend

to implement a bold and innovative strategy to serve the Church across North America for what was unfolding. We formed a Kingdom partnership overnight with the SEND Institute led by Dr. Ed Stetzer, Jeff Christopherson, and Daniel Yang to host a webinar the following week entitled Ready or Not? This webinar attracted more than 1,100 pastors and leaders almost overnight. That set the stage to launch a six-week COVID Coaching Group to help pastors navigate the rapidly-changing landscape.

At the end of week two, we had 1,094 churches in a coaching group. At the end of week five, more than 10,000 churches were in a coaching group, spread across thirty-nine countries, translated into eleven languages. After that, we simply stopped counting.

Early on, we made a strategic choice not to brand the work under any particular organization. If we believed we were better together, it needed to function as a collaborative effort. No single organization could take credit, which meant that more people could be part of it. So from day one, these coaching groups were a combined effort of Catapult, the SEND Institute, NewThing Network, and Christ Together. We desired to model collaboration for the advancement of the Kingdom at the highest of levels.



A number of networks, denominations, and mission agencies then asked if they could start groups for churches in their tribe. We made a choice to give those leaders everything we had. We held nothing back: detailed notes of every session, scripts, worksheets, slides, training videos we had recorded for coaches, video replays of each week, and email templates. Everything we had, we gave to them, free of charge. We trained the leaders of those tribes of churches, walked them through the essentials of the radical minimums and what they would need to do. We then released them to be the yeast in the dough of their specific tribe. We had a front row seat to see what it looks like globally when no one cares who gets the credit other than Jesus!

Here are a few innovative highlights from CT in 2020:

- City Status

- 91 cities envisioned*
- 20 cities actively engaging the vision with over 40 preparing to step into the vision*
- 20 new cities that have reached out to us about bringing the vision to their city*

- CT became a globally recognized voice for bringing churches, networks, and denominations together for city transformation.

- Online platforms

We built a digital pathway for cities to introduce the vision, in light of our not being able to be physically present, called the City Engagement Pathway.

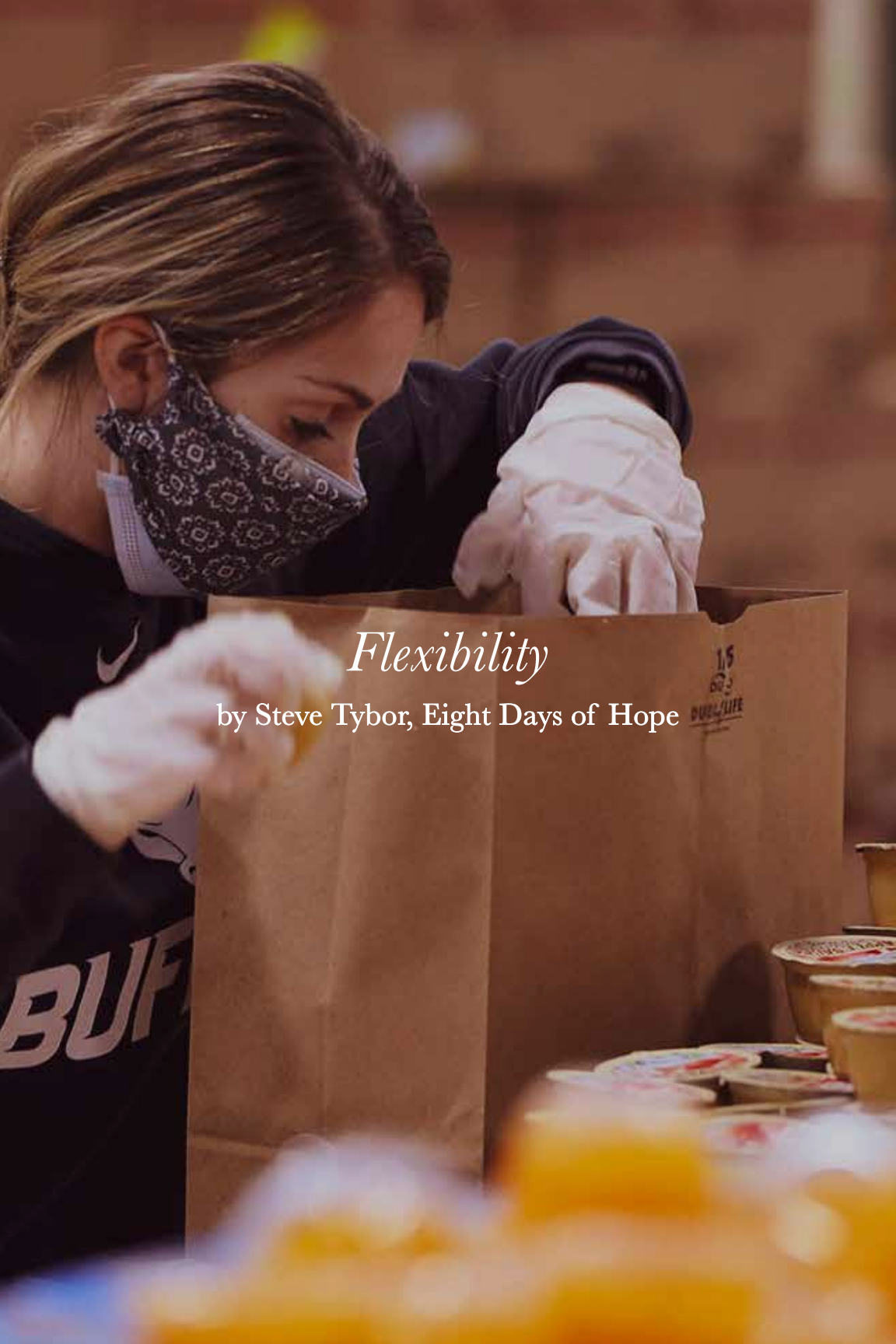
We hosted webinars with top thought-leaders to serve churches in real time.

We developed City Information Huddles to help existing cities engage the City Engagement Pathway.

We developed Shop Talks to deepen activity with cities that are gaining momentum with the vision.

C.S. Lewis wrote, “Courage is not simply one of the virtues, but the form of every virtue at the testing point.” Christ Together wants to thank The Chapel for the holy courage that you exhibit in helping to advance this vision to reach every man, woman, and child.

Christ Together is comprised of churches and Kingdom leaders, networks and denominations, that desire to serve churches and their leaders through providing a way for the Church to join God on His mission. They initiate conversations and create environments for Kingdom leaders to pray, learn, strategize and act in concert with God’s vision in their community, town, city or region.



Flexibility

by Steve Tybor, Eight Days of Hope

Flexibility can be described as the capacity to adjust to short-term change quickly and calmly so you can deal with unexpected problems or tasks effectively.

More than 38,000 Eight Days of Hope volunteers have heard this word mentioned almost every day while loving and serving those in need. How can you rebuild hundreds of homes in an eight-day period without being flexible? In 2020, we have had to model that word like never before due to COVID-19.

While serving in Nashville, Tennessee, after an F3 tornado wreaked havoc on hundreds of families, COVID became a national household word. During what was already a busy year for us, as this response was our third regional disaster since January 1, five hundred volunteers had to “adjust to short-term change quickly and calmly.”

