

In this issue...

- See how prayer and hard work are fulfilling the goals of Canada Vision 2020
- Discover how the division of a church in Seattle actually led to a stronger and more vibrant congregation
- Learn about the Kingdom work that is being done on the Yakama Indian Reservation, and how you can get involved
- Join us as we celebrate the graduation of twenty-four men from the Leadership & Ministry Preparation Program (LAMP)
- Read about the eight deserving women who were honored with Mercy Leadership Awards

Canada Vision 2020

Kelowna, British Columbia

CrossPoint

Church Planting in Seattle

MNA ShortTerm Missions

Is God Calling You to Serve?



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MNA ShortTerm Missions links those who have resources to invest in Kingdom work, with others who are lacking. This may include construction, VBS, ESL, sports camps, backyard Bible clubs, or other word and deed ministries. “Our purpose is to advance the Gospel by strengthening churches and church plants throughout North America, through the direct service of volunteers. As our churches grow stronger, we can take the Gospel of Christ further, deeper, and wider to the world,” said Arklie Hooten, MNA ShortTerm Missions and Disaster Response Director.

In White Swan WA, Chris Granberry, Sacred Road Ministries Director, is coordinating projects in conjunction with a new church plant on the Yakama Indian Reservation. Last year, every available week was booked with missions teams by mid-January. Chris encourages teams to look at spring break as an alternative possibility.

“We had a great year last year,” said Chris. “We had 300 missionaries here and we wish to expand ministry next year. We would love to see teams come all summer as well as throughout the spring. We also are recruiting college and seminary interns for 2008.”



Left to right: Chris Granberry; Wendell Harrigan, an elder and tribal leader of the Yakama Nation; with Bruce Farrant, MNA Native American/First Nations Ministries Coordinator

Sacred Road teams will engage in laying the groundwork for a church. The reservation is poverty stricken, plagued by gangs, drugs, and domestic violence. Teams will work on roofing, painting, yard work, clearing trash, and building wheelchair ramps. Sacred Road leads children’s ministries, Vacation Bible School, and Backyard Bible Clubs.

“We have a need for skateboarders,” said Chris. “Over 70 percent of teenagers in Yakama are homeless and are very difficult to reach. Many of the hardest teenagers are very good skaters;

we would love to have people who are skilled to come and help us make an inroads with this population.”



Jacob Feigl

Term Missions has the high privilege of assisting them; costs are minimal, since MNA does not receive income from coordinating the projects.”

Volunteers, from high school students to retirees, are welcome on MNA ShortTerm Missions teams. One former student who has made quite an impact through ministry is Jacob Feigl.

Jacob, a Covenant College graduate, met Arklie Hooten on campus in 2006. Jacob was invited to join the relief efforts at First Presbyterian’s Camp Hope in Gulfport, where volunteers are housed and fed while providing assistance to those impacted by Hurricane Katrina.

Now, Jacob has delayed enrolling at Covenant Seminary for at least a year, choosing to gain priceless ministry experience on the Gulf Coast. Though he lives and works at Camp Hope, he also teaches Sunday School at First Church, assists the youth ministry, sings in the choir, and volunteers as an assistant soccer coach for the local high school team.

“He is a great example for people in the PCA who are looking for opportunities to serve,” said Hooten. “We are looking for people who have something to contribute to God’s Kingdom work. Jacob gave up his life short term so that others could receive life long term. He is making a huge impact for the Kingdom.”

For more information on MNA ShortTerm Missions opportunities, visit www.pca-mna.org. ■

Arklie states, “Pacific Northwest Presbytery is committed to ministry through Sacred Road, an approach to ministry that should be embraced and replicated by every presbytery having Native American/First Nations people groups within their boundaries. The presbytery owns and provides oversight of the ministry. MNA Short-

CrossPoint Church Planting in Seattle

In a city where fewer than six percent of the population even attends church, it is encouraging to hear about a congregation that is not only thriving, but has taken a unique, risky step to solve its capacity problem and reach the city.

Two years ago in Seattle, CrossPoint Church (formerly known as Green Lake Presbyterian), was at a crossroads. The church was located in the heart of the city, where it owns a small city block, but was without basic amenities like adequate parking, classroom space, or even a sanctuary spacious enough to accommodate its 230 worshippers. Pastor Michael Kelly struggled with possible solutions; the city of Seattle insisted the church build underground parking if it chose to expand the sanctuary, sending costs skyward. The other option — splitting into two services at the one location — seemed more like an accommodation than a move forward.

Michael created a map of the congregation based on home addresses, and the results illustrated what he already knew. The church comprised two clusters of congregants, one in the city and one in a northern suburb. It made sense to develop a multi-site venue rather than take on a major renovation of the current building.

