

SUMMER 2018



**CHURCH PLANTING AND BOLSTERING** 

# Equipping the Brethren for Discipleship

#### **Intentional Focus on Evangelism**

Let's suppose for a moment that each of us intentionally focuses on evangelism/ outreach and the need to foster and teach the gospel within our own church congregation. Once those who are lost and hurting come to Christ, we must remember that evangelism isn't complete until (through discipleship) they have learned the "Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you" (Matt. 28:20) part of the Commission. Through cultivating these key concepts, we create a "culture of evangelism" within our churches. With God giving the increase, this could lead to more and better equipped disciples in every location. By each of us sharing the gospel with friends and neighbors, our churches could soon be overcrowded. Groups of disciples would be prepared to be "sent" to establish churches in new communities (cell division) while others could be available to join brethren from other Apostolic churches to plant new churches. Or, brethren could relocate to our existing small churches who are looking to establish outreach within their

communities. The better we learn to evangelize in our own culture today, the more apt we are to plant in new and different cultures and make those needed adjustments.

Over the past months, questions have been raised, "Why the vision to plant new churches?" Several reasons. Our own Apostolic Christian Church roots were based on a belief the sharing the gospel would result in the need to plant churches for the new believers. In the early 1800s, Samuel Froelich and his followers were reaching so many lost that they planted 110 churches in 7 countries in a 35-year period. Later, Benedict Weyeneth shared the faith in America, and with willing disciples, 36 churches were established in 11 states over 35 years as the flame of the gospel took root. Without the early efforts of our brothers and sisters, you and I may not have come to know the Lord. We in turn desire to make a difference in the lives of others

we are called to reach by spreading the gospel message. God has also given His commandment that out of a sincere love for all men we are to "Go" as mentioned above in Matthew 28:19-20 and Mark 16:15-16.

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# "Sharing the Gospel" Study Lessons

Lesson 1 What is the Gospel? The good news of how fallen mankind can be reconciled to God by grace through faith in the redemptive work of his son Jesus, and transformed in heart and mind by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Lesson 2 **Speaking the Gospel** to ourselves, our family, our church family and the "world."

Lesson 3 **Personal Positioning** – Positioning ourselves to share the gospel through spending time in prayer and the Word.

Lesson 4 The Compelling Gospel – Our desire to share the gospel flows naturally from a genuine thankfulness to God for what He has done.

Lesson 5 **Practical Communication** – Techniques that Jesus used to communicate the gospel message and we can replicate today.

Lesson 6 Freedom from Inhibitors – Addressing inhibitors to sharing the gospel – apathy, fear and weakness – and overcoming them with care, courage and faith, respectively.

Lesson 7 **Compelling Community** – God has designed and equips His people to use their spiritual gifts to support the singular mission of the church. All of the functions of the church work together to seek, save and support the souls who will be saved. We all have a part!

Lesson 8 **Culture of Evangelism** — What signifies the marks of a church committed to sharing the gospel? How can each of us support and encourage this culture in our churches?

Lesson 9 **Rewards and Growth** – Speaks about the rewards and growth (both earthly and heavenly) of practicing evangelism.



# What is Happening at Good Vision Farm in Haiti? **A Lot!**

#### **DAIRY MINISTRY CONTINUES TO DEVELOP**

In April, the program missionaries, Les, Christine and Lana Kaeb, moved to the newly constructed missionary house and now live right on the farm. There are two other finished buildings on the farm, including the shop/depot for storage and a building that houses a feed equipment mill and storage for animal feed. The milking center is under construction at this moment, along with the second story of the missionary house. In fact, it's time to get that second story completed because it will be occupied by some very welcome support for the Kaeb's.

Haiti and begin their ministry at Good Vision Farm. Daryl will be filling the assistant farm manager position. We are so thankful for the prayer support our missionaries have received in the past and ask that you continue to remember them in

your prayers. We know that God is all-knowing and is very aware of each and every situation, but when we keep our missionaries in our prayers, they are also on our minds and perhaps

we can be more reactive to the Lord's leading. Daryl has been a grain farmer for many years, and we know the Lord has plans for Daryl and Debbie in Haiti.

# Save the Date!

#### 2ND ANNUAL HAITI DAIRY BENEFIT DINNER IS AUG. 11, 2018

You are invited to an afternoon of food, fellowship and updates on how God is working on Good Vision Farm in Haiti. The Haiti Dairy benefit dinner will be held at 12 noon on Saturday, August 11, 2018, at The Barn at Bro. Art and Sis. Marlene Mueller's farm in Clinton, Wisconsin, which is about 20 miles north of Belvidere, Illinois.

Delicious summer picnic food will be served, including hog roast, homemade potato salad, watermelon, and (of course)

ice cream! More details will be forthcoming, but please mark your calendars! Additional information is available on the HarvestCall website at: http://www.harvestcall.org/awareness-events or contact LuAnn Troxel at 219-508-3433.