A pandemic in the middle of one of our largest Rapid Response trips in years? We have learned never to put God in a box. That is not who He is. Thankfully, fifteen years of learning how to be flexible and move at the sound of His voice, was about to allow us to minister in ways we had never dreamed possible.

At Eight Days of Hope, we had to shift gears. How could the ministry God has entrusted to us meet the needs of people who are being affected by a virus and not a tornado or hurricane? Just as always, He showed us. Partners

reached out who had masks and hand sanitizer readily available, the exact items everyone in the country needed. We led a plan to provide masks and hand sanitizer to families in the inner city of Buffalo, through a drive-thru at our warehouse. We had planned to hand out 5,000 masks. God had another plan. Never did we think we would be able to meet every need, but just as in the gospel account of the five fish and two loaves of bread, God provided. Every family in line received masks and sanitizer. As the last car drove off, six hours after we started, we had none left. We had exactly what we needed! Don't you love how God works?



We then leaned on dozens of relationships across the country and quickly secured more than 250,000 masks. We shipped thousands of masks to hospitals, churches, and families in need across America.

(continued on next page...)

Feed Buffalo was launched on a Monday with no dollars set aside for this outreach. The plan was simple – find a way to provide a week of groceries to 300 families in need. The elderly who would not venture outside of their homes, the widows, single moms, and many more. Remember that word flexible? What if we shared with you that not 300 but over 1,100 families received a week’s worth of groceries? Over \$100,000 of food was purchased and then delivered safely to these precious families, all in a few short days.



Amazing isn't it? We aren't, that's for sure, but God is! He is an amazing God! He alone deserves all the praise and glory. God moved through the

local church to supply us with 1,109 families that were in need. Then God provided the volunteers to safely deliver these groceries. Let's not forget about the money needed to do this large outreach. As I mentioned earlier, on a Monday we decided to move forward. Every dollar that was needed was donated by the time we delivered the food – eight days later, all \$106,000.

The letters, notes, and phone calls that followed this outreach were unlike anything we had ever experienced. We were humbled to get a note from a widow who was in tears because she was out of food. She had nothing left in her refrigerator and her cupboards were empty. She did not want to risk getting on a bus to go to a local supermarket due to the virus. She said, "Angels showed up! I had nothing to eat and then there was a knock on my door. Two people who I had never seen

before brought me bags of groceries. I asked them why me? They told me because God loves you and He cares about you. I wept for hours.”

Flexibility will lead a ministry to pivot. We still are doing what God has called us to do, to serve families in need after a natural disaster, and yes, we are still renovating facilities used for those rescued from sex trafficking. (We just completed our fourth project, in Buffalo, serving PATH!)

Our prayer is simple. When God reveals a need, act. It’s that simple. He has called us to be His hands and feet. Sometimes the simplest acts of kindness will never be forgotten. Yes, Eight Days of Hope has rebuilt more than 6,000 homes across the country, but sometimes a mask, some food, or maybe just a smile from two “angels” will bring someone to a place they have never been—His feet.



Eight Days of Hope is a Christian, non-profit organization that is both evangelical and non-denominational. They exist to demonstrate the love and hope of Jesus Christ by serving those in need.



Reaching the Community through Changing Times

by Tera Domaradzki, *Imagine Community Gardens*

Imagine Community Gardens (ICG) works to form relationships with people and show them the love of Christ through six gardens located throughout Western New York. Each location not only provides nutritious vegetables and herbs for those working in the garden, but also gives back to the community. Many of the locations partner with organizations that help feed people, such as the food pantry in North Tonawanda and the soup kitchen in West Seneca. In biblical fashion, the gardens also donate 10% of their harvest back to the community through the First Fruits program, which feeds community members who are not able to garden, while also teaching the gardeners how rewarding it is to give joyfully. Each location partners with local churches that help to support the gardens, as the gardens function as ministries for the churches. Many people have come

to Christ and joined the local church. What is especially wonderful is that, when these new Christians begin to attend church, they are already friends with several of the members because they have been working with them in the garden!

The presence of the Lord can clearly be felt in the gardens. Those that haven't yet found their way to Jesus will say how there is something peaceful and fulfilling about being in the garden, and how different the pod leaders (who belong to the partner churches) are. Many gardeners (including myself) consider their fellow gardeners to be family, as that's what they become.

Typically, ICG reaches additional people in the community through our special events. The three main events are Kids Flower Day, Meet the Chef Day, and Pumpkin Day. This year has presented many new challenges

with restrictions and guidelines that frequently change. While we had to cancel this year's Meet the Chef Day (which saddened many hearts and bellies), Kids Flower Day was rescheduled from June to August, and we are still planning on Kids Pumpkin Day to occur. These events are important outreach opportunities for the partner churches to bless people and bring them joy. In June, ICG did not want to sit idly as we watched the original date for Kids Flower Day pass by, so we created new outreach opportunities with what we were given. We had a few gardens load up their wheelbarrows

with dirt, and grab a wagon filled with plants and herbs. They walked around the neighborhoods blessing the neighbors and offering to pray with and for them. One of our other gardens used buckets we had donated, filled them with supplies, and on the Fourth of July handed out Family Fun packages to people on the bike path. We are also working on a new outreach in the gardens through acoustic music nights to engage and uplift the neighborhood. This will provide another opportunity for God's children to reach those that have gone astray and walk alongside them, showing them the love of God.



The mission of Imagine Community Gardens is to create beautiful vegetable gardens as a community church outreach, sowing the seeds of friendship, hope, and faith.



Why Circles Are Better Than Rows

by Michelle Stockton-Traylor, Renovation Church

Dina Thompson was an everyday girl, growing up with a single mom who worked hard to care for her family. Living in community was a part of her early fabric, so much so that her first job was at the Masten Boys and Girls Club here in Buffalo. The stirring and calling to work with youth had been planted.

We first met Dina when we launched The Chapel at Elmwood in 2008. She and her family began attending when we met in the Regal movie theater. It wasn't long before Dina helped us start our first student ministry, a small group of students meeting in her home. Student ministry was familiar and helped her to feel connected as she helped others connect in community.

When we moved to Hertel Avenue and re-launched as Renovation Church, Dina continued to volunteer in our growing student ministry, now full of neighborhood

teenagers, with real life problems, challenges, and conflicts. During a sermon series on Mark Batterson's book, *The Circle Maker*, Dina felt a call to pray a big circle around students, asking God, "How do we help youth navigate the conflict they have?" We have always been a church with "Orange Philosophy" which strengthens the partnership between the light of the church (yellow) and the love of the home (red) to make an even greater, brighter impact (orange). Ecclesiastically, we met at round tables on Sunday mornings and fostered community and life in circles at every opportunity.

What became a growing frustration for Dina was watching our students struggle to implement the weekly messages and principles of faith, like trusting God and living as an overcomer, when their lives were wrought with economic challenges, limited resources, and constant

school suspensions. No one was asking them “Why?” until they came to Renovate Live, our student ministry. Our team started learning their triggers, like fights with neighbors, arguments with parents, or even food scarcity. The discussion began to shift toward the Great Commandment: How can we love God by loving each other?

