

JULY 2021 NEWSLETTER



CEM exists to strengthen current churches and to facilitate new church planting.



Vision Frame Pathway – CEM Church Coaching

In Fall 2019, a pilot group of several churches that sought to refresh their vision and strategies had blossomed into a coaching initiative that CEM offers on a continued basis. After a Covid-19 pause the first half of 2020, in-person coaching began again in Summer 2020. So far, seven churches in Iowa have participated, or are currently participating, in the Vision Frame Pathway (inspired by Will Mancini's book *Church Unique*). What does CEM church coaching involve?

In-Person Coaching – Four coaching sessions are scheduled, at the church location, for church leaders such as elders, deacons, and ministry leader volunteers. A CEM-trained coach will facilitate and guide each session.

Eight-Week Commitment – Each in-person evening session is two hours, scheduled every other week, with at-home work sessions in between. The time commitment overall is eight weeks.

Interactive Coaching Materials – Participants each receive a Vision Frame Pathway workbook, curated by CEM for the maximum benefit of a personalized process.

Detailed Executive Report – After the eight weeks conclude, a detailed executive report for the church will be delivered to the pastor, along with a scheduled personal meeting to discuss findings and next steps.

Personal Follow-Up – Coaches make several follow-up contacts with the lead pastor to encourage, answer questions, and check in on the church's progress.

Contact Dave Fremstad or Suzi Steele if you are interested in, or have questions about, our coaching service.

Dave@cemchurches.com or call (712) 309-1118

Suzi@cemchurches.com or call (319) 331-6884





Catalyst 2021 with Guest Speaker Dale Sellers

Saturday, October 16, 2021

8:30 am – 3:00 pm

Cost to Attend: \$25 per person

(includes breakfast & catered lunch)

First Church of Christ

310 NW Ash Drive, Ankeny, Iowa

What is CEM's Catalyst Conference?

Catalyst is a one-day event for encouraging, connecting, and equipping church leaders. CEM brings industry leaders with a focus on church and leadership development to impact local communities for Christ.

ABOUT DALE SELLERS

Dale Sellers has been in ministry for almost 40 years. He and his wife Gina have been married for 38 years. They have three daughters and two sons-in-law, and two awesome grandchildren!

He launched *Dale Sellers Leadership, Inc.* in March 2014 to assist organizations in the areas of leadership, inspiration, and evangelism. Dale became a ministry consultant for The Unstuck Group in April 2017, focusing on helping the small church. In July 2018, he accepted the Executive Director position for 95Network, a nonprofit ministry designed to help small to medium-sized churches through content, conferences, coaching, and consulting.

Dale recently signed with David C Cook Publishing and released his first book in September 2020, entitled *STALLED: Hope and Help for Pastors Who Thought They'd Be There by Now*. For more information about Dale or 95Network, please visit 95Network.org.

As a bonus listen, check out the recent podcast with Dale Sellers and host, Tom Steele, on the Iowa Church Leaders Podcast found at cemchurches.com/podcast.





DIRECTION CHURCH Update

With three months of in-person services under their collective belt, the leaders and volunteers of CEM-partnered Direction Church in West Des Moines are leaning into the community and making a difference in peoples' lives. From doing structural upkeep for a local nonprofit to baptizing a neighbor in a nearby pool, Direction Church makes its presence known in tangible ways. Their hard work is evident in the way they share Christ's love with community members. Keep praying for Direction Church!

Stop by to visit the church and invite others to join you! Worship time and location can be found at directionchurch.com.



A Note from the Executive Director

Let's be honest; for a local church pastor, the summer months can be discouraging. The sanctuary is a little emptier, the people are sparse, and the offerings are on the lighter side. We plod through the summer months, then look forward to the fall when people start showing back up again.

Summertime is not the only season on the ministry calendar when things are hard. Rarely is there a time when serving in a local church feels easy or that all of the successes are piling up. Many pastors across Iowa feel alone and discouraged, without a place to turn to for help.

That's where CEM can step in and be a resource for you and your local church. We want to see both healthy churches and healthy church leaders. We pursue this through coaching churches in the Vision Frame Pathway, holding conferences that focus on the smaller churches that dot our Iowa landscape, and by regular postings to our Iowa Church Leader's Podcast. These various tools can strengthen both you as a leader and the church you serve.

If you're interested in learning more about how CEM can come alongside and strengthen your church, please reach out to me at dave@cemchurches.com or call me direct at 712-309-1118.

We are here for you,



Dave Fremstad



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CEM Fall Banquet...times two!

Each September, CEM hosts a banquet to fundraise for the new year's ministry projects and celebrate what God has accomplished through generous people like you. You are the reason CEM has facilitated new church plants in Iowa for 64 years! We invite you to join this "CEM family reunion" by attending our September banquet.

To maximize the opportunity for state-wide fellowship, CEM is hosting not one but *TWO banquet times!* We know many drive a distance to attend this annual evening banquet, and it can make for a late night. To accommodate people both far and near, we are hosting the same banquet and program, just at two different times (and we won't even serve leftovers!)



**Tuesday, September 14
2021**

Noon Banquet (12-2 pm)

OR

Evening Banquet (6-8 pm)

**Rising Sun Church of Christ
6390 NE Rising Sun Drive
Pleasant Hill, Iowa**

Register for your preferred banquet time at cemchurches.com or by contacting Suzi Steele at (319) 331-6884.