When the session sent a letter to the congregation proposing the multi-site idea, the reaction was mixed. “Some people cried, some were angry,” said Michael. “We were asking people to say goodbye to friends, and to alter the

look and feel of their congregation. It was costly on a personal level, but amazingly, they went for it.” Last spring, the church divided and now meets in two different locations, with the same session and pastor for both.



From left to right: Church planters Sarah and David Scott, Puyallup WA; Heidi and Andre Lewis, Redmond WA; Jason and Alida Stellman (front row right), Woodinville WA; with Mike and Sandy Kelly (back row right); not pictured, Assistant Pastor John Baek

Since the division, CrossPoint has experienced growth not only in new attendees, but also in small group growth. “The split reenergized our church,” said Michael. “It forced people to rethink their involvement with the church on a local level, like asking their neighbors and friends to join them on Sunday morning. It has created a local identity and fellowship within our church.”

In addition, CrossPoint has been the catalyst in the Seattle area for the Metro Northwest Church Planting Network (formerly the Puget Sound Church Planting Network). About ten years ago, the elders asked Michael to gather a group of pastors to discuss

working together to plant churches. The group began meeting to pray and to encourage one another’s efforts, and soon began raising financial support for the newly planted churches and for future church planting.

Since 1998, the Metro Northwest Church Planting Network has started two new churches and a third is launching this fall. This year, the presbytery’s Oregon churches will join the network, expanding its impact beyond the Seattle area. Currently, fourteen pastors are involved in the planning, funding, recruiting, and support of current and future church plants in the region.

“This is considered the barren church wasteland in the US,” said Michael, who leads the Network. “We hope to see the reputation of the Northwest changed. We want it to be known as a region filled with the most vital and faith-driven churches in the country.” ■

Canada Vision

2020

Kelowna

In Western Canada

there are only seven organized PCA churches, four mission churches, and a Reformed University Fellowship campus ministry in a geographical region that spans 600 miles. In Eastern Canada there are only three established churches and four mission works. From coast to coast, a span of 3000 miles, the overall need is great. The desire of Canada Vision 2020 is 20 churches and 20 mission churches by 2020 in Western Canada, with 10 churches and 10 mission churches in Eastern Canada.



Evan Bottomley (left) with Clair Davis. After serving 38 years on the faculty of Westminster Seminary, Philadelphia PA, Clair teaches at Grace Centre in Vancouver; he and his wife Carol also provide leadership and training in several key areas for Grace Vancouver and Vision 2020.

Three mission churches have been started in the past three years: Grace East (Vancouver BC), Grace Toronto ON, and Grace Hamilton ON. New projects are underway in the Halifax area of Nova Scotia; in Lethbridge, Alberta; and in Kelowna BC. "If MNA hadn't taken the lead back in 1985," said Bottomley, "there would only be two PCA churches in all of Western Canada. There is a great work to be done here. It is frontier land and we hope and pray that God will call men and women, from Canada and the US and perhaps other parts of the world, to bring the Gospel to our nation."

In April 2007, approximately 100 people from the three Western Canadian provinces attended the Canada Vision 2020 Conference in Kelowna BC. Tom Wood, founder and president of Church Multiplication Ministries, spoke to the

group on "Taking Canada Captive for Christ." Wood's main emphasis was demonstrating how the Gospel must be central to effective Christian leadership in churches.

Canada Vision 2020 began in 1985 in Western Canada. The founding goal was to have twenty churches and twenty mission churches in the region by the year 2020. The strategy is to focus on one plant at a time. With a strong emphasis on prayer and the Gospel, Vision 2020 is networking with established churches to develop "chapel sites" to prepare the

way for future church plants. Recruiting, training, fundraising, and keeping the vision before the PCA churches are important parts of their mandate.

Canada Vision 2020 is led by John Smed (Coordinator), Evan Bottomley (Associate Coordinator), and Dianne Hayduk (Treasurer), along with a team of pastors and elders from Western Canada Presbytery. "We wanted to keep the team

small so that we do not become encumbered in accomplishing our mission," said Bottomley. "Pastors are busy doing the work in their churches. The team in Canada Vision 2020 is free to recruit new volunteers, work toward the vision, and encourage pastors to develop this vision within their churches."

The need for church planters is great. "We need people in the US to see how desperate Canada's spiritual needs are," says Bottomley. "Less than 12 percent of the population attend any given church. We don't just need men and money, we desire and pray for men and women who are called by God to do the work of an evangelist and plant churches in our country. We want to follow God's Spirit and calling to help establish prayer-based and Gospel-driven, missional churches in Canada." ■



LAMP

Leadership & Ministry Preparation Graduation

LAMP (Leadership and Ministry Preparation) held graduation ceremonies last June, celebrating the twenty-four men who had completed various levels of the LAMP program. Many of these men came out of El Shaddai Ministries International, MNA's church planting ministry among Haitian peoples.

