

GlobalConnections

at PARK CHAPEL CHRISTIAN CHURCH

February, 2012

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Events

An Opportunity to Engage

Just as in the book of Acts, God is working in miraculous and powerful ways today. *AND*, the church is growing exponentially! Elam and Empart are ministries on the spiritual frontlines of God's command to go and make disciples of ALL the nations. Join us for Park Chapel's **Global Impact Weekend, February 11-12**. Jossy Chacko, founder of Empart, and David Yeghnazar, a member of the founding family of Elam, will bring exciting updates from the field and share about their unique ministries. These men have made a special effort to travel to Indianapolis—*just to be with us!*

Saturday, Feb. 11; 4 - 6 PM

Engaging info and interactive Q&A with Jossy and David

Sunday, Feb. 12; AM worship

Jossy and David speak to PC family

Sunday, Feb. 12; 6 PM

High-school and college-age: hands-on presentation on the Persecuted Church with David

Learn and be moved by what God is doing to engage the world through people who are engaged in sharing Jesus! **The stories are powerful!**

Special Project Completed

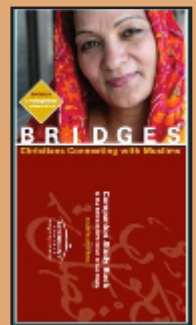
Recently Park Chapel has partnered with Crescent Project to help that ministry show the love of Christ to Muslims. Crescent Project was founded in 1993 by Fouad Masri and has its headquarters in Indianapolis. Because of his experience as a Lebanese student living in the U.S., Fouad realized that internationals in America often have many unmet needs. Crescent Project was founded to prepare American Christians to reach out to the growing Muslim community in the U.S. They also encourage building relationships with Muslims in the U.S. for schooling or other short-term purposes so they in turn can reach out to their friends and neighbors when they return home.

Most Muslim ministries have focused on sending full-time missionaries overseas. Crescent Project uses an entirely different approach: train the local church to reach out to the Muslims in the community. Since 1993, Crescent Project instructors have trained over 15,000 Christians throughout North America. Its vision is that each of the seven million Muslims in North America hears and responds to Jesus Christ.

Personal relationships between Christian and Muslim populations are often strained or non-existent because of rampant misunderstandings that lead to fear and distrust. The goal is to overcome misunderstandings about Islam through education so that Christians take

the initiative to build friendships with their Muslim neighbors. Personal relationships open the door for discussion about spiritual issues and personal beliefs.

In 2011, the Mission Team met with Fouad Masri to learn more about the organization's ministry. A need was shared and we helped fund the printing of the Spanish language translation of the **Bridges** study—materials used to train Christians to reach out to Muslims. That project was completed and now the new group study materials are available. We continue to partner with them to meet the needs of their ministry.



Planning Underway for PCCC Mission Trips

Plans are underway for mission trips to several Park Chapel ministry partners in the U.S. and around the world. Expected trips are to Arizona (construction/Navajo Trails); Thailand (sports camp); Burkina Faso (medical/Stephen Dillinger Maternity Clinic dedication/perhaps more); and India (Empart Training). Watch for more information on these opportunities in the next 30-60 days. Most trips are expected to take place later in the summer or fall of 2012.

"Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white, ready to harvest."

— John 4:35

Pray for our missionaries

BURKINA FASO

Felix and Nema Kohol
Brian and Tabitha Hauser
Andrew and Pulcherie
Gordon

KENYA

Crossroads Fellowship
Bobby and Lisa Bechtel
Teri Crane

SOUTHEAST ASIA

Advancing Native Missions

THAILAND

Rick and Kathy Walden

CHINA/NORTH KOREA

CY and Patricia Kim

INDIA

Empart

IRAN

Elam

UKRAINE

David and Annette Dryden

HAITI, HONDURAS,

EL SALVADOR, CUBA
Lifeline Christian Mission

CLOSED COUNTRIES

Because of the sensitive nature in the work and location of some of our missionaries and national contacts, we cannot provide names and places for all of our mission work.

CHURCH PLANTING

Legacy Christian Church,
Milwaukee, Wisconsin
NorthPointe Christian
Church, Rhode Island
SouthPointe Christian
Church, Rhode Island
Rafael and Rut Tirado,
Hispanic, northwestern IN

CAMPUS MINISTRIES

Johnson University
Campus House—BSU
Campus House—Purdue U
Campus House—Indiana U
Paul Bertsch—ISU, R. Hulman
Caroline Wade—IUPUI
Luke and Erin Turner, CRU
Matt and Debbie Bazemore,
CRU Academic Initiative
Lowell Kosak, Impact, South
Bend campuses

CLOSE CULTURAL MISSIONS

Alexander Christian
Foundation
Christian Missionary
Fellowship International
Crescent Project
Shepherd Community
Care Center, Indianapolis
Wheeler Mission,
Indianapolis
ARM Prison Ministry
Royal Family Kids Camp
Brian Gioe CrossRoads
Missions

Lifeline Christian Mission expands ministry to Navajo Nation in Arizona

Lifeline Christian Mission has an active ministry in the Caribbean. Park Chapel partners with them and has had opportunities for our congregation to engage through child sponsorships in Haiti and Honduras and food bagging projects for the hungry in Haiti.

In mid-2010, Lifeline Christian Mission learned of a great need affecting an established ministry to the Navajo people near Winslow, Arizona as the administrator for

Navajo Trails Inc., was under doctor's orders to give up his position due to health concerns. In November, 2010 Lifeline was officially asked to assume and continue the ministry. After much research and personal visits, Lifeline was moved by the "wonderful, gentle and spiritually hungry 'nation within a nation'" and agreed to take on this new ministry. It became official in September, 2011.

