

SeedStories

from the Christian Evangelistic Assn
June 2018

Two New Churches Launched!

United (Seattle)

United Church launched in April with a vision of transforming lives through the gospel of Jesus in Seattle's Queen Anne neighborhood.

The need for new churches like United is clear. Already the country's 20th largest city, Seattle is growing by more than 1,250 people every month! Even more compelling is the reality that less than 4% of the population attend any church.

Aaron & Tracy Monts, Lead Planters, together with Trevor Grindle, Creative Pastor, currently have a nucleus of about 50 involved in weekly services and small groups. They are pursuing a strategy to double their attendance to 100 in September.

In a predominantly secular city where there are more dogs (150K) than believing Christians (136K), the outreach and influence of this new church is critical. Please join us in prayer for the Monts' and their team.



Indian Creek (Nampa, ID)

Mickey & Julie Strong launched Indian Creek Christian Church in March with nearly 100 in attendance at the first public service.

This project represents a milestone as the first daughter church of Canyon Springs (Middleton, ID), LifeSpring (Star, ID) and The Orchard (Emmett, ID). Together, these churches are demonstrating the power of partnership for multiplication!

These parent-churches, along with the Intermountain Church Planting Assn. and the CEA, provide major financial support and oversight for the new church. Special thanks is also due Passion4Planting for their generous grant of \$12K in project management services.

Mickey and Isaac Hirtle, Creative Arts Pastor (a recent Boise Bible College graduate) are active in a variety of community outreach activities. These include coaching sports teams and serving at the Community Center as they expand their relational networks.



Fruit In The Orchard

When Ben and Telah McClary began praying and planning in the fall of 2013 for the launch of The Orchard the following spring, they hoped to reach young families with no relationship to Christ or His church.

What they didn't know then was that God was already at work in the lives of a young couple returning to their hometown in Emmett, ID. Ethan and Candice were high school sweethearts, he a football player and she a cheerleader. After graduation Candice joined Ethan in Hawaii where he was stationed in the Army. In 2013 they returned home to start a family.

Ethan and Candice were expecting to start a new chapter in their lives. What they didn't know was that God was going to rewrite their whole story! With the arrival of their first child, they knew there was still something missing in their home. So they decided to do something neither had any experience with—attend a church. That's when God's plan began to unfold for them.



Ethan and Candice visited The Orchard as the church was celebrating its first birthday. They found a warm welcome and continued to attend and investigate the faith they were hearing about. Following marriage and a second child, they joined a Life Group with other young couples, attended a 101 class and finally took the step of faith together to accept Jesus as their Savior and be baptized on June 4, 2017!

That's a great story and cause for rejoicing with the angels in heaven...but it continues! The Crawshaw's saw the impact of the church's ministry on their own children and began volunteering in a preschool class once a month. Later that year they accepted a challenge to serve on the Student Ministry team each week.

Church Planting Heroes—Adrian & Evelyn Burd!

George & Dottie Johnson recently visited CEA supporters Adrian & Evelyn Burd at their home in Pasco, WA on the occasion of their 71st wedding anniversary!

The Burd's are an extraordinary ministry team with a deep heart for church planting in the Northwest. Adrian served as the Executive Director of the Inland Empire Evangelistic Assn and, with their support, he and Evelyn served Orchards Christian Church in Lewiston, ID.



In addition to their financial support of the CEA, the Burd's are devoted prayer warriors who persistently set the needs of our work and our workers before the Lord's throne. Presented with our newest *Prayer Guide* listing CEA churches and planters, Adrian said, *"This is a great piece! Can you send me a couple dozen so I can get this into more hands?"*

Now retired, the Burd's remain active Kingdom servants. They have returned to their home church, Pasco Christian, where they were married June 1st, 1947. Look for them any Sunday in what they teasingly refer to as "the Burd cage" — a.k.a. PCC's Welcome Center.

Accelerating Church Planting Leaders

Planting a new church in the Pacific Northwest demands a customized approach that leverages the call and gifting of the planter against the unique cultural context of the project. This is no place for a cookie-cutter process because every church plant is like a snowflake—no two are ever exactly alike. Though *Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever (Hebrews 13:8)*, everything else is subject to change without notice!

Given that reality, and his extensive coaching experience, Dan Scates (Scates Coaching, LLC) developed and leads *Accelerating* — an intensive coaching and mentoring experience to prepare new planters.

Modelled after entrepreneurial start-up incubators like *Boomtown* in Denver, CO, this is a day-long intensive session with a select roundtable of experienced church planting mentors. These mentors bring wisdom, discuss red flags, point out missing elements in the plan and challenge the planter’s vision and strategy.

In preparation, Dan guides the planter to produce a draft of his planting strategy. At the end of the day the planter has a refined plan from which he will be able to cast vision, raise necessary financial support, create a project timeline, recruit leaders and produce targeted communications.

Dan Scates is pictured here with the *Accelerating* team for Movement Portland Church that is preparing to launch this fall in Portland, Oregon.



Quentin Bemis, Dan Scates, Sam Wake,
George Johnson & Russell Clum

By George . . .



The CEA’s vision for the Kingdom has guided the start of nearly 60 churches extending into 4 states plus British Columbia and is sustained by supporters across the entire country. When I reflect on the amazing work God has accomplished, it all seems to be summed up in one word—*partnership*. That’s the essence of our ministry—a partnership of individuals and churches drawn together by God to accomplish His purpose of redeeming lost people here in the NW.

Partnership is the “secret sauce” that accounts for the exceptional fruit being produced through multiplying churches. It is that unique, cooperative spirit that Paul praised the Philippians for when he wrote, “*I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your **partnership** in the gospel.*” (Philippians 1:3-6 NIV)

But without “*partners*” a “*partnership*” is a ship that will never sail. *Partners* who pray and give generously in support of our ministry are the wind in our sails. We depend on your support to advance the work of the Gospel!

To our faithful *partners* I echo Paul’s words and heartfelt “thanks!” on behalf of all our planting teams around the NW—I thank my God every time I remember you!

To the rest of you who are reading these words I appeal—*come join us in a great work! We need your help!*



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