During this season, Dina enrolled in Hilbert College’s degree program for Conflict & Dispute Resolution. She began hearing phrases like “restorative justice” which has roots in the Mennonite church. The idea of bringing restoration to underlying issues within the context of community was the answer to Dina’s search to connect what she was seeing and experiencing in real life with a meaningful vocation. She moved on to become licensed in Restorative Practice, empowering community members to address the disparities in their neighborhoods and schools. While building a non-profit, Erie County Restorative Justice Coalition (ECRJC), she attended graduate school at the International Institute of Restorative Practices and received her master’s degree. She accomplished all this while still volunteering in student ministry

and working in her first school, Enterprise Charter School.

Dina’s passion and conviction are still strong. She teaches in the University of Buffalo School of Social Work. Through her non-profit, her growing team of four staff members has trained more than 40 schools and hundreds of community members in restorative justice. Her team has worked with two school districts and four private and charter schools, training them to implement culture to change behavior. Currently, her team is at work with the Erie County Family Court and probation office, using restorative practice to eliminate youth criminal records when the minor meets the agreement set forth by her team and the court. The ECRJC is also writing a grant with the City of Buffalo to address disparities on the East Side, and they offer community trainings throughout the year for persons interested in learning more.

Dina shares that Micah 6:8 fuels her to “do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly.” Once, she was an everyday girl. Today, she is everyone’s hero at Renovation, putting her faith in action and taking the gospel of reconciliation and restoration to every man, woman, and child.

Renovation Church is on a mission to renovate communities by ensuring that every man, woman, and child have repeated opportunities to see, hear, and respond to the gospel of Jesus Christ.



*We Have Been Made for a Time
Such as This: Responding to a
Global Health Crisis*

by Mary Schaefer
Jericho Road Community Health Center

From the start of the pandemic, Jericho Road's main goals have been threefold: Stay open, stay safe, and stay solvent. In reality, the organization has accomplished much more than that, investing significant resources into remedying the racial and economic health disparities that COVID-19 has thrown into sharp relief.

Jericho Road's chief medical officer, Dr. Allana Krolikowski, sums it up: "We're in the business of taking care of people who aren't taken care of in other places." Due in part to prior experience with public health crises in Sierra Leone and the Democratic Republic of Congo, Jericho Road started preparing for COVID-19 early. An initial COVID plan was in place in January. By March 9, anyone entering Jericho Road's clinics or Vive, the organization's shelter for asylum seekers, was temperature-screened

before entry. Protocols were in place to isolate potential cases. When Erie County announced its first confirmed COVID-19 patients on March 15, Jericho Road instituted further changes.



Telemedicine, an excellent tool that can boost healthcare accessibility, had never been offered by the clinics because of challenges with Medicaid reimbursements. When the state made changes to reimbursements in response to the pandemic, Jericho Road quickly added telehealth as an option for patients. By mid-April, more than half of all clinical visits were performed using telemedicine.

Jericho Road's two larger health center locations on Broadway and Barton Street made major changes to their interior layouts, creating totally separate isolation areas for



symptomatic patients to be seen by medical providers in full personal protection equipment (PPE). Their third health center on Genesee Street was closed temporarily.

Some of the organization's community programs were put on indefinite hiatus because proper physical distancing was impossible. Other programs began providing support to clients almost exclusively by phone.

As data from other parts of the United States began to show higher positivity rates and poorer outcomes for Black people and other communities of color, Jericho Road leaders resolved to make testing more readily available in predominantly Black and refugee neighborhoods. At the end of April, the organization launched a months-

long community testing initiative. Weekly outdoor testing events were conducted at its clinics, and pop-up events were brought to partner sites across the city. Staff consistently tested more than 100 people per day at these events, sometimes administering over 200 or even 300 tests. The testing events were promoted as "barrier-free," meaning anyone could be tested, regardless of health insurance or patient status. Community feedback indicated that needing an appointment and a prescription for a test was holding people back, so Jericho Road did away with those, too.

Over the course of three months, Jericho Road conducted a total of 8,000 tests. By August, the organization had eased off its single day testing



model and was offering walk-in testing six days a week.

This has been the most challenging time in Jericho Road’s 23-year history. Patients have fallen sick with COVID-19, some seriously so. A few have died. More than 20 staff members have tested positive. Fortunately, blessedly, all have recovered without major complications.

And still, the work continues. How could it not when so many are suffering?

On March 22, Jericho Road’s founder and CEO, Dr. Myron Glick, sent an email to the organization’s staff with the subject line “*I have decided to trust God.*” In it, he recounted the story of Esther.

“...[Esther] found out that her people were being faced with annihilation and she stood up to the King of Babylon at great risk to herself and figured out a way to save them,” he wrote. “The story ends by saying that she was born for such a time as this. Lately, I have been thinking often of this story. Jericho Road, this is our time. It is now that we will, together, have the courage to be present and respond to the call. Yes, it will require sacrifice. Yes, we are risking everything. But we are here for such a time as this.”



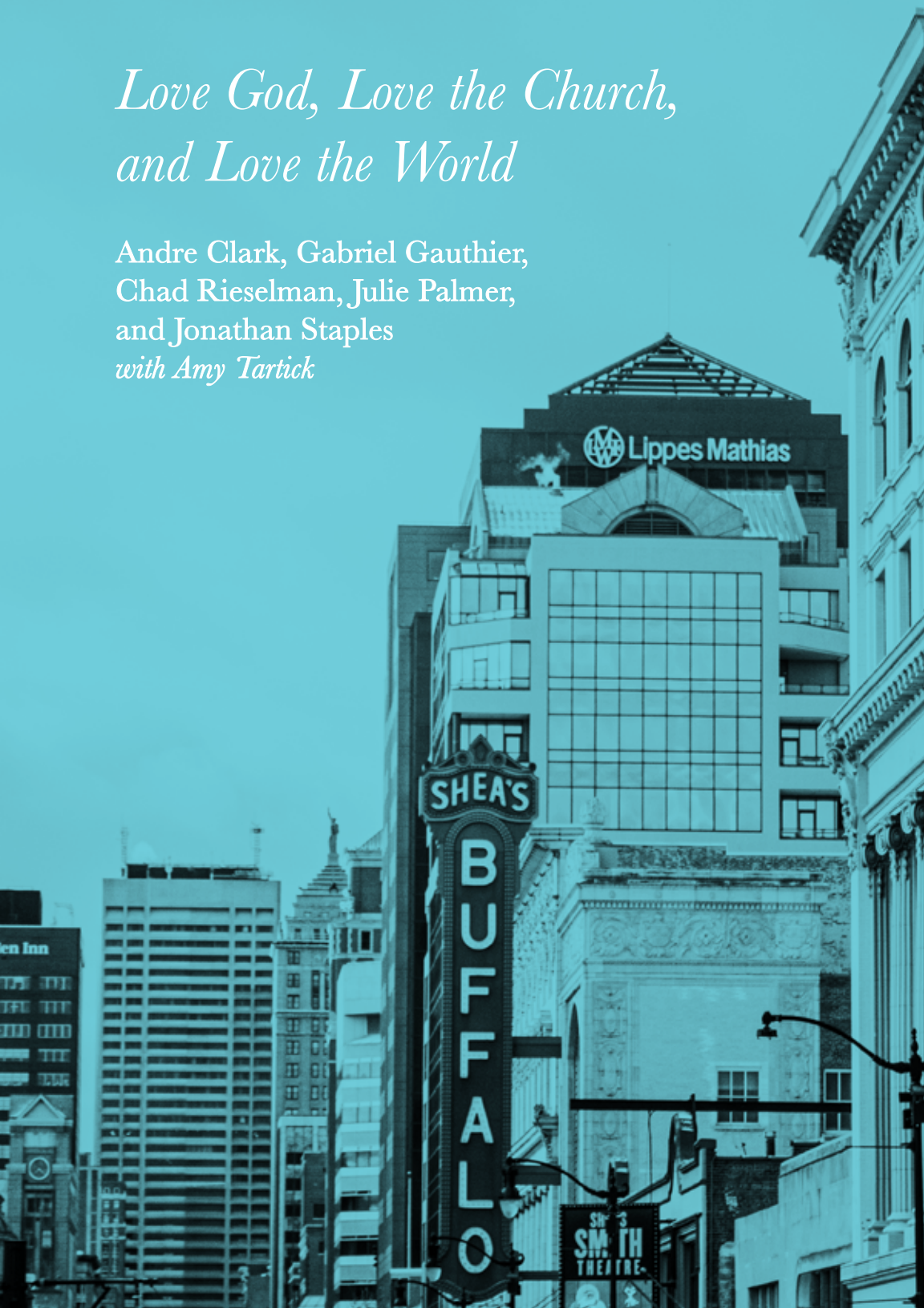
Dr. Luther Robinson, a long-serving pediatrician with the organization, responded in kind. “As we are obedient in little things, the larger things will fall into place,” he shared. “I think about how Peter, a fisherman, launched his fishing boat into deep waters at the request of a carpenter. He was tired from fishing all night and was unaware of the rewards that awaited him. Launch, be strong, be courageous.”

