



Northern Mountain News

Get Acquainted

Who's who, an interview with district pastors

Volume 2, Issue 7

October 1, 2007

Fort Benton – Community Bible Church

“The church is special because of the ‘heart of its people’, they love the Lord and love to gather and worship, and reach out to the community”, said Pastor Joe Jordan, of Community Bible Church in Fort Benton, Montana.

Fort Benton is located in north central Montana. The town has a population of about 1200. It was a bustling city with 3 car dealers and a tractor dealership but it has been somewhat declining in recent years. A boost to the population is that the town is only 36 miles from Great Falls, MT and is becoming a retirement community. Most of the jobs in the area deal with farming or ranching.

There are 6 churches in Fort Benton, of which Community Bible is one. The church has about 120 in attendance. CB has the only Awana program in town with 75 students attending. Church was started by a small group of ranching and farming families who met in a bank building for worship. They called their first pastor many years before Pastor Joe Jordan came in May of 2004. *(cont. page two)*

See Page Two for Additional News, Announcements and Information



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When missionaries go to the mission field there are three things they need to do if they are to survive and be effective in ministry. They must learn the language, they must learn the culture, and they must let go of home. The colonialism of former days, when we exported not only our faith but our culture as well, has proven to be disastrous. Kingdom minded missionaries understand that they are not there to import American culture, they are there to lead people to Christ. Missionaries go not as cultural ambassadors, but as Kingdom ambassadors. To be effective on the mission field the missionary does not necessarily need to become Chinese in order to reach Chinese, or Romanian in order to reach

Romanians, but he/she must stop trying to live at home. They can't move to Timisoara and expect to turn it into a "little America."

We, as believers in Jesus Christ, have been commissioned by Him to make disciples in "all the world". Part of "all the world" is right here at home. If we are going to be effective at this then we need to begin viewing our world through the eyes of missionaries. The older I get the more I realize that the America I grew up in is not the America in which I live. My world has changed right before my eyes. Now I have a choice. I can look at my world through the longing eyes of one who grieves his lost culture and insists that for the world to be "normal" everything must be as it once was. I can look at my world through the eyes of an American whose highest value in life is to preserve America as we once knew it. Or, I can look at my world through the eyes of a missionary with Kingdom vision and realize that God has placed a mission field at my feet.

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Fort Benton interview cont

Pastor Joe, who is from Georgia, came to be at the Bible College at Custom Montana. The school was called on to fill pulpits in the area. Pastor Joe was asked to fill the pulpit at Fort Benton Community Bible Church several times. When the Jordan's oldest daughter was a senior in high school they were asked to be the full time pastor at Fort Benton. After much prayer they felt that Fort Benton was where God wanted them to be. Joe and Beverley are very thankful to be a part of the EFCA family. Their children are grown and away from home but have settled close to Fort Benton so Pastor Joe and Beverley can see their 3 grandchildren.

KEEPING CURRENT

For news on the Statement of Faith check out these links:
Transitional Rules, as adopted by the Leadership Conference, is now available on the EFCA Web site: http://www.efca.org/about/media/sof_transitional_rules_adopted.pdf
A commentary that highlights proposed changes from the current Statement of Faith and does not expound the theological truth common to both statements. That will be done if/when the Proposed Revision is approved by the Conference. <http://www.efca.org/about/media/sof-proposed-revision-commentary.pdf>
Proposed Revision with Scripture References is a "working document." This means the Spiritual Heritage Committee will continue to add Scripture references to each article. Even at this draft stage, you will find this version helpful in expanding your understanding of the Proposed Revision. <http://www.efca.org/about/media/sof-proposed-revision-with-references.pdf>
(This is the corrected Web site link. The initial link sent out was incorrect.)

...Over Coffee Continued

If I am serious about being what God has called me to be then I need to view my world through the eyes of a missionary. I may need to relearn the language. I will certainly need to relearn my culture. But, perhaps most importantly, it means that I need to let go of "home".

If I am not willing to grieve and then let go of what my world used to be in order to carry out the ministry of reconciliation with which I have been entrusted, then I will never be effective in fulfilling the Great Commission. I need to decide, am I going to be kingdom minded or not? As the Apostle Paul said, "Forgetting what lies behind . . . I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."

By His Grace,
Rick Weinert

Prayer Concerns!

Rock Stewart is at home. They have done surgery on his shoulder. He continues to fight infection and are hoping the infusions will work. Pray for Rock and Gloria; you may email at rock@hisplace.org or call (208) 777-8065 with encouragement!!



Our District Board taken at our Board Retreat in August
(There were two board members missing)

Pray for wisdom as the board takes care of Northern Mountain District Business!

Reminders of Things to Do

Grace EFree in Osburn, Idaho is going to have a BIG workday on October 13 (and probably the 20th). His Place folks are coming over to help them put up the siding for the whole building. Jim Masters (the fellow who is heading this up) said they will need at least 15 guys to get it done and that it will probably take two Saturdays.

They will promise to feed everyone!!!!!!!

For more information you can contact Pete & Peg Petersen at: Peterse4@dhw.idaho.gov (208) 753-8303

Youth Wide Relation Builder

His Place will be hosting a district wide Costume Bowling Youth Rally on October 27. An overnighter at the Church, wear a costume, also fun with bowling and pizza. Youth grades 6-12 are welcome.

Contact Kipton Tomlinsom 208-777-9654

**October 6
Training Seminar for Marriage Mentors**

His Place will host a simulcast with Dr. Les Parrot and Dr. Leslie Parrot www.ccn.tv/marriagementoring or call Jack Meredith at 208-777-8844