



IGNITE

CHURCH PLANTING

Bringing hope to Chicagoland by starting churches

ISSUE THREE, 2024 MUSTARD SEED PLANTING

ACCELERATING JESUS' MISSION BY STARTING CHURCHES

Pentecost 2024 – Mustard Seed Planting

In Matthew 17:20, Jesus responded to his disciples as they asked why they had been unable to drive out a demon. His answer, "Because you have so little faith. I tell you the truth, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there' and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you."

As you can see from the picture, a mustard seed is very small. Yet, it holds great potential, for it can grow into a large tree where birds can build their nests and people can find shade. With the image of the mustard seed, we introduce the theme for Pentecost 2024 – Mustard Seed Planting. The offering this year is going to provide the financial base for the launching of a number of micro churches across the region. We believe what starts out small can grow, spread and have great impact.

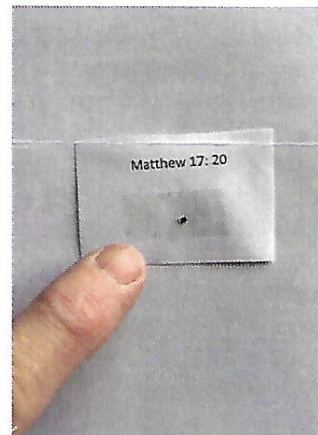
Here are the 2024 prayers we brought before the Father during our 30 day prayer campaign:

- 1 church plant in the city of Chicago
- 4 church plants (one for each of the four people groups represented in Chicagoland)
- 7 daughter churches launched from parent churches
- 10 micro churches reaching specific people or places

As we were praying, the Spirit distinctly challenged us to "add a zero" to those numbers. I'll be honest, I thought the first goals were going to stretch us, but since the Spirit's challenge, we have been praying for:

- 10 church plants in the city of Chicago
- 40 church plants (ten for each of the four people groups represented in Chicagoland)
- 70 daughter churches launched from parent churches
- 100 micro churches reaching specific people or places

On May 19, 2024, Pentecost Sunday, we want to invite you to participate in this endeavor to help start 100 micro churches in and around Chicagoland. This model of church planting, which brings the Good News of Jesus to unreached people groups and places, allows people to experience God's church in smaller and more relaxed settings (see "What is a Micro Church?" on next page.)



I recently spoke to a friend of mine who works with Deaf Missions in Council Bluffs, Iowa. His question to me was very simple, "Would Ignite consider starting a micro church that would reach out to the deaf community?" He then proceeded to tell me that only 2% of deaf people in the world are Christians. If the worldwide population of the deaf were gathered together into one country, it would have the fourth largest population in the world. What should we do when an opportunity to reach the unreached comes our way? We see another surprise from the Father opening before us, we said "YES"!

I asked Jason what the projected cost for this church would be: \$3,000. He explained that the money would cover training materials, equipment and other necessary items for reaching this unreached group. My response: Let's do more than one, we have our Pentecost Offering coming in May and we want to start churches.

This will be one of the people groups Pentecost 2024 will focus on reaching. We want to invite individuals and churches to be a part of reaching people and places not being reached. As we do so, you will help us write more stories of life change with every micro church started. (Read on for more exciting information.)

(continues on back)

**Interested in Church Planting? Contact Lance Hurley
at 815.685.1939 | lance@ignitechurchplanting.com**

The Potential of the Micro Church

Our core belief is "Everyone is a missionary". With this in mind, we all have groups of people we have a natural affinity for, whether it is an interest we share, a cultural or ethnic background we have in common or a hobby. In his book "Tribes", Seth Godin writes about this and says, "A tribe is any group of people who are connected to one another, a leader and an idea."

With hundreds of unreached people groups in Chicagoland, what if we could mobilize disciple-makers who would see their affinity group with the eyes of Jesus. When the harvest is seen, we can give them permission and training to reach them with the hope of Jesus.

FAQ's about Micro Churches

What is a micro church?

A group of people who gather together for the purpose of practicing Acts 2: 42. "They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer."

Why should Ignite help start micro churches?

This model will go to where people are and bring the good news of Jesus through those who already share a common interest / affinity. This method of church planting will reach groups we are currently not reaching (and this method is working). This is not the only method of planting we will be using, but this is another viable way to reach the unreached.

Who can lead a micro church?

Anyone who has a growing walk with Jesus, has shown the ability to make disciples, has a willingness to learn and is hungry to reach their affinity group for Jesus.

What does it cost to start a micro church?

We estimate the cost to range from \$250 -- \$4,000 depending on the group being reached. (To date, Ignite has helped mobilize 5 micro plants at a cost under \$1,000.)



Getting Started

At our small group the other night a man asked me how Ignite is doing. I told him about our planting plans this year, including micro churches. He wrote a \$100 check, which is the first Pentecost gift for Mustard Seed Planting 2024.

In April, we will have videos for churches and individuals on our website: ignitechurchplanting.com. These videos will give you information on how to give toward the starting of micro churches.

Pause to Pray for Planters - April 8 - 12 @ 10:02

We want to invite you to do what Jesus told us to do in Luke 10: 2, pray for workers for the harvest. You can set your clocks to pray at that time or you can call in to Ignite's prayer line to pray together with me and others.
Dial-in number: (518) 992-1040 / Meeting ID: 612594#.

Let's see what the Father does in response to our prayers.



If you know potential planters, please contact Lance Hurley: (815) 685-1939 or Lance@ignitechurchplanting.com
www.ignitechurchplanting.com