

NORTHERN PLAINS EVANGELISTIC ASSOCIATION



ANNUAL REPORT
2008

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This is an annual report from NPEA that is sent out to its regular monthly supporters. If you are interested in receiving an annual report please contact us at msojka@npea.info or 605.310.2026.

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Treasurers Report

By Terry Fraker

Northern Plains Evangelistic Association

Income & Expense

January 2008-December 2008

Income

Contributions

| | |
|------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Capital Campaign | \$1,250.00 |
| Church | \$73,550.56 |
| Individual | \$48,749.56 |
| Speaking Income | \$14,705.24 |
| Operation Laramie | \$100,108.93 |
| Leadership Retreat | \$3,880.00 |
| Miscellaneous Income | \$48.48 |
| Laramie Salary Support (Planters Income) | \$71,162.38 |

Total Income **\$313,455.15**

Expenses

Payroll Expenses

| | |
|----------|-------------|
| Salaries | \$70,498.26 |
| Housing | \$66,777.24 |
| Taxes | \$10,993.47 |

Total Payroll Expenses **\$148,268.97**

Insurance

| | |
|----------------|------------|
| Car | \$818.30 |
| Health | \$9,688.83 |
| Liability | \$1,880.00 |
| Life Insurance | 101.50 |
| Workers Comp. | 1708.00 |

Total Insurance **\$14,196.63**

Conventions & Seminar Expenses

| | |
|-----------------------------|------------|
| Booth Supplies | \$1,241.29 |
| Leadership Retreat Expenses | \$5,077.48 |
| Presentation Materials | \$139.00 |
| Registration and Fees | \$1,747.00 |

Total Convention & Semi. Expenses **\$8,204.77**

Treasurers Report

By Terry Fraker

Administrative Expenses

| | |
|---------------------------|------------|
| Background Checks | \$381.75 |
| Banking | \$453.41 |
| Board Expenses | \$529.91 |
| Computer Equipment | \$1,864.58 |
| Computer Supplies | \$100.83 |
| Direct Deposit | \$280.60 |
| Dues and Subscriptions | \$66.00 |
| Internet | \$1,821.82 |
| Miscellaneous | \$116.81 |
| Office Equipment | \$35.94 |
| Office Rent | \$3,575.00 |
| Office Supplies | \$1,606.10 |
| Paper Products | \$249.02 |
| Postage | \$2,619.49 |
| Printing and Reproduction | \$1,657.10 |
| Telephones | \$1,951.89 |
| Training Materials | \$425.22 |
| Utilities | \$296.12 |

Total Administrative Expenses \$18,031.59

Travel Expenses

| | |
|-----------------|------------|
| Airfare | \$738.50 |
| Car Maintenance | \$2,789.43 |
| Car Rental | \$371.48 |
| Gas | \$4,429.05 |
| Lodging | \$3,155.56 |
| Meals | \$2,348.65 |
| Miscellaneous | \$138.24 |
| Shipping | \$234.66 |

Total Travel Expenses \$14,205.37

Operation Laramie \$88,026.92

Canyon Ridge Church \$1,200.00

Total Expenses **\$292,134.25**

Net Income **\$ 21,320.90**

Northern Plains Evangelistic Association

Board Members for 2008

Executive Board Members:

Larry Berlin: Co-Chairman; Laramie Management Team

Senior Minister: Paradise Valley
Christian Church Casper, WY
Home Address: 4323 Trotter Rd
Casper, WY 82007
307.265.7428

Marion Cain: Co-Chairman

Member: Huron Christian Church Huron, SD
Home Address: 1721 Wisconsin S.W.
Huron, SD 57350
605.352.7952

Lew Waldron: Member Laramie Management Team

Elder: North Christian Church
Cheyenne, WY
Home Address: 2360 E. Pershing Blvd.
Cheyenne, WY 82007
307.635.1305

Craig Fausett: Manage; Prayer Warriors; Asst. Webmaster

Elder: Highmore Church of Christ
Highmore, SD
Home Address: Box 83 Highmore, SD 57345
605.852.2500

Dennis Coull: Secretary

Deacon: First Christian Church Rapid City, SD
Home Address: 6500 Cottonwood Ct. Black
Hawk, SD 57718
605.787.5321

Larry Andrews: Chairman, Laramie Management Team

Member: Cody Christian Church Cody, WY
Home Address: 18 John Wayne Lane
Powell, WY 82345
307.272.8880

Other Board Members:

Andy Gudahl

Senior Minister: First Christian Church
Wheatland, WY
Home Address: 303 Bellis Rd.
Wheatland, WY 82201
307.322.4784

Dale Kesterson: Asst. Leadership Retreat

Senior Minister: First Church of Christ
Atlantic, IA
Home Address: 1204 Birch St.
Atlantic, IA 50022
712.243.6925

Willie Coop

Senior Minister: WestWay Christian Church
Scottsbluff, NE
Home Address: 602 Bluff St.
Scottsbluff, NE 69361
308.635.2653

The executive board members meet quarterly. The whole board meets semi annually. All board meetings take place in Rapid City, SD. We encourage you to attend any meetings, they are always open to the public.

