



New Church Development

Making more faith communities that make more disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world!

JUNE 2014

NEW CHURCH SUPPORTS

- MissionInsite
- Readiness360
- AC lunches and Dinners
- Training at SCD
- Second Service

ANNUAL CONFERENCE

- Wednesday Lunch Prince Center - New Church Pastors
- Wednesday Dinner Prince Center - Churches Over 200
- Thursday Lunch Commons Annex Lecture Hall- Tools to Reach New People
- Friday Dinner Prince Center- Newly Certified/Commissioned/Ordained

Church Planting is Turning Up-Side-Down

In the last five years the typical church plant is not typical anymore! Church planting is going through a major paradigm shift moving church planting back to the grass roots level. The grant process is one way that New Church is supporting that grass roots approach.

As of October 20, 2013, Cornerstone is a multisite church with Cornerstone: Heritage Hill Campus and Cornerstone: 84th Street Campus. Four years ago leaders at Cornerstone realized that they needed to go where the people are. "We have the conviction," Nash notes, "that the next generation won't travel as far

now 250 in worship each week.



Alex Fernandez
Local Pastor at Heritage Hill

We have also supported smaller grants for starting Church in a Diner at Sycamore Creek, Church in a Bar at CrossWind Church, and LifeSpring to help start a second service.

The New Church team continues to try to improve the grant process and once perfected we believe many churches will be able to reach new people for Christ in more unique ways than ever! These include multisite, adoptions, vital mergers, restarts, and starting a second service.

to go to church. They want to worship where they live. Today in a building where 20 people were worshipping last spring, there are

following year each track will meet for a time of extended learning throughout the year. In addition there will be an awesome band from Urban Village Church out of Chicago.

Reach Summit Coming This Fall of 2014

Why a Reach Summit?

New church used to have one track to become a church planter. What we are finding is that every church should be multiplying and every pastor can use church planting methods as ways to help grow their church.

Why is this different from other seminars?

This summit will have five tracks, and in the



Who is invited?
Everyone! Pastors, laity anyone who wants to learn how to reach new people for Christ.

Who is invited?

REACHsummit.org

New Church Team

Gary Step: Director of New Church Development and Congregational Transformation

Tom Arthur: Chair, Sycamore Creek Church

Bill Haggard: Grand Rapids District Superintendent

Jean Bina: Aldersgate

Jay Brooks: Mosaic

James Lambrix: Grand Rapids

Ken Nash: Cornerstone

Matt Stoll: Vergennes

Kathie Brooks: Sycamore Creek

Paul Thomas: Breckenridge

Scott Otis: CrossWinds

Matt Bistayi: Valley Church

Heather Molner: Milwood

Contact Information:

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MissionInsite, a state of the art online demographic tool, is FREE of charge to every local church in the West Michigan Conference SO THAT churches can more effectively reach out to new people in their neighborhood.

- Planning
- Imagining
- Setting Direction
- Visioning

Visit: missioninsite.com

- Church Planting Opportunities
- Revitalizing Churches
- Strategizing Outreach

Click on the Register button on the left side of the home page. Enter Agency # **GTE08**



The FREE **Readiness 360** report helps congregations gain shared, unprecedented insight as to where they are so that any new vision, goal or ministry becomes more achievable. With its ability to gain input from everyone in the congregation and then to synthesize it into a practical report, the **Readiness 360** is a valuable tool for gaining broad agreement on where to start and providing ideas for next steps.

Are you ready? Contact Laura to sign up: lauraw@wmcumc.org

Valley Charters and Rivercrest is Rising

Planting new churches continues to be the number one way to reach a younger more diverse demographic. After its launch four years ago, Valley Church chartered last fall. This was a big win for the New Church team. Valley is now attracting and reaching 20-35 year olds! If you see Matt Bistayi, give him a high five for his hard work of accomplishing this vision that God placed on his heart.

The baton is now being handed off to Kel Penny for the next plant. Kel is the pastor of



Meet the Pennys - Kel & Leanne Noelle 4 Cademon 3

a new church **restart** in the Grand Rapids District. Rivercrest Church is located on the corner of Plainfield Avenue and Spencer Streets on the northeast side of Grand Rapids in the building that previously housed Plainfield UMC. Kel has a passion to

reach his generation who are mainly unchurched. When we looked at MissionInsite reports Kel's family profile matched the highest mosaic group living in this area. His plan is to be a bi-vocational pastor in the coming year in order to build relationships and form a team. Once a launch team is gathered he hopes to start weekly worship in the fall of 2015. If you know of anyone who lives in the Grand Rapids area that would like to help with this church plant please contact Kel.

kel.penny@gmail.com