

# NORTHERN PLAINS EVANGELISTIC ASSOCIATION



ANNUAL REPORT  
2010

# Table of Contents

This is an annual report from NPEA that is sent out to its regular monthly supporters. If you are interested in receiving an annual report please contact us at [msojka@npea.info](mailto:msojka@npea.info) or 605.310.2026.

---

Treasurers Report,  
by Don Burton Pages 1,2

- Financial disclosure of 2010.

NPEA Supporters Pages 3,4

- 2010 Board Members.
- Supporting Churches.
- Supporting Individuals.

North Point Christian Church,  
by Matt Branum Page 5

- 2010 Review & 2011 Preview.

White Water Christian Church,  
by Chad Halbach Page 6

- 2010 Review & 2011Preview.

Capital Campaign,  
by Derek Olsen Pages 7

- 2010 Review & 2011Preview.

Assistant Director's Report,  
by Mike Sojka Pages 8

- 2010 Review & 2011 Preview

Faith Objectives, by the NPEA Board Page 9,10

- Highlights of 2010Faith Objectives.
- 2011 Faith Objectives.

# Treasurers Report

## By Don Burton

---

### Northern Plains Evangelistic Association

#### Income & Expense

January 2010-December 2010

#### Income

|  |                  |
|--|------------------|
| Contributions                            |                  |
| Capital Campaign                         | \$40,610.04      |
| Church                                   | \$72,543.08      |
| Individual                               | \$58,072.57      |
| Speaking Income                          | \$8,511.37       |
| Operation Laramie                        | \$39,850.70      |
| Leadership Retreat                       | \$5,940.00       |
| Car                                      | \$2,282.00       |
| Coaching                                 | \$1,500.00       |
| Laramie Salary Support (Planters Income) | \$10,213.30      |
| <br>Total Income                         | <br>\$239,523.06 |

#### Expenses

|                  |             |
|------------------|-------------|
| Payroll Expenses |             |
| Salaries         | \$84,895.17 |
| Housing          | \$69,389.92 |
| Taxes            | \$12,477.22 |

Total Payroll Expenses                   \$166,762.31

#### Insurance

|                        |            |
|------------------------|------------|
| Car                    | \$1,172.99 |
| Health                 | \$9,946.69 |
| Health Savings Account | \$1,141.98 |
| Liability              | \$1,358.50 |
| Life Insurance         | \$101.50   |
| Workers Comp.          | \$1,315.50 |

Total Insurance                           \$15,037.16

#### Conventions & Seminar Expenses

|                             |            |
|-----------------------------|------------|
| Booth Supplies              | \$270.24   |
| Leadership Retreat Expenses | \$7,131.11 |
| Registration and Fees       | -\$37.00   |

Total Convention & Semi. Expenses   \$7,364.35

# Treasurers Report

## By Don Burton

---

### Administrative Expenses

|                           |            |
|---------------------------|------------|
| Banking                   | \$233.89   |
| Board Expenses            | \$183.03   |
| Book Allowance            | \$279.43   |
| Bookkeeping               | \$900.00   |
| Computer Equipment        | -\$39.56   |
| Computer Supplies         | \$139.23   |
| Dues and Subscriptions    | \$66.00    |
| Internet                  | \$1,961.83 |
| Office Rent               | \$3,900.00 |
| Office Supplies           | \$62.92    |
| Pay Pal Fees              | \$99.73    |
| Postage                   | \$2,336.93 |
| Printing and Reproduction | \$2,124.29 |
| Telephones                | \$1,155.42 |
| Training Materials        | \$560.00   |
| Utilities                 | \$331.50   |

Total Administrative Expenses \$14,294.64

### Travel Expenses

|                 |            |
|-----------------|------------|
| Airfare         | \$166.00   |
| Car Maintenance | \$2,868.28 |
| Car Rental      | \$235.48   |
| Gas             | \$3,066.96 |
| Lodging         | \$2,957.51 |
| Meals           | \$1,756.55 |
| Miscellaneous   | \$75.07    |
| Rail fare       | \$156.60   |
| Shipping        | \$26.00    |

Total Travel Expenses \$11,308.45

|                     |            |
|---------------------|------------|
| Operation Laramie   | \$5,950.00 |
| Bismarck/Mandan     | \$4,751.71 |
| Canyon Ridge Church | \$2,400.00 |

