

NORTHERN KENTUCKY

The Southern Side of Cincinnati.

Northern Kentucky Church Planting News – 17 July 2007

Dear Friends,

351,857 and counting. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, that's the estimated number of people living in Northern Kentucky (Boone, Kenton and Campbell counties) as of 1 July 2006. Interestingly, but not surprisingly, this also happens to be the number of worshippers who call Northern Kentucky home. That's because all people are worshippers. People will either worship the uncreated God or they will worship some created thing. It is not possible to worship *nothing*, for everyone worships something (family, career, success, material goods, leisure, status, reputation, etc.) or someone (a celebrity, a pop culture icon, some sort of guru, a friend, a spouse, or themselves). Indeed, there is no shortage of idols that are competing for the hearts and minds of the people of Northern Kentucky.

This is where church planting comes into the picture. As you've heard me say before and will continue to hear me say from time to time, the mission of this new church will be to call the people of Northern Kentucky to glorify and enjoy (in other words, to worship) the living and true God by proclaiming in word and deed the gospel of God's grace and peace in Jesus Christ. Everything about the church, by God's grace, will both point to and radiate from this one central orienting and governing purpose.

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

- Ask God to build into the very fabric and DNA of the church an awareness of the reality that it will be established by and exist solely for His pleasure, that is for His glory, honor, and fame. Pray that the corporate, family, and private worship of the church will be guided, directed, and governed by the boundary markers that God Himself has established as revealed in the Scriptures. In other words, pray that those who will be gathered to this church will worship the living and true God in spirit and in truth (John 4:23-24) and with reverence and awe (Hebrews 12:28-29).
- We are scheduled to move out of our present home in West Chester, PA on Friday, 3 August and into our new home in Fort Mitchell, KY on Monday, 6 August. Not only have I come to recognize that task of establishing a new church will be far beyond my ability, but it also seems like handling all of the details for a move while caring for a newborn are beyond our ability as well. Therefore, please pray. Ask God to grant us wisdom and strength (and maybe a few more hours of sleep) in our remaining days in Pennsylvania.

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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