Horizon Church

a new life. a new day.

PERHAPS THE LORD WILL ACT ON OUR BEHALF. NOTHING CAN HINDER THE LORD FROM SAVING, WHETHER BY MANY OR BY FEW. 1 SAMUEL 14:6

APRIL, 2011

The Vitarelli's April Update

It's been another month filled with ups and downs. We started a new outreach to people just moving into the community. We sent out 122 postcards and followed them up by making over 60 phone calls to people who had moved into Fenton, Linden or Holly. This was a huge challenge for our team. We were very nervous to make the phone calls to strangers. We are getting ready to contact a new group of new movers again this month, this time with a slightly different strategy.

We have had some new people joining us on Sunday nights. They have not committed to the launch team yet but they are enjoying the talks and our brief times of worship and have expressed a desire to keep coming. One thing we didn't anticipate was the length of time it would take to develop relationships with potential launch team members but it is worth every minute.

We have reported in past updates that we were searching for a place to meet outside of our home. We had two potential places but neither of them worked. They would have been free but circumstances beyond our control prohibited us from using them. We are still hesitant to invest $500-600 in a temporary location. That money could be better used on outreach. Our original reason for finding a different location was that we didn't think people would come to a house for worship. Generally that's true but what makes the difference is a personal relationship. The people we have had coming to the house for worship are people we have met, befriended and personally invited. We entered their world and told them about Horizon and about Jesus. People we've never met don't just show up at the house even if we put out a sign. It pays to invest in the relationship.

Jody just met with a new friend who has a 6-year-old son. Her son is asking many spiritual questions his mom can't answer. They've been attending the Catholic church trying to get some answers but it just hasn't been helpful to them. We've been praying for a person to come on Sunday nights and teach our kids so the adults can participate in the bible study. God has not provided this person so Jody agreed to help me lead worship and then teach the kids. She shared this with her

(Continued on page 2)

Celebrating Jody's birthday at Olive Garden

The new studio/office almost ready for trim and carpet

Our home address: 703 Davis St. Fenton, MI 48430
Email: cvitarelli@live.com
Cell: 810-922-2088

CONVERGE MIDAMERICA
CONNECT • IGNITE • TRANSFORM

Serving with Converge MidAmerica
www.convergemidamerica.org
Give online!

new friend who immediately agreed to bring her son on Sunday night. We'll see if she comes this Sunday. It's possible that if God had sent us someone else to teach the kids, this mother and her son would not have been willing to consider coming to Horizon.

Recently we got an estimate for a tankless hot water tank, hoping it would cut our energy costs. It turns out it wouldn't help us with the energy bill but I struck up a conversation with the man who did the estimate and as a result got in touch with his son who is spiritually searching. This young man visited Horizon Sunday night. He enjoyed it and is also contemplating joining our worship team as a guitarist.

In just one week we are going to hold a neighborhood Easter egg hunt. We were going to do a more public Easter event or join with another church to help with theirs but God gave Jody and I this idea the same day at different times. We only have a week to make it happen but we believe it's of God.

INSIDE JODY'S HEAD:

I know, that's a scary thought....you all being in my head, but I wanted to share what's going on from a different perspective.

God has been stretching me to do some uncomfortable things, which is great and scary. As Chris wrote, I will begin this Sunday night teaching all the kids that come to our Sunday night Bible Study. We have kids from ages 4-10 in one place right now and I have to keep it interesting for them. I know that God can do this thru me. Please pray that God will grow this group of kids. Our kids just invited our neighbor kids to Sunday night a few days ago….so who knows how many will be there! That's exciting, isn't it?

My Voice Studio has been a big blessing, and not just financially. Right now, I have 9 students and am praying for 6-7 more to start within the next few weeks. I have some great students that are part of churches in the area but really need some encouragement and love. So, please pray that I will be able to build into their lives in a way that would please God and also give them the best vocal experience possible!

Well, that's all for now…..God is good and He is totally in control of EVERYTHING, which gives me such peace…..love you all, Jody

FINANCIAL REPORT

It's hard to believe it's been one year since we left Lakewood and started this adventure. I want to thank all of our supporters over the last year for their faithfulness. You have blessed us so much, especially when some of you have added a little extra to your monthly gifts. We could not do this without you. THANK YOU!!!

If you've been reading the update you know we've been hovering at 50% for some time.
We need to push through this barrier in order to do more ministry. We are in need of more financial partners.

- If 10 people became financial partners for $60 a month it would cover our rental costs.
- If 20 people became partners at $60 a month it would allow us to purchase tables, chairs and other needs for the new space.
- If 30 people became partners at $60 a month we could do all of the above and begin a ministry to new movers in the community

If you can become a financial partner click the link below for Converge and click on "M101 Horizon Church".

Praises and prayer

- PRAISE for God's faithful provision and our supporters faithfulness over the last year.
- PRAISE for more relationships with unbelievers.
- PRAISE for the new ministry opportunities we have
- Pray for more financial partners to get us to 100%
- Pray for wisdom as we decide on a meeting place
- Pray for upcoming meetings with unbelievers and potential launch team members
- Pray that God would bless us with more launch team members.
- Pray for our neighborhood Easter Egg Hunt, that our neighbors would attend and we would build good relationships with them
- Pray for us as we intentionally disciple our kids and our launch team

Our home address: 703 Davis St. Fenton, MI 48430
Email: cvitarelli@live.com
Cell: 810-922-2088

CONVERGE MIDAMERICA
CONNECT • IGNITE • TRANSFORM

Serving with Converge MidAmerica
www.convergemidamerica.org
Give online!