Nine of the men completed the full six-year program, fulfilling academic requirements for ordination in the PCA, while thirteen men achieved completion of the Bible Certificate program.

"We provide a service to the pastors of local ethnic ministries and churches because many of them have no avenue for theological training," said Brian Kelso, MNA LAMP Director. "By teaching and enabling these pastors, we have been able to impact their home church and community."

After graduation, some of the men continued participation in El Shaddai in Miami FL. Eventually, these graduates may serve as church planters within Haitian communities in New York, Chicago, Orlando, or anywhere

in North America where the Haitian population is strong.



"LAMP exists because many of those engaged in full-time ministry do not have the means to pay for and attend a full-time seminary," said Kelso. "We hope that our program will excite these pastors about theological training and how it impacts their ministry."

For more information, go to: www.pca-mna.org. ■

2007 Mercy Ministries Conference

Eight women chosen by the CE&P and MNA staff for their exemplary leadership in mercy ministries received Mercy Leadership Awards at the 2007 April Mercy Ministries Conference. Those honored: Justina Dix of Atlanta GA, Leanne Downing of Denver CO, Maria Garriott of Baltimore MD, Stephanie Hubach of Ephrata PA, Diane Langberg of Willow Grove PA, Sherry Lanier of Jackson MS, Sharon St. Germain of Miami FL, and Barbara Thompson of Zachary LA. Each woman honored also received a \$500 contribution to their ministry.

Phil Ryken, Diane Langberg, March and Mariam Bell, and Randy Nabors were plenary speakers at the conference. Numerous workshops were hosted by leaders of mercy ministries from across the PCA. With around 400 participants in this conference and the WIC leadership conference which met concurrently, the conference is evidence of how God is at work in the PCA, bringing a steadily growing commitment

among PCA churches to serve one another within our churches and to show the love of Christ in tangible ways as we share the Gospel with those around us.

For further details on the ministries of the award recipients and the workshop presenters at the Mercy Ministries Conference, go to the Mercy Ministries Directory on our web site: www.pca-mna.org. ■



Stephanie Hubach, Justina Dix, Sharon St. Germain, Diane Langberg, Leanne Downing, Maria Garriott

Chaplain ministries

The US Navy Chaplain School recently established the Chaplain Stanley Beach Student Leadership Award in honor of Navy Captain Stan Beach, Chaplain, USN, RET., and Chaplain Ministries Associate Coordinator. "We are honored that the leadership of one of our own PCA chaplains was so recognized by the Navy Chaplain School," commented Dave Peterson, MNA Chaplain Ministries Coordinator.



Charles H. Coolidge, a deacon at First Presbyterian Church, Chattanooga TN, was honored at General Assembly by MNA Chaplain Ministries as 2007 Veteran of the Year. The Medal of Honor recipient was recognized for his heroic military history in addition to his significant contributions to veterans in the years since his military service.



Hispanic American ministries



"People loved it.... It was great!" said Hernando Saenz, a church planter in Gwinnett County GA. Key leaders in Hispanic American Ministries met prior to General Assembly in June. One of the highlights of the convocation for the forty who attended were the meetings in small groups to discuss issues that each one faces within his ministry. Each attendee made a presentation to the group and was able to receive feedback from others. All PCA people involved in Hispanic ministries are invited to the next Convocation meeting in Dallas June 9-10, prior to the 2008 General Assembly.



Parakaleo church planting wives ministry



Church planting places intensified levels of stress on the church planter, his wife, and their marriage. Then why are these church planting wives (and Elvis) smiling? At General Assembly in Memphis this June, church planting wives gathered to connect, celebrate, and receive Gospel care and coaching. Attending General Assembly: an antidote for stress? Yes! Check us out at www.parakaleo.us.



MNA conferences (details at pca-mna.org)

North America Church Planting Conference
Jan. 28 – Feb. 1, 2008
 Sheraton Downtown
 Orlando FL

From Embers to a Flame Conference
Jan. 24 – 27, 2008
 Briarwood Presbyterian Church
 Birmingham AL

English Ministry Pastors' Conference
Jan. 28 – 30, 2008
 Korean Central Presbyterian Church
 Vienna VA

Youth World Awareness Weekend (YoWAW)
Feb. 15 – 18, 2008
 Ridge Haven Conference Center
 Brevard NC

MNA serves PCA churches and presbyteries as they advance God's Kingdom in North America by planting, growing, and multiplying biblically healthy churches through the development of intentional evangelism and outreach ministries. For a list of MNA staff, visit our website at www.pca-mna.org. Material in *Multiply* may be reproduced with permission. Address comments to: Fred Marsh, Managing Editor/Photographer. Writing and design provided by Big Bridge, Asheville, NC (www.thebigbridge.com). *Multiply* is published by MNA.