

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2014

the news

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT COLLEGE PARK CHURCH



**PRAY THAT
GOD MAY OPEN
TO US A DOOR
FOR THE WORD
TO DECLARE
THE MYSTERY
OF CHRIST**

(COL. 4:3)

The Indianapolis area is a great place to live. Our city is vibrant and growing, and all around the Circle City there are unique people, cultures, neighborhoods, and opportunities.

However, many are surprised to learn that 60 percent of residents (1 million people) in the Indy-metro area are unaffiliated with a Christian church – even more are unaffiliated with an evangelical church. Even though there are many other gospel-centered churches around our city, there is still a huge gap between the number of people in Indianapolis and the number of gospel-centered churches.

This need for healthy churches has led our Elders and leadership to wonder: how can we address the great spiritual need in our city? What is College Park's role? And what is each of our roles as individual followers of Jesus?

Over the past year, our Elders and groups in Fishers, Greenwood, and the west Indy area have been praying for God to open doors for the gospel in these regions. After much research, prayer, and discussions with people in the community, the Elders are recommending we start a multi-site campus in the Fishers area in 2015.

In the next column, review the details for the proposed campus and the other important items on our Congregational Meeting agenda.

At the end of the day, no matter where we live in the city, this comes down to all of us taking one step toward our own "next-door mission."

Join Us for the Fresh Encounter Service & Congregational Meeting: Nov. 23 at 6 p.m.

Voting items on meeting ballot

- Affirmation of starting a pre-launch Fishers campus gathering starting in the first quarter of 2015
- Elder & Deacon Candidates
- 2015 Budget

There are many ways to learn more:

- Pick up or download the Congregational Meeting Packet
- Pick up or download the booklet for College Park Next Door
- Watch the video at yourchurch.com/nextdoor
- Attend a Q & A session on Nov. 9 or 16
- Go online and read more

Would you commit to pray in November that God would open doors for the gospel in our city?

- Pray for God to prepare hearts around the city for the gospel
- Pray for God to form and unite small groups around the city with a "next-door mission" to reach their neighbors
- Pray for God to raise leaders for the Fishers campus
- Pray for the staff start-up team coordinating the planning efforts for the campus
- Pray for continued health, vibrancy, and growth at our Indy campus



Article by Terry Sites

When educating their children, parents in north India are no different from parents in America – we seek the best for our kids. At College Park, we are in the unique and blessed position to help our ministry partner, Good News for India, provide quality education opportunities in rural areas of north India. But this is about so much more than providing a good school choice – it’s about opening doors to the gospel among the lost and unreached.

Good News for India (GNFI) is College Park’s global partner in advancing the gospel and igniting a passion for Christ among every tribe, tongue, and nation – including the unreached in north India. One way God uses the GNFI ministry is through building and staffing primary and secondary schools in rural areas. These Khrist Jyoti Academy (KJA) schools minister to hundreds of children in unreached areas.

The poor in rural areas and villages know that education is the key to escaping poverty and providing for their families in a dignified way. Schools that teach English and provide good educational opportunities are particularly valued. The KJA schools provide an education that is superior to what is available through government schools in these poor, hard-to-reach areas.

These schools have become an effective way to share and show the love of Christ. Although Christian conversion cannot be taught or advocated by the school, the government allows moral education in the schools, and the Bible and teachings of Jesus are used for this portion of the education curriculum. In addition, the teachers and school staff become light-bearers in the community, using their influence to share the gospel whenever possible. They start Bible studies, hold prayer meetings, and plant churches. The teachers are also committed to prayer for the villages, students, and families.

The 2014 College Park Christmas Offering will be used to **purchase land** and **build** a new KJA primary school in Bihar, a state that is home to many Yadav, the largest unreached people group in India. Building a school in this area will expand opportunities for continued ministry in the name of Christ, serving the unreached as well as the Christian families committed to sharing the gospel in this difficult region. Funds will also go to help **expand** and **complete** the facilities of two existing and already thriving KJA schools.