Years ago, we launched the little boat that is Jericho Road in faith, and God has kept us afloat for 23 years. We continue to trust Him, even now. Especially now.

Jericho Road Community Health Center provides holistic healthcare for the underserved and marginalized communities in Buffalo and across the world in order to demonstrate the unconditional love of Jesus.

*Love God, Love the Church,
and Love the World*

Andre Clark, Gabriel Gauthier,
Chad Rieselman, Julie Palmer,
and Jonathan Staples
with Amy Tartick





Disciples of Jesus Christ follow Him daily in ways that express love for God, His Church, and the world (those who are lost). This is foundational to accomplishing God’s mission of offering every man, woman, and child repeated opportunities to hear and see the transforming gospel of Jesus Christ. Living this out close to home can be uncomplicated and even comfortable.

However, the Church exists within every ethnicity and culture, and there are many expressions of the Church in the Buffalo, NY area. This means we have brothers and sisters in Christ living in contexts quite different from our own who are just a short distance away. Multi-cultural harvest fields can be significantly challenging and complicated as we learn to navigate relationships and conversations.

Quite honestly, our culture, our nation, and our world are changing, and if the Church is to grow and thrive through it all, we need one another more than ever. To help us better understand and engage with our family in Christ, *On Mission* has asked several of our experienced Kingdom Come partners to share their insights and wisdom. How do we begin to understand all this? What does love God, love the Church, and love the world look like in a multi-cultural context both in the church and our communities? We ask you to join us with an open heart, listening to their hearts.

Our first partner is Jonathan Staples, who for the past 14 years has served as the seventh senior pastor of First Shiloh Baptist Church. He has nearly 25 years’ experience serving in this role of senior pastor. First Shiloh is a 104-year-old anchor institution in the Ellicott District of the City of Buffalo that operates a food pantry, a tax preparation program, summer camp, and owns nearly 300 units of housing. Our

question for him is: The City of Buffalo and surrounding areas offer a significantly varied landscape culturally, ethnically, and racially. What do you think God sees when He looks at our city? What are ways we can better focus on what unites us to Him and each other as the Body of Christ—living this out in our daily Christian walk?



Jonathan Staples

Jonathan Staples: *The City of Buffalo's resurgence is widely noted and a source for other cities' inspiration. At the same time, the benefits of the resurgence have not been enjoyed by the entire population. I believe that a vibrant city must work for everyone. Given worrisome and longstanding inequities in key quality of life indicators for Buffalo's community of color, Buffalo's long-term well-being is unachievable without intentional efforts to advance racial*

equity. This transformation will require political action and determination. Thus, I believe God's heart bleeds when God looks at our city and witnesses the great racial and economic divide.

Our job together is to be about the work of transformation. Transformation speaks to the nature of social change rather than resolution. We cannot solve the aforementioned problems without acknowledging the systemic structures that helped to create them and working to change them. As we go about this hard work together, we give witness to the life-changing power of God. Because God has transformed our lives, we are called to live that out constantly informed by a vision of change.

- *Personal Change*
(look at our own life)
- *Relational Change*
(building trust to make change sustainable)
- *Systemic Change*
(change that occurs in institutions and structures)
- *Cultural Change*
(address the cultural patterns that create harm and manipulate; respecting good cultural patterns and work on those cultural patterns that divide)

Our next partner is Gabriel Gauthier. He is the lead pastor at Prince of Peace Christian Church on the west side of the City of Buffalo. For more than 30 years Prince of Peace has been serving the West Side of Buffalo and

surrounding communities. As a bilingual church (English and Spanish), God has blessed them to build a multi-ethnic church with two services on Sundays (based on language). On Mission's question for him is: Help us understand your context by describing your local neighborhood. Within and around your community, are there challenges your church family is facing in building strong relationships in a multi-cultural context and if so, how are they overcoming them?

Gabriel Gauthier: *The West Side in the City of Buffalo has changed significantly in the last 10-15 years. I grew up two blocks from our church, and when I was younger, there were only some Hispanics and Italians. Given that Buffalo is a refugee city in the State of New York, demographics have changed, and we now are host to many countries. From Nepal to Congo, the West Side is replete with diversity and has become a melting pot of culture.*

We face many challenges and they surround communication. When you don't speak their language, it's difficult to get to know someone better and address a particular need that they have. Because of this and the recent pandemic, we have chosen to open a weekly food pantry in our church called Helping Hands at Prince of Peace. Regardless of race, background, and/or belief, no one should have to go hungry in our City, especially in our own neighborhood. The Armor Project at The Chapel has been instrumental in getting this off the ground and because of this, we have been able to reach more people in the surrounding area. Although we cannot always understand their native language, everyone understands

the language of compassion and love. This is demonstrated with a free box of food that will help them feed their family for an entire week. If they need prayer, we are able to pray with them. Additionally, our church has opened its doors to a church from the Congo, who will be having services in our building Sunday afternoons.

When you empathize, placing yourself in someone else's shoes, you can understand their heart and the significant struggles that they experienced just to make it through a week. Prince of Peace has evolved from being just an Hispanic church in the West Side of Buffalo, to being a multi-ethnic church in the City of Buffalo. All for the Glory of God!



Gabriel Gauthier

Please welcome Julie Palmer, our next partner. Julie is the wife of Jeff and the mother to four amazing children (two of whom they adopted)! God called her into ministry in 2012. Before that she worked in the field of mental health for 14 years. Our question for Julie is: Your ministry, PATH, focuses on people typically outside the church walls, perhaps invisible in their

communities, escaping human trafficking and reaching out for help to begin a new life. With this in mind, who is our neighbor and how do we, as disciples of Jesus Christ, best express to them God's love, especially when they appear different from ourselves?



