



JUNE 2019

Time to Thrive

Director of Church Development, Wes Furlong shares what's next in church resources at Evana.



How do our churches thrive in an increasingly post-Christendom context? How do we increasingly hear and respond to what the spirit of God is doing in our communities? How can Evana best walk with and support local congregations in the most meaningful ways?

These three questions helped frame the conversations Matt Hamsher and I had recently on the 2019-2020 goals for church development. The good news is that we have a lot to celebrate across the network. Stories of new believer baptisms, new ministries, expanded weekend service times, leaders rising up and seeking mentoring and opportunities to serve, stories of congregations restarting...there's a lot of great things going on right now.

"Working with Wes, getting his insight into interpreting our congregational survey, as well as our community mapping was very helpful. Having him with us 'on site' was even more important. Wes was able to help us see the resources we already have at our fingertips, be grateful to God for the resources we have, so that we can hold those resources with an open hand. We also began to have an increased urgency of seeing true salvation growth, and are blessed to see the beginning fruit of disciples making disciples."

-Jim Bartholomew Pastor at Dayspring Christian Fellowship

Our focus for 2019-2020 in the area of church development is two-fold: **Strengthen and expand our core services** and **support and extend our capacity as a network to foster meaningful connections**.

Right now our core services include:

1. *Huddles*: Monthly gatherings with regional pastors.
2. *Vital Impact Assessment* (vitalimpact.church): a church survey designed to help churches measure their impact with great specificity
3. *Getting to Vital* (cityflourish.teachable.com): a leadership curriculum on 'how life change best happens.'
4. *City Flourish* (cityflourish.com): coaching and resourcing for community impact.
5. *Consulting*: StratOP process for organizational alignment with vision and values.
6. *Webinars and Seminars*: The range of topics, such as Community-based Pastoral Care, A Trauma-Informed Church, Starting A Healing Ministry in Your Church, and Prayer Ministry 101.

We're grateful for the impact these services have already had and we plan on continuing to refine and expand them. Three primary strategies for expanding our core services and support in 2019-2020 are:

Establish a coaching network: We have incredible leaders who have much to offer and one of the benefits of a network is the ability to create spaces for opportunities to emerge and connections to form. These leaders will be accessible to churches directly for coaching and support.

Provide more regional events: We plan to offer two-day intensives on topics identified by pastors as well as a modified version of the StratOP consulting process. Some of the events and services that are

most effective need to have a wider bandwidth. By offering a modified version in multiple locations, we expect to increase participation four-fold.

Offer more ways to connect with (and listen to) pastors and leaders: Personally, as Evana has grown, it's been challenging to maintain the same level of connection with local churches I enjoyed in the first two years. Evana staff and Regional Pastors will make it easy for pastors and leaders to directly schedule meeting times with them through automated appointment scheduling. We also just launched our first annual "leaders survey," which will provide invaluable insights on how to best resource and support church leaders.

"The resourcing from Evana is unparalleled. I don't know anyone else doing this in our Anabaptist stream. At Capital Christian we have participated in Pastor retreats, Huddles, and now with some one on one consulting with Wes Furlong. All of it is with a relational Jesus centered heart that guides us into the tough questions we tend to want to avoid."

~Glenn Kauffman – Pastor at Capital Christian

We're really focused this year on doing whatever we can as a network to provide the encouragement, support, and resourcing to help our churches thrive in an increasingly post-Christendom context.

It's going to be a great year!

Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen! -Ephesians 3:20-21

~Wes Furlong, Director of Church Development

rightnow MEDIA

We excited to share that our churches now have access to an extensive, new video library called RightNow Media! It's like the "Netflix of Video Bible Studies" and has a HUGE library of faith-based videos that you can access whenever and wherever you want—on your phone, iPad, computer, or at home on your TV.

We're always looking for ways to help our churches and families develop and strengthen their faith. We believe RightNow Media will be a tool to do that. RightNow Media has videos for everyone—kids, youth, parents, married couples, college students, single adults, working professionals—all aimed at helping you grow.

On June 11th we will put out an invitation through email and on Workplace to give you FREE access to RightNow Media. You will be able to click on a link to sign up for an account, and you'll be all set to explore more than 20,000 videos. We pray that RightNow Media will be a blessing for you and your family!



Regenal Is Just Around the Corner!

We hope to see as many as can make it this month in Kidron, Ohio! Registration is still open for **Regenal June 29th and 30th**. Bring the whole family out to join in this time of connecting with other believers and growing closer to Christ through worship and recreation. Keynote speakers will be Gil and Marketo Michel, pastors of That Church Downtown in South Bend, IN. The event will take place at **Kidron Mennonite Church** with lodging and other activities available at **Camp Luz**. For more information or to register visit campluz.com/regenal2019.