Northern Plains Evangelistic Association

Monthly Financial Supporters

Supporting Churches:

Bayard Church of Christ
Bayard, NE

Broadwell Christian Church
Broadwell, IL

Brookings Christian Church
Brookings, SD

Calvary Christian Church
Swartz Creek, MI

Christian Church of Gillette
Gillette, WY

Christian Church of Casper
Casper, WY

Church Planters of the Rockies
Highlands Ranch, CO

Cody Christian Church
Cody, WY

Concord Church of Christ
West Concord, MN

Crookston Church of Christ
Crookston, MN

Fairmont Christian Church
Fairmont, MN

First Christian Church
Beaver, OK

First Christian Church
Broken Bow, NE

First Christian Church
Newcastle, WY

First Christian Church
Rapid City, SD

First Christian Church
Wheatland, WY

Franklin Heights Christian Church
Vincennes, IN

Highmore Church of Christ
Highmore, SD

Huron Christian Church
Huron, SD

Jackson Church of Christ
Montezuma, IA

Kingsway Christian Church
Yankton, SD

Lewis Church of Christ
Lewis, IA

Liberty Christian Church
Brownstown, IL

Lillian Church of Christ
Broken Bow, NE

Main St. Church of Christ
McConnelsville, OH

Manchester Christian Church
Akron, OH

McCook Christian Church
McCook, NE

Meadowview Church of Christ
Frazeyburg, OH

Milford Church of Christ
Centerburg, OH

Morningside Church of Christ
Sioux City, IA

New Hope Christian Church
Lander, WY

New Life Christian Church
Centreville, VA

North Christian Church
Cheyenne, WY

North Point Christian Church
Spearfish, SD

Oakwood Park Christian Church
Sioux Falls, SD

Paradise Valley Christian Church
Casper, WY

Preston Christian Church
Bruce, SD

Riverside Church of Christ
Torrington, WY

South Lake Church of Christ
Watertown, SD

Stadia New Church Strategies
Rocklin, CA

Summit Christian Church
Akron, OH

Tamarack Church of Christ
Tamarack, MN

Tomoka Christian Church
Ormond Beach, FL

The Bridge Christian Church
Dubuque, IA

Two Timbers Church of Christ
Oskaloosa, IA

WestWay Christian Church
Scottsbluff, NE

White Water Christian Church
Richmond, IN

White Water Christian Church
Laramie, WY

Individual Supporters:

The 128 individuals that support us come from all over the United States!

North Point Christian Church

By Matt Branum

2008 Review

North Point has had another amazing year of blessing and victory as we continue to grow and develop the church here in Spearfish. This past year, we made "LOOK OUT-ward!" our motto. **As I review the past 12 months, I see that motto being lived out in the life of the body of Christ at North Point.**

At the start of the year, North Point made the commitment to be a part of the Laramie Project. This involved joining on as a Living Link Church with NPEA, sending a team to prayer-walk the town in preparation for launch, and Matt joining the management team for Laramie. We were pleased when we saw other smaller churches throughout the country stretch themselves and become Living Link partners with us. As Laramie grows, we hope to further develop our relationship with our brothers and sisters next door in Wyoming.

Outreach took a different shape at North Point in 2008. **Instead of events and projects organized by the pastoral staff, we encouraged members to keep their eyes and ears open for opportunities to present themselves.** As a result, we saw the body take the lead in several evangelistic efforts. Early in the year, it was a family with disabilities that was in severe financial need. The church rallied and raised enough to cover the family's mortgage. Then, through a connection one family had with a Christian country singer, Susie Luchsinger, the church hosted a free concert at the High Plains Heritage Museum to a 'sold out' crowd.

In May, Matt led a prayer journey in Sheridan, Wyoming with hopes of North Point mothering a church plant in that city in the near future. North Point also held worship services in the city park over the summer months. We sponsored a volleyball and softball teams in the local recreation league. And as the Christmas season arrived, a group did Christmas caroling for the elderly in several of the assisted living complexes, giving each a gift and invite to our Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, which was attended by a crowd of over 200!

Two other projects that brought a great deal of encouragement and attention to North Point were the Thanksgiving Basket Outreach and the Christmas Outreach. These two projects headed by our ladies group met the needs of families in our community that were struggling to make it. Each basket was given with the message "God loves you and cares about your needs!" This outreach caught the attention of the local newspaper which published a feature story on Christmas Eve.