Total Church Planting Expenses \$13,101.71

Total Expenses \$227,868.62

Net Income \$11,654.44

Transfer to Capital Campaign -\$9,000.00  
Total \$2,654.44

# Northern Plains Evangelistic Association

## Board Members for 2010

---

### Executive Board Members:

Larry Berlin: Co-Chairman; Laramie Management Team  
Senior Minister: Paradise Valley Christian Church Casper, WY  
Home Address: 4323 Trotter Rd  
Casper, WY 82007  
307.265.7428

Marion Cain: Co-Chairman  
Member: Huron Christian Church Huron, SD  
Home Address: 1721 Wisconsin S.W.  
Huron, SD 57350  
605.352.7952

Craig Fausett: Manage; Prayer Warriors; Asst. Webmaster  
Elder: Highmore Church of Christ  
Highmore, SD  
Home Address: Box 83 Highmore, SD 57345  
605.852.2500

Dennis Coull: Secretary  
Elder: First Christian Church Rapid City, SD  
Home Address: 6500 Cottonwood Ct. Black Hawk, SD 57718  
605.787.5321

Larry Andrews: Chairman, Laramie Management Team  
Member: Cody Christian Church Cody, WY  
Home Address: 18 John Wayne Lane  
Powell, WY 82345  
307.272.8880

Don Burton: Treasurer  
Member: Northfield Christian Church  
Ft. Dodge, IA  
Home Address: 1432 South 26th St.  
Ft. Dodge, IA 50501  
515.570.5218

### Other Board Members:

Andy Gudahl  
Senior Minister: First Christian Church  
Wheatland, WY  
Home Address: 303 Bellis Rd.  
Wheatland, WY 82201  
307.322.4784

Dale Kesterson: Asst. Leadership Retreat  
Senior Minister: First Church of Christ  
Atlantic, IA  
Home Address: 1204 Birch St.  
Atlantic, IA 50022  
712.243.6925

Willie Coop  
Senior Minister: WestWay Christian Church  
Scottsbluff, NE  
Home Address: 602 Bluff St.  
Scottsbluff, NE 69361  
308.635.2653

The executive board members meet quarterly. The whole board meets semi annually. All board meetings take place in Rapid City, SD. We encourage you to attend any meetings, they are always open to the public.

# Northern Plains Evangelistic Association

## Monthly Financial Supporters

### Supporting Churches:

|   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| Bayard Church of Christ<br>Bayard, NE                 | Highmore Church of Christ<br>Highmore, SD       | Oakwood Park Christian Church<br>Sioux Falls, SD |
| Broadwell Christian Church<br>Broadwell, IL           | Ignite<br>Manteno, IL                           | Pablo Christian Church<br>Pablo, MT              |
| Brookings Christian Church<br>Brookings, SD           | Jackson Church of Christ<br>Montezuma, IA       | Paradise Valley Christian Church<br>Casper, WY   |
| Calvary Christian Church<br>Swartz Creek, MI          | Kingsway Christian Church<br>Yankton, SD        | Paxton Church of Christ<br>Paxton, IL            |
| Christian Church of Gillette<br>Gillette, WY          | Kingsway Christian Church<br>Avon, IN           | Preston Christian Church<br>Bruce, SD            |
| Christian Church of Casper<br>Casper, WY              | Lewis Church of Christ<br>Lewis, IA             | Riverside Church of Christ<br>Torrington, WY     |
| Church Planters of the Rockies<br>Highlands Ranch, CO | Liberty Christian Church<br>Brownstown, IL      | Riverton Christian Church<br>Riverton, WY        |
| Cody Christian Church<br>Cody, WY                     | Lillian Church of Christ<br>Broken Bow, NE      | Summit Christian Church<br>Akron, OH             |
| Concord Church of Christ<br>West Concord, MN          | Main St. Church of Christ<br>McConnelsville, OH | Tamarack Church of Christ<br>Tamarack, MN        |
| Crookston Church of Christ<br>Crookston, MN           | Manchester Christian Church<br>Akron, OH        | Tomoka Christian Church<br>Ormond Beach, FL      |
| Fairmont Christian Church<br>Fairmont, MN             | McCook Christian Church<br>McCook, NE           | The Bridge Christian Church<br>Dubuque, IA       |
| First Christian Church<br>Beaver, OK                  | Meadowview Church of Christ<br>Frazeyburg, OH   | Two Timbers Church of Christ<br>Oskaloosa, IA    |
| First Christian Church<br>Broken Bow, NE              | Milford Church of Christ<br>Centerburg, OH      | WestWay Christian Church<br>Scottsbluff, NE      |
| First Christian Church<br>Newcastle, WY               | Morningside Church of Christ<br>Sioux City, IA  | White Water Christian Church<br>Laramie, WY      |
| First Christian Church<br>Rapid City, SD              | New Hope Christian Church<br>Lander, WY         | Watertown Christian Church<br>Watertown, SD      |
| First Christian Church<br>Wheatland, WY               | New Life Christian Church<br>Centreville, VA    |  |
| Franklin Heights Christian Church<br>Vincennes, IN    | North Christian Church<br>Cheyenne, WY          |  |
|   | North Point Christian Church<br>Spearfish, SD   |  |