Julie Palmer: *Our neighbor is the teenage girl who ran away from an abusive home, was coerced into servicing up to 20 men a day for weeks before she was removed from the situation. It is the homeless man you drive by on Route 33 on your way home from work. It's the woman who is engaged in sexual exploitation because she has no idea how to provide shelter for her and her three year old as a single mom. It is the middle aged woman you see getting angry in the store only to learn that she was prostituted since she was a teenager, physically beaten and became*

addicted to substances to cope with her life. It is a woman in her 20's who is released from jail with no shoes, the clothing on her back - her only possessions. She was forced into theft and prostitution, and after serving her sentence in jail, she had nothing and nowhere to go.

These are our neighbors and the people we serve at our PATH Enrichment Center. Story after story of assault, exploitation, homelessness, prison time, and hunger. They are all over our community but it is very easy to go about our daily activity and not see them. When a person comes in our doors we see pain, suffering, desperation. After a few months at PATH we start to see joy, confidence and healing. Each and every person we encounter at our Enrichment Center experiences God's love by our interactions. People in these circumstances want to see our faith in action, not just hear it. We let them know they are valued, loved, and created in God's image for a purpose. We spend time feeding them, helping them get support, offering art, music, fitness, spiritual nourishment and investing in their well-being. Most importantly, we have a genuine relationship with them without judgement and full of grace. It is so easy to make assumptions about people and dismiss them. We, as the body of believers, can represent Christ in our regard for the oppressed and the least of these. In Matthew 25:40, Jesus says to the disciples, "I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me." We believe how we treat the most afflicted is a direct representation of our relationship with Jesus Christ. Once people experience God's love flowing out of us, they want to learn more about Him.

We are thankful for the support of The Chapel family that helps us be the church of WNY.

On Mission: The ministry of PATH sounds very intense. How did you become a part of this ministry?

Julie Palmer: *God put a very heavy burden on my heart for those victimized by sex trafficking after listening to a presentation on the issue. I remember His voice, “Julie, I want you to do something about this”. I had NO idea that it would mean leading PATH (People Against Trafficking Humans) Inc. and developing our Enrichment Center. God has opened many doors over the years for PATH to provide support services for women, men and youth who are at risk or affected by human trafficking physically, emotionally, and spiritually. Most recently, we had a generous donor purchase us a building and we moved our Enrichment Center to 999 Delaware Avenue in Buffalo.*

Next up is Chad Rieselman. Chad is Christina’s husband and Ethan, Nash and Samuel’s dad. He leads Lumber City Church, a mission-minded community in North Tonawanda. They meet at The Hope Center which is a hub for their mission to do their part in making the Oliver Street Corridor of North Tonawanda a safe place to raise a family among “good neighbors,” no matter what your socio-economic, skin color, or worldview is. Our question for Chad: Is there a forum or place in WNY where pastors and church leaders are able to come together to pray, strategize, and collaborate for a Kingdom

impact in our region? If so, what does that look like?



Chad Rieselman

Chad Rieselman: *Buffalo is an outlier in many ways. It was viewed just a few decades ago as a “burned over” district. Mini church expressions became self-sufficient and isolated. All of that has changed in the past decade. There is a level of Kingdom-mindedness and collaboration that exists here. I have found sometimes in traveling the country that when I mention I am from Buffalo there is an immediate interest in “what is happening” here.*

What is happening, I believe, is a move of the Holy Spirit to bring about a unity that changes the landscape of all of the ways the Kingdom has been fragmented. To put it plainly, churches in Western New York work very well together, unifying and collaborating for the common cause of the Kingdom of God in a very unique and special way.

There are forums where pockets of church leaders get together to strategize and pray. I am excited for more of those groups to do more things in a unified way for the entire region,

but they do exist in Christ Together groups and other ecumenical cells across WNY.

These groups are often very action-oriented. For instance, Christ Together Northtowns played a significant role in the formation of the Northtowns Pregnancy Center. The Box of Hope Movement in North Tonawanda is the result of such a gathering of Kingdom-minded leaders there. It will be amazing to see what God will do as we continue to move toward this high level of collaboration for the Kingdom!



Andre "Shep" Clark

Our last but not least partner for this discussion is Andre Clark. Andre is most often called "Shep" which is short for Shepherd. He is the much-loved shepherd of New Direction Christian Fellowship and connected forever to his wife Jennifer. He is "father" of many (in the spirit) and

friend to all. Our question for him is: What are some steps each person can take to build trust in communities, collaborate in providing a gospel presence to reach the lost, and for individuals to discern and engage cross-cultural opportunities to support one another as brothers and sisters in Christ in the Greater Buffalo Area?

Andre "Shep" Clark: *What a wonderful world we would be in if we could collaborate in providing a gospel presence to reach the lost, and for individuals to discern and engage in cross-cultural opportunities to support our brothers and sisters in Christ. Unfortunately there is a huge component that is missing, and that is trust. Trust is like the cabinets that our wives have been asking us to put together every weekend since Christmas. We start to assemble them but get frustrated and go on to something else. If we are going to build relationships we will have to walk alongside each other and work until trust is formed. The Bible says, "Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy" (Proverbs 31:8-9 NIV). When we see a fellow brother that is being treated unjustly, we are expected to say or do something that resembles what Jesus would have done. Jesus was not a moderate. He was actually controversial and radical. Jesus stood up for the woman that was caught in the act of adultery. Jesus saw the need to go into Samaria, the place no Jewish man would walk through let alone take the time to minister to a Samaritan woman. Jesus healed on the Sabbath and challenged their view of the law. This was all done for the furtherance*

of the gospel. This was against the norm and caused tension with those who stood by the law (system).

Collaborative efforts to reach the lost cross-culturally will need to start by coming to the room and starting to build that cabinet that has been put off for far too long. It will take for the Body of Christ to recognize and renounce systemic racism in our country and stand shoulder to shoulder. Being uncomfortable is normal. There are definitely some awkward moments when people are building trust. We are nervous about saying the wrong thing, coming on too strong, and how much time it will take to get to a place of trust. We have to be willing to come together and learn with each other. There are a lot of preconceived ideas about cultures that are different from ours, but that should not be the cause that hinders relationships from being created. At the same time, we are tearing down walls of prejudice and racism that hinder the Missio Dei. This is not to take away from those that have been on the forefront of racial healing. There are churches like The Chapel that have had many sessions with their leaders on racial healing. I was even a part of a panel discussion for Kingdom Come Sunday last year where this very subject was brought up. Unfortunately we are a long way from healing because everyone doesn't want to see the cabinets finished. Until we can come together and build trust we will only see a small sprinkling of the cross-cultural collaboration instead of truly saturating Buffalo with the gospel.

A special “Thank You!” to all for sharing their hearts and for their partnership in the gospel in WNY.





God Is Working!

Jim Murphy, Church Planting Initiative

God is working through His people right here in Western New York! He is doing this in many incredible and powerful ways, both large and small. It truly does take the whole church to bring the whole gospel to our world. One of the ways through which our Lord has worked this past year is the Church Planting Initiative's church planting residency, which began in September 2019. This nine month journey included five residents and was able to be accomplished by the collective effort of many different congregations and church leaders.

