## McCracken Update March 2019

**Campaign Preview** 

HTML Source Plain-Text Email

**Details** 



We're bringing people together in Rockwood to

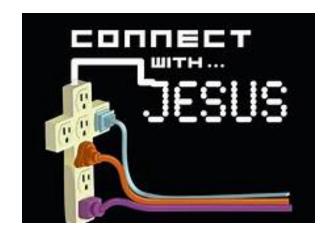
ensure that no one is invisible and that everyone

has access to food, freedom, and forgiveness.

This is part of the PREVENTION side of our anti-

trafficking efforts, dovetailing nicely with our Integrated Community Transformation mission.

We envision Rockwood becoming a community where children are less vulnerable to being trafficked and adults do not want to traffick kids.



#### **MAKING DISCIPLES**

New believers, Christians for many decades, and others in-between joined together for Phase 1 of the **Connecting with Jesus** course, **a discipleship experiment** Scott is co-leading (with two disciples from a previous Discipleship Huddle). Relationship development, weekly prayer partners, studying and applying principles of Abiding in the Vine, Practicing the Presence of God, and the Filling of the Holy Spirit made up the bulk of this first Phase of an 8-Phase course, each phase lasting about 6-8 weeks.

Favorite quote from one of the students: "I have been a Christian for over 40 years and you are the first person to teach me I can talk with the Holy Spirit."

I was also excited to hear how one of the students, when substitute teaching an adult Sunday School class, was already teaching the class what she had learned from our time together.

Phase 2 starts on April 14th and will focus on our Identity and Authority in Christ.





#### SHALOM ROCKWOOD

On March 21st, 40-45 Christian leaders from the Rockwood area (and beyond) gathered for prayer, fellowship, good food, relationship-development, and to be challenged from the Word about doing the work of God TOGETHER. Pastor Victor (Iglesia Casa del Padre) and his interpreter did an excellent job casting vision for greater collaboration, and encouraging us to be a part of the upcoming Conquest 2019 (<a href="https://conquest2019.org/">https://conquest2019.org/</a>).

We also learned about a new ministry (Immigration Connection), and about one relatively new ministry that is already expanding (The Coffee Pot), and how the Church in Rockwood can participate.

TRANSFORMATION IN ROCKWOOD WILL NEVER FULLY HAPPEN WITHOUT THE ACTIVE COLLABORATIVE ENGAGEMENT OF THE BODY OF CHRIST.





### Cat n Dog Theology www.catndogtheology.com/

Scott and a team of 3 others at church are co-teaching a 9-week series in the adult Sunday School class called "Cat n Dog Theology", predicated on the joke above.

Using a vast array of scripture and illustrations of "cats and dogs" and how each relates to its master, Cat n Dog Theology challenges Christians to see how we tend, like a cat, to use our Master mainly for getting what we want. The illustrations point out the difference between "us living for God" and "God living for us". The average Christian, while saying he lives his life for God, is actually living his life to get from birth to death in the safest, softest, easiest and most comfortable fashion possible -- and often just tries to use God to keep him safe, soft, easy and comfortable - and to keep the difficulties, trials, tragedies and adversities away. Cat n Dog Theology helps people switch from "Me-ology" to "Theology".

Cat n Dog Theology takes missions off the back-burner and moves it to the front so our church will want to incorporate missions into everything it does. Cat n Dog Theology focuses on the Glory of God as the primary motivation and purpose of our lives.

### **PRAYER REQUESTS**

\* Thanks for continuing to pray for the As Is Church **Short-Term Mission Team** that Scott is leading to Austria in September as they continue to *raise funds, develop deeper relationships, undergo various training opportunities, and further prepare themselves to serve and encourage.* 

(<u>See info below</u> if you would like to invest in this. God has provided through generous people about 2/3 of what we need so far!).

- \* The Marriage in the Light of Eternity course is finishing up this week, and another marriage course will be starting in a couple of weeks. Thanks for your continued prayers for marriages to be strengthened in Christ in our church and community (Rockwood).
- \* Please continue to pray for our church (www.asischurch.com) to have a **Gospel impact on Rockwood and beyond**



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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/

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As you know from previous communication, the Lord has led us to put together a small team from our church to go serve at the refugee ministry in Austria that Vicki and I helped start in 1987. The Lord has already provided about 2/3 of the finances we need! Thank you for your prayers for us as we prepare our hearts, minds, and relationships.

If the Lord would lead you to invest in this opportunity, you can make a tax-deductible donation to "As Is Church" with an indication it is for the Missions Trip Offering. You can mail to:

As Is Church 6828 SE Holgate Blvd Portland, Oregon 97206

### Or for online giving, click here

If you would like to ask any clarifying questions, please don't hesitate to do so.

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