

MISSIONS & MINISTRY

The Newsletter of The Blue River-Kansas City Baptist Association

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BECAUSE WE CARE

By Nicole Dominguez, Grace Point Baptist Church

A member of Grace Point Baptist Church has held a burden for a local community, Ruskin Heights, for years. This district hosts many vulnerable families, and is generally a low-income, high crime rate area. In his prayer walks with a team he gathered throughout the community, he got connected to a church within the neighborhood, Bethel Family Worship Center. He discovered the pastor really had a heart for the community and being activated in outreach. Our churches shortly bonded over our mutual desire to take the church outside the building and began doing evangelism together.

During the early onset of Covid, Pastor Lester saw a great fear in the community, and a greater need for practical items since people were told to stay home, which lessened their income all the more....

**Read the
Full Story**



SOUTH KC CHURCH FINDS NEW HOME IN WALDO

By Kathy Feist, Martin City Telegraph, reprinted with permission

Just in time for Easter, a growing south Kansas City church has finally found a home. Three Trails Community, a group-led church that touts diversity and community involvement, officially launched services at its new location, 7735 Main St., on Easter Sunday, April 4.

Three Trails Community is known for its active involvement in the community, setting up Harvester's mobile food pantries in Martin City and now at Center High School, donating appliances to Red Bridge Elementary School, providing free haircuts to children at the beginning of the school year as well as inviting the community to its block parties.

Three Trails Community launched in 2017 at the home of its founders, Pastor Blake Fortner and Terry Shane, co-pastor. It soon found a temporary home at Martin City Baptist Church, where it made its purpose clear by inviting the public to its community block party. In early 2020, the group moved to Red Bridge Elementary School.

And then Covid hit, and the schools and churches were shut down.



Fortunately, Three Trails had begun broadcasting their services live on Facebook prior to the shutdown. Fortner attributes this to its growth in members during the pandemic.

Another south Kansas City church, however, did not fare so well. The Church in Waldo was losing members during the pandemic.

The church, whose members split in 2014 from Heart of Life Church in Lee's Summit, had merged in 2016 with Antioch Baptist Church at 7735 Main St. After renaming the new congregation, members invested heavily in updating the 75-year-old building, installing new windows, carpet, boiler and HVAC system, repainting the walls and ceiling, modernizing the light fixtures and rehabbing the once-condemned basement into new meeting and child care spaces.

In October, two of the founding elders returned to Heart of Life, leaving the third and new elder, Travis Hamm, with a dilemma: continue on as Church in Waldo or partner with another church. He felt moved to form a partnership.

[Read the Full Story](#)

"We can now say we are a rainbow of color, of skin and ages."

Blake Fortner, Pastor

Check out Job Postings

Check out the Classifieds

VANCOUVER PARTNERSHIP

They say a picture is worth a thousand words. Well, then a video should be worth even more!

This month we would like to highlight our Vancouver Partnership, specifically, Conrad and Rachel Au. Conrad and Rachel are church planters in the Coquitlam area. Please pray for the Au's as they work to reach people in one of the most populated, but lost cities in the world.

Click on the picture below to watch a video update on their work.



CONRAD & RACHEL AU

Covocation Church Planting Couple
The Common Place | Coquitlam, BC
[f](#) [g](#) [t](#) @ConradAu | @CommonPlace222
#COQUITLAMLOVE

Pray

...that God continues to empower Conrad and Rachel as they reach post-Christian neighbours with Gospel love
...for discovery and development of more leaders to join them in planting multiplying expressions of the church

THE COMMONPLACE
NEIGHBOURHOOD CHURCH

A Supporting Church with the  SEND Network in Vancouver.

Don't miss this great free event.
Click here for more info and to register!

Benefitting Restoration House



Linwood

BLUEGRASS - BAREFOOT MILE -

A COMMUNITY EVENT TO COMBAT HUMAN TRAFFICKING