

FELLOWSHIP NEWS



FORT WAYNE AREA FAMILIES HOST BASQUE STUDENTS

"Kaixo!" means, "Hello," in the Basque language. Last June, six families in the Fort Wayne area said, "Kaixo," to six Basque students and hosted them in their homes for three weeks through the Kaixo USA program. Through this program and others like it, FEC churches have been hosting Basque students for several years. The program bridges the gap between Basque students and American families so that students can learn about American culture and practice using English.

Through programs like Kaixo USA, Basque students learn about American culture and practice using conversational English while engaging with their host families in fun and interesting activities. They enjoy bowling, swimming, roller skating, and shopping with their host families. This summer, the host families visited an Amish farm to learn about Amish culture, enjoying a horse and buggy ride and a celebration meal.

The Basque people remain one of the unreached people groups in Europe with few churches reaching out to them. During their visit, the students attend church with their host families. Through this spiritual connection with their host families, the students are exposed to a different way of thinking than they have experienced before. When the students return home, they have the opportunity to stay connected to FEC workers who live in the Basque region.

Two years ago, Jeff and Sara Smead of Crossview Church (Grabill, Indiana), began recruiting families in their church to host Basque students. They hope that the program grows to include more host families and a larger network of churches. This opportunity allows host families to be missionaries without leaving home. Jeff describes the ideal host family by saying, "A host family doesn't have to be rich or influential. We want people who will love on the students like their own."

Marriage Retreat
October 26-28

Miracle Camp | Lawton, MI
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Restored Church Launches in November

When God wanted to tell His message of love to the people of Windsor, Colorado, near Fort Collins, He brought together an unlikely group. Glyn and Beckey Knight, originally from the U.K., met a small, predominantly Hispanic, church that wanted to sponsor a new church in their growing community. That unique combination has resulted in Restored Church, an outreach to people who have drifted away from church.

Currently, Glyn and his team are preparing for a November launch. Their message is simple: God restores us to Himself through Jesus. Their outreach encompasses an area that has seen growth from 100 people in 1990 to 4,000 people in 2015. Already, Glyn has witnessed interest in the church from people he has met. For instance, Glyn started "Mates in the Garage," a Bible study that meets in his garage. Of the five men who come regularly, one has never been to church, one hasn't been for 18 years, and one was baptized just before he met Glyn.

The Knights and their team face the challenge of raising the finances needed to launch the church as well as finding a location for Sunday morning gatherings. Personally, Glyn and Beckey are challenged with a move to their new community and being away from their children, but they believe that God has a plan for them and a message of restoration for Windsor, Colorado.

FEC Welcomes... Crossroads Church in Bement, IL

When you leave the interstate and drive through rural America, small towns dot the landscape. In most of them, small churches, schools, and grain elevators and silos anchor the town. Behind the Norman Rockwell facade though, small towns in rural America are facing an increase in drug use and poverty. Randy Henshaw has seen the challenges and decided to bring the gospel to rural Illinois. Under the leadership of Crossroads Church in Monticello, Illinois, Randy began taking steps to plant a church in Bement, Illinois, and he's just beginning a bigger mission to reach out to small towns in the surrounding area.

When Crossroads Church in Monticello wanted to plant a church in Bement, a town of 1,700 people, they turned to Randy, a former educator in Monticello. His team launched a Sunday morning service in October 2015. Randy describes their purpose as "a church for those who don't like church." He laughs and says, "That's like trying to start a coffee shop for people who don't like coffee."

Now that Crossroads Church has been established in Bement, Randy sees another unreached group in Bement: teens and young adults. His vision also extends beyond Bement to include other communities under the leadership of Crossroads Church in Monticello. They envision planting 5 more churches in other rural communities by 2025!



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