



**Assisting Youth
Leaders in
Developing Life-
Changing Youth
Ministries**
Preparing Students
for a life of Service

- Training
Volunteers
- Partnerships
- **RURAL
MISSION
TRIPS**
- Mentoring
- **STORYTELLING
WORKSHOPS**
- Consulting
- **INTERNATIONAL
MINISTRIES**
- Networking
- Developing
Student
Leadership

*“And Jesus said
to them, ‘Follow
Me and I will
make you fishers
of men.’”*

Matt. 4:19

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THE HORTON’S 2017 SPRING NEWSLETTER

Dear Family & Friends:

As we approach Easter, the phrase, “**Christ is Risen**” & the response, “**He is Risen indeed**” is a favorite tradition of mine, spoken of course by believers on **Easter morning**. That statement is a declaration of the most important reality in history and in a believer’s life. When the angel spoke to the women that first Easter morning saying, “**He is not here, for He has risen just as He said**”, they revealed that God is the God of the impossible and the improbable. I hope you have a happy Easter & remember “**Christ is Risen**”.

It has become apparent to me that **RCYM has developed an international ministry role** over these past few years, primarily because of our Storytelling component. 1. Dan Jester of Apprentice Ministries and Steve Grieme from Christ’s Church in Federal Way both have had Storytelling training opportunities in **Africa** and Dan has just recently returned from **India** where he trained national pastors in storytelling. (Both Dan and Steve have had multiple training workshops in the US as well.) 2. Dan Jester and his wife Gretchen (below left) will be going to the Zaporozhye Bible College and Seminary later this month. Mark & Joanne Mackey (below right) have invited them to provide Storytelling and evangelistic training at the school and then lead a rural missions type team into western **Ukraine**. RCYM has an ongoing strategy to be a connector between leaders and ministries.

Connecting Christian Leaders using RCYM ministry tools & strategies



Dan & Gretchen Jester

together with
**Multiple
Ministry
<< opportunities >>**



Mark & Joanne Mackey

3. Greg Carlson with Verge ministries is another example of this Multiple Ministry connection as he has two possible Storytelling training workshops in addition to speaking at a youth camp in **Poland** this August using the Storytelling model, 10 stories in all.



I am also pleased to report that the vision for Chinese students is still in the works as there are at least two students (possibility more) coming to the US this summer from **China** within the context of the reverse missions concept. **American Family Experience** is the title that Paul Ott missionary in China has given this ministry. We are seeking two families for a 4 week summer mission experience (one week will be at camp with 3 weeks with the host family).

I never envisioned that when I trained Christian leaders to do a rural mission trip and use Storytelling as a teaching tool that they would take that training and those experiences into foreign ministry opportunities. It has always been our purpose to **help other leaders succeed in their ministries** and we are grateful to the Lord for the opportunities He continues to bring us. I hope you are encouraged to see how far your prayers and support have taken us. **Praise the Lord!!!**

Let me give you another example of how relationships and connections sometimes develop over the years. Daniel Kellogg (pictured on the right) was a youth leader in the rural town of Pameroy WA. when I first met him at Creation 2003. From there **I kept in contact with him** through several other church youth leadership positions. Now he is the senior pastor at AWAKEN a church which he was led to start over 3 years ago in Wenatchee. The church now meets at the old remodeled ice skating rink with 3 services.



This purpose statement sign greets everyone who enters the Awaken Church doors.



Daniel just recently shared with me that he has seen over 130 people receive Christ as their Lord and Savior since the first of the year. **Amazing, Praise the Lord!!!**



But that's not the end of **the Connections Story**. There are two more interesting connection points. First is that Daniel got his church launched from the Awaken to Christmas event that Tom Kriskovic (a former student back in the late 70's) envisioned and hosted at the Toyota Center in Wenatchee back in December of 2013. Second is that Daniels dad is the head and founding pastor at the Gold Creek Community Church in Mill Creek where Josiah Diener is the youth leader. Josiah is a son of Bud Diener, pastor of our home church Boulevard Park Church. Plus Josiah has developed a mentoring relationship with some of Daniels volunteer leaders. The connections just keep on coming. **This truly is living in the Kingdom of God.**

Finally Please Pray for:

- Dan & Gretchen Jester as they travel to the Ukraine; for the training and for the rural mission trip.
- Final team preparations for the mission teams going out this summer.
- Travel safety and wisdom with on-site visits.
- Wisdom & discernment in developing rural missions in other regions & countries.
- The Mentoring & Coaching Relationships, that the Lord would lead me with each one.
- The ongoing work of God in the youth ministries that had a rural mission experience.
- The implementation of evangelistic ministries back home with each sending group.
- The reverse mission experience this summer with at least two Chinese students; that all the details will come together.
- The final 4 Storytelling workshops scheduled for April 8th, 19th, 29th and May 6th.

PRAISING GOD FOR EASTER!!!

Tom & Judy