

Greetings Friends!

### TOGETHER

We have been saying **CONNECT & MOBILIZE** for almost 5 years, and now it **IS SUDDENLY HAPPENING**. The CHURCH in the region is awakening to the need to actively love and 'father the city' as never before. Many groups are now recognizing and affirming our role as connectors.

### October quotes:

*"We love what happened this summer with the youth and hope to see it continue throughout the winter. Do you have an indoor location picked out for the LOT?"* This ringing endorsement came from the **Youth Violence Prevention Council**, which has 2 dozen major regional leaders.

*"Reaching this whole area is not a 'Bethel thing,' it's an 'all of us thing,'"* Chris Overstreet, outreach pastor at **Bethel**, stated. *"We have done a lot to touch the city, but the relational aspect you carry is so crucial - let's partner more! I have a lot of ideas, but I don't want to do them without you."*

The campus pastor at **Simpson University**, gave me this heads-up in mid-October, *"We are about to hire a community coordinator whose main job is to get our students off 2211 College View Drive and into the city."* Dr. Rich Brown, Simpson VP, told me, *"Their first task will be to connect with Redding Transformation."*

A pastor in Redding who is targeting **Shasta Lake City** for Kingdom advancement wants to link with us and our contacts already positioned in that community. **Little Country Church** elders recently agreed to officially connect with us in the regional work as well. **Westside Church** (where I am leading worship part time through Dec.) had us share with their missions' team as well as their community service team!

We have been also been contacted in recent days by key people from **Risen King** as well as the women's ministry at **Neighborhood Church**. **Redding Christian School** joined us for a stellar community service day on Oct 16<sup>th</sup>. This unique Grace in Motion job was referred to us by a caring State Farm agent who saw a local widow's need. Before any work was done at her house, I was able to pray with her and share assurance of salvation in Jesus just during my initial assessment visit.

### LIGHTS OF LIBERTY: Oct 18

The WER1 band was invited to sing at the community fireworks event again this year. Over 1000 were on hand and another thousand arrived as we sang about Christ and shared hope. Pleasantly surprised to see a Christian presence at a city event, many sang along and worshiped with us. We were given close to 60 minutes; other bands had less than 20 min. on stage. At the end of the event, I wanted to ask if they'd consider having us back next year in a later time slot with more crowd present, but wasn't sure how they'd respond since we had been quite "Jesus" and "Bible" heavy. So I said, *"You know, next year it would be nice to play in a later spot, what say you?"* Without hesitating, the organizer said, *"SURE! You got it."*



### STADIUMS OF GOD: Oct 25

One week later, on a beautiful fall evening, our band joined some other amazing worship teams and intercession was lifted on behalf of our state and nation for 5 hours in a local stadium. Christians came out to pray for the economy, the elections and the uprising of the CHURCH in this time. The night before this event,

30+ cheerleaders were touched and healed at a football game in that same stadium. 20 of them received Christ! Get ready for God to sweep through every environment and touch even the unsuspecting. The harvest is plentiful!

### TRACK RECORD SPARKS EDUCATIONAL BLAZE

Tim Hemeon, our trumpet player, Track Record writer and transformation leader at his workplace (5th grade teacher) sent us this encouraging update: *"Jon, since the article I wrote about Alta Mesa school also covered our district, it's been an open door for me to send the newspapers to people I know at the district office and other schools, as well as sharing with people at my own school... Today, one teacher's aide told me the story had "woken her up" to the fact that God is involved in our lives. She said she'd been on autopilot and just going through life's motions, and now her perspective is changed."*

Another result is that Tim and some colleagues will begin holding prayer before school once a week on Fridays. The principal volunteered to join in without reservation! See what God can do? Declaring His works (testimony) creates new realities! Want to connect with people who are actively transforming our city through their workplace? Come to **Workplace Influencers Lunch each 3rd Tuesday at Round Table in the mall at noon.**

### PARA-CITY

From the beginning, our goal has been to **come alongside the city in LOVE**. Some have seen us as a 'para-church' entity building unity, but, in truth, we have been 'para-city' - looking for ways to love the city, connect and mobilize the church into transformational endeavors wherever the Lord would open doors. The goal would be an evidenced city-wide transformation. One of the by-products would be a unified CHURCH that walks in creativity and vision.

### CHA CHING \$\$

Some of you may remember the parenting course initiative at Enterprise High 4 years ago. This was one of those early ideas which had transformational core values and hit the bulls-eye. It began relationally as the school principal, Chris Adams, and I chatted in his office one day in 2003. Rick Caldwell, Danny Silk, and others soon joined in and God caused something amazing to transpire. Families were impacted, failing kids began to succeed, reconciliation between fathers and sons & mothers and daughters happened and the CHURCH was able to enter into a bleak and broken picture for the purpose of transforming it. I learned this month that Bethel Church was recently awarded a 3 million dollar grant to bring this parenting course to multiple area schools over the next few years. Wooooah! Good seed has given way to a strong seedling! More on this in the next TRACK RECORD.

### SQUEEEEEK \$\$

We are all feeling the effects of belt tightening. This month giving fell short of our expenses by nearly \$2000. This means that salaries will be cut for the 3<sup>rd</sup> time in 4 months. We have always operated on a lean budget and have trimmed the little we could. We are surviving by taking on a few side-jobs, lots of prayer, letting our need be known to a wider circle of potential donors, and such. Now we need you! To catch up, we need to make budget in November and December plus recoup close to \$5000 before year's end. One time gifts are welcomed.

### PRAY 4...

Finances,

Our 8 week transformation training starting January 12th,

Probation department prototype developments,

Outer rim contacts: We'll share the vision for transformation with Etna (Yreka area) in December,

South County ARISE: a movement of Kingdom minded, transformational Christians who are walking with us and launching a night of vision and impartation on Nov 14th.

Full of anticipation and love for our region,

*Jon & Natalia*