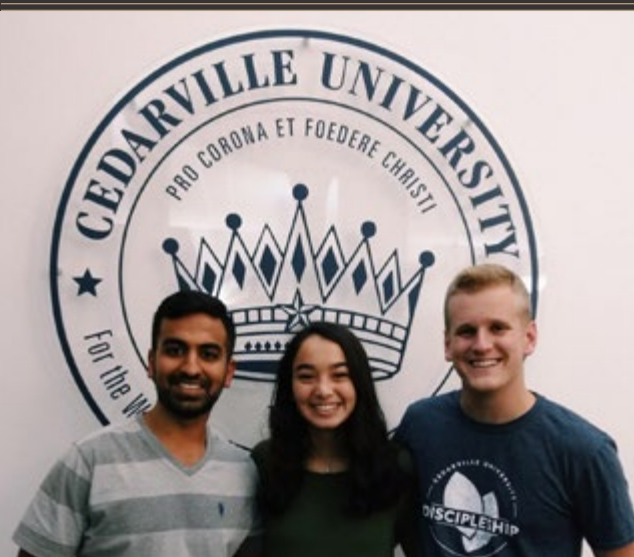


# @THE ORCHARD

OCTOBER 2018

*Stories of God at Work*



**ETHAN HAND,  
HITESH KEWALRAMANI, AND  
ABBI MOTTIER** | BARRINGTON CAMPUS

Ethan, Hitesh and Abbi are students at Cedarville University in Cedarville, Ohio. This summer they participated in The Orchard's membership class with Pastor Josh Newton.

As a way to fulfill their membership commitment, they decided to start a LIFE Group at Cedarville this fall. Two other students from The Orchard, Joel Hess and Emily Andrew, will join them as well.

**ANDY AND JOANNE LEE** | NORTHFIELD CAMPUS

The Orchard has been a wonderful blessing for our family. We visited the church in April, not looking to change churches, but to just worship at another church. During our visit, our children loved the Sunday school. They were given a lot of attention and really enjoyed the teaching. We loved the time of singing, prayer, reading of God's Word, and the sermon. The worship service was so God-centered and rooted in God's Word. After attending a few more services, we felt called to join the church in reaching out to the community and for ourselves to go deeper in our relationship with Jesus. I tell my friends that our new church is a house of prayer, rooted in God's Word, filled with disciples of Jesus who want to do life together and share it with other people.





**IVETA BERZINCH** | ITASCA CAMPUS

I grew up in a broken family under a communist regime in Latvia and didn't know anything about God until age 20. I rarely felt loved or wanted, or even really safe. I didn't know that I had any worth and felt that I didn't quite belong anywhere. My family praised achievements and control, and so unknowingly that drove me to try to earn love and value through success. I started identifying myself with what I did and what I could accomplish. Several years ago, I realized that although on the surface I had everything one could want—husband, family, successful job and loyal clients—I was feeling exhausted, out of place and empty. I knew a good bit about God, but something was missing.

Three years ago, our family moved to the Chicago area. I started staying home and struggled a great deal. During this time God gave me a great hunger for His Word. I immersed myself in the Scriptures and other Christian literature. The Holy Spirit truly became my Counselor. He revealed my sins and mistakes and

made me realize that I not only hurt others and myself, but I had hurt Him with my choices. For the first time in my life, I had developed an understanding of what a Christian life was about, what it looked like. God made me see my need for a Savior. I cried out to Christ in desperation, and He came to my rescue. He overwhelmed my heart with His love and His presence! The Lord helped me realize that it was exactly what He had died for: to redeem a life and a heart like mine. Now I have found where I belong – in His family. He is my home!

I have learned so much from the sermons and also the Romans study. I really feel like I am finally worshiping God with all my heart here at The Orchard! *Iveta was baptized on September 16.*

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**JOHN KOH** | NORTHFIELD CAMPUS

Since attending The Orchard, I have a deeper appreciation and understanding of the Bible. The insights from the Bible and the loving community here have come at an important time in our family's life. My wife, Joyce, and I had challenging experiences in previous ministries; we loved the community of believers, but we were not growing spiritually. At times, we wondered if the Bible was relevant to our lives now.

At The Orchard, we have been so blessed to experience a loving community and to hear messages that dig deep into the text that ministers to us. We have a renewed spirituality and a deeper appreciation and understanding of God. We look forward to what God has in store for our church community here and how God will use us to honor him.





## DAVID AND AMY WILLIAMS | NORTHFIELD CAMPUS

We have been attending the Northfield Campus for the past year. We continue to be amazed and blessed by the positive and uplifting messages, music, fellowship and children's program. We knew on our first visit that this was an amazing place to be—and that it would be our church home. We were so thankful to talk with our young daughters and hear that they experienced the same thing. Our daughters have a wonderful connection with their Sunday school teachers. They feel loved and cared for by the ones called into this role. It is so exciting to be a part of something like this. We feel energized and spiritually renewed. We've gone through some ups and downs this year with health-related and job-related stresses, and the encouragement we get from the Lord through the sermons, the music, the teachers and Pastor Josh has strengthened our faith in God and has really kept us going. The message always seems to be exactly what we need to hear at the perfect time! We are so thankful that we were led to this church and can't wait to see what is next for this ministry. Our youngest daughter put it most articulately when asked how she feels when she leaves church on Sunday. She said, "I am excited to go back!"