Art & Marlene Mueller 7334 E County Road P Clinton, WI 53525



#### New Assistant Farm Manager

Praise be to God that Daryl and Debbie Knobloch from our Bradford congregation have felt the Lord urging them to come to



# Two calves born at the farm this winter (building under construction on left is the new milking center)

### **But What About** the Cattle?

Much effort had gone into gathering a group of dairy heifers and bulls in the US to export to Haiti to help improve genetics there. You may remember there were obstacles, including Haitian regulatory challenges, which prevented this from happening in our timeline. We asked for prayers to see if these obstacles could be overcome, and we know you prayed. Thank you for those prayers concerning shipment of cattle to Haiti! Most of those regulatory issues have been resolved and the way could be open to ship cattle and guarantine them on Good

Vision Farm. We believe God used these obstacles for his good reasons; and the committee has reconsidered timing and has decided we need to milk domestic Haitian cows before we begin milking US cattle in Haiti. This includes cattle that currently are housed on Good Vision Farm as well as cattle of

the Haitian dairy farmers in proximity to the farm.
There is still significant interest in shipping US cattle

to Haiti by November 2018, but that is dependent on God's timing. We request your continued



prayers as we learn to walk alongside Haitian dairy farmers. Looking back over this entire sequence of events, we have learned so much and are continuing to learn more about Haitian customs and methods. The additional labor support is also a tremendous encouragement. And God continues to answer prayers and touch the lives of the Haitians in this community.

Seeking and





#### Teaching mother physical therapy for son.





Waiting room...







# **Medical Mission to Dumay**

ACCESS TO MEDICAL CARE IS NOT TAKEN FOR GRANTED IN HAITI



In January of 2018, the first HarvestCall medical mission team traveled to Dumay, Haiti. This is an area east of Port au Prince where building teams have been going for quite some time as part of our Lifeline ministry program. There is a small clinic on the Bethel Foundation campus and God opened the hearts and minds of a

willing group of workers to go.

For many in Haiti, health care is inaccessible or not affordable. The team saw about 100 people a day from the surrounding area. Education was provided on topics such as hygiene and diabetes. Bibles, Bible story books, first aid kits and hygiene kits were distributed. Medications were available to treat hypertension, diabetes, and infections. Mothers carry their little ones for miles to get medical attention.



The team was able to experience the culture of Haiti from the traffic to the food. Morning devotions together help the team remember that the gospel is never secondary. Afternoon walks through the



village provided another opportunity to get to know the community.

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For those that have not been to Haiti and for others who return time and time again, it is an inspiring and amazing experience. Each one comes to understand the meaning of getting more than you give.



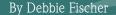


There is a need for physicians and advance practice clinicians to participate on medical teams as well as anyone with medical experience. In addition, non medical participants can help with registration and other tasks that are needed to support the team. If you are interested in participating on a Medical Team to Dumay, please contact Renae Steffen at renaesteffen98@gmail.com.



Another way to be involved is through financial support. Donations are used to purchase medications, Bibles, and supplies. Donations can be sent to HarvestCall for the Medical Committee.

Please continue to pray that the gospel can reach many near and far through this and the many other HarvestCall ministry programs. Pray for God to stir the heart of physicians to participate on a team. And please pray for the safety of our teams and missionaries in the field.





# When a Missionary Comes to Church

#### **HOME VISITS CAN BE COMPLICATED**

One of the things missionaries look forward to during their visits home is worshipping together and connecting with their sending church. Expectations are high as they anticipate seeing the faces of so many dear brothers and sisters in Christ after many months of being apart. However, oftentimes they walk into church their first Sunday back

and a feeling of disconnection sets in. The realization that life at home has continued on without them hits. Just so, they realize that they have had a whole range of experiences themselves that

have taken place apart from their church family. True connection, in such limited time, suddenly seems impossible.

Together, the missionary and the church can help bridge the chasm of disconnection. The following three points can serve as encouragements in lovingly supporting through those moments of connection in church.

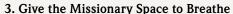
1. Understand the Perspective of the Returning Missionary – When a

missionary comes
home for a
visit, the
excitement,
stress and
experience
of their
ministry
comes home
with them.

As they step through the doors of their sending church, they are not the same people they were before they left. The missionary realizing

this and the church showing sensitivity can minimize the separation and share support to them in their ministry.

2. Show Genuine Interest – In light of the potential disconnect that may have developed, it helps if the missionary and the church members show a genuine interest in each other's' lives and what has been happening during the past period on the field by asking questions that show an authentic care for each other. As much as possible, avoid the casual, "Hello! How are you? Oh, that sounds interesting. Well, glad to have you home for a bit." Together, seek to listen and connect with the work of the Lord in the other person's life.



