

CONNECT

Spring 2017

Churches from around the Willamette Valley are uniting in prayer to see revival come to Salem, The City of Peace. Pastors Larry Gines of Dayspring Fellowship, and Santos Vega of La Luz Del Valle joined 90 other leaders at a prayer and worship planning luncheon March 23. See story on page 4 with details for The Gathering on the National Day of Prayer.



Taking the message of the cross to the ends of the earth... All for Jesus

EVANGELISM

2 Timothy 4:5

Target unreached people groups around the world

Engage the culture without changing the Good News of Jesus Christ

Demonstrate God's care and compassion by providing humanitarian aid for those in need

Invite people into a relationship with Christ

BUILD UP THE BODY OF CHRIST

Ephesians 4:12

Promote unity and cooperation among the local Bible-believing churches

Train and equip teams of believers for the work of evangelism

Partner with local churches to make disciples of new believers

Saturate communities through city-wide festivals



REID SAUNDERS
ASSOCIATION

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Croatia, Serbia, Bosnia trip	March 2-12
RSA Annual Benefit Dessert	April 4
Villa El Salvador, Peru trip	April 22 - May 2
The Gathering Prayer and Worship	May 4
Malta trip	September 8-18
RSA Benefit Golf Tournament	September 15
St. Augustine Festival	Sept. 29 - Oct. 1
Ivory Coast trip	Oct. 30 - Nov. 6

You are INVITED

YOUR PRESENCE IS REQUESTED AT RSA'S ANNUAL

Dessert Benefit

Tuesday, April 4, 2017 - 7:00 pm

Keizer Civic Center -Iris Ballroom

930 Chemawa Road NE - Keizer, Oregon

Adults only - Casual Evening Attire

RSVP by March 23



Please contact the office, Karen or Pam at 503-581-7394 if you would like to attend but have not received an invitation from a table host.



ALL FOR JESUS

Wow! 2017 marks RSA's 15 year anniversary! It also means my oldest son Azlan is 15! Time sure flies and I'm getting older by the minute! Ha ha.

Friends, to God be the glory for allowing us to take the Good News of Jesus to the ends of the earth for these past 15 years. Our theme verse for our 15 year anniversary is Mark 16:15 where Jesus said, "Go into all the world and preach the Good News to all creation." Together, God has used us these past 15 years to do just that! I'm so excited to see what God does through us the next 40 plus years as we share Jesus!

Even as you read this, I will be returning from a twelve day trip to Bosnia, Croatia, and Serbia. As a young teenager, I remember reading about all the terrible things that took place during the war in Bosnia and Serbia. It is so exciting to take the Good News of Jesus to these precious people. Our team worked with the local churches to hold 29 outreach meetings all across Bosnia, Serbia, and Croatia! We shared the Gospel to people of all ages and backgrounds. Please join me in thanking God for the bountiful harvest of souls. Remember to pray for these new believers and also for the pastors and churches that will be connecting with them.

Paul Swales





GATHERING

PRAYER AND WORSHIP

National Day of Prayer

Churches of the Willamette Valley gathered with one voice

Ephesians 4:3-6

Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.



Join thousands - all generations, all backgrounds, united in prayer, declaring our worship, calling on God for revival in our city.

DATE

TIME

PLACE

COST

THURSDAY, MAY 4

7 PM
(DOORS OPEN AT 6 PM)

PAVILION
OREGON STATE FAIRGROUNDS

FREE
(register online)

Over 50 Evangelical churches and ministries across the Willamette Valley are working together to plan a public night of prayer and worship on May 4, the National Day of Prayer – an event named “The Gathering.” In an effort to bring churches together in the Salem/Keizer area, pastors are meeting together in prayer on a regular basis pleading with God for revival in the city of Salem. Reid Saunders and Pastor Greg Vesely are working with the planing committee to help organize, promote, and provide communication resources for this effort.

Pastor Justin Greene of Salem Heights Church explained the hearts desire of the movement, “First, we want God to shape our hearts as pastors - give us a revived energy for the Gospel, connect with our people, and be effective in ministry. Second, we want God to stir our people - to energize the Gospel, be transformed in the way they live their lives, and engage the culture. Third, we want to see revival in Salem coming from the Spirit of God and the excitement within the Christian community.”

Pastor Steve Fowler of Salem Alliance Church also commented, “This will not happen, our dream, your dreams, will not happen unless we are a unified church, unless we are working together to accomplish this very important task. That’s why I am so excited about all of us coming together to pray and see God’s kingdom advanced here in Salem/Keizer and the Willamette Valley.”

Ruth Daniels, our international teams coordinator, has reached out to the different ethnic groups within our community. She is excited to see over 30 Spanish speaking pastors with a desire to unite with their English speaking brothers and sister in Christ.

“We can see the power of the Lord as we worship Him together, as we praise Him together - there is nothing like the church coming together.” Pastor Jose Domingues, La Luz Del Valle, Salem.

Inspiration borne from Adversity

During a 2013 evangelistic outreach in the largest city of Ethiopia, event planners translated decision cards into the most widely used language of the region. Then, they were told that there were actually three widely used languages in that region. Which language should they use if they don't know for sure who was coming and from which tribal group?

Hundreds heard the Gospel message and responded with uplifted hands. But at the end of the night, **there was hundreds—maybe thousands—of decision cards discarded on the ground.** Almost all of their efforts to connect with decision makers failed because the people did not understand questions in their own language.

Ethiopia is the third poorest country in Africa, but 80% of the population under 29 years has a cell phone. Maybe there is a better way to connect with decision makers, Brett thought.

