



**CHICAGO DISTRICT EVANGELISTIC ASSOCIATION
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR NEWSLETTER - FEBRUARY 2008
WWW.CDEA.ORG**



**Community Christian Church (Plainfield-North)
Startup-March 2, 2008
Brad Prunty
Campus Pastor**

canned goods. All items will be donated to the Inter-faith Food Pantry in Plainfield ***Our prayer is that 650 people would celebrate with us at our grand opening service on March 2.***



Brad and Anne Prunty

Information Update

- ◆ 185 people have joined the launch team to be a part of this new church
- ◆ Preview services were held Sunday, February 17th
- ◆ Over **100 people** have signed up to serve in our adults, students, or children's ministry
- ◆ On Wednesday, February 6 there were **55,000 homes** that received a postcard inviting them to our grand opening. This is the first of a series of 5 postcards that they will be receiving
- ◆ On February 23rd we are doing a canned food drive where we will go door to door to **3000 homes** collecting



08 New Churches

For more information, visit the website:
www.multisitearts.com

To contact Brad Prunty:

BradPrunty@exchange.communitychristian.org

Or to follow the new church's birth and progress:

www.bradprunty.com



Doug Gamble Family

A Match Made in Heaven

By Doug Gamble

Over 13 years ago the CDEA helped start Suncrest Christian Church. Now they are helping us start another campus. More than that, this is the first of many strategic churches/campuses to be started together.

It is so important that everyone involved in this mission know that God is doing something pretty incredible; not just through one

organization, but through the partnership of many. And that the CDEA is not just supported by Chicagoland churches, but by churches all over the nation. Another testimony to God working His plan through His people.

For Suncrest, it started about 2 years ago when Greg Lee, Senior Minister, myself, and the elders began having conversations about the approach of some churches called multi-site. The reason to even consider it was obvious: there were people who lived far enough from Suncrest's building that they would never come...*people who desperately needed Jesus.*

Meanwhile, a group of dedicated Christ followers in Hobart were meeting as a part of Community Christian Church. Their numbers had dwindled and they wondered if this was really honoring God. As they looked for help, they thought of the CDEA. *In their conversations they felt compelled that the CDEA was an organization with a vision for new life through new churches.* After talking through various possibilities, the best solution was to give their assets to the CDEA to plant a new church in the Hobart area. Life would come from death.



Through some quite peculiar (think God) circumstances, Greg learned of this and conversations were started about the possibility of partnering with the CDEA on this project. Through lots of prayer and talk the deal was sealed and *we will launch a brand new campus of Suncrest in the Hobart area that will reach hundreds, if not thousands, for Christ.* All this because of the vision of a handful of Christ followers. *Launch date has been set for September 28th.*

SunCrest East, a new church for Hobart, IN

Grand Opening -Fall 08

Doug Gamble -Campus Minister

doug.gamble@suncrest.org

www.suncresteast.org

From the Church Planter's Blog:

One thing that I won't soon forget is what occurred one Sunday while I was going over the prayer requests. I asked for prayers for one of our members that has 5 children and was hardly receiving any hours at work. He has been struggling to keep his faith and family together, and drives over 45 minutes to get to service on Sunday morning (gas isn't cheap in case you haven't noticed). After making the request known, following the service a gentleman quietly came up to me and handed me a hundred dollar bill and asked that I give it to this family. What is memorable to me is that I know both gentlemen have their own set of problems. I know there are lots of givers in churches all over the country, but usually people just talk. The ones that do give usually have their lives in order. **However, it is a rare find to have someone in humble circumstances so quickly offer assistance to another, and it is heartwarming to watch God honor the faith of those that fall upon difficult times.** Finally, it has served as a great reminder to me that God continues to use us in all circumstances in life to accomplish His good work. We continue to see both members in attendance and even inviting others. This is a great church family.

I was having lunch just today with a local business leader in Bourbonnais, and a guy walked in that I knew. After a few minutes of small talk, the business leader invited this man and his family to attend "The Adventure." While sharing his enthusiasm for our church he said, **"Hey, church doesn't have to be boring or irrelevant!"** He then spent the next 10 minutes sharing his story of living far from God and how he found his way to a personal, saving relationship with Jesus Christ. It was very encouraging to see one of our church members getting excited about their faith and being so willing to share it.



Common Ground Christian Community Church, Plymouth, IN. Nate Babcock, Lead Evangelist. Our current Sermon Series is: Embracing the Way of the Cross (Studying Luke's account of the last week of Jesus life). We've had great success with our Bread of Life Food Pantry, serving 163 families in January. We are looking forward to Family Month in April, featuring new fellowship and outreach events. Common Ground has had many visitors over the past three months and three new families have really connected with the church. commongroundCDEA@yahoo.com

Impact Christian Church, Merrillville, IN Steve Szoke-lead evangelist. January was a cold month, but that didn't stop many from attending weekly worship. January average attendance was 96 with average offerings of \$1021. Immediately after Easter, Impact will host 3 different adult discipleship classes: 101-who are we as a Christian Church (to help people make a decision to follow Christ); 201-a class to help people walk with Christ by developing Christian disciplines; 301-a class for deeper Bible study. impactchristianchurch@yahoo.com



Announcing an 8 Team Double Elimination 14" Softball Tournament. On May 3, softball players from across Chicagoland are invited to participate in an all day softball tournament at the Yorkville Park District grounds in Yorkville, IL. The tournament will be limited to 8 teams with players being at least 16 years of age. This will be a slow pitch, unrestricted flight tournament. A \$200 entry fee must be sent to First Christian Church of Aurora, Attn: Tom Huggins, 635 N. Randall Rd, Aurora, IL. Cut off for entry is April 11th. All entry fee checks are payable to the CDEA and sent to FCC of Aurora. For more information, contact Tom: 630.859.8145.

Your partnership with the CDEA is very important. One of the conveniences now available to the CDEA is Electronic Fund Transfer. Your gifts can automatically be deducted from your account safely and easily. This new way of giving to the CDEA is in addition to giving online, but the benefit is that it is 'fee free' and convenient. To enroll in CDEA's GiftDirect Electronic Fund Transfer program, contact Robert Szoke at 219.662.2433, or bszoke@cdea.org for an enrollment form. It's fast, easy, and a great way to help plant more churches across Chicagoland.

Electronic Fund Transfer Gift/Direct

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Thank you for your prayers and gifts. Please use the enclosed envelope for your next gift to the CDEA.

Give online at www.CDEA.org. Click the Donations tab and you will be taken to a secure site for your online gift.