Give the gospel through education Sunday, Dec. 21. Or give online at yourchurch.com/give

yourchurch.com/christmasoffering



Article by Becky Emerick

Maybe you brave the crowded circle and watch the lighting of the Indianapolis Christmas Tree. Perhaps you caffeinate before daybreak on Black Friday and wait in line for that special-once-in-a-lifetime deal. Have you possibly been pinning ideas on how your Elf on the Shelf is going to surprise your kids in new ways during Advent?

This time of year is jam-packed with traditions. Hobbies such as baking, crafting, sewing, and decorating, once forgotten in the heat of the summer, are reignited with fervor. Games, parties, favorite foods, and gifts join together, promising a month filled to the brim with joy. However, for many of us, these good things can also cause our schedules to feel busy and stressful, while our bank accounts get stretched further than we planned. Have you ever felt that all the chaos of Christmas has cluttered up the manger scene? If so, you are not alone. Often, we get so busy during “the most wonderful time of year” that we forget that we are supposed to be remembering something!

At College Park, one of our annual traditions is our Christmas Musical, where we take a weekend each December to remember the birth of Jesus – the centerpiece of our celebrations.

We encourage you to invite your friends and family to our original Christmas Musical, “Christmas Time.” With the choir, orchestra, drama team, and dancers, we will journey backwards through different decades and genres until we arrive at the simplicity of the birth of Jesus. This gospel-centered program will showcase tangibly the fundamental truth that Christmas traditions may change, but our eternal God is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

Mark your calendars for Friday, Dec. 12 at 7 p.m. and Saturday, Dec. 13 at 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. The musical will not be taking place during the Sunday morning services, so please plan to attend one of the evening times. Last year, many College Parkers took this weekend opportunity to dialog with co-workers and neighbors by connecting beforehand over dinner or afterward with coffee.

On behalf of the College Park Worship Arts team, we look forward to celebrating – and remembering – with you!

yourchurch.com/christmasmusical



Article by Arne Pedersen

Justin and Jasmine Lindley with their four children survive one day at a time in the northwestern Indiana town of Lafayette, about an hour from College Park Church.

The Lindley family does not go to College Park Church but they do have a connection as they share in loving our same Savior and were connected earlier this year with our Military Ministry.

Justin is a service-disabled veteran from the United States Army. He suffers from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI), fused discs in his back, a broken foot, radiation poison, hearing loss, and a host of other injuries sustained in combat operations in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom.

By all counts, this man is an American hero. Once Justin completed his service, he and his wife moved to Indiana where they looked forward to building their life together outside of the Army.

It was during this season of transition that Justin began receiving treatments for his suffering with PTSD and TBI and Jasmine began serving as his full-time caregiver as well as caring for their four children. The Military Ministry at College Park met the Lindleys through College Park member Rick Baum and the American Legion and it was revealed that they had a need for school supplies and clothes.

Through the grace of God, the Military Ministry was able to purchase all of the necessary school supplies and school clothes for the Lindley family. Along with the school supplies, Bibles were given to each of the children and their parents.

In August, some of those in the Military Ministry were blessed with the opportunity to meet with the Lindleys and give them the supplies. It was at this meeting they were able to share the love of Jesus with them. As they got to know them, they shared their profession of faith in Christ! Praise the Lord! As Justin put it, "I have squared my life with God."

The Military Ministry continues to love on the Lindley family and pray for them.

As you look to give your time and resources to our veterans perhaps this month when we recognize Veterans Day, please pray for the Lindleys and be on the look out for other veterans like Justin who need our help.

It is helping veterans like Justin and their families to have a passion to follow Jesus that is the mission of the College Park Military Ministry.

If you are interested in getting involved or know a veteran in need please contact Arne Pedersen at cptarne_pedersen@yahoo.com.



THE HOLIDAYS ARE FOR HOPING AND FOR HELPING

Article by Dan Weller

As we enter the homestretch of another year, many of us will find that as the days get shorter, our schedules get longer. With so much going on, it's easy to get swept up into the busyness.

But before the whirlwind of another holiday season commences, pause with me a moment to consider a couple holiday priorities.

