

# SeedStories

from the Christian Evangelistic Assn  
December 2017



## What Price Eternity? by George Johnson

**For Xerexus it was 19 cents!** -the cost of an Easter outreach postcard mailed by *The Branch*, - a new church in Vancouver, WA.

That simple postcard was providentially guided into the hand of a woman named Hannah. Prompted by the invitation, she discovered a new church where she was welcomed and encouraged in her growing faith. Hannah invited others to come to *The Branch* and find fresh faith and new friends in Christ.

If this were the end of the story it would be a good one. A new church flourishing in a growing community; new people finding a new family of faith where they can belong and grow as believers in Christ. But this story had only just begun because Hannah invited her sister, who in turn invited other friends to *The Branch*.

One of those friends, a young man named Xerexus (pronounced *Zer-ex-us*), visited and was convicted by the clear message of God's love and the warm welcome of the church. He knew God had invited him to much more than a casual, one-time visit to a friendly new church. He heard a clear invitation to spend eternity with God and felt compelled to accept Jesus as His Lord. The following week he gave his life to Christ and was baptized.

For Xerexus, the possibility that God could reach his soul through a postcard was a longshot (1 in 30,000 to be exact). But He did! As it turns out, that modest investment of 19 cents was *priceless* as God used it to change a life for eternity.

Your gift to CEA helps us write the next story of a new church begun in a new place to reach new people like Xerexus. Let's start the next chapter together! Join me in giving a generous gift to the CEA today!



# LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

**Saturday, March 3rd 9am—4pm**



**Bob Russell** became the pastor of Southeast Christian Church in Louisville, KY at 22 years of age. He went on to lead that small congregation of 120 to become one of the largest churches in America with a weekend attendance of 18,000 when he retired in 2006.

Pastors, ministry staff, elders & leaders are invited to this one-day conference as Bob shares secrets of leading a dynamic, growing church while maintaining harmony and unity.

Autographed copies of Bob's book, *After 50 Years of Ministry* will be available for \$10 (must be prepaid online and picked up on the day of the conference).

**Jason Epperson** will join Bob to bring a dynamic challenge and practical insights to help you transform your church and effectively reach the next generations. Jason began serving as a Youth Minister in Champaign IL. An exceptionally gifted communicator, he accepted a fulltime national speaking assignment with Christ In Youth's *MOVE* conferences.

Following two separate seasons serving on the staff of Southeast with Bob, Dave Stone and Kyle Idleman, Jason's ministry path led him full circle back to Champaign, IL. With the blessing and support of Southeast, he launched *CU Christian Church* this fall and has already seen weekend worship attendances of over 1,000.

*Jason will also share a special challenge for high school and young adult leaders Friday evening at 7pm. Derek Voorhees, President of Boise Bible College will host this Young Leaders' Forum.*



**Cost: \$20 online/\$25 at the door  
(includes Chick-fil-A lunch)**

**Location: NW Church Community Life Center  
19820 Scriber Lake Road #1, Lynnwood, WA**

## **A Note from Aaron Monts** **Lead Planter United Church**

*After a season of relational networking, laying groundwork, tilling the soil and working to understand how to best communicate the Gospel in Seattle, we're in the final phase of an **Easter 2018 Launch!** We're holding monthly launch gatherings, prayer and worship events and serving our neighbors weekly.*

*A friend recently told me about the Chinese bamboo tree that, once planted, doesn't see any visible growth for 4 years. Below the surface, it is developing a network of roots deep in the soil which allows the tree to rise nearly 90 feet in the sky during its fifth year. Tending the bamboo tree can be frustrating and tedious before fruitfulness is finally evident. Church planting is a lot like that.*

*Thank you CEA supporters and friends for your faithful prayers, financial support, encouragement and love. Thanks for standing with us - together we will soon see a beautiful church emerge from the soil.*

***Please continue praying for...***

***Launch Community Gatherings***—For shared vision, dreams, alignment, and momentum to moving forward towards launch!

***Partnership Opportunities***—Pray that we would leverage the best opportunities before us for the Kingdom and Seattle.

***People to know about us!*** - Pray for new people to hear and join us here in the city!

***Meeting Space***—We're currently in conversation with the Belltown Community Center. Pray for favor and opportunity!

***Our Launch Team***—Pray for protection and strength for our fledgling launch team as we move forward.

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**RMD from your IRA** - Seniors over the age of 70½ must make an annual Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) from their IRA. Contributions made directly from an IRA trustee to a charity count toward the RMD requirement but are not included as income to the donor. Because the contribution is not deductible as a charitable contribution it may favor a standard deduction over itemizing. This option may also reduce the taxable portion of social security payments.

**Been lucky in the stock market?** A contribution to a charity of appreciated securities held for more than one year allows you to take an itemized deduction for the fair market value of the securities on the date of the contribution. The gain is not taxable. The charity can then sell the securities and receive the cash. The CEA has a stock brokerage account that can receive your security contribution. For information or assistance in making a gift of this kind email Neal Zimmerman (treasurer@thecea.org).



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**Online:** Go to [www.theCEA.org](http://www.theCEA.org)—and click the “Give” link. Make a one-time gift or set up a recurring gift.

**Legacy Gifts:** Consider making a gift in memory of a deceased loved one or friend you’d like to honor. Your grateful gift could mean eternity for the life of someone far from God.

**Shop Amazon Smiles:** Go to [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com), sign into your Amazon account and select the Christian Evangelistic Association / Edmonds, WA. Amazon will donate .5% of your purchase total to CEA.

*The CEA is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Contributions are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law.*

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