

one

CITY



oneLOVE

We need to share it.

Inside the City | OneCity Newsletter | September 2007

About OneCity

OneCity is an outreach-focused development team that works to help the big "c" Church in Cincinnati multiply its impact by...

Making Connections

We work for each church, but more importantly we work for all churches collectively...the Church.

Research & Development

We work to explore, create, and pilot new ways for the Church to work together as one.

Volunteer Mobilization

We rally people to share the love of Christ in meaningful, everyday ways.



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One Need...

Making Connections That Work

Cincinnati Works, located downtown, is a nationally renowned job training and placement organization that places 600-700 individuals yearly. Their vision is to lead the effort to eliminate poverty in our community. They do so through the mission to partner with all willing and capable people living in poverty to assist them in advancing to economic self-sufficiency through employment.

Cincinnati Works has over 55 core employers that provide sustainable employment opportunities to people living at or below the poverty line. Beyond job readiness training, their holistic services include: behavioral counseling, legal advocacy, spiritual support, childcare resources, transportation assistance, and lifetime membership. Although the staff provides follow-up connections and support for all members, the TEAM WORKS mentoring program supplements the work of Cincinnati Works by providing regular one-on-one connection and encouragement to job members.

TEAM WORKS is a collaborative effort between OneCity and Cincinnati Works that connects job members to mentors who can provide ongoing encouragement and support. TEAM WORKS mission is to provide relational and professional resources to help move Cincinnati Works job members from poverty to self-sufficiency. Since TEAM WORKS inception a year and a half ago, this partnership has grown to 30 relationships with the potential to pair 50 more in 2007. According to Glenna Parks, Cincinnati Works office manager, TEAM WORKS, "has been far more successful (than previous mentoring attempts) because the right people are involved...as has been proven thus far, this venture will produce results of which we could never have dreamt."

One Love...

Spending God's Currency

by Mark Stecher - OneCity President

My family just finished its fantasy football team draft for the 2007 NFL season. I helped my 11 year old daughter pick differently this year - no picking by favorite mascot (the Dolphins are always her first pick and they are projected to be a bottom-five team). I then realized something beautiful—I am wholeheartedly pulling for Bethanie to win. I recognized a delightful development - I suddenly had absolutely no desire to win.

The disciple John tells us not to “love the world or the things of this world”, and then lists them: wanting our way, wanting stuff, and wanting to be important. These are the world’s currencies (1 John 2:12-17). We start that way as kids and most of us at some point stop and wonder, is this right? Do I really need to win?

He doesn’t write to us to enforce rigid rules - no dancing, no drinking, no watching TV or movies, etc. He writes to compel us to change the currency we pursue. These pursuits can isolate us from the Father. He writes to drive us to focus on the things that God wants. Not our will but His. How am I spending my time? Do I have margin for investing in others’ lives, am I making great choices with my check book? Am I speaking about things that matter or am I just speaking?

Pursuing God’s currency requires reversing the order and working to flip our “spending” habits. We spend our time and our money, our influence and our words. What are we spending it on? John encourages us to spend it on the will of the Father - investing beyond me-me-me.

This fun little family pool has helped me to remember how delightful it is to see joy in others. It is surprising how fulfilling it is to make the move from spending my currency to God’s – wanting other’s success more than my own. Bethanie is 4-2 so far, and she has the best draft of the family. I’m just dying to see her teams play well!



One Life...

How WhizKids Made a Difference in One Life

The following story about a WhizKids tutor shows how investing in one life can impact the world.

I met Mrs. Lori at Whiz Kids. I was in sixth grade when Mrs. Lori started as my tutor. Mrs. Lori was kind, helpful, encouraging, and very nice.

In sixth grade I didn't go trick-or-treating because my neighborhood isn't safe. When Mrs. Lori came to Whiz Kids after Halloween, she asked me if I went trick-or-treating. I told her, “Mrs. Lori, kids don't trick-or-treat in the ghetto.”

I think she thought about it all year, because in seventh grade, I went trick-or-treating at Mrs. Lori's house! That year Mrs. Lori became both my mentor and my friend's mentor. She made witch costumes for us and we went to houses in her neighborhood. It was so exciting to be there and meet her family!