### Individual Supporters:

The 248 individuals that support us come from all over the United States!

# North Point Christian Church

## By Matt Branum

---

### 2010 Review & 2011 Preview

As 2010 came to a close, our leadership team began to assess the "state of church." To our delight, we have found that our sixth year has been our best so far!

#### During 2010:

- We saw our average monthly attendance grow by over 25%!
- We received 24% increase in total giving!
- We made additions to our Leadership Team!
- We saw a multiplication in our Life groups!
- Our first ever VBS was well attended and drew new families to North Point!
- North Point outreach events expanded and exceeded dreams: (H2O giveaway, kindergarten supply drive, adopted an Army unit in Afghanistan, Thanksgiving Basket outreach, Haiti Mission Trip.)
- Financially, North Point made budget!

At a recent leadership meeting, we assessed where we are in relation to the North Point Vision - Authentic people committed to sharing Christ and building believers through sincere relationships, inspiring worship, and serving our community.

And as our leadership team looks to the future, new goals have been set for 2011. Let me share a few of these with you.

In the area of Outreach, We are going to continue and expand our current outreach activities and also step out with new outreach activities: first, partnering with Bella Pregnancy Care Center. As well as, develop a program to serve our schools beginning with our Kindergartens.

North Point is also committed to partnering with NPEA in even greater ways to plant new churches in our region. In the past we have helped partnered through finances, prayer walks, and involvement on management team. Our goal is to continue these and expand with more personal involvement with future plants.

We have also committed to multiplication within our various ministry teams. Our Children's Ministry, Kid's Point, has grown rapidly, doubling in size. Collision, our student ministry, has also had record crowds this past year. In each of these, goals have been set to recruit and train leaders, teachers, and assistants. The Praise team has also set a goal to develop an additional worship leader.

As the church continues to grow, we are making efforts to grow our Life Groups. We currently have approximately 60% involvement in Life Groups. Our hope is that we can see that percentage increase by offering new Life Group classes, as well as, multiplying out our present groups.

We will continue to pray, identify, and develop future spiritual leadership within the body at North Point with the hopes of continuing to build our leadership team.

These are our goals for 2011! As we continue to move forward, we ask for your continued prayer for North Point.

---

# White Water Christian Church

## By Chad Halbach

---

### 2010 Review & 2011 Preview!

2010 was a rollercoaster ride here at White Water Christian Church. At times we soared to new heights and dared to dream far beyond our current situation. But the year also took us to the valley floor and left me questioning God's purpose for bringing me to Laramie. There was nothing easy about the last year. My abilities and faith was challenged like never before.

The valleys we traversed in 2010

- Over 20 people that helped get White Water started moved away to other states.
- Released our children's minister.
- Shantel moved away (church secretary / bookkeeper).
- NPEA support of my salary came to an end (half of my salary gone).
- Relocated offices.
- Attempting to obtain a building permit (3 months of working).

These valleys became the very things that propelled us to the top of mountains.

The mountain tops we explored in 2010

- In spite of 20% of our people moving away our average attendance grew by 10%!
- God is actively working to provide ½ of my salary (much closer than a few months ago)!
- Local Laramie couple rented us 8,600 square foot of prime real-estate for about 30 cents a square foot (going rate is \$2 - \$5 a square foot) (we did get the building permit on 12-29-2010)!
- The church I pastored in Illinois donated over \$30,000 to cover remodel costs of the above space!
- My friend Kurt heard from God and choose to follow Christ into the waters of baptism and his wife, Stephanie told me she is wrestling the idea as well, 10 people were baptized in 2010.

