

# THE BRIDGE UPDATE

OCTOBER 2008

THE BRIDGE...HELPING PEOPLE CONNECT WITH GOD

Dear Friends,

The Bible has much to say about “new things”. 2008 has been a year filled with new things for us. New ministry, new city, new home, new neighbors, new schedule, new job responsibilities, new friends, new challenges. Everywhere we turn, we are experiencing something “new”.

On Sunday, Oct. 12, we experienced one of the most exciting new things since our move. The Bridge Church hosted its first SNEAK PREVIEW!

Sneak Previews are our once-a-month worship services that: 1) are opportunities for our launch team to practice how to “do church” before our official launch in March 2009, and 2) allow our team to reach out to Eau Claire with the good news of Jesus, and inform them about The Bridge Church.

God answered our prayers for success with our first Sneak Preview. 105 people attended the service held at the Chippewa Valley Technical

College auditorium. We had a great time of worship led by David, our Worship Director, and the worship band. Jerry taught an excellent message on “Why Start a New Church?” (As Jerry mentioned in his intro, “What an incredible time to start a new church in the history of the U.S. economy. Who would have thought the stock market would fall 5,000 points since January?” Our hospitality team provided a wonderful refreshment hour following the service. Our child care was skillfully led by Jen, our Bridge Kids’ Director. It was amazing



David and band leading worship at the first Sneak Preview on Oct. 12.

that every member of our team had an active role in making the Sneak Preview a success! We will host Sneak Previews the 2nd Sunday of each month thru February with the next Sneak Preview on Nov. 9. Join us!

On Oct. 13-14, we attended the Forest Lakes District

## VISION

Our vision is to establish a strong, growing and vitally healthy, multi-generational church in Eau Claire that will spearhead a church planting movement in western Wisconsin. We dream of 1,000 people of all ages coming to faith in Jesus Christ during the next 10 years. We envision lives radically impacted for Christ and entire families changed forever. We see God using this new church to plant four other churches in the next 10 years.

## PROFILE OF A BRIDGE BUILDER

Hi, my name is Adrienne.

How does single girl working a fast-paced job that literally takes her around the world end up in Eau Claire, WI? The answer is simple. She meets the man of her dreams in Ethiopia and he whisks her back to his hometown. While it may not have happened exactly like that, I did meet Bill in Ethiopia and 3 1/2 years ago we got married, and I moved to Eau Claire from Washington, D.C.



Since moving, I have learned many new things about myself. For example, I learned that I really like to bike. This summer I met my goal to bike over 500 miles. I learned I love crafting, working at the free clinic, baking, photography, missions and gardening. As Bill and I are in the process of adopting from Ethiopia, I am learning that I'm not very patient! And I'm learning how to plant a church. It is something completely new, but it allows me to put all the other things I am learning into practice for God's glory.

Conference of the EFCA at Green Lake Conference Center. The Bridge was highlighted with our new promo video and prayed for by District leaders.

Another awesome new thing this past month was

Jerry's opportunity to speak at Camp Forest Springs on Sept. 26-27 with our son, Dango. Jerry and Dango had a great time speaking as a dad-son team for the annual men's retreat of Woodlands Church.

Thanks for your prayers and support as we embark on new things to join Jesus in building his church in Eau Claire. - Sue and Jerry

“...See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the desert and streams in the wasteland.” Isaiah 43:18-19

## PLEASE PRAY FOR...

- 1) Thank God for successful first Sneak Preview and the completion of our promotional video this month.
- 2) Pray for success in reaching people for Jesus through the November 9th Sneak Preview.
- 3) Spiritual and numerical growth of our Launch Team.
- 4) 100% funding for The Bridge 2008 budget by 12-31-08. (Approximately 75% is currently committed.)

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Brittany as host, Jon on tech team at the Sneak Preview.