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January 2026 Prayer Letter

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Dear Prayer and Fasting Partners,

Looking at the date above, I want to wish you a very Happy New Year. 2025 was a momentous year for Ignite as we had a couple of new church planters begin working locally (Seth Rempel in Joliet area and Daniel Hazel in Chicago). We welcomed the starting of 3 – 4 Farsi-speaking churches across the globe through the ministry of James and Joy Shahabi, who lead Kheimeh Molaghat Church in Addison, IL. We welcomed new financial partners to our ministry of church planting and hosted a partnership with Multipliers Pathway. This partnership let us bring together 9 churches from across Illinois who are engaged in a disciple making training. We believe this training will be beneficial to the churches involved as well as providing potential planters for micro church plants in the future. One large goal that was accomplished during the year was the need to plan for Ignite's future leadership. A team was put together to develop the plan, a search was made for the next leader for our ministry and in October, Andy Hamilton was asked to become Assistant Executive Director for Ignite. The plan is for him to become Executive Director in the fall of 2027.

This past year, we developed Prayer Mountains around our 4 Core Values: Prayer / Planting / Partners / Possibilities. During the year, we saw God work as we prayer mapped in Chicago, saw him provide a church plant for us to partner with in Shorewood, IL and bring the 9 churches together for the Multipliers Pathway training. Five churches participated in the training provided by Ignite Thriving Churches and over 150 individuals were a part of an Ignite activity during 2025.

Here are the things I'd like to ask you to pray for during January:

1. Andy Hamilton: He is working half-time with Ignite and the other half with Adventure Christian Church, which he started in 2003. Please be praying for him as he begins this transition.
2. Multipliers Pathway: The next in-person training is January 13-14. Please pray for the churches involved and all those traveling (especially pray for good weather that week).
3. Ignite Thriving Churches: We have the first 2 churches for the upcoming year, but need 3 – 5 more. Please pray for God to lead us to the right ones to work with for 2026.
4. 2026 Prayer Mountains: In this letter, you will find the "mountains" we are asking God to move ahead of us in 2026. Please pray through these during January. They will be a theme that we will come back to throughout the year.

From January 2 – 31, we will be hosting our annual prayer campaign. The theme this year is "The Open Door" and I want to invite you to join us on a call sometime during the month. The information for the call and the topics for prayer are on the enclosed / attached calendar. Thank you for your prayer partnership, Lance