Standing on top of the mountain supplies you with glimpses of God and gives you fuel to trudge through the valleys. I am not sure what 2011 has in store for us, I assume there will be peaks and valleys. We are praying for growth, baptisms, financial independence and ultimately God's will to be done.

I now know why God has called me to Laramie, He is seeking people just like the Samaritan women that Jesus taught in John 4:21-26 "Jesus declared, 'Believe me, woman, a time is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You Samaritans worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know, for salvation is from the Jews. Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in spirit and in truth' The woman said 'I know that Messiah' (called Christ) 'is coming. When he comes he will explain everything to us.' Then Jesus declared, 'I who speak to you am he.'" I eagerly await that promised time.



# Bismarck/Mandan, ND

## By Derek Olsen

---

### 2011 Preview!

The first encounter we had with the thought of Bismarck, ND was Mike asking us to come and pray and see if it could be a good fit for us. (God knew!) We had known Mike for a while, interested in what he was doing in the North Central US, never considering it might be us to go there. So we packed up the van and headed off to "somewhere" in ND. What we discovered would change our lives forever. We loved the people, the city, the atmosphere and most of all, the sense that God was going to bring us back to Bismarck. We went back in Sept. for another prayer journey, this time focusing on the needs of the people.

Over the next several months, we met with Mike a few times, had many phone conversations and prayed. We took online tests, filled out questionnaires, had a weekend with Mike, and flew to Ohio for CPAC. There we were given the green light, with some things to work on. The final stop was meeting with the executive board in Rapid City, SD. Overall, this is the greatest spiritual experience that the Olsen family has been through together.

As we look ahead to 2011 we realize:

- We are so blessed to be involved with a church (MCC) that will allow us to be gone 2 Sundays a month, (Jan-June) among other blessings they are allowing us to do as we stay on FT through June. God continues to work through them as they will partner with us July – Dec. through prayer and financial support.
- We are busy filling up Sundays to preach and teach. We are sending out 500 individual letters and 85 church letters for fundraising and informational purposes. Currently, we are searching for FT Creative Arts minister and PT children's/family minister.
- Attend Exponential in April again, as well as find church plants to learn from in mini residencies that will involve 4-5 days a week (once a month) for 4-5 months.
- In July, we will be at the NACC to help with the NPEA booth and talk to people about the Bismarck church plant.
- Move to Bismarck in August and begin immersing ourselves in the community as well as meeting in weekly small groups for discipleship, community, and Missional outreach.
- Once we get our team assembled, we will attend a boot camp together to seek God in the vision, mission, plan, and structure for the church plant.

Our faith in God continues to grow daily! The extra time on the ground in Bismarck will give us more opportunities to get involved in the community, build relationships and live a life that will attract people to show them the God's grace, Jesus' love and the Spirit's guidance.

---

# Northern Plains Evangelistic Association

By Mike Sojka

---

## 2010 Review & 2011 Preview

In a recent Outreach Magazine there was an article based on advice that famous preaching fathers gave to their offspring. Two of these quotes really had a great impact on me. The first was Anne Graham Lotz, the daughter of Billy Graham (like you couldn't have guessed that). The best advice her father ever gave her was, "Pray! Pray! Pray!, live life I such a way that there would be no retreat, no return, and no regrets." Also Matthew Barnett's famous preaching father told his son this, "Never quit!!! Stay in the battle long enough and something good is going to happen." As we look back on the highlights of 2010 and what God has in store for us in 2011, those are great words of wisdom that we can apply.

2010 ended with a flourish of activity and celebration:

- We hired a lead church planter for Bismarck/Mandan, ND: Derek Olsen!
- God granted us our highest amount of income in our general budget!
- God provided our second launch team family: the Isaacs!
- We ended the year gaining 116 "10/10" financial partners!

During the year, we continued to see North Point Christian Church, White Water Christian Church and Canyon Ridge (all three churches are plants we are associated with) all gain momentum in attendance, offerings, baptisms, leadership training, small group expansion, outreach activities, and many stories of people growing deeper with the Lord.

