

July 2010



Greetings Friend!

We are excited to share with you about the work God has set before us! This letter will share briefly about what we are doing now and how **you can participate** in the work God has called us to. The back of this letter has more details on what we are doing. Included in this packet are letters from Tom Mouw, whose leadership and vision we will be working under, and Cor Chmielecki, Paul's mentor and one of our pastors at Hope Community Church. Also included is a slip and envelope for replying to us.

In May, Paul graduated from three years of ministry training in the Leadership Development Institute at Hope Community Church in Minneapolis. God greatly used those years in our lives and granted us much fruit from our ministry! We still live in downtown Minneapolis and attend Hope Community Church. Luke will be 2 in August and in July we had our second son, Corban.

In June we took a position to be **Urban Missionaries and Church Planting Candidates** with the North Central District of the Evangelical Free Church of America. God has called us to the ministry of multiplying disciples of Christ, especially through **evangelism, equipping** Christians to be disciple-makers, and **establishing** new church plants. In this next year we will be doing this through two initiatives: the Caring Friends network and the Antioch Initiative. Paul will be helping launch the **Caring Friends Network**, a ministry that will identify and equip people to meet **wholistic needs** - physical, mental, emotional, social, and spiritual - in their community, then use that as an opportunity to love people and point them to Jesus. We are acting as a catalyst to empower, encourage, and equip people to serve and love those who they already have a passion for, or in ways they are already skilled to do. In other words, **we are designing pathways for people who want to walk but have not yet found the path to walk on.** We will be utilizing a strategy developed by CHE (Community Health Evangelism) called Neighborhood Transformation. In the last 30 years CHE has reached hundreds of thousands of people for Jesus and helped plant hundreds of churches. We believe Caring Friends will be a major catalyst to empower Christians - through the Spirit - to **transform lives and even whole neighborhoods** in the Twin Cities. We see this bringing the hope of Jesus Christ to broken families, struggling youth, vulnerable people, and lost souls struggling in sin. We believe this will lead to **people coming to know Jesus Christ and new churches being planted, all for God's glory.**

Through **the Antioch Initiative**, we will help facilitate **leadership development** and the **equipping** of Christians in the labor of ministry through Bible Studies and trainings. We will serve as a resource for churches and church plants to encourage and empower Christians live out the **Great Commandment** (love God/love neighbor) and the **Great Commission** (make disciple-making disciples). In other words, we will help **mobilize Christians** to get out into the world like Jesus did.

We invite you to participate in this ministry for God's Glory through supporting us **financially and in prayer** for this next year. Please use the enclosed envelope to respond. **We must raise \$6,000 a month** in support which will cover all our living expenses and our ministry budget. We would love to talk to you soon in person or on the phone to share more of what's on our heart and to discuss your participation in our ministry. **Please feel free to call, e-mail, or invite us over to dinner!**

With Love,

Paul and Kaelin Ireland

Please contact us via our website:
<http://www.paulandkaelin.com/>



Additional Information on our Ministry

Why this position?

We believe God has uniquely qualified us to assume this role through a number of significant reasons:

- 1. Our Relationships** - We have **lived downtown in an urban, multi-cultural context** for over two years now. Paul has been involved in the neighborhood association (EPNI) that entire time. The trust we've built in our community can only come through living here.
Paul has also built a **large network of connections** in the city, in various non-profits, and in churches across denominations. Through leading the Hands and Feet community service ministry at Hope he has interacted with many of the Christian organizations that operate in the city of Minneapolis.
- 2. Our Gifting** - God has uniquely gifted both of us to meet new people, to be natural in evangelism, to be able to share/teach God's Word, and to be effective disciple-makers. Paul has also been uniquely gifted as an **activator** and **entrepreneur**, useful for mobilizing people and starting new ministries.
- 3. Our Passion** - God has given both of us a strong desire to see people come to know Jesus and for Christians to boldly live out their life in Christ. We desire to **share the hope of Christ** to hurting, broken, and sin-ensnared people. We desire to see marriages, families, and neighborhoods living in the hope of the Gospel. We share this same heart with Tom Mouw.
- 4. Our Calling** - We entered ministry when God told Paul to "**Be the Hands and Feet of Jesus**" and "**Work for the Kingdom of God**". Paul immediately felt a calling to mobilize God's people to reach this hurting, broken, and lost world. Paul is passionate about people **doing** and feels called to activate people to find their ministry.
- 5. Our Vision** - Our BHAG (big hairy, audacious goal) is to reach **700,000 people in 25 years** through making disciples who make disciples. This position is about getting normal people to be disciple-makers and community transformers in their circles of relationships.

