



The Orchard

Evangelical Free Church

Our Plan for Ministry 2007-2012



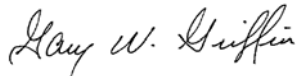
PROGRESS REPORT JULY 2009



Dear Friends,

Please read the following document which reflects the many accomplishments God has enabled us to achieve in ministry this last year. All that has been brought about is the result of the congregation's generous and faithful commitment to the Lord and to this church. Thank you for your financial support and for your participation in ministry. I believe giving to The Orchard Evangelical Free Church is the best kingdom investment you can make.

Yours sincerely,



Gary Griffin
Church Chairman

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This 2008-2009 Progress Report regarding *Our Plan for Ministry 2007-2012*, demonstrates how good God has been to our congregation. He has moved our ministry forward in significant ways. He has accomplished much in us and through us. This update is a testimony to His grace and faithfulness. As we look ahead to the fall, the Board and Staff are preparing a refreshed ministry plan that will have continuity with our previous plan, but will also incorporate new developments and initiatives, particularly related to Double Impact. Please pray for the development of this refreshed plan. We are asking for His wisdom. We are seeking His direction. We are praying for His blessing to continue on The Orchard as we work to glorify Him in all we do!

-Executive Pastor Scott Lothery

OUR MISSION AND VISION

The mission of The Orchard Evangelical Free Church is to glorify God by multiplying God-centered, Christ-exalting, world-transforming believers through the Gospel in the greater Chicago area and around the world.

WHERE ARE WE NOW?

Our Five Global Goals:

In the next FIVE YEARS we plan to see:

1 A growing community of worshipping believers on multiple sites

During the 2nd year of our Ministry Plan (2008-2009) we have:

- Repositioned Rob Soukup as Director of Media Services.
- Hired three part-time A/V Techs to support Rob Soukup in his new role – Nathan Carpenter (Gym), David Calavan (Hersey), and Linda Casaletto (Video).
- Installed a camera system for recording on Saturday night.
- Improved the A/V system in the gym.
- Repaired the escalating screen in the sanctuary for viewing video preaching.
- Hired Eric Hoelter to replace Nathan Carpenter (graduated from Trinity).
- Hired Brian Thompson to replace David Calavan (graduated from Trinity).
- Developed three worship planning teams; one for each campus pastor.
- Hired Laura Kleinschmidt as Worship Assistant.
- Improved video quality @ Hersey through consultations, training, and equipment repair and modification.
- Replaced hearing impaired audio device with multi-channel audio devices to serve both hearing impaired and multilingual interpretations.
- Started interpretation of the sermon for Polish and Japanese.
- Extended Linda Casaletto's hours to Sunday to oversee IMAG in the sanctuary.
- Installed A/V system for IMAG.
- Created three video teams of volunteers to produce IMAG.
- Developed a plan for traditional worship for the new site.
- Began to identify musicians and build a choir for the new site.
- Hired David Smith to be the contemporary worship leader in the gym.
- Hired Michael Devine to be the traditional worship leader for the Barrington Campus.
- Prayed for approximately 7,500 congregational prayer requests through the connection cards.
- Incorporated a prayer time at the weekly staff meeting.
- Held two concerts of prayer, a board/staff prayer event and a 48-hour prayer relay.
- Repositioned Scott Lothery as an Executive Pastor.
- Hired Bill Bradish as a part-time Executive Pastor.

- Identified, prepared and trained approximately 100 adults (and their families) as the core team for the launch of the new site at Hersey High School.
- Installed a portable A/V system at Hersey High School.
- Successfully reproduced all the core ministries of The Orchard at the new site including two worship services, media services, welcome team, safety team, nursery, children, middle school, high school, LIFE Connections, UTB Bookstore, The Orchard Café, etc.
- Hired Kristin Russell as Administrative Assistant for the new site.
- Completed the search for permanent facilities for the new site by negotiating a purchase agreement for the former Health World Children's Museum at 1301 Grove Ave. in Barrington.
- Formulated the theme Double Impact to describe the initiative to purchase the Grove Ave. property.
- Determined criteria by which the decision to purchase 1301 Grove Ave. could be made by the congregation – 500 people, zoning, \$10M in credit from a bank, \$2M+ from under 10 giving units as leadership gifts.
- Made 10 presentations about Double Impact and its place in our strategic plan to approximately 700 people.
- Conducted 30 tours of the Grove Ave. property for approximately 800 people, which included a prospectus, a Q & A wrap-up with Pastor Colin, and an opportunity to fill out a response card.
- Produced a FAQ and held a Q & A forum for Double Impact.
- Engaged in significant dialogue with seven churches/church planters/core groups about becoming a site of The Orchard, though none have come to fruition yet.
- Reviewed architectural proposals about renovation of the Arlington Heights Campus.
- Worked with CHANGEeffect to present a new name to the congregation – The Orchard Evangelical Free Church.
- Established a weekly staff meeting for improved communication.
- Began sending out *BECAUSE...you need to know*, a weekly email to the board and staff, to improve communication.
- Began publishing a comprehensive Ministry Guide, printed 3 times per year, which includes information about all ministry activities at The Orchard.
- Began publishing *@ the orchard*, a redesign of the monthly *Arlington Life*.
- Redesigned the worship folder to reflect the new name.
- Began publishing the *Bulletin Board* weekly for congregational life type information that was formerly included in the worship folder.
- Worked with CHANGEeffect to launch a new web site.
- Created and approved a comprehensive budget to implement the next steps of our ministry plan.