It all started on 1/1/11. This year is simply going to be another year that God continues to amaze us as He leads us to discover and implement His plans. Derek Olsen is busy attempting to hire staff and raise support. He and his family would like to relocate to Bismarck/Mandan in August of this year. This will be the same month that we will need prayer teams to come once again en masse for the next year, praying once a month until the church starts in the fall of 2012, for God to prepare the Harvest. We still need to have God provide 5 "Living Links" to secure the funding for this project.

We still don't know where God wants us to plant an additional church in 2012, remember we are attempting to plant churches every two years. There is not enough conclusive evidence yet from the three prayer journeys we took in 2010. We may have to regroup and consider three prayer journeys this year to listen to God once again.

Our commitment to helping with Canyon Ridge ends in June of this year. We would like to explore helping to plant churches overseas. It has always been our belief that we continue to plant and strengthen the churches in the United States so we would have more resources to reach the planet. It is one of our goals this year to explore that possibility and set the example for others to follow.

In April I will have had the privilege of serving God and this ministry for 10 years. If the next 10 years progress as fast as the last 10 years, I will have to write a book instead of a page in the year 2022. God has sure taken us on a wild ride. May we continue to ride on the waves He provides. Surf's up!

---

# Faith Objectives By the NPEA Board

---

## 2010 Faith Objectives in Review

- Have 800 people praying for this ministry. We have 788!
- Raise our monthly income by \$3,083.00, that would give us \$160,000 annually. We raised it by \$1,468!
- Gain 10 new supporting churches. We gained 6 new supporting churches.
- Gain 369 new individual donors, on the 10/10 plan. We gained 114.
- Personally contact our supporters once a year. We enjoy talking with you at least once a year!
- Secure 17 short term mission teams to pray in Bismarck/Mandan,ND (Capital Campaign) starting in April 2010, once a month until the church starts. We only secured 6 teams?
- Raise \$30,000 for start up for Capital Campaign by Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011. We only raised \$14,000.
- Acquire 5 3/4 more Living Links for the Capital Campaign. We need \$93,750 more of the \$180,000 (12 Links to cover salaries of church planters) by Jan. 1<sup>st</sup> 2011. We only secured 2 more links.
- Hire three staff positions for the Capital Campaign. Lead Planter, Creative Arts Minister, and Children's Minister, by Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011. We hired the lead church planter.
- Acquire 3 Launch Team families to move to help with the new work in Bismarck/Mandan. We acquired two families.
- Establish a management team for the Capital Campaign. God accomplished this!
- Continue to support and oversee White Water Christian Church, Laramie, WY. God continues to do this!
- Continue to grow and promote our Leadership Couples Retreat, March 4-5th, 2011. God continues to do this as well!
- Recruit 3 more board members. One from NE, one from MN, and one from MT. We didn't recruit any new board members?
- Decide where to plant our next church, Lord willing in the fall of 2012, by taking three prayer journeys at three possible sites. We are still in the process of making this decision.
- Start to develop a new church planting network for the 2012 plant. We will reformulate the Great Northern Church Planting Network, this network planted the church in Laramie, WY.
- Move Npea's office to Fargo, ND. We still have not accomplished this yet.
- Let God be in control of this ministry! It is always a work in progress!

# Faith Objectives By the NPEA Board

---

## 2011 Faith Objectives

- Gain 212 new individual prayer warriors, with the 5/5 Prayer Challenge.
- Gain 259 new individual donors, with the 10/10 Financial Challenge.
- Gain 10 new supporting churches.
- Raise our monthly income by \$1,615, that would give us \$160,000 annually.
- Secure 12 short term mission teams to come pray in Bismarck/Mandan, ND starting in August of 2011.
- Acquire 5 more Living Links for Bismarck/Mandan by July 15th, 2011
- Hire a Creative Arts Minister, and Children's Minister for Bismarck/Mandan by July 15th, 2011.
- Acquire 1 Launch Team family to help with the new work in Bismarck/Mandan by July 15th, 2011
- Decide where to plant our next church, Lord willing in the fall of 2012.
- Determine the budget for our next church plant.
- Start a national search for our next lead church planter.
- Re-establish the Great Northern Church Planting Network to assist in planting our next plant in fall of 2012.
- Investigate church planting possibilities overseas.
- Continue to grow and promote our Leadership Couples Retreat, March 3-4th, 2012.
- Recruit 4 more board members.
- Raise the remaining funds (\$7,650) to purchase another vehicle for NPEA.
- Move Npea's office to Fargo, ND by April 1st, 2011.
- Let God be in control of this ministry!