

**Church Planter Fever** Marc Bigelow, President

Scott Julian, our church planter in San Clemente, California, recently e-mailed our office with this story:

*I'm sitting in my office at home right now listening to my nine-year-old and seven-year-old playing a game they are calling "Stadia." My son has just hired my daughter to start a church in San Clemente. They are now trying to find a place to meet. Either I have scarred them for life or they have caught church planter fever.*

Church Planter Fever. It won't be the title of a hit summer movie, but it just may change the world. Church planting is gaining momentum across America in the Christian Churches as we work together to develop a church multiplication movement. Everywhere I look I see:

- ▶ associations planting more churches;
- ▶ congregations, large and small, giving birth to daughter churches;
- ▶ quality men and women catching "the fever;" leaving successful careers in industry and saying "yes" to the call to plant;
- ▶ seminary and bible college students considering church planting as their primary ministry path.

This year Stadia had planned to start thirty churches, but we have had to postpone four of those plants until 2005 because we don't have enough planters this year. God may still intervene and bring us four more planters, but we are called to be prayerful for those workers. Please join us in praying for – and searching for – people who will catch "Church Planter Fever!"

**Stadia:  
New Church Strategies****Marcus W. Bigelow**

President

**Mark Leeper**

Northern California Interim Director

**Greg Marksberry**

Southeast Regional Director

**Bruce White**

Southwest Regional Director

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**STADIA**  
NEW CHURCH STRATEGIES

**Church Planting  
From the Ground Up**

Five church planting experts from Stadia share their expertise in a new book entitled *Church Planting from the Ground Up*. The book was edited by Dr. Tom Jones, Stadia's Southeast Director of Recruitment and Assessment, and features chapters by Marc Bigelow, Phil Claycomb, Bob Harrington, Greg Marksberry and Tom himself.

*Church Planting from the Ground Up* is the ideal resource for anyone who is serious about fulfilling the mission of the church through new church multiplication in the post-modern age. It's a practical, motivating, culturally relevant and biblically sound guide to starting new churches.

Visit [www.Church-Planter.com](http://www.Church-Planter.com) to read excerpts from the book, or buy your copy online at [www.CollegePress.com](http://www.CollegePress.com).

**Subscribe to Twelve,  
the Stadia e-newsletter**

Stay up-to-date with church planting news and events with "Twelve", Stadia's electronic newsletter. "Twelve" is a monthly e-mail newsletter featuring news and resources for church planters and friends of church planting. You don't have to be a church planter to subscribe, and the subscription is free, so visit [www.Stadia.cc](http://www.Stadia.cc) to subscribe today!

**Church Planters Wanted!** Phil Claycomb, National Director of Planter Care

"You pick good people and teach them to be sailors." That's how James David Ford, former chaplain of the House of Representatives, explained the process by which he successfully sailed across the Atlantic in 1976.

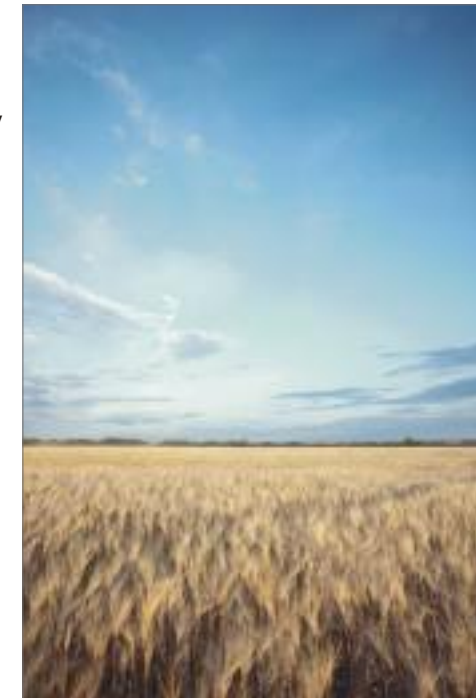
In the early 1970's, Ford set a personal four-year goal of learning to be a first class sail. He ordered sailing magazines so he could read about the process, and then - without any actual practice - he flew to England and sailed across the Atlantic Ocean with two other crew members, neither of whom had ever been on a sailboat. It was certainly an exciting way to learn; on their maiden voyage across the Atlantic, Ford and his team sailed through a Hurricane with waves up to thirty-five feet high!

