



**Chicago
District
Evangelistic
Association**

"Committed to the Harvest"

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The Chicago District Evangelistic Association is a single purpose ministry. Christians can be involved in many good works, but none as basic as evangelism--the preaching and teaching of the message and life of Jesus for the purpose of bringing people to a personal and eternal relationship with God. All other ministries either lead to or rest upon this foundational work .

Chicago District Evangelistic Association Executive Director's Newsletter April 2008

A New Church Partnership for Lake County, IL



My name is Mike Foster and my wife's name is Eskai. Our daughter, who will turn 2 on August 5, is named Sarai. We are excited about this new work in Lake County. Our more defined target is the Warren Township District of Lake County. The population was 59,424 at the 2000 census. The cities of Gurnee, Gages Lake, Park City, Grayslake and Grandwood Park lie within its borders. There are 750,000 people in Lake County but only 1/3 are "claimed" by a church. There are over a half million people who don't have a relationship with a church. For whatever reason, most of Lake County doesn't have a vital relationship with a Christian community.

North Point Church in Winthrop Harbor has been a leading church in Northern Lake County in Externally Focused ministry, meeting the needs of the community so as to gain a hearing for the Gospel. This was the mission of Jesus, to meet the needs of others and share with them who God is. We are excited to come on board with North Point and partner in this new work as we multiply the ministry of North Point and plant a new campus where people can experience the Love, Acceptance and Forgiveness that Jesus offers.
Mike Foster www.mfoster12.blogspot.com

Externally focused churches are inwardly strong but outwardly focused. They integrate good deeds and good news into the life of the church. They value impact and influence in the community more than attendance. They seek to be salt, light and leaven in the community. They see themselves as the "soul" of the community. They would be greatly missed if they left.

From : The Externally Focused Church, Rick Rusaw and Eric Swanson.

NORTHPOINT CHRISTIAN CHURCH, AN EXTERNALLY FOCUSED CHURCH.

North Point Christian Church formed a partnership with CDEA to become an epicenter church. We are beginning the first site of a number of sites in that process as we prepare to launch a new multi-site to be a part of North Point. The new site will be approx. 12-15 miles west of Winthrop Harbor in the area of Wildwood which is the intersection of Route 45 and Gages Lake Road in Lake County. North Point continues to be focused on evangelizing the unconnected people of Lake County. Mike and Eskai Foster will be working with the Leadership of North Point to launch the site that is preliminarily planned for late fall. Pray for us as we pinpoint the exact location and secure a meeting place. We will be starting some preliminary small groups to help build our core group. North Point will be

sending 60-80 people to be a part with new people to launch. At this time we have approximately 50 people that drive weekly to the present site in Winthrop Harbor for involvement. We will be doing externally focused events in the new site area to establish a presence there in preparation for the launch. Marketing for the new site will begin

shortly. The new church will be a part of the congregation and our present staff will train and oversee the volunteers for the new site saving thousands of dollars. Watch for more details as they become available.



**NORTH POINT
CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

Reaching Up ♦ Reaching Out ♦ Reaching In

New Church Campuses Planning and Progress

Parkview Christian Church, Orland Park, IL.

By Tim Harlow, Sr Minister. We are so excited about the partnership with CDEA and the Lockport Christian Church. We've been talking about doing something like this for a long time. Actually we had talked to LCC about this four years ago, but the timing wasn't right yet. The beauty of the CDEA being involved means we get to use their expertise and we don't have to reinvent the wheel – as they say. The respect that Lockport and Parkview have for CDEA helps everyone to rest assured that the Kingdom is going to proceed, and we're all committed to seeing hundreds of people find Jesus on Farrell Road.



Suncrest Christian Church, St John, IN.

By Doug Gamble, Campus Pastor. We are still looking to lock in a location in which to hold worship. Our main focus is working with our launch team on team development issues and getting them focused on the areas they will serve. Everyone seems so excited. It has been amazing to me that several have told me how specifically called they feel to help launch this 2nd Campus. I had one of the team members email the other day to make sure I understood how strongly she felt that God was calling her out of her comfort zone to help reach people for Christ. She understood that in part that meant she put her gifts of administration to use and help with the details of the project.

The most exciting news is that we have a full staff now. We have recently hired a half-time children's director and a part time student director. God is putting the pieces together.
HOBART, IN



New Church Quick Report



Merrillville, IN
Impact Christian Church averages for March are:
Attendance: 110.
Offerings: \$1462.

Upcoming is DECISION DAY in June. Everyone will be encouraged to make a decision concerning his/her relationship with Jesus, be it to become a Christian, begin tithing, find a new place of service, invite more friends, etc. Steve Szoke, lead evangelist, continues to fight Stage 4 cancer and will begin clinical trials after completing 8 months of ineffective chemo treatments.



Joliet, IL. We've had (at least) nine baptisms since January and have 3 people who will be baptized in the next couple of weeks.

We are doing the Financial Peace University by Dave Ramsey and have around 40 people signed up.

Since we have started this program our offerings have increased and we have almost met our budget since January 1 w/ \$56,218 in income vs. \$56,715 in expense.

Because of your partnership in the Gospel...Phil. 1:5

New churches are being planted and thousands will hear the Gospel this year because of your partnership with the CDEA in new church evangelism. On behalf of the thousands who will hear, experience and find life in Christ, thank you! Your prayers and financial support are

deeply appreciated. **Perhaps no partnership is more important than the one that unites Christians in the task of winning people to Christ.** Your CDEA partnership is vital to the planting of 100 churches by 2025.

From the Church Planter's Blog:

How to recognize people that are unchurched or haven't been to church in a long time:

You know they must be unchurched if:

- They choose, on purpose, to sit in the front row during worship.
- They come to worship even a half hour late and are glad to be there.
- They use the page numbers announced by the preacher to find the Bible text.
- They aren't upset if there is a bucket right next to them being used to catch the water dripping off the roof.
- The only complaint they have about the sermon is that it's not long enough.
- They don't ask for a bulletin but would probably like a program.
- They actually read the program (bulletin) to find out what's going on.
- Their children can't wait to come to come back.
- They think this new church will be the ideal place for their friends too.