



April 24, 2018

Dear Friends at Riverwood,

I wanted to take the opportunity to say a huge thank you to each and every one of you. As a church family you have stepped out in faith in so many ways over the last years. I have been fortunate to walk with you for 13 of those and have seen God moving and working in miraculous ways to build harmony, a passionate sense of mission, a commitment to the last, the least and the lost in the Rockford/Greenfield area, and around the world. You have developed and called great leaders who have and are serving you well. You have taken on a building project which has allowed you to reach even more people as I have watched you strive to impact your region for the Gospel of Christ.

Most recently you framed what can only be termed a "leap of faith" as you began this capital campaign designed to meet so many needs on so many fronts. One of the initiatives you all committed to was providing funding for Northwest Conference church planting. Your very generous financial gift and equally important, your commitment to pray for NWC church planting, has resulted in much fruit. Since the first of January we have seen 4 new churches begun in the conference. Church planting is expensive, but with your generous gift we have been able to provide funding to help these new mission outposts get started. What a legacy from one church plant to the next generation of church plants!

God is using all of you in profound ways. Please don't stop praying, seeking God's next, and being the best Riverwood you can be. It's in that place that God's power is unleashed, and lives are transformed.

I love your heart for the Gospel, and thank God for your partnership in ministry. Thank you again for your Kingdom sized vision.

By His Grace and For His Glory,

Mike


Rev. Michael Brown
Director of Church Planting
The Northwest Conference of the ECC

P.S. *Keith, thank you for your friendship and tremendous passion and leadership.*