I submit that the **holidays are for hoping and for helping.**

The hope I'm talking about is not some vague holiday spirit, but a rock-solid assurance that God will keep His promises. At Thanksgiving we look back on God's faithfulness over the last year, and thank Him for the multitude of promises He's already kept. As November fades into December, we then focus our gratitude onto the greatest promise He's kept – His promise to send a Messiah who would save His people from their sins.

All this looking back with gratitude should then fuel our looking ahead with hope. The same God who kept His promises to send a Savior, is the same God who will keep all of His promises – to build His church, do good to His people, and glorify His name. So the holidays are for hoping – looking back at our hope in God fulfilled, and looking ahead with our hope in God refueled.

Our hoping should then lead to helping. We are born again to a living hope, and this living hope is then lived out in helping others. This is our second holiday priority. Those who have the hope of eternal life are to "learn to devote themselves to good works, so as to help cases of urgent need, and not be unfruitful." (Tit. 3:14)

While there are countless different ways we can help around the holidays, here are just a few ideas to get you thinking:

- Attend the Midwest Food Bank Benefit Concert on Nov. 16. Allow the worship music to kindle your hope, even as your ticket purchase helps those in need.
- Contact one of our strategic partners to see what items they might need donated to help them minister to others.
- Host a neighborhood Christmas party and help others by pointing them to "Jesus our hope." (1 Tim. 1:1)
- Have your small group help together by volunteering to serve with one of our strategic partners.

This holiday season, may God fill you with hope and fuel you to help!

NOVEMBER & DECEMBER

WEEKLY EVENTS

SUNDAYS

PRE-SERVICE ELDER PRAYER
7:15-7:45 a.m. – Prayer Room A

SUNDAY MORNING SERVICES
8, 9:45, & 11:30 a.m.

**CHILDREN'S NURSERY
AND SUNDAY SCHOOL**
8, 9:45, & 11:30 a.m.

THE ROCK
9:45 -11:10 a.m. – Jr. High room

ADULT BIG GROUPS
9:45 & 11:30 a.m. – various rooms

THE GROVE
6 - 7:30 p.m. – Ministry Center

WEDNESDAYS

THE ROCK (SMALL GROUPS)
6:30 - 8 p.m.. – Jr. High room

THE GROVE (SMALL GROUPS)
6:30 - 8:15 p.m. – Ministry Center

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THESE EVENTS

VISIT YOURCHURCH.COM/EVENTS

CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE— 317.875.0282

STOP BY A WELCOME DESK
IN THE COLLEGE PARK ATRIUM

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 12 – 8:30 A.M.

**THE OAKS ACADEMY, BROOKSIDE
(3092 BROOKSIDE PARKWAY N DR.)**

COLLEGE PARK CHAPEL AT THE OAKS ACADEMY BROOKSIDE **R**

Join other College Parkers as well as the students and staff of the Oaks Academy Brookside for a special "College Park" chapel service. There will be a time of worship through song and a short message from Pastor Mark Vroegop. This is a great opportunity to learn more about one of College Park's strategic partners and their ministry to the Brookside neighborhood. Register at theoaksacademy.org/cpc

? Dan Weller
dweller@yourchurch.com

SATURDAY, NOV. 15 – 12:30 P.M.

MINISTRY CENTER AUDITORIUM

ACTIVE ADULTS AUTUMN SOUP LUNCH **R**

Come to the Active Adults (55+) Autumn Soup Lunch and warm up with men and women from College Park! We'll be enjoying hot soups and chili as well as playing games together—all to help build relationships with others in their 50s and above. Last names A-M bring a side dish, last names N-Z bring a dessert. And all are encouraged to bring a favorite game or cards!

? Karen Davis
317.802.9314
bkdavis3201@gmail.com

SUNDAYS, NOV. 16 & 23

ANGEL TREE & NEHEMIAH BIBLE CHURCH

We have two great opportunities this Christmas to bless children in the Brookside neighborhood. Consider showing the love of Jesus to hurting children and families by purchasing a Christmas gift for them through the ministries of Angel Tree and Nehemiah Bible Church. Stop by table near the Local Outreach wall to learn more and sign up on Nov. 16 & Nov. 23.