 As it is in connecting with anyone who has been through a significant experience, we realize that answering everyone's questions in many separate conversations can quickly become tiresome and overwhelming. There will be times when all a missionary





Show genuine interest without overwhelming them

heavier conversation. As you greet and connect with them, do not be afraid to simply say, "I would love to hear some specifics of what God is doing where you are serving, but also understand you may be worn out from the travel, time change, and past few months of service. Is it okay if I ask a few questions?" The important thing is that when the conversation is over, there is a mutual feeling of being heard and meaningfully engaged.

As members of a sending church, we have a responsibility to care for and support those missionaries we send. One way we can do this is by purposefully and authentically engaging them when they visit, whether it is on Sunday or during the week. When we understand the viewpoint of the visiting missionary, show true interest, and are considerate of his or her capacity for conversation, we can better welcome them home on their visits and encourage them in their ministry. Be purposeful in your support of those who are sent for by it we become "fellowhelpers to the truth." (3 John 8)

If you are a member of a church who does not currently have any missionaries serving on the field, you may be asking, "How can I play a part in supporting visiting missionaries?" Here are several opportunities:

- Pray for a different missionary everyday (Use a Missionary Support Card Pack or see list at harvestcall.org/our-missionaries)
- Specifically pray for missionaries' return visits
  - Send an encouraging Email to a different missionary every so often (addresses are in Missionary Support Card Pack)
    - Donate to the servant fund
       By Brock Wiegand

# **Equipping for Discipleship**

#### **CONTINUED FROM FRONT**

## Will you Pray about Being Sent?

Couples continue to pray with CEC members about where God might be directing them to plant a new church or bolster an existing small church. Additionally, several Apostolic Christian churches are considering cell divisions. As we wait on God's direction in these areas, the Church Establishment Committee continues to work with the existing churches of Lamar, MO and Kitchener, Canada to bolster their congregations. Currently these churches are establishing "visions" for their future growth and outreach into the community. For Lamar, pray that the Holy Spirit would move in the hearts of families, couples and singles to relocate to help "build up" this small flock. Those with gifts in the areas of evangelism, Sunday School teachers, song leaders and ministers are especially needed.

Kitchener is just getting their effort started, and communications will be forthcoming regarding their needs. Will you pray about being one of the disciples who is "sent" or who you could encourage to be sent? If you feel called or are interested in praying with others in discerning your calling, talk with your local elder or send an e-mail to CEC@harvestcall.org.

#### **Start Sowing the Seed**

So what can we do to start? In Matthew, we read about the parable of the sower. Some seed fell on good ground, some on stony, etc. In like manner, God asks us to sow the seed freely. He doesn't ask us to pick and choose who to share with or not to share with. Often, we worry about the results, but we shouldn't be worrying... instead, let God take care of the results and be persuaded that we're sowing

where he's called us. In Acts 2:41, we read they that gladly received the Word were baptized and the same day were added unto them three thousand souls. Could this be what God is preparing and calling us to do?



Initiating a spiritual conversation



# Make Plans to Attend Proclaim & Serve 2018 in Tremont

Previously, HarvestCall held two conferences a year, one in a church east of the IL-IN border and one west of that. Starting in 2018, we are moving to a single annual missions conference in the Midwest with a greater breadth of topics and formats. If you have any interest in learning about missions in the Apostolic Christian Church, this is the event to attend.

Saturday, July 21, 2018

Pre-conference workshops 9:00 am — Noon Main conference 1:00 pm — 9:00 pm

Tremont Apostolic Christian Church and Fellowship Hall

Everyone from across the brotherhood is invited. It is not just for those in central Illinois. We believe this will be worth the trip from Indiana, Ohio, Michigan, Missouri, Iowa and beyond.

Please pray for the speakers and the attendees, that God could be glorified and his church strengthened through this conference.

For a complete list of conference sessions and speakers, go to proclaimandserve.org



**STAY CONNECTED** | Prayer support is needed in every part of HarvestCall work. Here are two ways to learn about projects, how to be involved and how to pray specifically.

**E updates** | Get occassional emails with news and info by going to the HarvestCall website (www.harvestcall.org) and selecting "Join our email list" on the home page.

**Social Media I** Engage with us on Facebook or Instagram for the most current information.

Facebook.com/harvestcall Instagram at acharvestcall





**HELP FINANCIALLY** Choosing "Where Needed Most" allows us flexibility to direct resources to ministries most in want. However, if you feel moved to support a specific project, just indicate that on the remittance envelope. If specified donations are greater than the need for any designated project, they will be rolled over to the General Fund.

An envelope is provided with appropriate boxes to check. Checks can either be given to your local HarvestCall Representative or mailed to:

Apostolic Christian HarvestCall PO Box 3797, West Lafayette, IN 47996

Or if you wish to donate online, visit the HarvestCall website at: www.harvestcall.org/donate