2 A maturing family of believers

During the 2nd year of our Ministry Plan (2008-2009) we have:

- Established a campus pastors meeting to more effectively lead our two sites.
- Established a Congregational Life team which meets weekly and plans quarterly for effective discipleship of our people.
- Begun simplifying our ministry structure around a simple discipleship process characterized by nomenclature reflective of The Orchard – Roots, Life, Fruit.
- Reconstituted 24 small groups into LIFE Groups.
- Launched 32 new LIFE Groups.
- Established a support system for LIFE Group leaders in which 80% of our leaders meet monthly with a coach – pastor or lay leader.
- Published a list of available LIFE Groups to facilitate connecting people to groups.
- Followed up on every connection card that indicated an interest in a LIFE Group.
- Offered two trainings for LIFE Group leaders – ABCs of Leading a LIFE Group and Sermon-Based Training.
- Distributed sermon-based questions to both leaders (to facilitate group discussion) and group members (for personal study and preparation before the group) to accompany three of Pastor Colin's sermon series.
- Completed the "Team Up!" initiative to raise awareness of service opportunities and place people in ministry.
- Hired Michelle Miramonti as Administrative Assistant to Congregational Life.
- Established a system to follow-up with newcomers.
- Held quarterly Newcomer's Lunches for 80 newcomers at the Arlington Heights Campus and held Meet the Pastors for 14 people at the Barrington Campus.
- Restructured Middle School Ministry to care for students in grades 6-8 as one group.
- Taught Middle School students the following series: the person of Jesus Christ, spiritual disciplines, the book of Daniel, purity, God's will, and Jesus' teaching on "One Thing".
- Began Powerhouse program – Middle School small group Bible studies meeting in local homes – where students studied the Beatitudes.
- Sent Middle School students to the Mark Matlock Conference in October, Winter Xtreme in January, and the Dare 2 Share Conference in April.
- Repositioned Tom Olson as High School Pastor.
- Expanded the High School small group ministry to bring it in line with the philosophy of LIFE groups.
- Developed the initial plan for student ministry on multiple sites.
- Held the second Summer Women's Bible Study 2008 – 130 women went through True Womanhood.
- Encouraged participation in the True Woman Conference – 150 women attended.
- Completed second year of *Pillars of Grace* – mother/daughter Bible studies for kindergarten -12th grade (four groups of 120 participants).

- Held two Titus Two Tools events for women – True Women of Devotion – 160 women attended and True Women of Influence – 170 women attended.
- Hosted 100+ ladies for one-on-one Coffee Talks with Linda Green.
- Continued *Women @ The Orchard* – monthly newsletter to encourage women.
- Held Cradle Roll Tea for new mothers.
- Offered several adult courses – *Entrusted with a Child's Heart*, *Beth Moore studies*, *Life in Christ Discipleship*, *Pursuit of Wisdom, Love and Respect*, *The Gospel Driven Life*, and *Radical Womanhood*.
- Held our third annual Holiday Remembrance service for those in our congregation and community to remember lost loved ones.
- Started networks for adoption and home educators.

3 A training center for multiplying leaders

During the 2nd year of our Ministry Plan (2008-2009) we have:

- Established a weekly all staff meeting.
- Established monthly oversight meetings with all pastors and directors.
- Sent pastoral staff, directors & interns to the Gospel Coalition Conference.
- Sent Linda Green and Judy Bradish to the Revive Our Hearts Conference.
- Hired Tim Baylor, Matt Stanghelle, Josh Newton and Shohei Suzuki as Pastoral Interns for College, Worship, Middle School, and Multi-Cultural Ministries respectively.
- Sent Shohei Suzuki to the Multi-Cultural Ministry Conference.
- Sent 10 Celebrate Recovery leaders to the Annual Summit in California for training.
- Hosted a two-day Transformational Expository Preaching (TEP) seminar at The Orchard.
- Sent Colin Smith to teach a TEP seminar at Gospel Coalition Conference for 300+ participants.
- Developed a new Unlocking the Bible website with sermon database.
- Conducted a preaching formation group led by Colin Smith for Kevin Meek, Bing Nieh, Tom Olson, and Ryan Beardsley.
- Sent students to the EFCA Challenge Conference in Salt Lake City.
- Conducted a Middle School staff retreat in August which emphasized the reason and importance of youth ministry as well as discussed small group dynamics.
- Held quarterly Middle School volunteer staff meetings to highlight critical issues facing students in today's culture.

4 A light in the local and regional community

During the 2nd year of our Ministry Plan (2008-2009) we have:

- Served approximately 1,500 guests at the Timothy's Ministry luncheons and Bible studies.

