

NORTHERN KENTUCKY

The Southern Side of Cincinnati.

Northern Kentucky Church Planting News – 3 July 2007

Dear Friends,

Just a few days ago we received the July issue of *New Horizons*, the monthly magazine of The Orthodox Presbyterian Church, a sister denomination of The Presbyterian Church in America. In the lead article, "Anatomy of a Church Plant," Rev. Ross W. Graham opens with these words:

Planting a church is not easy. There are no blueprints for doing it. Because each local church is planted in its own location and consists of a unique group of people, the variables involved in establishing a new body of believers are endless. Church planting is not a science. It is a spiritual undertaking. It is God who establishes new churches. Those who work, lead, and help are only the tools he uses. But there are principles of church planting that God has set down in his Word.

Well said. Here's a brief update on what's been going on with us since the last issue. On 23 June, an article on the church plant appeared in the *Cincinnati Enquirer* and *Kentucky Enquirer*. For those of you who may be interested in reading it, I should have it posted on the website by the end of this week. On 28 June, Michelle and I celebrated our 10th wedding anniversary, grateful to God for His completed and yet ongoing work of making one life from two.

The biggest and most anticipated news of the past few days is that at 8:29 p.m. on Wednesday, 27 June, Matthew James was born weighing 8lbs 4oz and stretching 20 ½ inches. Matthew and his birth mother are doing well, and Mary Lauren is very much enjoying her new status as a big sister.

Here's how you could pray specifically in the next few weeks:

- Join us in giving thanks to God for the birth of Matthew and for his placement in our home two days later. Ask God to give us wisdom and grace in parenting (and sleep!) as well as to govern the entire adoption process with grace and peace for everyone involved.
- In view of the above quote, ask God to begin to gather and prepare His tools who will be willing to work, lead, and help with the many tasks surrounding the establishment of this new church. Pray that these servants will "walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which [they] have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace" (Ephesians 4:1b-3).

Many thanks for your friendship and for persevering with us through your prayers. You are a great help and encouragement to us.

Sincerely,

Lee

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