North Point also saw growth numerically throughout the year. And we were able to meet our 2008 budget goal that included 60% staff salaries. **As we continue to see people growing in their relationship with God and reaching out, we are sure that 2009 will be another miraculous year in the life of North Point Christian Church!**

White Water Christian Church

By Chad Halbach

2008 Review & 2009 Preview!

Wow

It is hard to believe that another year has passed me by, but 2008 is in the books and what a year it was. I distinctly remember being in Illinois praying with all my heart and asking others to pray that this mountain (the sale of our home) would be moved. By the end of February my family was living in Laramie. **God did not stop answering our prayers once we arrived though!**

We prayed for 3 talented staff members and God sent them

- Sam Draper
- Adam Coop
- Matt Wagner

We prayed for office space and meeting space and then moved into them

- 419 South 21st Street (Office)
- Laramie High School (Meeting Place)

We prayed for ways to make a difference in Laramie and then touched people's lives with the love of Christ (visible expression of worship)

- We gave away 1000 balloons to kids at a 4th of July celebration in Washington Park
- We gave away over \$1,000 worth of gas and groceries at the same event
- We were a part of providing 220 care packages to needy families for Thanksgiving
- We were a part of providing 390 care packages to needy families for Christmas
- We organized a meal for public servants and had 70 police, fir, sheriff people show up
- We baptized Mike Wasem into Christ

I must confess that none of this has been easy. In fact through all of the great things that have happened in the last year my faith has been stretched beyond recognition. My expectations of God have been challenged, my understanding of His ways have been expanded and my hope for the coming year is greater than ever.

I have read the words of Jeremiah in the 29th chapter verses 11-13 many times, **but right now I own them in a way I have never experienced before** . My hope for White Water in the coming year is:

- That we would continue to see people take 2 steps closer to God.
- That God would let us be a part of 25 people being baptized.
- That we would see 15 small groups thriving
- That we would give birth to visible expressions of worship throughout the community monthly

I wonder what we will say when 2009 is winding down?

I love being a pastor at White Water Christian Church

Sincerely,
Chad Halbach

Northern Plains Evangelistic Association

By Mike Sojka

2008 Review & 2009 Preview

In Deuteronomy 10:12,13, Moses says, "Now, Israel, what does the Lord your God require from you, but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all His ways and love Him, and to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to keep the Lord's commandments and His statutes which I am commanding you today for your good?" He goes on to say in 15:5 that if we obey the commands of the Lord we will be blessed. God has touched and blessed us more than we deserve in the past year.

Several records for this ministry were broken in 2008. **I view breaking these records as God really pouring out His blessings on this ministry.** Without faith in God and His assistance, we won't really accomplish anything. (apart from **Me** you can do nothing. from John 15:5)

Here are some highlights (records/firsts for this ministry):

- **God has 654 people praying** for this ministry!
- **God has supplied us with 48 supporting churches!**
- **God has 128 individuals financially supporting** this ministry!
- **God generated** \$135,721 in our General Budget (church & individual income) for the year!
- **God provided** \$221,966 in our overall Budget (church, individual, speaking, & Laramie).
- **God supplied all the funding** for the White Water church before she started — a first and record!
- **God let us** help start two new churches in one year (White Water, and Canyon Ridge in Idaho)!

You might be thinking, wow, NPEA must really be satisfied with what God is doing in this ministry. We are. We can't express our thanks enough to God and those He used to make this happen, but we also know the heart of God. What breaks His heart are people who die and go to hell.

I know God will not be satisfied until everyone He has created has had an opportunity to hear the truth. We, too, cannot be satisfied with anything less. That is why in the upcoming years we desire and are asking God to help us plant new churches every two years. How will that happen? The following are some faith objectives we need to achieve in 2009 for this possibility to become a reality.

1. 800 people praying for this ministry.
2. 10 new supporting churches.
3. 20 new individual donors.
4. 18 short term mission teams to pray in Bismarck/Mandan,ND (Capital Campaign) starting in April 2009, once a month, until the church starts.
5. Raise \$50,000 for start up for Capital Campaign by January 1, 2010.
6. 10 more Living Links (We need 12 total.) for Capital Campaign by January 1, 2010.
7. Continue to support and oversee White Water Christian Church, Laramie, WY.

Those are a few things we need God's help with in 2009. We end with the most important faith objective of all. It gets back to the Deuteronomy passages we mentioned earlier. **God needs to be in and stay in control** of this ministry, so we can look back over 2009 and again rejoice in His blessing! In Deuteronomy 10:12, Moses says, "And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God require of you? He requires you fear him, live according to his will, to love and worship him with all your heart and soul, and to obey the Lord's commands and laws that I am giving you today for your own good. He goes on to say in 15:5 that if we obey the commands of the Lord we will be blessed. As I sit down to write this year's annual report I truly feel that God has touched us and blessed us more than we deserve in the past year.