## UPCOMING PREACHING SCHEDULE

### OCTOBER 13/14

MEET JESUS: THE SIFTING  
JOHN 6:60-71  
COLIN SMITH

### OCTOBER 20/21

MEET JESUS: WORLDLY WISDOM  
JOHN 7:1-13  
COLIN SMITH  
CHICAGO-ANDRÉ BALLARD

### OCTOBER 27/28

MEET JESUS: THE ROOTS OF UNBELIEF  
JOHN 7:14-36  
COLIN SMITH

### NOVEMBER 3/4

MEET JESUS: LIFE IN THE SPIRIT  
JOHN 7:37-52  
COLIN SMITH

## CHICAGO CAMPUS

Launching a new campus comes with some uncertainty. Is this going to go well? What challenges will we face? Will people show up for worship? Thankfully, our first two preview services at The Orchard-Chicago were fantastic! Many guests attended The Orchard for the first time. God's Word was sung, prayed, read and preached.

If you haven't made it for a Preview Service, you have a few more opportunities: October 7 or 21, November 11 or 18, or December 2 or 16. We meet at The Lakewood, 1758 W. Lake Street, Chicago. There's plenty of convenient parking in the lot or on the street.



## INDIA MISSIONS TEAM THE ORCHARD



Working with our partner in Delhi, the Lord blessed our mission team to present clear teaching from the Word at two ladies' conferences and men's Bible school classes. They spoke to men and women from a wide variety of backgrounds, many of whom are first generation believers. Pray that they return home strengthened in their faith and able to teach and disciple others. Some will be risking their freedom and their lives since believers are coming under increasing pressure from anti-conversion laws and harsher penalties. Pray for courage for believers to carry out their calling in this difficult environment.

## BJORN & TRISHA OLSEN REACHGLOBAL/HUNGARY



We are grateful for the Olsens' 13 years of service with ReachGlobal in Hungary, serving at the International Christian School of Budapest (ICSB). They recently moved to Barrington to begin a ministry with a new organization. Bjorn is the Executive Director for the 222 Foundation, which provides Biblical mentoring and shepherding along with financial grants for seminary students. Trisha is pursuing opportunities to mentor missionary kids and serve with special needs moms/families while home schooling their four children. Pray for them as they make this transition, and express your gratitude to the Lord and to them for their faithful service.

## CASSIDY BAKER REACHGLOBAL/HUNGARY



Cassidy is the director at the coffeehouse in Budapest. The coffeehouse is undergoing a face lift which includes a new logo, new paint and updates to the space. Cassidy also leads the landing process for new staff who joined the team in September. She is involved in the Agóra Gellért church plant. Pray that the re-branding at the coffeehouse will result in more customers and celebrate the glory of God. Pray for the new staff, Sam and Daniel, who are adjusting to life and ministry in Budapest. Pray that Agóra Gellért church plant would find its place in the community.

## IVOR POOBALAN/COLOMBO THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY (CTS)/SRI LANKA

In 2003, Ivor and his wife, Denisa, and two daughters made The Orchard their home church as he attended Trinity. When they returned to Sri Lanka, Ivor became the Principal of CTS. CTS teaches programs for Christian leaders in the three languages of Sri Lanka. Classes are taught in nine locations of this small island. Praise for the 800 students enrolled in courses. Praise for 90% of the alumni continuing to serve in church leadership. Praise for those in vocational ministry reaching the marketplace, homemakers and lay leaders and equipping them to be vibrant witnesses that share the Good News.

## TIM & ABBY OPHUS EFCA CHURCH PLANT/CHICAGO



Tim is the pastor of Chicago Gospel Fellowship in the North Park neighborhood, one of the most diverse ZIP codes in the country, with people from all over the world calling it home. Pray that God would send laborers to join their work. Praise for a new Spanish-speaking Disciplemaking Community that began this summer; pray God would use this ministry to Spanish-speakers and that He would provide people to lead similar groups in other languages. Pray for Abby, who has begun a Disciplemaking Community with women on North Park's soccer, volleyball, rowing and tennis teams.

## KEVIN & JAZZLYN HALLORAN LEADERSHIP RESOURCES INTERNATIONAL (LRI)/UNITED STATES & LATIN AMERICA



Kevin serves as a trainer in Latin America and as Content Specialist for LRI's website. His emphasis is to equip and encourage pastors to faithfully proclaim the Scriptures with clarity and power. Praise for Baby Halloran coming in December. Praise for God's favor in LRI's receiving a grant for expansion. Pray that LRI would steward it wisely for greatest kingdom impact! Pray that Kevin would know more of how his skill set can best further LRI's vision. Praise for a trip to Monterrey, Mexico, to pilot training with a group of Presbyterian pastors.