? **Angel Tree Contact:** Tami Stillinger
317.892.3384
ggrace4today@gmail.com

? **Nehemiah Contact:** Jo Derbyshire
317.418.4829
jo@nehemiahbiblechurch.com

SUNDAY, NOV. 16 – 6:30 P.M.

**COLLEGE PARK CHURCH
TICKETS REQUIRED**

MIDWEST FOOD BANK BENEFIT CONCERT FEATURING NATALIE GRANT **R**

Midwest Food Bank of Indianapolis in partnership with Moody Radio and College Park Church present award-winning singer-songwriter, Natalie Grant in concert on Sunday, Nov. 16, 2014. Help College Park support the important work of the Midwest Food Bank by coming out for a great evening of music! Doors open at 6 p.m. The concert begins at 6:30 p.m. with proceeds benefiting the ministry of Midwest Food Bank. Tickets are available at iTickets.com or by phone at 1.800.965.9324.

FRIDAY, NOV. 21 – 6:30 P.M.

NEWCOMER NIGHT R

A fun night to get a glimpse of what community is like at College Park. Meet others new to the church as well as staff and current members. Share a meal, ask questions to learn more about us, and get to know members of College Park Church. *(There is no child care provided at this event.)*

yourchurch.com/newcomernight

? Jenny Brake
jbrake@yourchurch.com
317.875.0282 x164

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 26 – 7:10 P.M.

COLLEGE PARK CHURCH

THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE

Join with others at College Park to reflect on the many blessings God has bestowed upon us this year. This simple worship service will feature a time of personal reflection, testimonies, and worship. Child care will be offered for infants to age 4. Register online at yourchurch.com/thanksgiving

SUNDAY, DEC. 7 – 9:45-11 A.M.

CHAPEL

**MARRIAGE PANEL:
EXPECTATIONS IN MARRIAGE R**

Several times a year we invite couples to a Marriage Panel where we have different College Park couples share from their own experiences in marriage. Join us on Sunday, Dec. 7 at 9:45 a.m. in the Chapel to hear a panel speak on "Expectations in Marriage." The panel includes: Dave & Dori Crichlow, Jack & Sharon Schweibold, Paul & Stacie Landess, Jeff & Pam Bryant. yourchurch.com/marriage.

SUNDAY, DEC. 7 – 5:30 - 7:30 P.M.

WORSHIP ARTS ROOM

HYMN SING & CHRISTMAS PARTY!

This month's Hymn Sing will feature carols to celebrate the coming of our Lord at Christmas! But we will also be having an all Active Adults Christmas Party together as well! Please feel free to dress in your festive over-the-top Christmas outfit (including crazy sweaters, etc.). We will enjoy finger foods after our usual singing time.

? Karen Davis
317.802.9314
bkdavis3201@gmail.com

**FRIDAY, DEC. 12 – 7 P.M.
SATURDAY, DEC. 13 – 4 & 7 P.M.**

COLLEGE PARK CHURCH

CHRISTMAS MUSICAL

Does it ever feel like the chaos of Christmas, with the gifts, parties, and food, clutters up the manger scene? Take a moment to remember the reasons for why we celebrate by inviting friends to College Park's Christmas Musical, "Christmas Time." With the choir, orchestra, drama team, and dancers, we will journey backwards through different decades and genres until we arrive at the simplicity of the birth of Jesus. Traditions may change, but our Eternal God is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

**MOMS CONNECTION
SPRING 2015 REGISTRATION R**

Moms Connection is a place for moms to connect with the Lord and with one another over brunch, conversation, a speaker, and a craft. While our Step 1 program for moms of preschoolers has a waiting list, Step 2 is open to moms of children in 1st grade and up. Registration will open in January.

yourchurch.com/momsconnection
? Emily Weller
eweller@yourchurch.com.