CPI's residency was designed to equip residents to think and plan strategically around how they can play a faithful role in the broader work of God in our region. This included a robust Soul Care component, which invested in each pastor on a personal/spiritual level. The goal was to see healthy missional churches pastored by spiritually healthy leaders who are meaningfully connected to the broader church of Western New York.

Each month had a particular focus necessary for planting a church on mission, ranging from being geographically intentional to meaningful Kingdom partnership. Other monthly topics included the nature and purpose of church leadership, empowering Christ's people, measurable values of discipleship, and more. Different topics were facilitated and hosted by different congregations and pastors, providing the residents a broad exposure to the Body of Christ and a deeper connection with it. Throughout the month there were classroom discussions, one-on-one mentoring, reading, and strategic assignments all geared toward helping the planter build a comprehensive strategy for their congregation in keeping with God's larger work in our area, nation, and world.

One of the main challenges we faced was the state-wide shutdowns due to the pandemic. This caused the residency to pause, but only for the month of March. In April, we were able to adjust and move the entire program online. It was inspiring to see everyone

work together and the residency not just continue, but make it all the way to the end. In May, we held an online graduation ceremony, which celebrated God's work and the five residents themselves.

As we look to the future, CPI is going to press pause on the residency for one year and will begin again September 2021. During this time we hope to build on what we have learned from this first residency. Some of the aspects we look to improve on are expanding the CPI team, establishing a more formal partnership and expectations with a resident's sending church, and developing a tool kit around administrative aspects of church planting. Additionally, we will work toward strengthening the connections among the church planters that have been a part of CPI the last four years. Our prayer is that a genuine planting culture of care, shared learning, and mutual encouragement would be built across Western New York. It will be into this culture that future graduates will transition, so that planters at all phases can walk together for the glory of God, the good of one another, and the reaching of our communities

with the gospel of Jesus Christ.

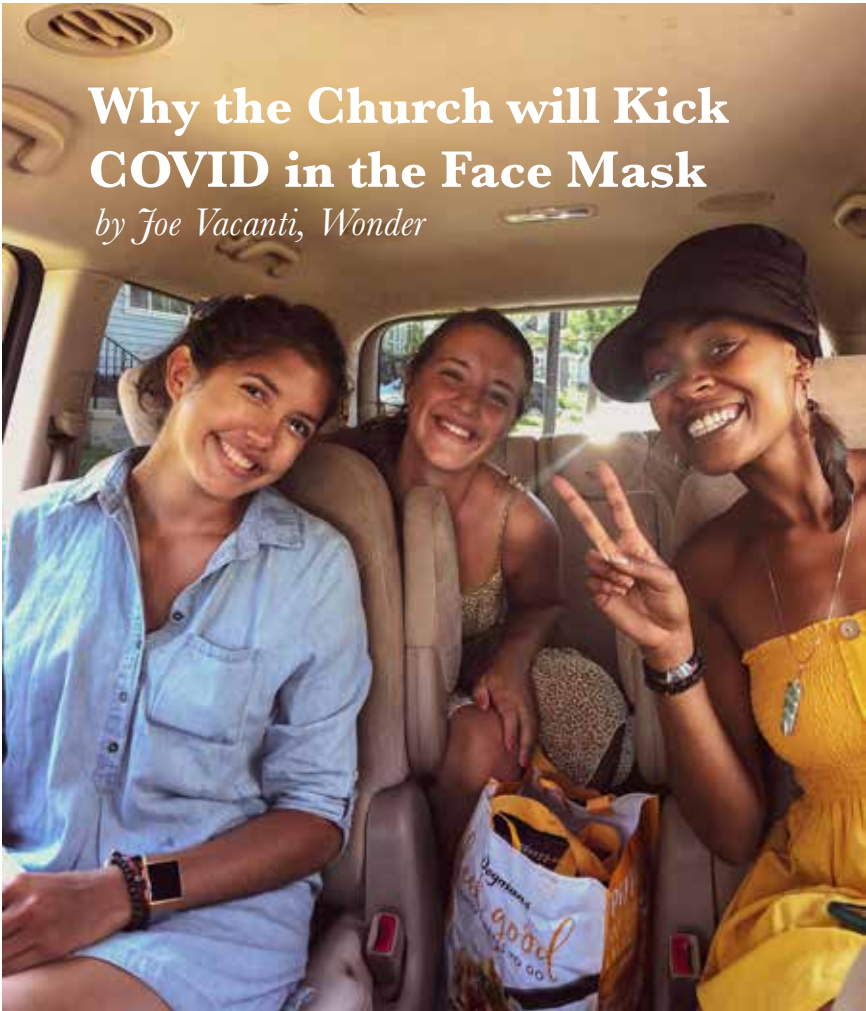
As we look over this past year, the CPI team is profoundly grateful for the mercy God has shown us and our region. We are also extremely grateful for all who played a role in CPI. Whether it was through sacrificial financial giving, faithful prayers, facilitating one of the monthly topics, sharing what CPI is with someone else, or participating as a resident... God worked through it all!

As I wrote earlier, God is working through His people right here. He is building, strengthening, and expanding His Church. Through the empowering work of the Holy Spirit, each follower of Christ has an important part to play. Each congregation has an important part to play. It truly does take the whole Church to bring the whole gospel to our world. CPI is a beautiful and tangible picture of this. As a CPI team, we pray this work grows so that a greater number of healthy churches, planted by healthy leaders connected to the broader church of Western New York can saturate our area with the gospel and mobilize all Christ's people for the glory of our Almighty God!



Why the Church will Kick COVID in the Face Mask

by Joe Vacanti, Wonder



The greatest potential reach into our community with the gospel was something right in front of us. It's something every church has and it took a pandemic to expose God's greatest strategy for discipleship and evangelism.

When Wonder began, we decided online church was not something

we were interested in doing. We already knew of many great churches with large teams and large budgets to support online church and they did it well. We figured people could just go online to find those churches if they were interested. We would focus on caring for the people who were right in front of us. The people God physically brought.

Then one week, everything changed. The people in front of us were no longer there, but quarantined to their homes. In one week, and during a pandemic, we had to figure out how to be online, get equipment, and navigate new streaming programs. This all had to be accomplished with our limited staff and budget. And from the basement of our home, since we gathered in Riverworks Restaurant which was closed at the time due to the restrictions. But that's the heart of Wonder. We will do whatever it takes and believe that with God, there's always a way.

During our first week of streaming, we uncovered our greatest potential to reach into our community. It was through the people who called Wonder home. As we streamed, we had new guests every week joining and engaging. We realized that people who did not regularly attend church did not know the Christian subculture of speakers and churches. Christians know of them but those outside the church do not. Who did they know? They knew the people they worked with, the people who coached them, the people who attended Wonder. They were

relatives, co-workers, neighbors, and friends. It was our people's relationships, their character and faith that made the connection and invitation to watch Wonder online. Every week our people had excitement as they saw people they knew join church online.

The global church everywhere saw this, too. Churches didn't change their speakers or their musicians or even their venues. But everywhere we all saw increased opportunity and potential. It was our people. Their character and their faith were an unstoppable force that not even a global pandemic could stop.

