



NCN's Language Ministries Newsletter

An update from your Language Ministries Team Leader

September 2009

Upcoming Events

- ◆ **Hispanic Pastors Meeting**
⇒ Saturday, October 3
9:00 am—11:00 am
NorthStar Annandale Office

- ◆ **NorthStar Orientation for Applying Churches (Churches seeking to become members of NorthStar)**
⇒ Saturday, October 3
9:00 am—12:00 pm
NorthStar Annandale Office
(Fellowship Hall of The United Baptist Church)
Call for Reservation:
703.941.6822

- ◆ **Culto Unido (Unified Worship Service for Hispanic Congregations)**
⇒ Sunday, October 11, 5:30 pm
Host Church: Iglesia La Gran Comision
At Calvary Hill Baptist Church
9301 Little River Turnpike,
Fairfax

- ◆ **NorthStar Church Network Annual Meeting**
⇒ Saturday, October 24
9:00 am—12:30 pm
New Hope Church
8905 Ox Road (Rt. 123)
Lorton, VA
All NorthStar Churches Invited
Worship, Business, Inspiration,
Fellowship, Ministry Displays

From Summer to Fall

God is at work in and through His churches. NorthStar Language Churches are some of the strongest, most missions minded, mission-active congregations in Northern Virginia. This summer they have been meeting needs in their communities, traveling on overseas ministry trips, supporting new churches in other states and countries, training persons for vocation ministry, giving to support NorthStar and other Christian organizations, and evangelizing boldly and creatively.

NorthStar churches are worshipping and ministering in many languages: English, Arabic, Spanish, Russian, Vietnamese, Chinese, Korean, Twi (Ghanaian), Liberian, Amharic (Ethiopian), Cambodian, Portuguese (Brazilian), Tagalog (Filipino), Tigrinya (Eritrean). There are 60+ language congregations and ministry groups in our association family.

Some ethnic churches have multiple congregations or services. Some have home Bible study groups. Some are multi-lingual or multi-cultural. Some help to sponsor work in other languages. Some have begun English ministries to reach and disciple the younger generation.

Thank you for reading this newsletter. I hope you will pray for the language churches and for your own church and its part in the gospel enterprise of Christ. It is an honor to serve the churches and work together with you. Thanks for your prayers and financial support, especially in these challenging days. Please contact me with any questions or ideas.

II Corinthians 11:28.

For Christ and His Kingdom,

Greg

Praying for the Churches

*Churches seeking a pastor: that search committees would prayerfully follow an appropriate process and would discern God's will concerning the right person to lead the congregation.

*Churches exploring the start of a language ministry or multi-ethnic congregation: that they would understand the need, take the best approach for reaching people with the Gospels, and experience the Spirit's unity in moving forward for God's Kingdom.

*Churches needing additional financial support for their language pastors: that the congregation would give generously to God's work and that other churches would be enlisted to help provide the financial need.

*Churches with special needs and opportunities: that the people would pray fervently and move forward in unity and faith to accomplish the divine tasks before them.

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If you would like to inform churches of language events, please contact NorthStar Church Network:
703-941-6822



Starting a Mission Congregation

If your church is prayerfully considering the start of new work, in English or for any other language group, NorthStar can help. We can provide guidance, resources, and suggestions, both in person and in print. Call the NCN office or email Greg Loewer. The Holy Spirit is moving among the churches. What is He saying to you and yours?

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English Ministry Pastors Needed

Various Korean-American congregations are expanding their ministries and are seeking a part-time Pastor for English Ministries to preach in English worship services and lead discipleship training for youth and young adults. Applicants do not need to speak Korean. For more information, contact Greg Loewer.

Space Needed

Several congregations are needing to relocate. If your church might be interested in exploring a partnership for shared building use, contact Greg Loewer for a list of seeking churches, along with samples of partnership covenants, rental agreements, and suggestions.

Financial Contributions to NorthStar

Thanks to all who give to support NorthStar ministries. Your contributions mean NorthStar staff and volunteers can provide: pastor search committee training, vision casting, crisis counseling, ministry training, administration guidance, new work assistance, mission information, and more.

Each time a church sends a check to NorthStar, our office sends back a receipt, a contribution form for the next gift, and a mailing envelope. If your church needs any of these, please call the NorthStar office for assistance. We desire to use your mission dollars in the most effective, God-honoring way for His Kingdom.

NCN Language Ministries Tip:

Here are some needful steps in starting a new (language) ministry. For more details, contact Greg Loewer:

1. A passion for souls and a commitment to Christ's Great Commission.
2. Prayer for the Holy Spirit's direction.
3. Discovery and awareness of need.
4. Discernment of God's leading to meet that need in the most appropriate ways.
5. Decisions of philosophy, strategy, partnerships, policy, personnel, finances, practicalities, etc.
6. An internal church covenant regarding its commitment to the new work and the responsibilities of each partner involved.
7. Action. Begin the ministry. (Perhaps with a formal dedication service.)
8. Accountability. Information and updates from new ministry leader(s) to appropriate church groups.
9. Evaluation. Periodic assessment by appropriate church groups of the new work's goals, needs, achievements, etc.
10. Celebration. Periodic affirmations of progress.



NorthStar Church Network Language Ministries

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