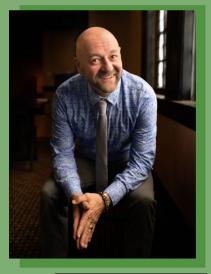


Bright flames flicker in the old wood-burning stove across the room from where I sit, writing this update at my well-worn kitchen table.

It is a cold, dark January morning and frost covers the brown grass outside my window. We are in the firm grip of Old Man Winter. My mind, however, is dreaming of spring, dreaming of when the days get longer and when the dreary fields surrounding my home will come alive with activity once more. Activity, which will give way to **little bits of life** sprouting up in neat rows as far as the eye can see. CEM has planted many Kingdom seeds over the last few years and sprouts are poking through the soil.

We have recruited, trained, equipped, and sent 9 residents into the mission field (through our residency program). We have instructed over 30 regional leaders through the process of creating a discipleship culture in the churches they lead (through the Bonhoeffer Project). We have planted churches (most recently in Columbus, Nebraska, and now in Wever, Iowa). We have guided several churches toward wholeness (through our Church Health support).

These seedlings and the countless other churches and communities impacted by the ministry of CEM since we started in 1957 are just the beginning of what God is doing through our Mission. I'm so excited to see how God will continue to bring new life to our region!



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
CHAD HALBACH

40 missionaries.20 communities.10 years.



2025 is year 3

I'm guessing outside your window, it may look like winter, but spring is coming, God's Kingdom is growing, and generations are coming alive in Christ through the work of CEM. This wouldn't be possible without the generous donations of our faithful supporters like you.

Thank you for being an integral part of the team God is using to transform our region.

Chad Halbach

P.S. We have a few openings in our Bonhoeffer Cohorts (start in March); call me for more info (515) 297-4560

5 IN 2O25 2O25 CHURCH PLANTING UPDATE

This is going to be a historic year. Through your generous support we are growing churches today to bring generations alive in Christ tomorrow.



Venture Christian Church
Rapid City, South Dakota



Soft Launch March 23

PRAYER NEEDS:

- Please pray for God to provide the rest of the launch team as they search for part-time worship and media pastors.
- The hunt for the right venue continues. Pray this will be in place for the soft launch later this spring.



YOU'RE INVITED



More Info



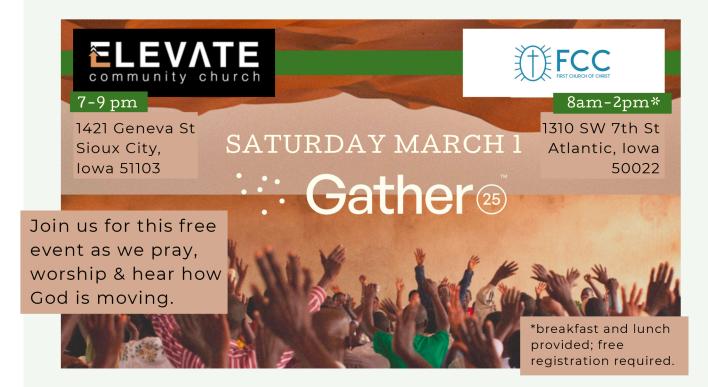
Gather started with a simple question,

"What if Jesus came back in 10 years?"

Right now, there are 5.5 billion people on earth (22% of adults in lowa) who don't know Jesus. If we truly believed He was coming-and soon, what would we do to reach them? What would the global Church be willing to do? Could 2.5 billion Christians on earth be mobilized to share the Gospel?

THIS IS WHAT Gather 5 IS ALL ABOUT.

We will connect with Jesus followers from almost every nation, denomination, and generation. Experience what God is doing all over the world; **God is moving!**



Interested in attending Gather® virtually? Check out our site for more info!



Growing churches today to bring generations alive in Christ tomorrow.

JOIN US IN WELCOMING STEPHANIE LICHTER,

Stephanie grew up on a farm near Alta, Iowa and began following Jesus at a young age. She enjoys serving behind the scenes and previously worked as the Communications Secretary at Northwest Christian Church in Alta.

Stephanie and her husband, Nathan, and their four children took a leap of faith and moved to Indianola, lowa in the summer of 2024 when Nathan accepted an Associate Pastor position at the Indianola Church of Christ.

Stephanie credits CEM with playing a big role in her family's journey as Nathan was part of our Residency Program. Stephanie is humbled and grateful for the opportunity to serve with an organization that has meant so much to her family.

Stephanie enjoys going on walks, thrifting, a good bonfire, visiting over coffee, and playing games with her family.

ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR



CEM Administrative Coordinator, Stephanie Lichter with her husband Nathan & their four children, Kjerstin, Adelaide, Isabelle, & Emmett

We are so thankful to have Stephanie on the team!