JAN. 9-11

TWIN LAKES CAMP, HILLSBORO, IN

WINTER RETREAT R

Winter Retreat is for senior high students and will be on Jan. 9-11. This retreat is at Twin Lakes Camp in Hillsboro, IN. Don Helton, previous Student Ministries Pastor at College Park, will be the key speaker and will be talking on how to integrate theology with daily living. The vision for this retreat is not to just gain a bunch of knowledge, but to apply what you learn during the weekend in your school, home, work-place, and live it out.

yourchurch.com/retreatsandevents

CLASSES BEGIN EARLY JANUARY

COLLEGE PARK CHURCH

**TRINITY EVANGELICAL DIVINITY
SCHOOL (TEDS) CLASSES**

This spring there will be two classes offered, History of Christianity and Foundations of Christian Missions. Students can earn a Master of Arts in Christians Studies, or a Certificate in Biblical Studies from the College Park Church site. If you're not interested in pursuing a degree program, you can still benefit by auditing classes.

yourchurch.com/trinityextension
? Kelly Alexander
kalexander@yourchurch.com

JAN. - MAR. 2015

GROWING 100 SERIES OF CLASSES R

Have you ever been close to someone struggling through a difficult season of life and struggled with the words to say? Or do you find yourself continually fighting the same sin over and over, and can't seem to pull out its root? The Soul Care Ministry invites you to join us for three special weekends in 2015 for the Growing series where we will address these topics and other significant issues facing Christians today. The "Growing" series seeks to train and equip all God's people with the Word of God, through the power of the Holy Spirit, so that we might do the work of God in every facet of life.

Growing 101: "Foundations for Gospel Change, Anger, & Fear"
TBD in January

Growing 102 "Overcoming Life Dominating Sins, & Depression"
Friday, Feb. 13 & Saturday, Feb. 14

Growing 103: "Marriage, Parenting, & Communication"
Friday, Mar. 13 & Saturday, Mar. 14

All classes will be on Friday from 6 - 8:50 p.m. and on Saturday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
yourchurch.com/growing100

JAN. - APR. 2015

GROWING 200 CLASSES R

The Growing 200 training builds on what participants learned in the Growing 100 classes and delves into equipping participants how to apply the Word in the areas of conflict resolution, identity and gender, biblical decision making, and a variety of other important topics.

There are two 8-week classes being offered this spring semester: **Communication & Conflict Resolution** (Jan. 4-Feb. 22) and **Parenting For Life** (Mar. 1-Apr. 25) during the 9:45 service hour. There is a weekend Growing 200 class being offered on Jan. 16 & 17. yourchurch.com/growing200

JAN. 13 - MAR. 25

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDIES R

Women's Bible Studies for the Spring semester will run Jan. 13 - Mar. 25 and are offered on Tuesday mornings, Wednesday mornings, and Wednesday evenings. Come join our community of women as we grow closer to God together and one another through the study of His Word. Registration will open in early January.
yourchurch.com/womensbiblestudies

SUNDAYS, JAN. 18 - MAR. 25 - 8 A.M.

THE EAST ROOM

PREMARITAL COUNSELING CLASS R

This class covers the basic foundations of Biblical marriage, communication, the roles of husbands and wives, and sexual intimacy in marriage. It is required for all engaged couples getting married at College Park and is strongly encouraged for every engaged couple who calls College Park their home church. The Winter 2015 Premarital Counseling Class will meet at 8 a.m. in the East Room on Sundays, Jan. 18 - Mar. 1, 2015.

yourchurch.com/marriage

JAN. 18-MAR. 1 - 11:30 A.M. - 12:50 P.M.

ROOM B5 (BASEMENT)

PURSUING A CROSS-CENTERED MARRIAGE R

Pursuing A Cross-Centered Marriage is a seven-week class we offer to couples of any age or marriage stage. A study through John Piper's book *This Momentary Marriage* serves the core of the class led by Chuck and Tillie Pyatte and Craig & Shannon Lewis.

yourchurch.com/marriage



**SAVE THE DATE FOR THINK|15
FEB. 28-MAR. 2**

D.A. CARSON

Save the date for THINK|15! We are excited to host a previous THINK speaker back for a second time to College Park for THINK|15. Dr. D.A. Carson of Trinity International University and The Gospel Coalition will be speaking about the prophet Jeremiah and how this weeping prophet speaks to us today, the 21st century church.

