

“Through the blessing of the upright a city is exalted . . . “

Proverbs 11:11

FAMILIES EQUIPPED + REUNITED



Two foster parents attended a DHS assessment meeting with their foster boy's biological father. He shared about the progress he made in different areas of his life in order to regain custody. Then he shared about the **parenting classes** he took at CAFA. *His face lit up!* He talked about loving his classes and being excited to use what he learned with his son. We prayed for all parenting classes to equip parents to love and lead their children on the prayer guide!

By the end of the meeting, it was determined that **the family would be reunited on the boy's birthday!** Praise the Lord for the way our prayers for the whole community are influencing individuals lives & bringing reconciliation.

A “WEIRD” HALLOWEEN

An officer with the Lane County sheriff department called it “the weirdest Halloween” in Creswell. The city drew the largest crowd in its history, but there was no vandalism & zero calls to the authorities! That's never happened, and he attributed to prayer. We prayed for God's protection and light over our area during Halloween week.

CHURCH ANSWERS

Multiple churches prayed for new volunteer leadership. One church saw new leaders for youth and college ministry step forward, along with new life group leaders & kids' workers! Another church prayed for volunteers for their children's ministry... *five people came forward to serve!*

A church prayed for the launch of their church plant in Ashland. It began with 200 people & \$50,000! They are already seeing fruit, in the typically “unchurched” area.

A man started attending a little church in the country. He needed a place to live to keep custody of his son. The church supported him through the process of finding a job, then a better job and a place to live! He was embraced by community, found work and housing, and got to stay with his son! We prayed for families to have housing and stay together, and God used a local congregation to be part of the answer for this family.

SPORTS + SALVATION

A new Oregon football recruit was baptized this fall. At the next Duck football game, he had two interceptions! We prayed for the ministries reaching out to college athletes, & specifically for God to guide the local collegiate athletic recruiting process for His Kingdom's sake.

We prayed for Fellowship of Christian Athlete's ministry (FCA) to have favor and influence with younger athletes. A girl from a Buddhist background joined the Junction City track team & started attending FCA club meetings. She kept coming back because the club was “such an encouraging environment.” Recently, **she gave her life to Jesus!**

POLICE EVALUATION

In November, the Eugene Police Department received an national evaluation, and the overall report was positive. The report cited “*considerable progress*” on *police-community relations* since the last report – we've prayed for community support for first responders!

THANKSGIVING IN THE NEWS



Together, God's people distributed 1400 Thanksgiving Meal Boxes to 1400 families! 55 churches/ organizations worked together to love our neighbors. There were many stories from the outreach, and the media covered the overall story. KEZI reported on *our together-effort* multiple times, clearly sharing how many churches worked together. We've prayed for media outlets to cover “good news stories” & for the media coverage of CityFest/CityServe to be positive. We see the coverage as an answer to prayer! May Jesus be glorified in the good works He authors.

HEALTH CARE MENTORING

More Christian doctors and dentists are mentoring undergrad medical students. For example, a Christian OB doctor connected with an interested UO senior at a gathering for medical professionals and students. Now the doctor is mentoring the student!

HONORING THE ARTS

We consistently pray for financial provision for musicians and artists. Multiple Jesus-following musicians noticed God's provision in an unusual place. A number of new elderly homes hired consistent musicians this summer. One called it the "retirement home world tour." He was delighted because the market was for his genre. God opened a new avenue to play music & receive income.

The arts strategic team has noticed much change in the art community: main art groups shifting, old galleries closing, and new collaborations springing up. They recognize God is doing a new thing in the arts, even as world class murals are being created in our community for the 2021 Track and Field World Championships (we're praying for the murals too). Artists feel affirmed by the way our community is valuing the arts, even setting a standard of excellence through the murals.

The Pacific Rim Art Guild, a local collaboration of Christian artists, is experiencing transition as well. They recently moved from their gallery space and are looking for a new space, as we pray. In the meantime, God has given them creative, mobile ways to use their art for outreach!



More schools are asking for church partnerships, and churches are stepping forward! **Here are a few examples:**

Many churches hosted harvest parties, praying they'd be full of Jesus' light and be a bridge to the schools around them. Multiple churches shared great reports from their parties. One older congregation hosted a Harvest party and *50 neighborhood kids attended*. Following the party, they received a letter from the father of a girl who attended the party. He was overjoyed by his daughter's experience: She won the raffle, having never won anything before!

Another church has faithfully opened their building to host an after-school kids program for a nearby school. Their ministry has expanded to provide community to parents through church dinners and movie nights. This church, along with others, are meeting the need for "community" for school families.

This summer we prayed for peace and wisdom to guide administrators as they planned and scheduled for the '17 - '18 year. Here's an example of the prayer's answer at a Bethel elementary school. A few weeks into the school year, an assistant principal called for an after-school, all-staff meeting. To their surprise, **she'd planned a party to celebrate the smoothest and most peaceful school year launch in the five years she'd worked there!** One of the teachers who attended the celebration, affirmed how peaceful it was. There was **better hiring & fewer schedule conflicts** which contributed to less confusion. The teacher was overjoyed by the difference specific prayer and peace made at her school in just one year!

ECONOMIC MILESTONES



The economy continues to grow, here are some signs:

Five local tech projects received a combined \$83,000 from the Mozilla Foundation to increase high-speed internet and tech collaboration.

More tech apprenticeships will come to our community through Apprenti and local partners as early as March. The apprenticeships train people with skills needed to work in competitive tech firms.

A cereal and granola bar company plans to open a large plant in Junction City, employing about 75 people.

The Eugene airport announced on December 11th, more than 1 million passengers traveled through the airport in 2017. A robust economy created demand for more flights. In turn, "increased airport travel, especially by business travelers & tourists, benefited our [local] economies" more (RG 12/17).

We also prayed for land to open up to create more capacity for industrial growth, along with collaborative business/government relationships on local and state levels. **The state "approved the first major expansion of Eugene's urban growth boundary in 35 years" (RG 11/1/17).** It opens land near the airport for urban development. The development is expected to create up to *3,000 new jobs*, two parks & a school. **The decision is called a milestone!**

ONE CHURCH - ONE DAY

While God is answering prayer in every sector, we remember the answer to prayer that One Church – One Day is in itself. Pastors are grateful strategic teams are providing focused prayers, *making it possible for churches to pray together 24/7*. They say One Church – One Day is "contributing to an overall movement of the Church to be outward focused."

On top of this, community leaders are encouraged by our prayers. One city official shared *he sleeps better at night, knowing people are praying*. When seven prominent city leaders were invited to a church this fall, the pastor encouraged them that the Church cares & prays about what they care for, and we pray for them daily. He said, "You should have seen the look on their faces!" Another health official walked into a church service when a health care request was shared. It brought him to tears to hear the church praying for his sphere.

From ambulances "miraculously" being funded to economic growth for the wellbeing of families; from thriving parenting classes and city leaders being supported in prayer. . . we are seeing God bring Shalom to our community. It's for Jesus' glory and the transformation of lives. We are praying as Jesus taught, for our appointed leaders, & seeking the peace and prosperity of our land. . . **together!** *Selah.*