

**8000 DISCIPLES**  
**140 CHURCHES**

**30/15% FEMALE LEADERSHIP**  
**25% ETHNIC/MULTI-ETHNIC**

**From the Superintendent**

Friends,

I pray you will experience the richness of God's blessing in your life as you gather with friends and family to celebrate this Thanksgiving. When I take time to reflect on the many blessings in my own life, I am reminded of just how grateful I am for you and the partnership we share. It is truly a joy to serve the Midwest Conference.



This month's issue is filled with examples of the life-changing work occurring through MWC churches faithfully serving their communities. Such fruitful ministry is a testament to your love for Christ in response to his great love for us. Thank you, churches, for your unwavering commitment to our shared mission!

At the end of November, Fil Nesta will be concluding his service to the conference. On behalf of MWC staff, I would like to express gratitude to Fil for the phenomenal work he has done with our Latino churches and church planting this past year. We will greatly miss the gifts, insights, and joy he brings to our ministry.

To God be the glory in his church and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever ~

Tammy

*I thank my God every time I remember you. Philippians 1:3*

**Grateful for Fil Nesta's Ministry to MWC**

At the end of November, Fil Nesta will be transitioning out of the MWC ministry position he has held for this past year. Due to recent developments surrounding Fil's youngest daughter's medical condition, Fil and Juana have discerned that they need to remain in Oakley, CA, around their current networks of care and support (medical, school, family). Please pray for Fil's daughter, Victoriah, and for Juana and Fil as they navigate these new circumstances.



Our staff team has been enriched by Fil's presence and he will be missed greatly by all of us. We are grateful that Fil has agreed to continue to coach our two newest Latino church plants in Arvada. We are working on a plan to support the ongoing work of our Latino pastors and churches.

**Baptismal Services**

In August, the ECC in Lindsborg, KS, saw the baptism of 13 disciples, with ages ranging from 6 to 77! Over Labor Day weekend, First Covenant in Omaha, NE, celebrated four baptisms! On September 4, Oasis de Salvacion, a MWC church plant in Arvada, CO, baptized four people! We praise God for the work he is doing in the lives of these disciples!



**The Raising Up of a Pastor**

In the 17 years that I have pastored Applewood Community Church, God has blessed us several times by raising up needed staff members from inside the church family. It is always a joy to walk with these folks through the transition from volunteer to staff member.

When Sarah Lynch and her husband came to AWCC, she began volunteering in the preschool class. As time passed and Sarah began taking on more responsibilities, the couple who had been serving as part-time Directors of Children's Ministry for many years began to think about retirement. Because Sarah's gifts and abilities were becoming more obvious, they felt confident that she could be their replacement.

In 2014, the couple resigned, and Sarah went through a formal application and interview process to serve as the new Director of Children's Ministry. One of the things I remember most clearly from that process was Sarah's confidence in God's call to the position. She expressed amazement at how circumstances in the previous years had paved the way for her new ministry!



This past June, Sarah was presented to the Covenant Annual Meeting and granted a Bi-Vocational Ministry License. What a joy to see God at work in this faithful servant!

*Contributed by Pastor Guy McCaslin of Applewood Community Church in Golden, CO.*

**Taking Lessons from CHIC into the Community**

On October 20, high school sophomore Trinity Tassell and small group leader Melissa Pietig of Renew Covenant in Carroll, IA, hosted a community-wide scavenger hunt to raise money for refugees in South Sudan. Following CHIC 2018, these women felt the Lord calling them to raise funds and awareness back in their home town. Twenty-four teams (with more than 60% of those in attendance from outside the church) raised more than \$1,000 through the 2-hour event. All proceeds will benefit the work of Covenant World Mission.



**Making New Disciples**

On October 28, Oasis de Salvacion, led by Pastors Karla and Oscar Cortez, hosted their first outreach event in Thornton, CO. They provided free food, face painting, games, and fun. They also preached the gospel to the families, and seven kids came to Christ as a result!

**Annual Ministry Celebration**

First Covenant, Omaha, NE  
April 26-27, 2019

**Gather**

Hilton Omaha, Omaha, NE  
June 27-29, 2019

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