

SEPT. 2022 NEWSLETTER



Growing churches today to bring generations alive in Christ tomorrow



IT'S ALMOST HERE! CEM'S BANQUET IS TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13TH

Please join us for a celebration luncheon from 11:30 am – 1:30 pm at the Stoney Point Campus (Antioch Christian Church) in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Stoney Point is the second church planting project that CEM and Antioch Christian Church have partnered together, with the Oelwein Campus in 2018/2019 and Stoney Point in 2022.

- 11:30 am – 12:30 pm: Lunch will be served, and tours will be offered for attendees to view the campus
- 12:30 pm – 1:30 pm: A time of celebration will be followed by exciting updates from CEM and Antioch Christian Church leadership.

You won't want to miss it! **Register by September 10th at cemchurches.com/events** or contact Suzi Steele at suzi@cemchurches.com or call/text Suzi at **(319) 331-6884**.

We look forward to seeing you there!

CEM CATALYST CONFERENCE – SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15TH

CEM's Catalyst Conference is a one-day conference for encouraging, connecting, and equipping church leaders for ministry. Our 2022 conference features Jim Estep, professor at Lincoln Christian Seminary and Dean of Lincoln Christian Institute.

Jim is also the Resources Director at **e2: effective elders** (e2elders.org), a nonprofit that provides leadership coaching for elder and staff teams. **E2: effective elders** develop leadership skills by partnering with elders in authentic relationships, providing relevant resources, and presenting training opportunities.

They have published both print and video curricula for elder training, coached dozens of churches, and led over seventy

conferences and seminars both in the United States and internationally, in which they have been privileged to meet over 9,500 elders and church leaders.

Christian Evangelistic Mission is excited to bring this expertise to central Iowa for church leadership teams across the region!

Catalyst Details:

- Register at cemchurches.com/events
- Cost to attend: \$25 per person (breakfast, lunch, and conference materials included)
- Location: First Church of Christ, 310 NW Ash Drive, Ankeny, IA 50023
- Time: 8:30 am - 2:00 pm



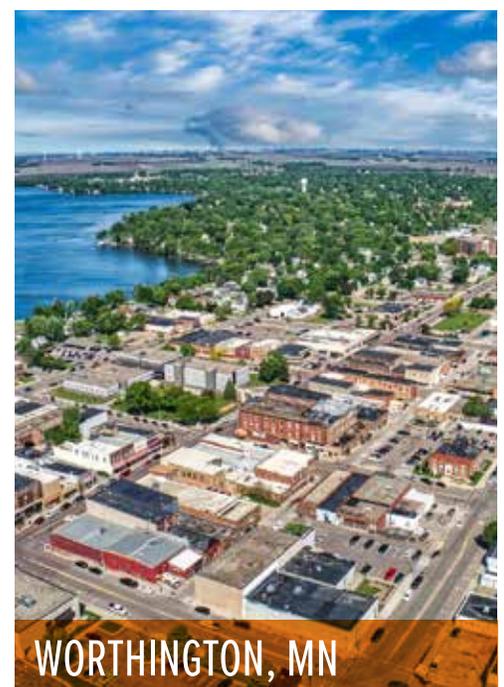
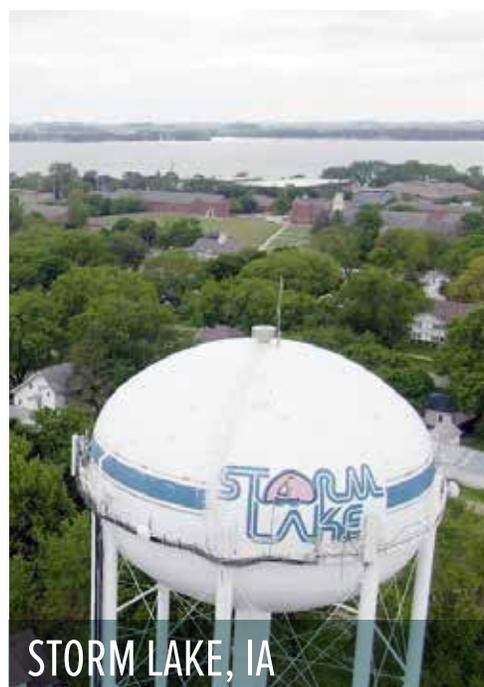
PRAYER WALKING: PREPARING FOR GOD'S PERFECT PLANS

As we look to 2023 and beyond, CEM is exploring several communities for possible church plants. Discerning God's will within a particular community and how CEM may be involved is no small task! As we explore possible sites for new plants, CEM staff and board members get together to walk and pray over each possible plant community.