What about Church Planting?

As you may know, we have been working toward planting a church and were approved to do so by our denomination and our church. We have a **passion to see new churches planted to reach the lost**. Our goal has always been to not simply plant one church, but to help many churches be planted. We believe God will use Caring Friends to catalyze church plants across the Twin Cities and all of Minnesota. This may result in us planting a church ourselves or simply to help other church plants start.

What will you be doing as an Urban Missionary?

We will continue doing many of the things we've already been doing: being involved in our community and neighborhood, sharing the Gospel, making disciples, and teaching God's Word. We will be helping 'start-up' the Caring Friends network, which includes creating a website and marketing material, networking with churches and organizations, and identifying and equipping people with gifting and passion to be "laborers in the harvest". Some of our first initiatives will be training life coaches for inner city youth.

Through the Antioch initiative, we will spend a lot of time networking, casting vision, and creating Bible studies or other material to promote living out the Great Commandment and Great Commission.

This role involves both being an example of a Christian on mission as well as a coordinator, manager, and trainer of others. Paul will also be working toward getting licensed and ordained through the EFCA.

Why Wholistic Ministry?

God cares about all aspects of our life. Jesus Himself addressed wholistic needs (see Luke 4:18).

How long will you be doing this?

We are trusting God for our future and are excited to see what will happen. We've committed one year so far. At that point we will see where God is taking us. These last three years we have learned that His ways are higher than our plans, so we trust God!

Why are you raising support?

All ministry is supported through voluntary donations. Churches raise support from their congregations. Others in ministry raise support from individuals and churches. This is Biblical. Jesus did it (Luke 8:1-3). The Apostle Paul did it (Phil. 4:14-19). Jesus had his disciples raise their own support when he sent them out, saying "the laborer deserves his wages" (Luke 10:7).

We have raised support for three years now and have found it to be a wonderful partnership (Praise the Lord for those who have served us in that way!). Our supporters have again and again expressed how much they are blessed by participating in God's work both financially and in prayer.

Please use the enclosed reply slip and envelope to send support. Instructions are on the reply slip.

What does support go toward?

100% of it goes toward supporting us. It pays our salary and benefits, funds our ministry budget, and covers our administrative overhead costs.

Want to support us? Please make checks payable to "NCD" with "2206" in the memo line and mail them to North Central District, 711 10th Avenue South., Minneapolis, MN 55415.

To join our support team, please print out and cut out the card at the bottom of this page and mail it to the above address.



Paul and Kaelin Ireland

(and Luke and Corban!)

Urban Missionaries in

Minneapolis and St. Paul, Minnesota.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone(s): _____

E-mail: _____

- Yes, I /We commit to giving (until at least July 2011)**
\$300/month \$100/month \$75/month \$25/month Other \$ _____
 per month per quarter per year
- One-time donation of \$ _____.
- Yes, we will support the Irelands in prayer (we will add you to our e-mail list)**
- I/We would like the Irelands to be praying for me/us. (Write request on back)
- Please send me information on direct deposit or EFT.

THANK YOU for partnering with us!

Please make checks out to: "NCD" with "2206" (NOT our name) in the memo line. A receipt or year-end giving record will be sent.

Send to: North Central District, 711 10th Avenue South., Minneapolis, MN 55415



North Central District Association

EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH OF AMERICA

Multiplying healthy churches among all people

June 25, 2010

Reaching the Generations Together

Dear Ireland's Support Team,

The mission statement of the EFCA is "*multiplying healthy churches among all people*," and to that the North Central District adds "Reaching the Generations Together." Early in 2010, the NCD Board of Directors gave its approval to two parallel proposals intended to catalyze evangelism, intentional disciple-making, and innovative church planting efforts in the Twin City Metropolitan area, and eventually district-wide. We believe we are led by God to a) raise up Urban Missionaries to b) serve our existing churches and church plants through the launching of multiple holistic ministry initiatives to fulfill Great Commandment / Great Commission priorities in our mission field.

We are grateful that Paul and Kaelin have responded to God's call on their lives to serve as Urban Missionaries and Church Planter Candidate to Minneapolis and St. Paul. We wholeheartedly believe they have personally demonstrated the passion and commitment to serve church planting efforts by cultivating the "soil" of people's hearts in their neighborhood and the surrounding community through holistic means, sowing seeds of concerted prayer, and cultivating a spiritual harvest through evangelistic outreach, all in conjunction with existing churches and church plants throughout the Twin Cities.

