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TOGETHER WITH YOU, we're bringing people together in Rockwood to ensure that no one is invisible and that everyone has access to food, freedom, and forgiveness.

TOGETHER WITH YOU, we're working on PREVENTING trafficking, dovetailing with our Integrated Community Transformation mission.

TOGETHER WITH YOU, we envision Rockwood becoming a community where children are less vulnerable to being trafficked and adults do not want to traffic kids.

Interesting Facts About Portland (from MovementPortland.com)

Starting from January, we are adding an interesting fact about Portland each month. January's fact was: 2.4 million people live in the greater Portland area, with 650,000 in the city limits.

February Fact: About 100 people move to Portland every month.



Being part of a church in a very diverse community like Rockwood requires ongoing education about interacting with various cultures.

Once a month, Scott meets with a group of people associated with PDX Mosaix. These are beautiful people who are, in some context, either pursuing or already practicing multi-cultural church, multi-cultural ministry, or other multi-cultural relationships.

Sometimes the group is larger and sometimes smaller. Sometimes the general meetings lead to one-on-one appointments and relationship-building in other contexts. This was the group that introduced me to the book Multiethnic Conversations, which I took a group from our church through last year, and am currently going through with our church elders.



For the last year I have been discipling a core group of people (most of whom are in the photo above). Expecting a church in Rockwood to make any kind of community impact requires intentional discipleship efforts.

We learn together, practice, give accountability and encouragement, fellowship and serve together.

We have learned how to ABIDE in Jesus, practice the presence of God, be filled with the Spirit, remember our IDENTITY and AUTHORITY in Christ, develop listening hearts to hear God's voice, cooperate with the Holy Spirit in His work in us of inner transformation and depend on Him in times of temptation. We have looked at the unique ways God has created and gifted us and how to use this for His glory. We are learning how to be TOTAL life managers (HE is the OWNER). We are learning how to share our faith and how to disciple others. And we have regularly prayed with "prayer partners".

In a few months, we will stop meeting with each other and (with God's help) we will all teach others what we learned.







Pictured above from left to right (back to front) are: Me, Jean Ellis, Crystal and Matt Read, Bradley Thatcher, Kim Haak, and Tara Thatcher.

We have had some subtractions and some additions to our church's Global Outreach (GO) Team in recent months, but this is the great group God has currently brought together.

We are currently laying the foundation for "reaching the nations in and beyond Rockwood". Next year, my hope and dream is to take a team of leaders from different churches in Rockwood to a refugee ministry overseas.

For now, there are a number of efforts our GO Team is currently working on but the "biggest ones" include sending TWO short-term teams out this year in October (one to the Oasis in Austria and one to Helping Hands in Greece). Training and team-building starts in March. Thank you for your prayers on our behalf.

We are so very THANKFUL for YOU!

Because of <u>YOU</u>, we are able to <u>educate others about sex trafficking</u>, <u>help foster</u> a <u>collaborative spirit amongst churches in an at-risk community</u>, <u>disciple others</u> who will disciple others, and take the Gospel to the nations!



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** Team Ministry (https://onecollective.org/community/rockwood-usa)

THANKS AGAIN FOR PARTNERING WITH US IN THE GOSPEL THROUGH YOUR PRAYERS AND/OR FINANCIAL INVESTMENTS! WE APPRECIATE YOU!

Tax-deductible donations may be made to "One Collective" (with an enclosed note expressing your intended designation--i.e., "for Scott and Vicki McCracken's account"), and sent to:

One Collective 2155 Point Boulevard, Suite 200 Elgin, IL 60123

For online giving, go to: https://give.onecollective.org/30US0203

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