Prayer walking is an essential part of preparing to plant. It allows us to pray specifically and consistently for needs and provides practical opportunities for connections within a community. Each prayer walk provides CEM leadership with an additional opportunity to pursue God and His will, grow in our personal prayer lives, and help prepare the soil for harvest.

On August 13th, CEM board members and staff came together in Vermillion, South Dakota, to pray and listen to the Spirit's prompting. As 2022 draws to a close and 2023 begins, CEM will also gather to pray for Des Moines, Storm Lake, Eagle Grove, and Worthington, Minnesota. Please join us in praying for clear direction from God about where CEM's next church plant will be located.

CITIES WE ARE PRAYING FOR:





HARVEST AND BEYOND

This is my favorite time of year. The state fair has come to an end, teachers and students are back in the classroom, and the heat of summer is almost behind us. Soon the landscape of Iowa will be transformed as farmers begin to gather in the harvest.



I believe that Jesus said, “The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field” (Matthew 9:37-38 NIV), much like farmers do in this upcoming time of the year.

Jesus had a vision of the world that often escapes us. Where we see resistance and opposition, Jesus sees the opportunity to reach hungry, needy people. As summer gives way to fall, I urge you to change your perspective. Choose this year to see farms, tiny towns, small cities, and sprawling metro areas as fields ready for a great harvest.

At CEM today, we are actively seeking **40 disciple makers** who will be sent into **20 communities** over the next **10 years** so that generations will come alive in Christ (CEM’s 40-20-10 Vision). We have the incredible privilege of proclaiming the Gospel and seeing thousands of names written in the Lamb’s Book of Life.

Will you pray with us for the Lord of the harvest to send workers into His field? Will you also join us in this essential work? Will you give to the Harvest Offering this year? Together, and with God’s leading, we can reach the 40-20-10 vision.

Sincerely,

Chad Halbach
Executive Director



HARVEST OFFERING 2022 – WILL YOU HELP US RAISE \$75,000 FOR A NEW CHURCH?



Each year during the fall months (Sept-Nov), CEM holds its annual Harvest Offering to fund a new church plant through these special gifts. These funds directly affect CEM’s mission of planting new churches across our region. Every dollar raised goes to support a new church, and 2023 is just around the corner!

Already, CEM has several exciting opportunities for new church plant partnerships in 2023 and 2024, and we get that chance

because of generous Harvest Offering donors! Communities like Cedar Rapids, Des Moines, Oelwein, and many more have benefitted because of CEM donors’ commitment to church planting. Check out 65 years’ worth of CEM church planting on our website at cemchurches.com/church-plants.

Gifts can be given online at cemchurches.com/donate (choose Harvest Offering 2022)

OR

By mail: Christian Evangelistic Mission, PO Box 1445, Ankeny, IA 50021

THANK YOU for being such a vital part of the kingdom in this tangible way!

Would you like to sign up for automatic monthly contributions?

Visit cemchurches.com/donate to sign up today OR send a check with “Monthly Support” on the memo line, and we will send monthly giving envelopes to you for your convenience.

PO Box 1445
Ankeny, IA 50021

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CEM CATALYST CONFERENCE

Our one-day Catalyst Conference is coming soon! Catalyst focuses on leadership development, not just for those who are Pastors but also for Elders, Deacons, and other Volunteer Ministry Leaders. Read inside for more information about this year's Catalyst with guest speaker Jim Estep, Dean of Lincoln Christian Institute and coach for e2: Effective Elders.

To register for this event, visit cemchurches.com. The cost to attend is \$25 and includes a light breakfast, boxed lunch, and conference materials.



P.S. – If you're reading this BEFORE Tuesday, September 13, 2022, it's not too late to register for CEM's Banquet in Cedar Rapids (see inside for details)!