



Σ† ETERNITY

JULY NEWSLETTER

"Look at the nations and watch— and be utterly amazed. For I am going to do something in your days that you would not believe, even if you were told." - Habakkuk 1:5

To Friends Of Eternity,

As I write this to you, this particular passage of Scripture is a big encouragement to me for two reasons. First, it is a promise and indicative of God our Father that He wants to do amazing things in and through us. Second, it is a comfort because it reminds me daily that it is our Mighty God who will build His church. Too many times, I have the tendency to want to step into God's place and try to build this church plant named Eternity myself. By His grace, I am reminded again and again that God is at work here and that I need to trust Him. It was a little over a year ago that this journey began. God never ceases to amaze me in what he can do in just a year.

Let me give you an update of our progress:

- † Eternity has been granted domestic non-profit status by the State of Missouri
- † We have applied for and received our EIN (Employer Identification Number) from the IRS
- † We are in the process of completing IRS Form 1023 which will serve as our application for our official 501(c)(3) exempt status
- † We have completed our Constitution and By-Laws which will serve as our governing documents
- † God has been gracious and we have raised a little over \$27,000 in pledges for a two-year period and the fundraising efforts continue
- † We have secured a place to live in Jefferson City and will be re-locating on or around August 1st
- † We have our first vision meeting scheduled for July 27th and have fourteen people scheduled to attend with three weeks left to promote the meeting
- † We currently have three families committed to being a part of the core group

That's just a sketch of what we've been doing to prepare. God has done so much and we're NOT EVEN IN Jefferson City yet. I am anxious to see what God will do once we are actually living there.

It has also been a true joy to get to know and network with other pastors both in the Jefferson City area. They have been very supportive and many have prayed with me and had their churches pray over me in the recent months. I can't tell you how encouraging that has been to our family and it is always a humbling experience for me. I pray Eternity gets to do the same for future church planters.

Even as God has done so much in the last year to prepare us to plant Eternity, the reality is that there is still so much that needs to be done:

- † Once we actually arrive in Jefferson City, we will continue and accelerate the process of making contacts and building relationships with those whom God will bring to be a part of the core group
- † As that core group develops, we will begin to put flesh on the skeleton, so to speak, of what it will mean to be Eternity
- † We will need to acquire and implement various technologies to help us provide an administrative framework to help Eternity function as smooth as possible
- † We will begin to pray and seek God's direction on where He would have Eternity meet. Right now, I have no leanings or inclinations at all, so that may mean being a portable church or renting space in Jefferson City somewhere.
- † We will aggressively seek to proclaim the Gospel. This is the first and most important task of Eternity. Seeking that which is lost and being sensitive to who God is calling to Himself. All the other stuff can happen, but if we aren't seeing Nomads become Newborns and seeing lives transformed by the Gospel, then I believe we have missed our purpose as a church plant.

In light of all I have shared with you, the reality is that we need your help in a myriad of ways:

- † Would you please lift us up in prayer? The God of all Creation holds the universe in His hands and is eager to marshal the vast resources of heaven to advance the Gospel. Would you ask Him to do that for us? If you are interested in being a prayer partner with Eternity, email me back at: marc@eternityjc.com and I'll send you the link to our prayer requests.
- † We truly need the financial generosity of others. God has been so generous in all of our lives, and we are praying that you will extend that generosity to us as we labor for the Gospel to see it transform Mid-Missouri. To learn more about the different ways you can support Eternity, go to: www.eternityjc.com/home/support
- † Would you help us spread the news? Perhaps you know of someone in Mid-Missouri that you think would be interested in being a part of a new church plant? Maybe you know somebody that we should really make contact with? Perhaps you have a friend who you would like us to share the Gospel with? Whatever the situation may be, would you help us in our efforts to make people aware of what God is doing at a church named Eternity?

I am excited about the coming months and I am truly ready to see God do amazing things. I'm honored that you are on that journey with us. To keep up to date on what God is doing, be sure to visit our website at: www.eternityjc.com

In Christ,

Marc

You can reach us by mail at: Eternity Church
PO Box 921
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Also, you can keep up on my personal journey at:
www.marcbackes.com