On his arrival in the U.S., Ford faced inevitable questions about his methods. His response teaches an important principle: "The two people I went with were not sailors, but both were West Pointers and Rhodes scholars. When you go across the ocean, what's more important in your life? Is it the boat? Is it the money? Is it the resources? Is it the route? No. It's the crew - the people you take with you. When you go across the ocean in a small boat, you don't pick sailors and teach them to be good people. You pick good people and teach them to be sailors."

Church planting is no different. As we sail into uncharted waters our focus is always on finding the right partners. The right kind of people will find ways to launch multiplication movements of church-planting churches; that's why so many of our banners and promotional materials are emblazoned with three simple words: Church Planters Wanted!

We are excited to be partnering with many groups, including colleges, seminaries, Christ in Youth, the Londen Institute of Evangelism, local churches, other evangelistic associations...and most importantly, with church planters. Our mission is to find, train, deploy and support church multiplication leaders, and we're finding again and again that if we provide good people with the right levels of care they can achieve the improbable.

Phil Claycomb is Stadia's National Director of Planter Care. He is responsible for the design and implementation of Stadia's training, mentoring, and coaching systems. If you are interested in becoming a church planter, please contact him at [pclaycomb@stadia.cc](mailto:pclaycomb@stadia.cc).



**STADIA**  
NEW CHURCH STRATEGIES

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Change Service Requested

## Welcome Bruce White, Southwest Regional Director



We are thrilled to announce that Bruce White recently accepted the position of Southwest Regional Director for Stadia. Bruce (pictured at left with his wife, Julie) served on staff at Eastside Christian Church in Fullerton, California for thirteen years: as Adult Education Minister for four years and as Executive Minister for nine.

Bruce's last major assignment at Eastside was to oversee the implementation of the church's vision to become a church-planting center by planting one daughter church per year. In partnership with Stadia, Bruce helped make that dream a reality – in his last two years on staff, Eastside birthed a daughter church in Corona Valley, CA and one in Murrieta, CA.

The implementation of Eastside's church-planting vision has energized the church – and it energized Bruce. In his words, "I fell in love with church planting and wanted to see other churches catch the same vision that is transforming Eastside." Please pray for the success of Bruce's ministry with Stadia in the Southwest United States.

To contact Bruce, e-mail at [bwhite@stadia.cc](mailto:bwhite@stadia.cc).

## Las Iglesias Nuevas – New Churches in Espanol!

Stadia is developing new partnerships with Spanish-speaking pastors who are providing the necessary leadership to help us successfully reach this large and growing group. One of these partnerships is with Francisco Camarena, the pastor of the Spanish-speaking church at Crossroads Christian Church in Corona, California, a strong and growing congregation of several hundred people.

In addition to his work at Crossroads, Francisco has supervised the launch of three other Spanish-speaking congregations in southern California. He is now helping us develop an Assessment LAB and Church Planting LAB for Spanish-speaking church planters. Francisco recently launched the Crossmont Institute, a two-year training program to equip gifted men and women for ministry roles in the local church.

One of the most notable developments to take place under Francisco's oversight is what we are calling a "reverse ethnic church plant." Just as many of our Anglo churches have started Spanish-speaking congregations, this spring Iglesia Cristiana in Montclair, California will give birth to an Anglo congregation! This is a great reminder that all of us must have a missionary mindset, and we should be looking for the cross-cultural outreach opportunities that God brings to us.

We are grateful for the ministry of Francisco and others like him, and we pray that God will continually raise up men and women who can help us reach the various ethnic and cultural groups that are moving into our communities.

