

CHIC 2018—A Beautiful Mosaic

The theme for CHIC 2018 was UNITE, with a focus on the beautiful mosaic of ethnicities and cultures represented in the Covenant joining together in one heart of worship. This theme was intentionally lived out through four student ministries joining together from the Kansas City area—one from urban Kansas City, MO (Freedom Fire Urban Ministries), one from urban Kansas City, KS (KICK Ministries), one Hispanic church (Siloe Covenant, currently meeting in Lenexa, KS), and one predominantly white church from the suburbs (Community Covenant, Lenexa, KS).

This combined group came together through the intentional collaborative leadership of each ministry leader who shared a dream of a multi-cultural and multi-ethnic group of students doing life together, learning from each other, and growing in their faith together. What resulted was a dynamic week of learning and community that has become a catalyst for further dreaming in the weeks after CHIC.



The week began as one might expect, with students from each ministry mostly keeping to themselves, each wondering what they might have in common with the other.

As the week wore on, students began to take the risk of getting to know each other. It began with several students swapping seats on church vans to get to know other students. It continued during free time as students took to the soccer field and basketball court, breaking down barriers

continued on back

From the Superintendent

Friends,

As evidenced by our CHIC article, MWC churches are truly living out our shared mission of churches *working together* to impact lives and communities.

On behalf of the MWC staff, I want to thank you for the incredible gift of serving in ministry with you. This month, we had the opportunity to gather for our annual staff retreat. It was a wonderful time of prayer, brainstorming, and laughter! Just as this time together each year is important to our growth as a team, the annual Fall Pastors Retreat is an excellent opportunity for the personal growth of your ministry staff. Thank you, churches, for allowing your pastors this time away to rest, learn, and connect with colleagues!

Along with the Pastors Retreat, we are gearing up for a busy fall. Check out the upcoming events, keep an eye on registration deadlines, and be sure to contact our office with any questions. I look forward to this season of learning and serving together!

To God be the glory!

Tammy



through the simple joys of sport and play. Slowly, students from the different groups began hanging out with one another. They began to learn from each other, hearing each other's perspectives. For some, CHIC was their first experience of worship. (Imagine a basketball stadium of over 5000 teenagers being your first corporate worship experience!) For others, their CHIC experience led them to re-evaluate their perspectives of other ethnicities, challenging previously held stereotypes.

By the time students loaded up the vans to head home, new friendships had been made, a transformational week had been shared, and new dreams of future collaboration were born. God is doing something unique in Kansas City. While none of us know exactly what will result, we can confidently say that CHIC served as an important catalyst for a beautiful, multi-cultural expression of youth ministry. May each of us consider how God is leading us to join together in this beautiful mosaic of Kingdom work!

Fall Pastors Retreats

The MWC Ministerial Association invites all active and retired pastors, chaplains, ministerial staff, and their spouses to attend one or both of our fall retreats to enjoy a time of worship, inspiration, and fellowship. This year's speaker is Shaun Marshall, Director of Congregational Vitality for the ECC. Shaun will be speaking on the topic, *Strong Leadership in Stressful Times: Strategies for Faithful, Fruitful and Fulfilling Pastoral Ministry*.



Western Retreat—October 1-3, Franciscan Retreat Center, Colorado Springs
Eastern Retreat—October 29-31, Carol Joy Holling Retreat Center, Ashland, NE

Registration due September 7!



Exploring Call Retreat

If you know women who are in the process of discerning God's call on their lives, we invite you to send them to the Exploring Call Retreat October 10-12. Contact office@midwestcovenant.org for more information.

Crescendo Workshops

To help your church inspire your congregants 55+ to catch a vision for Kingdom ministry, you are invited to bring your team to attend an introductory *Crescendo* workshop. Contact Lynn Black at lynn@csidecov.org to register your team or have a private consultation. Registration is \$50 per church, plus \$5 per person for lunch.



Saturday, September 22, 10 am-1:30 pm - LifeSpring Covenant, Loveland, CO
Saturday, September 29, 10 am-2 pm - Midwest Covenant Home, Stromsburg, NE

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