



Christian Evangelistic Mission

One plants... One waters... God makes it grow. 1 Corinthians 3:6-9

April, 2020

Direction Church

Des Moines, Iowa • Jared Nassiff, Church Planter

This is an unusual time we are living in, affecting every person in many ways! Whether it's your finances, resources, time, family, or sanity, I'm sure your life looks drastically different than what you pictured for 2020! Things are no different for our family. Trying to plant a church in the midst of a global pandemic is not ideal, nor what we envisioned! Like most, we discussed pushing back our fall launch date. However, God began a good work in our hearts and minds to consider launching the church online now! Our team is enacting a new strategy to virtually launch Direction Church, so we are encouraged! The current plan includes more than worship services, but we are essentially taking every strategy we've had in launching a church in



person, and are trying to do so digitally. We are excited about what God has already been doing through this, and eager to share with you more in the weeks to come! We've even been able to bring one person to Christ, and baptized him on Good Friday! God is good!

Rallypoint Update

Sioux City, Iowa • Drew Hanson, Church Planter

We have been thankful for our CEM family for offering prayer and support during this season. The pandemic has forced us all inside and caused us to rework how we do everything— even ministry. We have taken all of our programs and all of our services online for the foreseeable future. But during this time, I have had the chance to slow down. I have been able to spend more time with my family, which has been great. We've now had about 300 dance parties in our living room! I have also taken this time to not only get Rallypoint up to speed for online ministry but I have been able to learn new skills: how to build a dining room table for our family, and how to cut my own hair! This season of shutdowns has given me time to pray and reflect on the time since Rallypoint launched over a year ago. My family has embraced the situation, using the time to work on ourselves, build skills, and see life differently - like praying more and having fun together!



Antioch Christian Church Update

Oelwein, Iowa • Adam Graunke, Church Planter

Like you, our family has been spending more time together, which has its own unique challenges, but has been a lot of fun, too. Board games have been played and movies watched that we haven't done in years. Antioch has been having online church services since March 22 and is holding us over until we are able to meet in person again. We miss our Oelwein church family and we pray that any momentum lost will be quickly regained when things get back to normal. We launched 10 weeks before we shut down, but I believe we'll be able to look back and see God used it to prepare us for the next season at Antioch. Thank you for your prayers and for your support of CEM!





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Return Service Requested

From our Executive Director, Dave Fremstad

Reading these latest highlights from our church planters has reminded me that the ministry of CEM does not stop, even while our nation hit the pause button. The Sunday morning experience looks like nothing I've ever experienced before, but the Gospel is still the Gospel, and it's still changing people's lives. One thing I've learned over these past few weeks is that God's Church cannot be contained, quarantined or quenched!

Thank you for your continued support of CEM even during these times of economic uncertainty. Your generous giving is making an impact in Sioux City (Rallypoint Church), Oelwein (Antioch Christian Church), and Des Moines (Direction Church). Because of this, I can echo the words of the Apostle Paul in Ephesians 1:16, "*I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers.*" Your partnership and prayers are a blessing. Thank you!

Giving Options

We are living in unprecedented times, but we trust a big God! Will you help CEM continue providing for our church-planting families? Here are three ways to give:

- 1. Use a debit/credit card or a PayPal account at our CEM website (www.cemchurches.com)**
- 2. Use our new giving app, Givelify, as an easy way to designate donations (givelify.com).**
- 3. Use your personal online banking to establish a monthly gift or send a check to:
Christian Evangelistic Mission, PO Box 1445, Ankeny, IA 50021**

If you would like to bless CEM through a planned giving opportunity, please email suzi@cemchurches.com or call (319) 331-6884. Information can also be found on our website, cemchurches.com under "Leave a Legacy" on our DONATE tab.