Faith Objectives

By the NPEA Board

2008 Faith Objectives in Review

- Have 600 people praying for this ministry. **God blessed us with 654 pivotal prayer partners!**
- Raise our monthly income by \$2,179.00. **God raised it by \$833.00!**
- Gain 10 new supporting churches. **God supplied us with 9!**
- Personally contact our supporters once a year. **What a blessing this is every year!**
- Speak at 2 Bible Colleges a year. **We did not accomplish this.**
- Teach an Introduction to Church Planting Class once a year. **We did teach this year at NCC!**
- Hire an intern and continue this program. **We did not accomplish this.**
- Secure 6 more short term mission teams to pray in Laramie. **We missed this by two teams.**
- Raise \$59,000 for Operation Laramie. **God blessed us!**
- Acquire 3 ½ more Living Link Partners for Laramie. **God blessed us here as well!**
- Hire three staff positions for Laramie, WY. **God blessed us again!**
- Acquire 1-3 Launch Team families to move to help with the new work in Laramie. **God supplied two!**
- Establish a management team for Laramie, WY. **They are doing a great job!**
- Start new church in Laramie, WY, Lord willing Sept. 14th, 2008. **God brought 250 people!**
- Decide where to plant our next church by July of 2008, Lord willing to start in the fall of 2010. **God says go to Bismarck/Mandan, ND!**
- Continue to grow and promote our Leadership Couples Retreat, March 6-7th, 2009. **God continues to bless us with this event!**
- Recruit 5 more board members. **God recruited two!**
- Move Npea's office to Fargo, ND. **We did not accomplish this.**
- Let God be in control of this ministry! **We are always working on this one!**

Faith Objectives

By the NPEA Board

2009 Faith Objectives

- Have 800 people praying for this ministry.
- Raise our monthly income by \$2,023.00, that would give us 160,000 annually.
- Gain 10 new supporting churches.
- Gain 20 new individual donors.
- Personally contact our supporters once a year.
- Speak at 2 Bible Colleges a year.
- Teach an Introduction to Church Planting Class once a year.
- Secure 18 short term mission teams to pray in Bismarck/Mandan, ND (Capital Campaign) starting in April 2009, once a month until the church starts.
- Raise \$50,000 for start up for Capital Campaign by Jan. 1st, 2010.
- Acquire 10 more Living Links for the Capital Campaign. Need a \$150,000 more for \$180,000 a year (12 Links to cover salaries of church planters) for three years by Jan. 1st 2010.
- Hire three staff positions for the Capital Campaign. Lead Planter, Creative Arts Minister, Children's Minister, by Jan. 1st, 2010.
- Acquire 3 Launch Team families to move to help with the new work in Bismarck/Mandan.
- Establish a management team for Capital Campaign.
- Continue to support and oversee White Water Christian Church, Laramie, WY.
- Continue to grow and promote our Leadership Couples Retreat, March 5-6th, 2010.
- Recruit 4 more board members. One from NE, one from IA, one from MT, one from WY.
- Move Npea's office to Fargo, ND.
- Let God be in control of this ministry!

Encouraging Words

By Our Supporters

- ◆ “Mike thank you for the call last week and our conversation. I am glad to be blessed by my Lord enough to be able to help financially support your ministry. May God continue to bless the work.” **Victoria Beal, Frazeyburg, OH**
- ◆ “Good to hear the God– answering news about lots of NPEA prayer requests! Keep up your good work for the Kingdom, Mike!” **Duane & Bonnie Trostad, Crookston, MN**
- ◆ “We were surprised and happy to see Sam and Jessie Draper on a Sunday at the Hardee’s and learned of their decision to join the efforts of evangelism in Laramie. Praise the Lord for the victories and the progress that has been made.” **Tom & Phyllis Hendrickson, Danville, IL**
- ◆ “Though I know we send a check from our church once a month to support you, I just wanted to write a note to let you know I appreciate your incredibly hard work for the Lord and encourage you as you continue to seek His will for your projects.” **Colleen Griffith, Frazeyburg, OH**
- ◆ “Thank you for coming to Auburn to speak at our church. We really enjoyed your talk on church planting. Hopefully we all can start to plant some seeds.” **Auburn Christian Church, Auburn, NE**
- ◆ “The church planting work in Idaho is exciting and moving along rapidly. The financial support your are sending this work demonstrates NPEA’s commitment to a Kingdom work that has no regions or boundaries.” **Jason & Mary Hanselman, Meridian, ID**