At the end of every gathering online we give an invitation to give your life to Jesus. During this time some did. God showed us again that with Him there is always a way. Wonder is continuing online church. Why? Because we believe in the potential of the people who call Wonder home. They are people who bring love, integrity, faith, and excellence everywhere. And these things continue to make the world and the people around them wonder, there must be more. We know there is... His name is Jesus.

Wonder exists so that every day, everywhere, everyone would see and hear the gospel of Jesus. Our community works together to bring love, integrity, faith and excellence to the world.



Partnership is Not One-Directional

by Jonathan Drake, The Chapel Niagara Falls Campus

God's activity in Niagara Falls did not begin the same time our campus did. Sure, we are thankful for the excitement that comes from newness, and we are thankful to have already seen lives changed and new disciples baptized in the short time since the Niagara Falls Campus began. But we are not so self-deceived as to think that the mission field was dormant before we secured space in a movie theater or bought a building

on 66th Street. God is at work in Niagara Falls. He has been. Author Henry Blackaby has written about discovering where God is at work and joining Him. We believe He has been (and is) at work in Niagara Falls, and we want to put more of our focus and energy behind joining what He's doing there.

That's one of the reasons we are so thankful for our partnership with Niagara Gospel Rescue

Mission. Since 2007, NGRM has been ministering to the homeless population in our region, with a gospel-centered foundation for all they do. Through their facility on Portage Road in downtown Niagara Falls, the Rescue Mission provides daily meals, emergency shelter, transitional housing, free clothing, as well as many other resources and initiatives for the community. But their discipleship program, New Life in Christ, is definitely a focal point. Through this year-long program, the men who participate are guided through a holistic re-building of their entire lives – physically, mentally, financially, and spiritually. In July of 2020, NGRM celebrated five individuals who completed their discipleship program. We join with them in that celebration!

Like many of our partnerships here at The Chapel, our connection with NGRM is not just something that exists between their executive leadership and our pastoral team. Though those relationships are strong, our partnership extends to our Chapel family through the many people who show up and contribute in meaningful ways to the life of the Rescue Mission. Whether that's volunteering in the kitchen, leading Bible studies, or even working there full-time, we are gladly supporting the great work of God through this ministry.

Yet this partnership is not one-directional, it's reciprocal. In August of 2020, we had a series of work days at our future permanent facility on 66th Street. Many of you volunteered to help make that a success. But it wasn't just our congregation who was tackling this project together: NGRM showed up in a big way as well. Teams of people from all three levels of residency at NGRM – emergency shelter, transitional housing, and discipleship program – came to volunteer their time in our construction project. Many of these individuals are starting over in life and don't have much by worldly standards, but that didn't stop them from giving what they had. It was so meaningful to see their group come and volunteer for a building they might not ever worship in, but they were giving nonetheless.

As we've said before, reaching every man, woman, and child with repeated opportunities to see and hear the gospel of Jesus is a big task. It's too big, in fact, for any one congregation or group of people to do on their own. God never intended it to be that way. But we can partner together with gospel-centered ministries like NGRM as we work towards the full evangelization of Niagara Falls. We thank God regularly for the gift of laboring beside these ministries in His mission field.



Fanning into Flames the Passion for the Mission

Jon Grimaldi, The Chapel Lockport Campus

Charles Spurgeon states, “If there be any one point in which the Christian church ought to keep its fervor at a white heat, it is concerning missions. If there be anything about which we cannot tolerate lukewarmness, it is the matter of sending the gospel to a dying world.” To summarize God’s activity in the life of The Chapel’s Lockport congregation this past year, fanning into flames the passion for the mission would be the best way to describe the growth we have experienced. As we celebrate the ten year milestone of our existence as a campus, our congregation’s heart for the community of Lockport and passion for the mission of God has grown stronger and warmer.

This past year we had rooms full of both new and seasoned Christ-followers, learning and growing together in our Foundations classes as part of our Discipleship Pathway. We celebrated numerous people making public professions of faith by walking through the waters of baptism. Our Community Groups saw increased participation, as well as multiplication, where new groups

were created, making it more accessible for others to join into healthy, discipleship-focused community. And, we saw our campus come together to facilitate our Christmas outreach. Our church constructed a Christmas Tree Lot experience for families in need, where we were able to give away one hundred Christmas trees with all the trimmings. This event created a presence leading to proclamation. It gave us the opportunity to build connections and demonstrate the tangible love of Christ to families within our one mile radius. As one mother put it, “You truly are bringing light back into homes this Christmas.” Whether it was praying for a family while tying a tree on top of a vehicle, extending a personal invitation to our Christmas Eve services, or a follow-up conversation that took place in the next few weeks, our church family working together for this outreach was a great demonstration of missional interdependence. It is what we mean when we say “to reach every man, woman, and child with the gospel, it is going to take every man, woman, and child working together.”

While we celebrate all that God continues to do in the life of our congregation, we also want to recognize and celebrate God's activity within the greater body, specifically other organizations chasing after the mission in the City of Lockport. Lockport CARES Homeless Shelter has been a long-standing partner, and is integral in the strategy to see true gospel saturation in Lockport. Lockport CARES provides temporary housing to those in need. Any amount of time spent at the facility will reveal how every aspect of what they do centers around serving others as Jesus would.

Mark began serving at Lockport CARES this year within the Snack and Share Ministry, where he helped prepare meals for guests. Soon Mark recognized the greater need and began spending time with the guests cultivating a relationship, walking them through the Bible, and sharing with them the hope of Jesus Christ. As a result of people like Mark and the many volunteers who support the ministry at Lockport CARES, many within our homeless population have heard about the hope of Jesus Christ. Furthermore, numerous people have found their place within a local church body in Lockport. We are forever grateful for this organization's willingness to link arms in seeing every man, woman, and child hear and see the gospel of Jesus Christ, and then being the bridge to help people get connected into the local church body.





Firehouse Church

Leroy Wiggins, The Chapel Cheektowaga Campus

I remember getting the call from Terry King of Saving Grace Ministries (SGM) back in late fall of 2019. He said he had a really unique community outreach opportunity he was thinking about and wanted to run it by me. Saving Grace Ministries, which is located on the border of Cheektowaga and Buffalo just steps from Walden Avenue, is one of The Chapel's long-time Kingdom Come partners. Their mission is to provide a smooth transition to community life for men and women recently released from a correctional facility. They accomplish this mission by providing highly-structured programs based on Christian principles. They achieve this while residents live in one of several Saving Grace residential homes in the neighborhood.

Terry cast a vision of re-launching "Grace Church." SGM's office and counseling center is housed in

an old historic firehouse on Bailey Avenue. The "Firehouse" serves SGM administrative offices, conference rooms, kitchen, and facilitates "Grace Church." Grace Church holds Bible studies and life skill programs throughout the week, and now they desired to start a Sunday service which would welcome people from the community to its adult-only services.

So Pastor Terry, along with Pastors Jim and Patty Swinnerton sat down to discuss what this newly launched church "could" look like, and how they thought The Chapel could continue to partner with them in a unique way. After loads of brainstorming we came up with an idea that sounded really familiar. What if Grace Church streamed The Chapel's Sunday service and internally they handled all other typical Sunday service responsibilities themselves. Like I said, sounds

familiar! So after even more discussion with Pastor Jerry Gillis and some folks from our technical team, we landed on a format that provides solid biblical teaching in a reliable and sustainable way that further allows Grace Church to contextualize the rest of the Sunday adult service environment.

