



EPC Church Planting Update

By Pastor Zach Washburn

Brothers and Sisters -

What follows is an updated version of an article we published in February of this year, outlining the importance of starting new churches in our region. In particular, there is new information in the third paragraph from the bottom. Please read and join in this work. May the kingdom of Jesus come!

Calvin is a part of the EPC Presbytery of the Pacific Northwest - a group of 39 like-minded congregations ranging from Redding in the south to Boise in the east to Fairbanks in the north. Our presbytery has established a crucial goal: to plant new Jesus-honoring churches in places of need.

In the Pacific Northwest, only a small fraction of people follow Jesus. In order to be a part of God's kingdom spreading in Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Alaska, and Northern California as in heaven, we must do what the New Testament church did: send out prayers, people, and funds for the planting of new churches.

One of the great strengths of our Presbyterian system is that we won't

be doing this on our own. It would be difficult for Calvin to put together the dozen or so people and tens of thousands of dollars required to start a new church. But we are certainly able to contribute some funds, some people, and many, many prayers to a joint effort to see God's kingdom grow.

Many of you were here at Calvin several years ago when the church transitioned into the EPC, a new denomination for us. It was a long, at times painful, but ultimately God-honoring process, which you endured for the sake of opportunities like this: partnering with other Jesus-loving, Jesus-proclaiming churches in work that is too big for any one of us, but not too big for God.

To that end, we (the elders of Calvin) have established a designated fund, into which anyone can give for the sake of church planting. We have also agreed that we will regularly devote time during Sunday worship to praying for church plants.

We have also set aside \$5,000, or approximately 2% of our budget, to support this work. We believe God

wants us to contribute to this work as a body and as individuals. For now, this money will remain in our bank account, designated to be sent out in support of the new churches God will build in coming years.

We ask you to join us in praying throughout the week for this important work. We ask you to consider whether, when the time comes, God wants to send you as part of a church planting team. And, as we discern the best way to contribute financially as a church, we ask you also to consider contributing.

Some of you know that Calvin itself was a church plant in the late 1950s. We have only to look back at our history to see the importance of this work. As you pray, I encourage you to look forward as well: forward to the day when we are all gathered around the throne of Jesus. On that day, do we not long to be standing next to brothers and sisters from places like Salem and Spokane; brothers and sisters who came to faith in Jesus through churches we gave of ourselves to help plant? What a joy that will be!

Asante Kids Food Program

By Judy Kraft, Asante Kids Team

Pastor Gerald at Streams of Life Church in Kampala, Uganda, recently shared that the feeding program that we funded was going really well. The children are receiving lunch everyday at school and are far more energetic and alert than before. The farm is prospering with rains coming when needed for the crops of beans and corn. They have also planted matoke (banana) trees.



Visitors from a church in the Netherlands noted the increased health of the children.

They decided to help support the farm and the feeding program. Streams of Life Church is praising God for providing for the children. Thanks to those of you who donated to this wonderful effort.

Missionary Support Group

Missionary Support Group is a group of people who long to share Jesus with their neighbors, but struggle to do so. We gather monthly to encourage and pray for one another. Join us in the Conference Room on Sundays May 6 and June 10 after the worship service ends (around 11:30). Please feel free to bring a lunch.

Getting to Know ...

Ken & Donna Roth



Ken and Donna have been attending Calvin since they moved to Corvallis

15 years ago. Ken is currently an Elder, a member of the worship planning and Adult Sunday School teams, and coordinates choir for holiday services. Donna is a Deacon. She has also been involved in Children's Ministry over the years.

Ken was a professional musician in Boston for 17 years, then had a second career as a software engineer. Donna has a Master's in Education and worked as a teacher and administrator. They have been married for 18 years—a 2nd marriage. It's a "God story" that they enjoy sharing. They have 5 adult children, 3 on the west coast and 2 on the east coast. In their leisure time they enjoy trains, gardening, and puzzles.

Dave & Katherine Otis

The Otises came to Corvallis from Boston in 1993. They began attending Calvin about 18 months ago and joined the church last year. They have gotten involved in small groups, Adult Sunday school, and music ministry.

Katherine has a degree in accounting and worked as an accountant in Boston and at OSU. She currently works in the library at Santiam Christian and spends most of her time supporting the family. Dave works as a mechanical engineer at HP. He studied at Wisconsin, Minnesota, and MIT, and so is a confirmed rodent (Badger, Gopher, and Beaver). He is working on HP's second-generation 3D printer.

They have 4 children. Andrew (23) just graduated from Texas A&M and works for Oracle in Austin. Grace (21) is about to finish an aquarium science program in Newport, OR. Calvin (19) is a freshman in Business Information Systems at OSU. Patrick (17) is a junior at Santiam Christian

High School. Katherine's Mom lives two houses away from them.

The Otises enjoy camping, hiking, and travel. Katherine likes to walk while listening to AudioBooks; she especially enjoys P.G. Wodehouse. Patrick is a three-sport athlete (baseball, soccer and basketball, in that order) and likes photography. Dave is interested in robotics and Spanish.

Why Calvin? Dave shares: *We value the worship, Zach's teaching and relational wisdom, the fellowship, the mix of reformed theology and practical application, and the EPC's focus on essentials. As pilgrims to the Celestial City, we're thankful for the encouragement our church provides.*



Women's Events Calvin Kingdom Club

Women's Conference

April 27, 6 p.m.—April 29, 1 p.m. in Waldport. Contact Vanessa Washburn for information and to sign up. Theme is *Renewal*.

Spring Brunch

Saturday, May 19, 9:30 a.m. at Calvin. Invite your friends and come spend a morning with the women of Calvin. Cindy Rodgers, Women's Ministry Coordinator at Calvary Chapel in Corvallis, will share about *Seeing God's Hand in Our Lives*. Food sign up and tickets available beginning Sunday, May 6.

CKC continues to enjoy meals provided by groups in the church. Recent activities include building bridges, playing chess, Olympics, and a youth group game night.