# STADIA

## EVENTS CALENDAR

### The Assessment LAB (LAB 1)

- ▶ May 4 - 6: Vacaville, CA
- ▶ June 1 - 3: Johnson City, TN
- ▶ July 20 - 22: Vacaville, CA

### The Church Planting LAB (LAB 2)

- ▶ April 16 - 24: Vacaville, CA
- ▶ April 26 - 30: Southeast US

### Other Events

- ▶ May 15  
Working with your band workshop  
Vacaville, CA
- ▶ June 5  
Worship LAB  
Vacaville, CA
- ▶ July 5 - 8  
North American Christian Convention  
Phoenix, AZ
- ▶ July 6  
Dinner for emerging church leaders  
NACC, Phoenix

For more information on any of these events, please contact Diane Collins at 707.446.6232 or [dcollins@stadia.cc](mailto:dcollins@stadia.cc).

## Recent Arrivals

### From the Northern California Region

God is moving in Northern California! Journey Christian Church (Tracy, CA) launched on February 8 with 124 in attendance at Hirsch Elementary School with Scott and Dianna McFarland and their launch team. Several families expressed that they have found a home there. Scott told us, "The music was powerful, the children enjoyed their classes, and the fellowship was outstanding. All were delighted to share the experience of a new church together. Over forty people remained after teardown and cleanup, not wanting to go home. We give thanks, to Jesus Christ for sending us here, to Stadia for helping us launch, and to every person who has prayed and supported the church."

Three other churches have launched or are scheduled to launch this Spring. Awakenings Christian Church in Concord launched on February 1 with a little over 100 people in attendance at Concord High School with planters Dan and Katharine Helix. Vineyard Hills Christian Church in Cloverdale began on March 14 in the Warner Hall at The Citrus Fair with planters Galen and Laurel Dalrymple. LifePointe Christian Community in Gilroy begins on April 11, at 10:00 a.m. in the Senior Community Center with planters Jeff and Anji Rye.

Dan Scates

## New Churches Minister to Lost People

### From the Southwest Region

New energy and excitement is coming to the Southwest Region as we build momentum to plant more churches in order to reach more lost people. Though the Southwest Region is just one year old, our efforts are already beginning to produce fruit for the kingdom. This spring, five new churches are opening their doors:

- ▶ SeaPointe Christian Church: San Clemente, California
- ▶ Iglesia Cristiana: Fullerton, California
- ▶ Sanctuary Christian Church: Cave Creek, Arizona
- ▶ Valley Fellowship Christian Church: Litchfield, Arizona
- ▶ Venture Christian Church: Murrieta, California

God has raised up some incredible men to plant these churches. They are not just starting churches...they are at the forefront of a church-planting movement with a vision of reaching their entire area for Christ. Each of these new churches will in turn launch other new churches in just the next few years. That is exciting...and that is the mission of Stadia: to equip and care for the men that God is raising up so that we can plant more churches to help fulfill the Great Commission of Christ.

Bruce White  
Southwest Regional Director

## Churches Birthing Churches

### From the Southeast Region

Twenty years ago I received a sage bit of wisdom from an Elder in my first ministry. He said, "Shepherds don't produce sheep, sheep do." Just as sheep produce sheep, it is churches that birth churches. Stadia has the privilege of assisting churches in the birthing process. Like a good OB doctor, we help the existing church to conceive and deliver healthy new churches. And the prenatal care and expertise offered by Stadia is one of our movement's most significant assets.

The Southeast Region experienced its first healthy birth this year on February 1, with the launch of Christian Church Buckhead. This Atlanta church opened with more than 400 people attending, along with all three major news networks. The story of how this new church turned a former strip club called The Gold Club into God's Club captured Atlanta's attention.

We're eagerly expecting eight to nine more births this year in the Southeast. One of our greatest thrills is seeing the joy within churches who parent or partner to birth new churches. Has your church experienced the joy of giving birth lately? If not, I hope you'll contact Stadia and let us help you deliver a healthy new church. After all, it's churches that produce churches!

Greg Marksberry  
Southeast Regional Director