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Upcoming Events:

March 9 - Dessert Fellowship

Hosted by: Utah-Idaho

Convention - George Garner

RSVP By: 2/28

March 15 - Family Brunch

Guest Speaker: Mandy

Montgomery - Come hear about
the blessings and challenges
facing church planting families.

Children Welcome!

RSVP By: 3/6

A Word from the Director

On March 17th this year, many people across the world will celebrate St. Patrick's Day, a holiday remembering the life of a man who ministered in Ireland in the fifth century. Following a kidnapping by Irish raiders attacking his family's estate, sixteen-year-old Patrick spent the next six years in captivity in Ireland. Following his escape, he later returned to the country to serve as a missionary.

Though much legend and lore surround this famous figure, I cannot help but reflect on the various challenges and struggles he faced when he returned to a land that was a significant pioneer territory for any missionary.

In this month's newsletter, we want to draw your attention to two significantly pioneer areas on this continent. First, we will hear from recent Boyce College graduate and Nehemiah Church Planter, James McCray serving in Rae, Northwest Territories of Canada (2800 miles from Louisville via car). While working to plant churches among the Dogrib people, he not only faces the regular challenges common to all missionaries, but at this time of the year 30-degree below zero temperatures. Second, our area profile this month is Quebec. Here we find the five most unreached cities in North America.

We hope that this month's newsletter will inspire, challenge, and encourage you. If you are considering church planting, we would love to speak with you about North America. Maybe you are looking for a way to involve your congregation in church planting. If so, give us a call and let's talk.

Take care,

J. D. Payne

Church Planter Profile: James McCray



James McCray – top row, third from the left, with the Shed family (bottom row) and others

James finds himself among some of the most unreached people of North America as well as in an area of record breaking temperatures, in the negative sense – Ft. Rae-Edzo (Behchoko), Northwest Territories, Canada.

God has allowed him to have the wonderful blessing of being housed by a true missionary family-the Shed's. The Shed's have been ministering among the Dogrib people for more than 12 years.

March 16-17 - NAMB Interviews
Please call for more information!

March 21 - Dessert Fellowship
Hosted by: Georgia State
Convention - Jim Millirons &
Terry Little. RSVP by: 3/10

April 25 - Dessert Fellowship
Hosted by: Canadian
Convention - Gary Smith. RSVP
By: 4/12

NAMB Resource Link:
www.churchplantingvillage.net



Rae is a native Dogrib village about 60 miles northwest of Yellowknife, the capital city of the Northwest Territories. Rae is the largest native community in the Northwest Territories with about 2,000 as its population.

Q: When did you graduate from Boyce? **A:** I graduated from Boyce in May of 2005 with a B.S. in Missions, Evangelism, and Church Growth.

Q: What are your primary responsibilities? **A:** To assist the missionary in his pastoral duties, conduct Bible studies for youth and adults, and build relationships with people in the community in order to share the gospel. I also help disciple new Christians and provide counseling to anyone who desires spiritual guidance.

Q: Could you give us a ministry description? **A:** Our ministry in Rae takes on many different forms. David Shed, who is the pastor of the only Southern Baptist Church in the Northwest Territories, is usually very busy showing the love of Christ by doing many laborious tasks for church members and for others in the community. Because David is busy sharing the love of Christ to others as a missionary to Rae, I am usually busy tending to the activities of the youth, teaching Bible studies, or helping feed over 250 children at the local elementary school every day. Along with the ministry to the Dogrib natives in Rae, we are also busy seeking out the possibility of starting a new church plant in the city of Yellowknife, the largest city in the Northwest Territories.

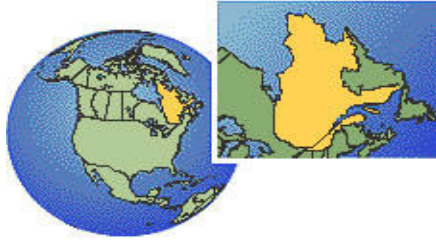
Q: How did your church planting training at Southern help you in preparation for your work on the field? **A:** The church planting and missionary classes that I took at Boyce helped me understand that the ministry of church planting is completely different than ministry in an established church in the U.S. The courses helped prepare me to be able to understand, and most of all, love the many difficulties and struggles that I now face for the sake of Christ as a church planter in some remote native village in northern Arctic Canada. By taking church planting courses I am able to have a completely different, and more accurate perspective of the world of church planting than before I took the courses.

Q: What is the greatest blessing received since you have been involved in church planting? **A:** That I get to be involved in the work of Christ in a place where the gospel is still very absent. Also, with getting to serve Christ in a dark land, the Lord has blessed me with a wonderful missionary family that is always a source of encouragement and love in the midst of a very lost and spiritually dead culture.

Q: What advice would you give to those who are wondering if God is calling them to be involved in church planting? **A:** I would advise a prospective church planter to imitate the example of Paul and Timothy and place himself/herself under the authority of someone who has experience in a church planting ministry. One just cannot gain the necessary knowledge and experience of church planting in the classroom because most of the church planting is hands on work in the field.

Q: Regarding church planting, what counsel would you give to those who are called to serve in established churches? **A:** I would advise those who are called to minister in established churches to encourage the members to do either of the following: The church should seek to support a particular church plant or a missionary serving God out on the mission field by prayer and financial assistance, or, the church should take the effort to train up and send out some of their own members and have them to become church planters themselves. Either way, the church will fulfill God's command in the Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20)

Focus Area: Quebec, Canada



The Place

- Population: 7,509,928 (2004)
- Capital: Québec City
- Motto - Je me souviens (I remember)
- It is the largest Canadian Province

People

- Québec is the only French speaking society in North America.
- Most of the population of the province (*about 6 million*) are descended from colonists who came from France in the 17th and 18th centuries.
- Québec has the highest suicide rate in the world amongst teenagers and senior citizens.

Faith

- The Québécois people are one of the most unreached people groups in the world. Only 1/2% of the population attend evangelical churches.
- Québec has the five most unreached cities in all of North America on a per capita basis. They include: Jonquiere/Chicoutimi, Montreal, Hull, Trois Rivierre, and Québec City.
- There are approximately 1,000 towns, cities, and villages in Québec that have no evangelical church in them.
- By 2010, Montreal will see 100 Catholic Cathedrals be sold for office space, condos, and parking lots.

**“Finally, brethren, pray for us that the word of the Lord will spread rapidly and be glorified, just as it did also with you”
2 Thessalonians 3:1 NASB**

Québec Flag



Future Training Opportunities

July 3-8, 2006: Introduction to Church Planting 33820
3 hour course taught on campus at SBTS

July 10-14, 2006: Church Planting Methodologies 33840
3 hour course taught on campus at SBTS