Remember, Terry wanted to re-launch Grace Church and rarely does a re-launch not include a name change (you see where I'm going). And what more obvious name change could there be than "Firehouse Church." After incorporating its new name in the winter of 2020, "Firehouse Church" commenced holding Sunday adult-only services using the Sunday teaching from The Chapel on a one week delay.

One of the unique things about this partnership is that Firehouse Church established its Sunday start time so that if people who attend The Chapel also wanted to come and serve (volunteer) at Firehouse Church they could do so, because Firehouse Church is a five-minute ride from our Cheektowaga Campus.

Then COVID-19 entered the picture and we had to delay our plan. But as we begin to re-open churches (praise God) we will begin to share volunteer opportunities for people to serve as greeters, ushers, prayer partners, and worship team

members alongside the folks at Firehouse Church. A really special opportunity has presented itself in the form of discipleship. You see, Firehouse Church holds weekday Bible studies based on the Sunday sermon. Since Chapel members have already seen the sermon and worked through the sermon note card, what greater discipleship opportunity is there than for Chapel folks to help facilitate these weekday studies with Jim and Patty.

Take a moment and listen to what Pastor Jim has to share:

"Patty and I were called in 2015 to teach a weekly Bible study at Grace House [SGM's transitional residence program] for a year. There we found men and women who, though released from prison, were still not legally "free" members of society because of the restrictions of parole. However, we also found there a sincere hunger for the gospel that provides the only real recipe for being truly free! They won our hearts, and one year has turned into five with a renewed commitment to serve in a pastoral capacity through Firehouse Church. But it is a huge task, especially for one not-so-young couple. That is why our prayer is that partnering with The Chapel can provide us with "boots on the ground" to help us establish a unique church to minister to a very unique need in this community."

We so love what the Lord is doing in Western New York and we encourage you to consider partnering with Firehouse Church.

Community Volunteer Help Wanted

BUFFALO CITY MISSION

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to unfold and our city of good neighbors slowly re-opens, we are asking our community for support. Volunteerism is critical to the core mission of the Buffalo City Mission. To learn more, contact Sue Cervi at 716-854-8181 ext. 408 or scervi@buffalocitymission.org.

BUFFALO FCA

Interns and volunteer help at Buffalo Fellowship of Christian Athletes summer camps and events are needed. To check out volunteering with us, please contact Gary Rogers at grogers@fca.org.

CHRISTIAN COUNSELING MINISTRIES

Christian Counseling Ministries of WNY is seeking volunteers with skill in building repairs, upkeep, and landscaping. If these gifts are in your wheelhouse, please contact Pam Nitto at 716-632-3200 or pam@ccmwny.org to learn more!

COMPASS CARE

Leverage your time and talent to serve women and save lives by joining the CompassCare volunteer team. Email volunteer@compasscare.info for more info.

EVERY CHILD

Volunteers are needed to assist foster and adoptive families in our region. Contact Steve Poissant at spoissant@thechapel.com or visit every-child.com to learn more.

HEARTS FOR THE HOMELESS

Do you have two hours available one night a week and an interest in helping feed the homeless, or are you free Mondays or Fridays to help in our food pantry? To learn more about opportunities to serve with Hearts for the Homeless, email office@heartsforthehomeless.org or fill out an application online at heartsforthehomeless.org.

LOCKPORT CARE NET

Lockport Care Net is seeking male and female volunteers to be peer counselors. If that is not your strength, we can always find a place for you to sort clothes or paperwork and more. Check us out! For more information, contact Debi Brodie by phone at 716-434-1771 or dbrodie@lockportcarenet.com

LOCKPORT CARES

Lockport CARES is looking for adult Direct Care and administrative help. Requires onsite training and availability to shadow various shifts before being released to serve.

Interested? Contact Jane Trombley at info@lockportcares.org.

NIAGARA GOSPEL RESCUE MISSION

We gratefully use volunteers to help at Niagara Gospel Rescue Mission. Everything from working a regular shift at the front desk, helping maintain the building, serving in the kitchen, or even doing administrative tasks. Please connect with our Volunteer Contact Person Donna Stevens at 716-946-6163 or dmstevens1954@yahoo.com.

OPOVERWATCH

You can make a difference in the lives of local law enforcement officers and their families. OpOverwatch needs volunteers for Benevolence Response Teams (cooking meals), assembling care packages, collecting care package donations, and building upkeep. To learn how you can help contact Dave Budz at opoverwatchministry@gmail.com.

PATH, INC.

PATH, Inc. is seeking volunteers to help with meals, transportation, reception, events, outreach and child room. Please contact Rob Muldoon at info@pathofwny.org or 716-601-5678 for details on how you can make a difference in someone's life.

SAVING GRACE MINISTRIES

Saving Grace Ministries has many volunteer opportunities at our various sites including Grace House, Patriot Heights apartments, and the Resource Council of WNY.

Opportunities include labor, helping hands, tutoring, mentoring children, youth and adults, along with Bible study participation, and community outreach. To learn more, contact Mike Wing at 716-893-1840 or mike.wing@sgmworld.org.

SONRAYS

SonRays can use your skills and talents! We need help gardening, painting, chopping & stacking wood, cooking, cleaning, visiting with seniors, wrapping gifts, stuffing envelopes, and many other jobs on a routine basis or with special projects and fundraisers. Contact Alice at 716-695-9494 or alice@sonraysministries.org.

THE POTTER'S HANDS

Why join a gym when you can get a great workout with The Potter's Hands while helping others in the community? Volunteers are needed to help organize/clean the warehouse and for the Saturday delivery team. For more information, please contact Teddy Miller at 716-222-0791 or donationcenter@thechapel.com.

TOTAL BREAKTHROUGH

We are currently looking for some prayer partners to join our team at Total Breakthrough! Do you have a passion for prayer? Are you confident on the phone? Want to be a tangible expression of the love of God? Live in the WNY region? Contact Dominic Secchiaroli at youaretheverybest@outlook.com for more information.

Ministry Partner Directory

716 MINISTRIES

716ministries.org
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AFRICA INLAND MISSION

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BUFFALO ADULT & TEEN CHALLENGE

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CHURCH PLANTING INITIATIVE | page 54

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EIGHT DAYS OF HOPE | page 34

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PATCH OUR PLANET | page 17
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**TABERNACLE OF
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THE ANCIENT PATH PROJECT

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THE JOURNEY CHURCH

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WINGS OF COMPASSION

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WONDER | page 56

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**WORLD HOPE
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*For more partner stories visit
thechapel.com/kingdomcome*

VISIT STIR!

The Chapel's Café + Resource Center is located in our CrossPoint Campus. Stir is a **great** place to pick up a resource recommended by our pastors or a beverage and snack. We would **love** for you to stop in on a Sunday morning before or after service or throughout the week! **Enjoy** your favorite beverage and snack as you spend time studying and reading at Stir!

*Stir is open every Sunday morning and
Monday through Friday 8am-5pm*



STIR



LOVE
GOD



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CHURCH



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*On mission to ensure that every man, woman, and child have repeated opportunities to hear and see the **Gospel of Jesus Christ.***

