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"The Pulse"

An *Alive!* Update

28 January 11

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Welcome to the very first issue of The Pulse. *Alive!* is pumping with life-blood. Things are happening that you should know about. The Pulse is how you will be kept informed with the latest information about events, dates, prayer items and news. So save it, print it, share it. Pray continually & check your Pulse often.

BOOT CAMP

Church plants need a plan...a map to follow, as it were. *Alive!* will be participating in the CMTC boot camp this February in Orlando Florida. From the 7th to the 10, we will be sending 5 lead team members plus our coach to discern and develop a ministry plan for us to follow as we live into a missional vision to reach the 30,000 in our community who do not have a church home. Please be in prayer for our coach Larry Doombos, Terry and Sheryl Scholten, Dawn Van Koevering, Betty Koning and Josh Klomp as they search out God's plan for *Alive!* through prayer, learning and wisdom. Look for a report after the team returns.

"Alive!"

A different kind of church

Getting outside...

I spent a lot of time reading while I was gone for a time of renewal in preparation for starting as the pastor of *Alive!*. Sheryl and I spent a lot of time talking about how amazing God's love is; how his grace is free and expensive at the same time, how he is patient and kind. Every day we were overwhelmed in awestruck-wonder that God loves his children, who more often than not, reject him. And yet with undistracted effort, God finds us and restores us, draws us in and quiets us with his crazy love. Over and over again he brings us home. He left heaven to do that - so we should leave our "glory" too, so we can bring the life-changing gospel to a hurting world. That's what *Alive!* is all about - getting outside of ourselves for someone else's sake. Hand to the plow/Terry

Some things for your calendar...

-Feb.2: Winter Event for *Alive!* and friends. Join us at 6:00pm at Hagar Park's DeVries room for chili dogs with all the toppings, ice cream sundaes, and a "minute to win it" challenge. Afterward we will get an *Alive!* update. We are inviting our Christmas adopted families, and you can invite your friends and neighbors. Check your Jan.15 email from Brian Scholten for more details. We plan on you being there for all the food and fun - so don't miss it. Your smiling face is the sunshine in winter!

-Feb.6: Installation Service for Terry Scholten and for *Alive!* Let's all meet at Ridgewood CRC (www.ridgewoodcrc.com) for the 10:00am service. Please come early. Dress as you prefer. We have reserved seats in the center rows of the sanctuary so we can all sit together. After the installation, we will all be commissioned as missionaries to Jenison for the 30k unchurched. There will be a fellowship time in the gymnasium after the service. This will be an awesome time, with guests from classis, home missions and other churches. Don't miss it.

-Feb.13: Communion Service at Evergreen Ministries (www.egm.org). Terry is doing his church planting residency at EGM for a few months and will be leading the 6:00pm communion service. This may be a great time for *Alive!* to come together, and join with Evergreen, our coaching church, for fellowship and worship.

Some prayer items for your list...* the facilities team as they research properties * other church plants and what we learn from visiting/worshipping with them * Terry's residency at EGM and all he has to learn to be a planter * Boot Camp * the 30k * Ridgewood ~ our parent * Thanksgiving for all the goodness of a mighty God who loves us A LOT! *