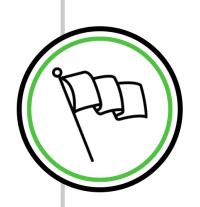
## CHURCH FOR THE NATIONS



SUMMER 2020
NEWSLETTER

# Keep it simple.

Change. It's more than what stores say they're short on these days. It's a reality that the entire world has experienced in the last six months. One of the mentors that this season has brought me recently said about COVID-19, "We are all in the same storm, but in different boats." As we wrap up the summer and the leaves begin to change we anticipate the crisp and wet weather here in the Pacific Northwest. We anticipate the change and despite the challenges that are before us in ministry, that Jesus' faithfulness to us as we engage in His mission will not.

Our first year of ministry is not how we imagined it to be. We are grieving this and we are moving on, albeit at a different pace and in a different way than we originally imagined. I think this is true of many of us. For us at CFTN, like many ministries we are praying, seeking and making adjustments that we sense the Spirit is leading us to make to adapt and be faithful to Jesus' mission during this time.

Big changes lie ahead for the Church. We've already seen major shifts from inperson gatherings to online-only-church and hybrid-models. What remains true is that the current moment that we're in is full of opportunities if we would only look. Opportunities to BE the church where we are--in our neighborhoods, homes, places of work and places of business that remain open. The opportunity before us to make disciples in more intimate and smaller ways abound. Perhaps 'leading small' is the new big. Doesn't that sound like the Kingdom Jesus preached anyway? Where you lose to gain, die to live, and the least among us is the greatest? I am looking forward to this next season of ministry at CFTN (you should too) as we seek to intentioanlly establish biblically faithful multicultural communities, that we are calling Simple Churches, all over the Greater Seattle Area. Especially during these days we appreciate and anticpate your prayers and support. -Pastor Luis

#### MISSION

Love God. Love People. Make Disciples. Keep It Simple.

VISION

To create a compassionate multicultural community that courageously follows Jesus together in Marysville, the Greater Seattle Area, and the world.



# PLANTING DURING A PANDEMIC

#### VALUES















I'm not sure about you, but when the school year comes to a close, I've already spent ample time planning our family summer activities - vacations, visitors, events, parties... you name it. Personally, the Sanchez Fam are a busy unit, happily collecting people and adventures as we go along.

Jesus, and Covid, had other plans for us this Summer 2020. While we went into this season with ideas and goals, almost everything in our calendar had to be penciled in, ready to change. By His grace, we have been able to connect with our neighbors this summer, which may not have been as easy to do if COVID-19 was not a thing. We were all home. We were all desperate for human interaction.

We began with the social-distancing bonfires in the cul-de-sac, BBQs in our driveways, and moved on to outdoor movie nights, to sharing veggies from our gardens, and delivering treats in tupperware.

Our small groups and core team have grown closer as we move

through this year together - sharing in joys and celebrations, and holding each other up as we move through grief and anxiety during such an unknown season in this world. I (Melissa) am continuously grateful for this group of people who are all in for what Jesus has for Church For the Nations. As we delve into Emotionally Healthy Spiritually (by Pete Scazzero), and all that God wants to do in us, so He can do what He wants to do through us - people just keep showing up faithfully, ready to choose in to this community.

Continuously, I am learning the beauty of living life with an open-handed posture. By not holding on to tightly to anything - plans, possessions, or people - the grace of being able to give and receive without reserve. It is freeing to know He's got it all under control, even when we don't.

#### CFTN SPRING 2020

#### WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO?



- We have established our core team and signed a core-team covenant.
- To build a solid foundation, as a team we are working through Emotionally Healthy Spirituality together.
- We are looking to begin gathering in person more frequently as COVID guidelines allow.
- Our small group has multiplied to two groups and are meeting Tues + Thurs over Zoom.
- We've hosted two Outdoor Movie Nights in July, in our drive/cul-de-sac and watched 90's Classics with our neighbors while enjoying popcorn-machine popcorn and great weather together...but still Covid-friendly:)
- We continue to pray through Marysville, covering the entire city, and should be done by early Fall.
- Looking to the Fall, we'll be piloting an Alpha (evangelism group) and focusing on finding Covid-friendly outreach opportunities.
- We're currently working with one of our local elementary schools and doing a School Supply Drive for international students and immigrant families in our neighborhood.

#### HOW YOU CAN PRAY



## BACK TO CHOOL DRIVE

Partner with us to bless our community

Supplies will benefit local international families + immigrant community

DONATE EASILY THROUGH OUR AMAZON WISH LIST!

LINK INCLUDED IN POST



- For the School Supply Drive, that we will continue to be able to serve and build bridges in our community, and help provide what students are needing to start school well this Fall.
- Health for our family, hearts of our children as they learn to process everything going on.
- Continued responsiveness of neighbors to the gospel and the work of CFTN.
- Insight and courage to face the days ahead in the power of the Spirit.





Generosity is one of our values--due to the generosity of so many, in this season of COVID-19 God has used CFTN to pass on His blessings to our neighbors in Marysville and beyond. This is one of the ways that we are becoming the community that Jesus is calling us to be. By partnering financially with us you can join us on mission!

Most church plants will raise money for the first 3-5 years. Fundraising is especially important during the formative years of a new church because there isn't an established congregation yet or many mature disciples to financially support the startup ministry. With your support we can continue to be a blessing to others by sharing the love of Jesus in tangible ways as we establish Jesus-centered Biblical communities here.

Thank you for considering a financial partnership with us

Please write + send checks to:
Church For The Nations
PO BOX 1816
Marysville, WA 98270
or visit
churchforthenations.com/
give

\*\*All gifts are tax deductible\*\*

One-time gifts and various monthly commitments
Sare Wellome OUCH Contact Pastor Luis
@ 206.300.0382

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