Article 8 of the EFCA Statement of Faith contains this sentence: "*God commands us to love Him supremely and others sacrificially and to live out our faith with care for one another, compassion toward the poor, and justice for the oppressed.*" We have a high degree of interest in this being more than ink on a page. We have been prayerfully seeking the guidance of the Holy Spirit to envision and implement what we affectionately refer to as "*Article 8 Initiatives.*"

The Missional Concept is that we equip and mobilize a multitude of called, gifted, and trained individuals within local churches as workers in the harvest to address vital needs in our communities through holistic ministry initiatives, bringing the power of God to bear in faithfulness, humility, and Spirit-filled obedience to the Great Commandment and Great Commission. This will entail equipping, mobilizing and coaching a multi-generational force, in gospel-driven care and compassion, focusing upon the needs of "all people," and in particular *vulnerable people*... seniors, disabled, disadvantaged, who have been impacted by the economy, health needs, job loss, family and marriage issues, substance abuse... who are in need of the transforming power of the gospel and to be assimilated into the community of faith.

We sincerely pray and trust that you will continue your faithful support of the Irelands as they follow God's call upon them to serve His interests in the heart of the city and beyond.

All for God's glory,

Tom Mouw

Tom Mouw
SUPERINTENDENT,
CHURCH HEALTH

Dan Moose
CHURCH PLANTING

David Linde
CHURCH RESOURCES
PLACEMENT, CREDENTIALING

Andy O'Rourke
Jamie Buchanan
ANTIOCH INITIATIVE

Jim Anderson
PASTORAL CARE

Glenn Olson
STUDENT MINISTRIES

Steve Austvold
MISSION MOBILIZE
CONCILIATOR

Ardie Swanson
ADMINISTRATION

Mindy Warland
FINANCIAL

711 - 10th Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55415
612-338-1716
Fax: 612-338-1519
Email: ncd@ncdefca.org
www.ncdefca.org



June 30th, 2010

THINK BIBLICALLY. LIVE UPRIGHTLY. LEAD COURAGEOUSLY.

To the Ireland Support Team:

Paul Ireland has served at Hope Community Church (HCC) as an intern in our Leadership Development Institute (LDI) for the past 3 years. This was a crucial period of time in our program's history, where we have expanded LDI from a one-year program to a three-year program. Paul has served as a sort of firstfruit coming through this expansion.

Paul and Kaelin came to HCC from Colorado newly married. Early on, it was clear that Paul, though youthful in his faith, was a very capable individual having started and managed his own company. So, the changes in his personal life coupled with the shift to an unpaid, Christian internship were significant. But, he adjusted like a pro.

Paul took the internship seriously, and quickly made strides in his biblical thinking and leadership influence. His tireless spirit and creative thinking were invaluable for our church as we seek to make disciples and reach an under-represented demographic in churches – 18 – 28-year-olds. He helped us create a new event – Study Day – to conclude both fall and spring semesters, as well as, led our Hands and Feet service ministry. Paul has been an integral part of leading and teaching different classes and groups within the life of the church in the areas of evangelism, theology, Christian living, and Bible.

Perhaps, though, no characteristic stands as prominent in Paul's life as his desire to know Christ and make him known to others. And this trait is heavily felt both inside and outside the walls of the church building. Within, he has made a priority the development of other men as followers of Christ, leaders in their families, and players in the church. Beyond the HCC family, Paul has been a constant presence and light in his neighborhood and the city of Minneapolis. He embodies "urban missionary" more than anyone else I've ever met. Additionally, what a beautiful moment it is for me to meet on a Sunday morning someone from the area that has been invited to HCC by Paul. It happens often!

It is my privilege to have seen Paul come through LDI these last 3 years and develop into a godly, biblically-grounded, Spirit-led, and influential leader for Christ. Your support of them – prayerful and financial – would bless them. But, it would also play a role in blessing the city as Paul, Kaelin, Luke (lil' LDI!), and baby Ireland make the name of Christ known.

For the name and fame of Christ to be made known in the city,

Pastor Cor Chmielecki
Senior Associate Pastor, Hope Community Church & Director, LDI

A decorative graphic at the bottom of the page consists of several interlocking gears of various sizes. Most are black, but one gear in the center is a vibrant red. The gears are set against a background of light gray splatters and ink-like textures.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE

A MINISTRY OF HOPE COMMUNITY CHURCH. 707 10TH AVENUE SOUTH. MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA. 55415