



NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 1 // AUGUST 2020

Our Calling

Many of you have heard our story, but we felt that it was important to share our calling with you in this first edition.

God's vision for our family has been one that was born over the course of several years. In 2018, with the support of Erin and our sending church, Living Water Baptist, I began seminary at SEBTS. Our original intent was to pursue a ministry abroad as missionaries. God had a different plan entirely!

Over the course of 2019, the idea of church planting began to enter our lives. We were very cautious, due to the difficulties of church planting and the lack of opportunities in our area. That is when God brought Tom Gore into our life with the SEND Network and the South Carolina Baptist Association. They were able to provide guidance and discernment as we explored God's calling.

In June 2020 we were given full approval by the SEND Network assessment team to begin the work of church planting in our community. With the help of our sending church, and our partnerships with those of you reading this today, we are able to walk faithfully with confidence in

With the help of our sending church, and our partnerships with those of you reading this today, we are able to walk faithfully with confidence in the knowledge that God is doing a tremendous work in our community!

My first class was in the summer of 2018 and it began to change this view. This course was Evangelism 101 and it opened my eyes to the immediate needs in North America. This seed began to work in my heart and our families. As time passed, we realized that our calling wasn't in the international setting as long term missionaries but as missionaries to our culture and our society.

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Even through the difficulties of navigating COVID 19, we have already begun to see opportunities and support arise. We are excited for what is to come in the next few months and will faithfully update you in all that God is doing here in Horry County. Thank you for your continued prayers and support!

CONTACT

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SOWING SEEDS

Welcome to the first edition of our newsletter for Rivers Edge. This is where we will share details of God's work in the life of River's Edge Church of Longs, SC! We are so excited that you are a part of our journey, and we hope that this will be as encouraging to you, as it is to us. Each month we will be providing updates on specific ways God is moving in our community, prayer needs, and opportunities to serve! We are thankful for all that you have done and continue to do!

WHAT'S NEXT

This month we will be focused on developing the leadership team, preparing our online presence, and expanding our prayer group. Our next major interaction with many of you will be via our newsletter in September. We are hopeful that with the return of the school year, there will be opportunities to begin planning interest meetings. We will be spending our time this month building relationships with our neighbors, our community leaders, and possible partner churches.

PRAISE REPORT

We are thankful for the SEND network and their dedicated team of assessors! It is with much joy that Erin and I have been given full approval by the Southern Baptist Convention and the SEND Network to faithfully pursue planting a church in the Longs community. We are also thankful for the leaders at Living Water Baptist who have encouraged us and are mentoring us as part of their new residency program.



NEEDS:

- Financial Provisions
- MacBook Pro (\$2500)
- Projector and Screen (\$1000)
- Business Cards (\$200)
- Website Fees (\$300)
- A space to meet as a gathered people
- Land for Future Church site

PRAYER FOCUS

Our monthly needs will vary, so we hope that each month you will take time to pray for these specific circumstances

- Calling of leadership team
- Calling of Launch Team
- Calling of Church partnerships
- Financial provisions /resources
- A space to meet as a gathered people
- Discernment of evangelizing strategy
- Preaching opportunities

PARTNER HIGHLIGHT

Each month we will highlight partnering churches, organizations, and individuals.

- Living Water Baptist (Longs)
 - Sending Church
- SEND Network
 - partnering organization
- Mark and Melissa Wood
 - partnering family

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