

FELLOWSHIP NEWS



New Fort Wayne Church, Kingdom Collective, Hosts Night of Worship

Kingdom Collective will launch its first official gathering as a church on November 8, at the Jorgensen YMCA, Fort Wayne, Indiana. But, during an outdoor worship night on September 12, the new church announced its purpose in the southwest community: To proclaim unity and lift up one voice to Jesus. "One Voice: A Night of Worship" expressed Kingdom Collective's vision: "Everyone. Everywhere. Unto Him."

Kingdom Collective initiated "One Voice: A Night of Worship" to refresh and encourage the community while demonstrating its desire for unity among followers of Jesus Christ. Musician Mitch Maibach assembled a band from five churches throughout the city, representing diverse backgrounds and styles. Maibach will also lead the weekend worship.

Despite the threat of rain all day, 300 people gathered at the Jorgensen YMCA that evening. While the band led worship on a flatbed trailer, the crowd sat on the lawn and listened or sang along. At the

end of the evening, Kingdom Collective's pastor, Nathan DeVaux, announced their first gathering on November 8, at 10 a.m.

The DeVauxes began the process of church planting in early 2020, just before the viral pandemic initiated the state's quarantine. During that time, the TAP team (Target Analysis Process) found creative ways to explore the quarantined community and confirm the location for the new church. The TAP team's work ensures that a church is planted by the right person, with the right plan, in the right place. Nathan emphasized that throughout the process "God continued to speak and move. He wasn't surprised by the events of 2020."

For the DeVauxes and their launch team, the worship night confirmed that God is moving in the southwest area of Fort Wayne. As the church launches this month, they invite worshipers to experience God with them. Find them on Facebook, Instagram or their website, kingdomcofw.com.



FEC Orientation Provides "Big Picture" for New Staff

In August, Eric English joined the staff of Pine Hills Church, Kendallville, Indiana. As a new staff person, he attended the two-day Leader's Orientation in Fort Wayne with his entire team.

Twice a year, FEC hosts new church leaders at the Leader's Orientation to share the organization's history, vision, doctrine, and resources. Although Eric had attended FEC churches prior to joining the Pine Hills Kendallville staff team, he appreciated the compelling and cohesive message that he heard at this year's Orientation, held September 30 and October 1, at the FEC office in Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Eric's path to church leadership as the Pine Hills Tech Leader came through a non-traditional route. After ten years in the corporate world, he left to pursue self-employment and spend more time with his family. Since he also had experience operating sound and lights, he often served the churches that he attended. He knew the FEC message, "Bring, Build, Send," but at the Leader's Orientation, he heard it from key leaders in a more personal way as each one expressed why it matters. He said, "They all told the same story from a different perspective."

The Church Planter Assessment: A View from Both Sides

When God called Greg and Cara Grimwood to plant a church in Wooster, Ohio, they attended FEC's Church Planter Assessment to discover whether or not they were ready for the challenge. Two years later, they are leading a thriving church, Southside Community Church. In September, they returned to the Church Planter Assessment Center at the FEC office in Fort Wayne to help another couple discover their calling.

During the two-day intensive assessment on Monday and Tuesday, September 28-29, 18 potential church planters explored their calling to plant a church. Over the two days, individuals and couples were interviewed about ministry, marriage, and character. Greg and Cara interviewed one of the couples and took part in observing group activities like preaching, and leading groups. At the end of the assessment process, potential church planters discovered whether they possessed the skills needed to plant a healthy, reproducing church.

Greg hoped to pass on the wisdom that he learned through the assessment process and church planting: "God brings about the kingdom most powerfully when I am the most authentic to who He created me to be. I have been tempted to be like other planters who have been successful. Through the assessment and with a spiritual mentor, I have learned who God made me to be. At the same time, I can celebrate other pastors and the success that they have."

