



Christian Evangelistic Mission
PO Box 1445
Ankeny, Iowa 50021

Return Service Requested



NEWSLETTER

From Our Executive Director, Dave Fremstad

Even a global pandemic cannot stop God from moving ahead with his plans. Our country is canceling events left and right, but God's church continues to move ahead. CEM continues to assist church planters in launching new churches. Coming in October, Direction Church will be open to public gatherings in West Des Moines. Jared and Rachel Nassiff, along with Patrick and Emily Willis, are currently building teams and an online following in preparation for this fall. These early pre-launch phases look different than what was first imagined, but God is still working and lives are already being changed through their efforts.

Will you join with me in praying for the Direction Church launch? Pray that God brings together a launch team that is committed to reach West Des Moines with the Gospel. Pray that God will raise up the finances needed to start a church from scratch. Pray that through these efforts, the name and fame of Jesus will be lifted up.

How Can I Help?

Not only does CEM facilitate new church planting, but we also exist to strengthen current churches through connecting them to resources, assisting in leadership training and coaching, and through collaborative networking. We are stronger together!

Here are specific ways you can give intentionally:

- Donate a one-time gift to help with start-up costs of church planting.
- Commit to a regular monthly amount to provide salary sustainability.
- Choose a blended approach with a one-time lead gift, followed by regular monthly support.
- If you already donate, consider a 20% increase for 2020 (or other designated percentage).

Online gifts can be made through debit/credit card, PayPal, or Givelify (Tap. Give. Done.) by visiting cemchurches.com. Checks may be sent to Christian Evangelistic Mission, PO Box 1445, Ankeny, IA 50021.



DIRECTION CHURCH
We exist to walk with people in the direction of Jesus.



Direction Church Launches Virtually!

On June 7, 2020 Direction Church, located in West Des Moines, went live with online Sunday services! Check out their first sermon series, "Mess is More," on their Facebook page [@directionchurch2020](#) or website at directionchurch.com. In-person gatherings will begin Sunday, October 11, 2020 at 10:00 am.

Direction Church's 20/20 Vision

"We want to be a part of God planting 20 churches in the next 20 years, in and around the Des Moines metro area and beyond," states church planter Jared Nassiff. CEM is glad to be partnering with Jared and Direction Church to help kick start their 20/20 Vision!

Direction Church Location:

1601 48th Street, West Des Moines
Phone: 515-635-5275

For more details or to connect with the Direction Church team, go to directionchurch.com.

Direction Church Update

Des Moines, Iowa • Jared Nassiff, Lead Pastor

This summer has absolutely had its ups and downs! Like most, the quarantine, racial injustice issues, rioting, another increase in Covid-19 cases, and more have raised its fair share of issues. However, we have been able to celebrate God's continued faithfulness in many ways! We held our first vision night in the space we are launching out of this fall and added a few to our team from that event. We have had small groups in homes and bars and launched our online services at the beginning of June. We are building new relationships through our online presence and now disciple people we may not have known if not for the pandemic rearranging our entire strategy. Continue to pray for Direction Church and community connections, as well as our family of four – soon to be five at the end of this year! God is good and we expect big moves of the Spirit here in the Des Moines area and beyond!



From the Discipleship Pastor

Patrick Willis, Direction Church

When I was first approached about moving to Des Moines, my instinctual response was "no." After much time praying and learning that Des Moines ranked 26th in the top post-Christian cities in the United States, my wife and I felt God calling us to move. Since then, we have experienced a virtual launch and an expanded footprint in the Des Moines area. We have met many new people, learned more about the community, and even welcomed a new brother as he surrendered to Christ. We see God moving in powerfully tangible ways! One new church plant will not change a post-Christian statistic by itself. We know that God is calling Direction Church to something more, called the 20/20 VISION – to plant 20 new churches in 20 years. We hope to see Des Moines' ranking drop on that list!

Currently, we are training and growing our launch team to disciple others on their own. Our online presence is growing; in just the last week of June we reached over 2,100 people with our posts! One big tool we use for discipleship is DBS (Discovery Bible Study). DBS was created to be a simple tool that anyone can use to lead a group, as the Holy Spirit is the primary teacher. We hear it is a highly effective tool around the world, and now we are starting to witness it firsthand. Lord willing, as we continue to work hard to 'raise the sails' of Direction Church, the 'wind' of the Holy Spirit will blow upon those sails to bring the Kingdom to Des Moines, just as it is in heaven!



CEM's Banquet and Annual Meeting

Tuesday, September 15, 2020 at 6:00-8:00 p.m.
Rising Sun Church of Christ
6390 NE Rising Sun Drive, Pleasant Hill, IA 50327

Please RSVP by Tuesday, September 8th at cemchurches.com
OR call/text Suzi Steele at (319) 381-6884.

**Subject to change due to COVID-19, at which advanced notice will be given.*

The evening will also kick off the 2020 "Harvest Offering," which is an opportunity to support CEM's church planting and church health endeavors, "supplying seed to the sower" (2 Cor. 9:10) as the Lord multiplies the seed and increases the harvest!

Our goal for the 2020 Harvest Offering is \$55,000, which covers an average yearly salary for church planters in Iowa. Please prayerfully consider joining our efforts – any gifts made with "Harvest Offering" in the memo line will be applied toward the goal! Check out our website (cemchurches.com) to see our progress!



Save the Date!

Catalyst Conference – Saturday, October 17, 2020

Featuring Karl Vaters (see karlvaters.com)

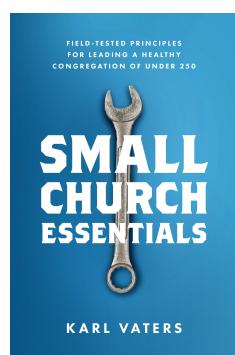


Karl Vaters is the author of two books about small churches.

- Small Church Essentials: Field-Tested Principles for Leading a Healthy Congregation of Under 250
- The Grasshopper Myth: Big Churches, Small Churches and the Small Thinking That Divides Us

His third book, *100 Days to a Healthier Church: A Step-By-Step Guide for Pastors and Leadership Teams*, is written for churches of any size who want to become healthier and stronger.

Karl's heart is to help pastors of small churches (up to 90 percent of us) find the resources to lead well, and to capitalize on the unique advantages that come with pastoring a small church – something virtually every pastor will spend at least some of their ministry years doing. He also believes that big and small churches can and should work together more often – to the benefit and blessing of everyone.



Karl has been in pastoral ministry for over 30 years. He is the teaching pastor of Cornerstone Christian Fellowship, a healthy small church in Orange County, California, where he has ministered for over 27 years with his wife, Shelley.

*Catalyst is a one-day statewide event for encouraging, connecting, and equipping church leaders.