# **One More Here**

Deaf Ministry – Kari Interview – By Alex Ehly

# Steve Yost Sunday reminder - Cards and Timing

I want to let you know a bit about why we are taking Sunday to do this update. It is because we are utterly committed to the mission Jesus has given us AND we highly value transparency as a church. I know that many of you have done remarkable things in order to make this vision happen – huge commitments to prayer, taking on new serving roles, and giving with a radical generosity. The elders of our church are passionate that if you are going to give with such love, then the leaders owe it to every member to tell how it is being used!

We take super seriously Jesus commission: Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.

If you are new to the church, then this will be a great overview. We are a church that is passionate about people who are not here. That is not always normal in churches. People there matter here. And the 'there people' could be our family members. Or, people in Omaha we don't yet know, or people on the other side of the planet we will never meet (really, that's people 'everywhwere', but I am getting ahead of myself.)

Reach One more is our expression of how that happens. So, we are trying to reach kids all over Omaha through Soccer and flag football

#### ONE MORE HERE

• Soccer Ministry – Every week (Soccer Pics) – Come on out on a Saturday and you will see our fields filled with families. There are over 525 kids who come to play on a weekend. And each one brings family members. So, it is normal in the spring to have around 2000 people out on our back fields. And every week, our staff are on the microphone presenting Jesus during halftime and making announcements that welcome people into their spiritual next steps. We expect 300 in the fall for flag football and hope to total 1000 kids in the next year or two. All this is possible

- because you gave financially to transform those fields from baseball to soccer, resod them, level them out and make it optimal for kids to play. Great job.
- Kids matter, but so do adults wrestling through big questions about faith. So... Allison and I asked ourselves 'who is the best guy on the planet to help us with science and faith issues. Hugh Ross is his name and he has agreed to come hang with us for three days this fall weekend of October 4-5-6. Not only will Hugh and his colleague Fazale Rana make presentations on everything from this Improbable Earth to Artificial Intelligence to Transhumanism, but there will be ample time for Q and A. And literally, I think Hugh Ross is the best science Q and A guy I have ever seen. If I ever do science Q and A, I am just imitating Hugh. So mark your calendars think about your friends who are sciency and don't know Jesus and look for more details later.

# **One More There**

Our dream is to not only reach people HERE, but here there and everywhere. And in the "There" category, we have been working on Tornado relief. Tornado pics It has now been 9 days since the tornados have struck and literally hundreds of CCC people have spent a day or more out doing the work of helping neighbors to clear trees, remove debris, put up tarps and temporary roofs and so much more.

One of our CCC members even had the chance to lead a homeowner to trust in Jesus as they were serving at their house this week!

Last week, we took a special offering and you all generously gave over \$40,000 to tornado relief. One of the things we have learned over time is that the burst of donations hits fast and fades over time. So we have given \$15,000 already to Omaha Rapid Response. They have bought tarps and plywood and gas for chain saws and all the things it takes to help people in the initial stages.

If you are a CCC person who has had devastation from the storm, you can chat with us about your needs as well. Already we have sent teams out to 9 families and properties connected to CCC and have done a ton of work.

Beyond that, you may have noticed that a dozen people from 8 days of hope have been staging our of our porch property and doing relief full time. Tonight, 60 more arrive! So if you see them around, cheer them on. Some are here in the service...

And that is not even to mention the regular stuff that is happening. Like yesterday, 60 people from CCC built beds for kids who don't have them in Omaha. Or our cars team gave a bunch of free oil changes to single moms... and so much more.

Scholarships for future counselors—We have a mental health crisis in Omaha, so
Part of our vision was to grow the 56 counselors serving in City Care in 7 locations to
over 100 citywide. And loving our city means ministering healing in the midst of
mental health. Part of that is empowering CCC people to get scholarships and
training to be mobilized for action. Our first CCC counseling scholarship recipient
has been identified - Sharon Manyara. And we have more in the pipeline for this fall
as well.

Finally, we are hoping to empower our immigrant and refugee communities to reach one more. One thing that launched this spring was English as a Second Language Classes on Tuesday nights, headed up by our all star lay leader Tera Maydew. Check out this video.

• ESL – Tera Maydew Video – If you are someone with a heart for refugees... and you also speak English – this is a key requirement.... Then I anticipate that this ministry might explode in the fall and we will need more teachers. Seek the LORD if he may be inviting you into this cool new way of reaching one more in all kinds of diversity in our city.

And you are to love those who are foreigners, for you yourselves were foreigners in Egypt.