- Served a Thanksgiving Day dinner to 250+ people from the community with a staff of about 80 volunteers from The Orchard.
- Partnered with Angel Tree to distribute 400 gifts to families of prisoners throughout Illinois.
- Participated in the Arlington Paint-A-Thon for the twentieth year, painting a house with twelve volunteers from The Orchard.
- Distributed \$37,000 in benevolent assistance (rent, food, utility bills, auto repair, gas and counseling) to families/individuals from The Orchard.
- Distributed \$27,000 in community care assistance (rent, food, utility bills, auto repair, gas and counseling) to 150 families/individuals in the community.
- Established a Community Care Team to assist in the ministry, insuring that each visitor hears the Gospel, is prayed with, and is invited to church and church sponsored activities.
- Held our third annual Celebrating Freedom in Christ outreach event.
- Partnered with another NW suburban church to launch a new Celebrate Recovery site.
- Completed Gospel 5000 by meaningfully proclaiming the Gospel to 6,000+ people.
- Held two holiday concert follow-up Bible studies.
- Trained 30 new Ambassadors.
- Held two Men's Ministry events – resulted in seven men making a decision for Christ. The second event attracted over 100 to hear testimonies of encouragement about staying strong during very difficult times, resulting in a Career Seeker Bible study being started.
- Held a Business Breakfast outreach event at the Metropolis Ballroom, with about 100 attendees who heard testimonies of faith from three Christian business leaders.
- Provided opportunities for students to Serve On Saturday – packed boxes for Operation Christmas Child, served at the Senior Christmas Luncheon, and made meal packets for Feed My Starving Children.
- Visited and sang Christmas carols at Luther Village.
- Provided the local community with Christmas and Easter concerts which contained Gospel-centered music and messages, reaching approximately 3,000 at Christmas and 1,500 at Easter.
- Held an Easter concert for residents at the Winchester House long-term care facility in Libertyville, IL.
- Sponsored two Hymn Sing evenings, in the fall and spring, with approximately 750 in attendance for each and over half of the attendees from outside of the church.
- Sent High School students on a mission trip to downtown Chicago through Inner City Impact and partnered with Inner City Impact throughout the year.

5 A catalyst for world outreach

During the 2nd year of our Ministry Plan (2008-2009) we have:

- Begun to meet with a group of 10 people who are pursuing an interest in vocational missions.

- Commissioned five individuals for missionary service: Bob & Vicki McCollum, Kim Berliner, and Kevin & Amy Hander.
- Continued *Hope for Congo: The Elikya Project* by constructing: two homes for widows, the Elikya Training Center and the entry road into the Elikya property.
- Completed short-term mission trips to Chicago, Nashville, New Orleans, Haiti, Mexico, Romania, Venezuela, Thailand, Indonesia and the DR Congo.
- Sent a team of 17 people to Bangkok to staff the children and youth program of the All-Asia ReachGlobal Conference.
- Supported the Densmoor family at Family Camp in July.
- Supported nine individuals involved in short-term mission trip ministries.
- Distributed \$19,000 from our Thanksgiving offering to hurricane victims in Haiti and assisted in funding the All-Asia ReachGlobal Conference in Bangkok.
- Distributed \$265 from our Christmas in October offering, to each missionary unit.
- Assisted in various critical needs of missionaries from our One-time Gifts account.
- Continued involvement in the Congo Consortium and began involvement in the Indonesian Consortium – churches committed to ministry in a focused part of the world.
- Prayed for all of our missionaries through the prayer requests on their newsletters.
- Educated our congregation about missions through Missions Sunday, periodic missionary moments in the worship services, the *Monthly Missions Update*, @ *the orchard* monthly missionary prayer requests, Sunday school curriculum, presentations in the Adult Elective's, missions elective courses and new books & DVD's in the church library.
- Used the "missions house" on Haddow Court to support the Ericksons on their home assignment.
- Added four missionary units to our budget: Justin and Courtney Wallhoff (Indonesia), Kevin and Amy Hander (Florida/Caribbean), Nubako and Claudine Selenga (Africa), and Stephen and Young-Ly Chandra (Indonesia).
- Shipped a 20-foot container of books and supplies to LIFE theological seminary in India.
- Sent over 2,000 pounds of bandages, linens and blankets to needy children and agencies around the world, made by our faithful White Cross volunteers.
- Sent over 2,500 Christmas and Easter cards to persecuted Christians around the world through the efforts of the Persecuted Church Ministry's Christmas Card and Easter Card writing parties.
- Produced *The 10 Greatest Struggles of Your Life* DVD/Kits.
- Held a radio listener event in Indianapolis.
- Opened bookstore outlets at Hersey High School and in The Orchard Café.
- Published *Restore My Soul* study guides for sermon-based LIFE groups.
- Launched LifeKEYS, the weekly e-devotional, to over 3,500 people.
- Hosted *The Board* movie premiere, attended by nearly 1,000 people.
- Continued bi-weekly radio bible commentary on nationally-syndicated *Prime Time America* (WMBI, FM 90.1).