Disappointment and failure the night before gave way to hope in the morning. Available technology and worldwide access to digital communications inspired Brett Butcher to pursue a plan to replace the ineffective decision cards. Developing online registration, overcoming language barriers, connecting new believers to local churches, providing access to training, and tracking of decision makers would become his life passion.

Brainstorming, self-doubt, getting the right advice, convincing people that it was possible, were steps along the way. There was also the fund raising efforts, developing a business plan to make the program self-sustaining, finding software programmers in India, and working nights to make up for the time difference, were a few of the hurdles that Brett has had to overcome.

"Every major industry has research and development. Does evangelism have that as well?" Brett remarked.

"What I want to do with NextStudy is take existing technology and use it to connect new believers to churches and other believers. There is no limit to the number of people that can be served, and if you speak a different language, it is as simple as clicking a tab on the screen to switch to your preferred language."



- Launch planned in June
- 36 partners express interest
- Testing in Peru in April
- Connects new believers

Once new decision-makers register online and are led through a simple lesson restating their decision, their name is automatically sent to a local church close to

where they live. Churches can then easily identify prospective members from each event. They can track decision-makers and stay in touch by phone or e-mail.

"The idea is to place decision-makers into an atmosphere where they can grow and find answers to their questions. New studies show that the sooner a decision maker starts sharing their faith, the more they will grow. So we want to get new decision makers sharing their faith very quickly" Brett disclosed.

"NextStudy will also be available to other ministries. We don't want to only use this for our own study, we want to advance the entire Kingdom. We want this to further all ministries and see more people come to Christ. Organizations can integrate this into their own site; we want everybody to be involved."

"My personal hope would be to see decision makers go through every stage of this program to eventually become evangelist and church planter themselves."

Thirty six partners have already indicated their interest in using the new program, and development is close to being on schedule. Corban University is planning to offer accredited online courses for growing believers through the program. NextStudy will be tested in the Peru outreach this April, and the official launch will probably happen in this Summer in Chicago.



That is why we labor and strive, because we have put our hope in the living God, who is the Savior of all people, and especially of those who believe. 1 Tim 4:10



Primer
FESTIVAL
Para la Familia
Villa El Salvador

Over 200 local churches from Lima, Peru have united together in order to bring hope to the impoverished residents living in their city suburbs. They are preparing to receive and work with a team of sixty volunteers, evangelists and medical personnel led by RSA April 22 - May 2, 2017. After two years of planning and training the team will carry out various outreach ministries, serving in the

district's poorest neighborhoods, slums, prisons, orphanages, schools, and local churches. The team will share the Gospel as they administer medical care, and distribute clothing. The trip will conclude with three days of evangelistic festivals.

As a low income district on the outskirts of Lima, Villa El Salvador surprised many in its urban social development. What started in 1971 as a designated plot

of parched desert land for those who had chosen to move from the slums of Lima, grew from a town of 7,000 to city of 500,000. Many of the homes today have running water, electricity, and even a few paved roads. With an increase in gang activity, child abuse, drug use, and mistreatment of women, there is a serious need for medical and spiritual help for the people of Villa El Salvador.



Serving in the district's poorest neighborhoods, slums, prisons, orphanages, and schools, the team will share the Gospel as they administer medical care, distribute clothing and physical aid.

Villa EL Salvador Outreach Upcoming



Meeting with many of the Lima pastors and community leaders in 2015, Reid Saunders and Pastor Justin Greene were able to build excitement and a bond of trust for an outreach festival.



Medical Supplies need for Peru

From Costco

- Kirkland Acetaminophen 500mg
- Kirkland Ibuprofen 200 mg
- Children's vitamins (not gummies but chewable are OK)

From Dollar Tree

- Hydrocortisone Cream
- Athletes Foot Anti fungal Cream
- Muscle Rub
- Triple Antibiotic Ointment
- Reading glasses

- From anywhere
- Purell hand sanitizer

Please send your monetary donations to: RSA PO Box 4275, Salem OR 97302 or purchase these items and **before April 7** drop them off at RSA office at: 5094 36th Ave SE Salem, Oregon 97317.



MALTA

SEPTEMBER 8-18, 2017

We have wanted to do a trip to Malta for five years. The opportunity has finally arrived!

For the last five years, the future trip planners at RSA has been trying to arrange an outreach to Malta. The Lord finally answered our prayers! Just before the end of last year, our partners at LifeLight presented RSA with the opportunity to go to Malta. In January, the only American missionary in Malta personally invited RSA and LifeLight to take a team to Malta September 8 – 18, 2017.

The team will be doing outreach events with the youth, encouraging the local church, and holding a two-day festival. Malta's population is about half of a million. The island has become a strategic freight and transportation point, a financial center, and tourist destination.

The evangelical church movement in

Malta started in the 80s and now there are about 50 to 60 very small evangelical churches. Similar to many other European countries, a majority of the people have become agnostics or atheists but



still have a high interest in helping the less fortunate, including refugees.

Since Malta is a major tourist destina-

tion in Europe, its population doubles in the summer and more than one million people are on the island. Also, since Malta is located in the middle of the Mediterranean Ocean, just north of Libya and south of Italy, many boats with refugees from the middle east end up taking temporary refuge on the island.

This mobile population creates a wonderful opportunity for sharing the Gospel with local residents, European tourist and refugees.

You are invited to come along and join our outreach team on this trip of a lifetime! Cost for the trip is \$2000 plus airfare. Contact Ruth Daniels for information or check the web site for further details. Ruth@reidsaunders.org or call the office at 503.581.7394.



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Until all have heard... Mark 16:15

Brett Butcher with some of the refugees from Syria and Iran that he met in the Serbian camp outreach.