What does this mean? First of all, it means that a mission/ministry of nearly 40 years will continue to function and hopefully will grow and reach more people with the Gospel message. It means the school, two churches and a street ministry to homeless people will continue. It means that there will be additional work team opportunities. Lifeline will begin hosting short-term teams to Arizona in the summer of 2012. Sponsorship of children will allow more children to come to the school. Further, it means that the prayers of Lifeline and Navajo Trails supporters will unite to ask God to equip and empower them to reach many more lost souls.



"God calls us to BE different, not just to KNOW different."

—Kevin Boll, President, DisciplePath, Puyallup, WA

from "Commissioned to Make Disciples" talk given at the National Missionary Convention, November, 2011

Sending Bibles into China

Park Chapel has begun partnering with Advancing Native Missions (ANM) to bring Bibles to the house churches of China. Because the church is growing so rapidly in China, the number of new believers far exceeds the Bibles available. People in the rural areas in particular have no access to, or funds to purchase, Bibles — even if they were available. Our Bibles will be distributed in the inner-Mongolia region to an active network of more than 1,000 churches. Every Bible that is given is part of discipleship training in areas of evangelism and Christian growth.

ANM also helps support national pastors in a variety of countries. In addition to the Bible ministry, Park Chapel has joined with them in resourcing national pastors in southeast Asia.

ANM's mission is to advocate, encourage, and equip indigenous missionaries around the world to

hasten world evangelization. ANM is involved in:

- 201 Overseas Ministries
- 75 Countries
- Approximately 5000+ People Groups, many of whom are unreached

Why native missions, asks ANM? The traditional missions model—where western churches send western missionaries into remote areas as beacons of light—is changing. Working with nationals and native missions can often be more effective (for a variety of reasons) in reaching people as well as being less costly. In recent years the global church is being increasingly drawn together by advancements in communication and transportation technology. It is far easier now to work together from all corners of the globe. ANM believes God has called it to be a catalyst to draw the members of the global church together to strengthen the church world-wide.

Food for Thought

As part of an interview with Paul Hattaway, director of Asia Harvest, he addresses the need for Bibles in China and other related topics. He shares his thoughts on a concern that is sometimes expressed when telling people about the great needs of people in China or in other parts of the world. At some point the question is asked, “***We have plenty of needs in our area too, so why should we worry about people on the other side of the world?***”

Paul: Certainly there are needs everywhere, but there are a few different ways I would respond. The first and most important thing people need to consider is what does the Bible teach? God clearly reveals that His heart is for the whole world. Our God is a missionary God, who sent His own Son to reach the lost. He didn’t command His followers to only go into their local communities, but to the ends of the earth. The disciples were told, “You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem [the local area], and in all Judea and Samaria [neighboring regions], and to the ends of the earth” (Acts 1:8).

Notice the Lord didn’t say they should “first” reach

Jerusalem, “then” Judea and Samaria, and “ultimately” the ends of the earth. All three are to be done simultaneously. Christians need to be involved in reaching the far ends of the earth at the same time they are reaching their local communities.

People often think they are at the center of the universe, whereas God’s primary concern is for the lost masses and people groups who have never heard the Gospel. If we count ourselves among His followers, we need to have an interest in the big picture. He cares for His lost sheep wherever they are, especially for those in the most remote and neglected lands.

Often during my travels in the West I feel a bit weird. We meet many sincere Christians who spend all their time and energy “reaching” towns in their country which already have churches on every street corner.

Then we travel thousands of miles through areas of Tibet or Central Asia where not a single church building can be seen. There are no Christian workers, and few people have ever heard the Name of Jesus. Such things must look strange in heaven.

Full interview can be read at: <http://www.chinaaid.org/2011/08/emergency-in-china-interview-with-paul.html>

Resources

There are great resources available that can inspire and challenge us as we reach out to our neighbors close by and far away — **and** as we strive to be and do that to which God is calling us.

The Hole in Our Gospel by Richard Stearns

The true story of a corporate CEO who set aside worldly success for something far more significant, and discovered the full power of the gospel of Jesus Christ to change his life. He uses his journey to demonstrate how the gospel—the whole gospel—was always meant to be a world-changing social revolution, a revolution that begins with us.

Crazy Love by Francis Chan

Does something deep inside your heart long to break free from the status quo? Are you hungry for an authentic faith that addresses the problems of our world with tangible, even radical solutions? God is calling you to a passionate love relationship with Himself. Because the answer to religious complacency isn’t working harder at a list of do’s and don’ts—it’s falling in love with God. And once you encounter His love, as Francis

describes it, you will never be the same.

Radical & Radical Together by David Platt

In *Radical*, David Platt invites you to encounter what Jesus actually said about being his disciple, and then obey what you have heard. He challenges you to consider with an open heart how we have manipulated a God-centered gospel to fit our human-centered preferences. With passionate storytelling and convicting biblical analysis, Platt calls into question a host of comfortable notions that are common among Christ’s followers today. Then he proposes a radical response: live the gospel in ways that are true, filled with promise, and ultimately world changing.

In *Radical Together*, Platt broadens his call, challenging us to unite around a gospel-centered vision. Writing to everyone who desires to make an impact for God’s glory, Dr. Platt shares six foundational ideas that fuel radical obedience among Christians in the church. He helps you apply the revolutionary claims and commands of Christ in fresh, practical ways to your community of faith.



“And there was a
great multitude
that no one could
count, from every
nation, tribe, people
and language,
standing before
the throne and in
front of the Lamb.”

REVELATION 7:9