**Registration opens on January 7
at yourchurch.com/think15.**

JAN. 30-31

WINTERBLAST **R**

WinterBlast is an overnight retreat for junior high students on Jan. 30-31. This retreat is going to be at Camp Camby in southwest Indianapolis. The vision for this retreat is to grow in relationship with God and with others. We will be learning about who God is through worship, preaching, and small groups. There will be plenty of fun and games.

yourchurch.com/retreatsandevents

FEB. 7

COLLEGE PARK CHURCH

**CAUGHT IN THE CURRENT:
NAVIGATING UPSTREAM
IN A SEXUALLY CHARGED SOCIETY** **R**

Women of all ages and life stages are faced with the constant pull of a sexually-driven culture. How do we as women set ourselves apart to live according to God's Word? Join us for a church-wide women's half-day conference for ages 15 and up on Saturday, Feb. 7 from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at College Park Church. Jeff and Rose Colon of Pure Life Ministries are our keynote speakers, and the day will include breakout sessions on various topics for women of all ages. **Registration opens on Dec. 14.**

? Emily Weller
eweller@yourchurch.com
317.875.0282 x 186



college park church

NEW TO COLLEGE PARK?

Stop by our Guest Reception Area after one of our three services, grab a drink, ask for a Welcome Brochure, and experience how we strive to make a big church feel small.

CONNECT WITH US

Phone 317.875.0282

Fax 317.875.0605

Web yourchurch.com

Blog yourchurch.com/blog

Twitter @collegeparkindy

Facebook facebook.com/CollegeParkIndy

Photographs
collegeparkchurch.smugmug.com

Main Building

2606 West 96th Street, Indianapolis, 46268

Ministry Center

3600 West 96th Street, Indianapolis, 46268

Office Hours

Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.

OUR PASTORAL STAFF

Mark Vroegop

Lead Pastor

Eric Anderson

Pastor of Worship

Don Bartemus

Pastor of Compassion Ministries

Joe Bartemus

Pastor of Theological Development

Bill Dinsmore

Executive Pastor of Ministry

Nate Irwin

Pastor of Global Outreach

David Michael

Pastor for Next Generations

Andrew Rogers

Pastor of Soul Care

Mark Schuitema

Pastor of Community Life

Dale Shaw

Pastor of Local Outreach

Bruce Smith

Executive Pastor of Operations

Joe Wittmer

Pastor of Student Ministries

OUR COLLEGE PARK FAMILY

NEW COLLEGE PARKERS

Charlie Steven Nesteroff was born on May 22, 2014 to Michael and Janzz

Meredith Piper Kelly was born on June 13, 2014 to Paul and Tomania

Naomi Rose was born July 12, 2014 to Davin and Lauren

Anna Kate Cole was born Sept. 1, 2014 to Ben and Rachel

Rutledge Lee Schrock was born on Sept. 3, 2014 to Ben and Alyssa

Eli Willis Hershberger was born on Oct. 24, 2014 to Tyler and Sarah

THE BULLETIN BOARD

INTERESTED IN JOINING A SMALL GROUP?

Community is God's idea. It began in the Trinity, was established in the Garden of Eden, and has been God's desire for His people ever since. Here at College Park, we seek to have intentional, purposeful, and inclusive community through small groups. We have many open groups right now all around the area. Learn more and sign up for an open group at yourchurch.com/smallgroups

Article by Katie Schulenburg

SAY HELLO TO THE COLLEGE PARK APP

Yes, you read that correctly. College Park will officially launch our mobile app later this month! In the coming weeks you can find it and download it for your Apple iOS, Android, or Windows mobile phone or tablet device.

The College Park app was developed to help you connect with sermons, blogs, and other resources from College Park wherever you go. Sermons can easily be downloaded, listened to, or watched wherever you are. On Sundays you can watch services via the live stream.

You can give to College Park through the app, using a new mobile giving page that securely remembers your giving info for convenient giving anywhere in seconds.

You can also use the app to pray for others by clicking on the Prayer Wall or read the latest newsletter to stay up-to-date on the happenings at College Park any time...right in the palm of your hand.

Download the College Park App:

Apple: iOS App Store

Android: Google Play Store

Windows: Windows Store