Deut 10:19

WORSHIP

### **One More Everywhere**

If you are new to CCC, we are passionate about people who are the least reached, people who have never heard of Jesus and we love to partner to reach them with the gospel. Since November, we have commissioned three new international workers. Myhia Dotzler going with the Alliance to Mexico. Missy Barone with Converge – reaching the Deaf community. And Josiah Ashton – a special missionary to me – was commissioned to build a Camp Rivercrest style camp in Mexico for the next two years among the impoverished SW Mexican community.

#### **Church Plants**

We have a goal to catalyze the planting of 27 churches in least reached places by 2027. Now, we have struggled about 'what counts' as a plant in the past few months. We know that we just can't plant churches in unreached places as CCC alone. We need partners. But partners need us too. Sometimes it is to get the right Bible School education. Sometimes it is to start their first gathering. Sometimes to do outreach events. Sometimes

to build their first building. So we have decided that if we catalyze a church plant by helping them do something that they could not do without us, that is a bullseye for us. So far, we are zero for 27, but we hope to report on each one as it gets planted – and... here is number one!

First Church Plant video

This is in Green City and it is apart of a broader strategy – let me explain here.

- O Diagram This is a picture of our Green City strategy. You'll remember our challenge is this. 5 people groups with their own languages along the coast who have never been reached with the gospel. Not even one tenth of one percent. But some inland people do have a gospel presence. For two thousand years, these people have been waiting for Jesus followers to learn the language, move there and tell them about how they can have resurrection power, forgiveness of sins, a relationship with God and eternal life. So, we want to break through with the love of Jesus. And here is the strategy:
- We will partner with the Bible School that is inland by providing scholarships for people who feel called to become church planters among the unreached. With no debt, they are free to head to the coasts. We are also praying for God to raise up Alliance workers to go. Maybe one from CCC. Preferrably young people with good language capacity who can take over in 10 years when Eric and Krisy Leave.
- At the center is our key partners Eric and Krisy whom you will meet in October.

  These are the veteran, all star, language master, Bible translator, Godly geniuses who will lead the initiative. One thing they know is that you can't just walk up to someone of another religion and say "Hi, I am a church planter here to convert you." You need to add value to their lives and create a relational context to build trust for the sake of the message. And they have three key ways to do that.
  - Pics of Soccer, The first is through soccer coaching. One planter named Vram went to a squatter community where kids play soccer in dirt streets and just said "Hey, do you want a coach?" He started coaching them and three times a week they practice. CCC is now the sponsor for this team and they are entering tournaments, got uniforms, they lose all the time, but Vram gets to interact with them every other day and God is at work in this next gen.
  - Diagram
  - The second is through Tree Planting. One of the things about Green city is that it's jungles have been devastated by mining.
  - Drone of Mine Area you can see that coal mines wreck acres at a time and thousands of these mines dot the countryside. Eric thinks that the

government will grant permission for a Non-profit to replant these areas. Corporations through their social responsibility programs will fund it. Church planters will lead it as tree planter foremen. And locals will be hired to do the planting. We also may be able to send CCC teams to plant with them side by side. This plan cares for creation, adds value, puts us in relational context and builds trust for gospel witness. And corporations pay for it! Praise God!

 ESL is the last strategy... and we do the same thing by teaching English, building relationships, adding value, loving people and building trust...

# Diagram

 Now, the role that we play in all of this is to give scholarships, pray for workers, send teams and help church planters and church plants with their finances. Can you guys get down with that?

So... if you are new, you might wonder how does this all work financially? And the honest truth is that CCC is the most generous church that we have ever seen. Last November, the whole church made a commitment to this. I asked our treasurer at the last board meeting how it was going and I heard I word I have never heard out of a treasurers mouth – cuz you know, pastors exaggerate and treasurers are very measured. But our banker-treasurer said "AWESOME". And he explained that the money is coming in at exactly the pace we hoped for, that people in low, medium and high economic strata are all giving on pace and that we are set up to hit our goals by December and be able to do everything we prayed for!

## It reminds me of this verse:

10 He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness.[e] 11 You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us, 12 for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God.

- o The finances are encouraging, but the discipleship is even better!
- You can jump in Reach One More cccomaha.info

# Your One More - Final Thought

- Our biggest deal of this whole initiative is that each one of us would identify 1
  person who we would pray for, love and ask God to reach. Some of you are doing
  amazing. Some of you ARE that person. You might even be ready for Baptisms Plug Baptism on the Green info?
- Some need a reminder to pray. So let's stand together and pray!
- Your one more