Until I met Mrs. Lori, I hadn't been that successful in school. I repeated third grade twice, changed schools, then was sent straight to fifth grade and wasn't prepared. These experiences with Mrs. Lori in sixth grade impacted me to make my life better by setting goals like playing basketball where I won team MVP!

Entering high school was scary, but Mrs. Lori encouraged me and I improved. She always makes me see that I can do things I didn't think were possible. If it weren't for Mrs. Lori, I would have dropped out of school a long time ago. Because of her influence, I consider myself to be a respectful, caring person.

My future is going to be great! Mrs. Lori helped me become what I am today and what I hope to be in the future. I know I can succeed especially with her support and guidance. I thank her for all her kindness.

As you can see from this story, it doesn't take a lot of time to make a significant difference in one person's life. It just takes a lot of heart.

Together we can change our city.

One City...

OneCity Locker Room Meeting: No Helmet Required

"so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others." (Romans 12:5)

As the Church we form one body – one team. Every now and then we come together as one to inspire and motivate our team, and to discuss how we are changing our city. Please make room on your calendar for our next OneCity Locker Room Meeting on Wednesday, October 10th. We will worship together and two local pastors will share how their relationships have led to change within themselves, how they are building bridges between their churches, and how their communities benefit. All are welcome; you don't want to miss this very special OneCity evening.

When: Wednesday, October 10th, 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm

Where: New Life Temple, 4836 Ward Street, Madisonville, 45227

Map and Directions: [Click here for map and directions](#)

Speakers: Ralph Godfrey - New Life Temple & Denis Beausejour - Mariemont Community Church



OneCity is Powered by Volunteers Sharing Christ's Love Are You Ready to Work for Change?

OneCity believes that people "working for change" in the city will in fact, see change. OneCity mobilizes volunteers to engage in both life-on-life and professional/skill-based opportunities in order to challenge some of the city's biggest issues.

Below are a few high priority volunteer opportunities for you to consider.

Professional

1. Communications Team - use your skills as a copywriter, graphic & web designer, photographer, to develop/design OneCity materials.
2. Research Team - use your analytical skills to help answer questions

Connect... Contact Us

If we can help your church,

to city-wide problems.

3. Volunteer On-boarding Team - mobilize people to action and service.

4. IT/Database development - build database solutions.

5. Administrative Support - assist OneCity staff with office tasks and projects.

Life-on-Life

TEAM WORKS job mentoring provides members of Cincinnati Works with professional mentors in order to support job placement, retention and financial self-sufficiency.

OUTLET is a place where we build relationships through games and recreation with the homeless, providing a friendly environment that makes it easy to meet and engage with positive people.

your organization, or you individually get involved in serving our city in any way, please contact us.

OneCity

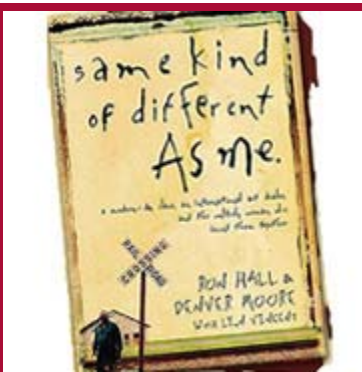
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One More Thing...

"Same Kind of Different as Me" Authors Share Their Stirring and Unforgettable Story

A dangerous, homeless drifter who grew up picking cotton in virtual slavery.

An upscale art dealer accustomed to the world of Armani and Chanel.

A gutsy woman with a stubborn dream.

A story so incredible no novelist would dare dream it.

It begins outside a burning plantation hut in Louisiana...and an East Texas honky-tonk...and, without a doubt, in the heart of God. It unfolds in a Hollywood hacienda...an upscale New York gallery...a downtown dumpster...a Texas ranch.

Gritty with pain and betrayal and brutality, this true story also shines with an unexpected, life-changing love.

Ron Hall and Denver Moore, the authors of the book "Same Kind of Different as Me", will be speaking at Vineyard Community Church in Tri-County on Saturday, November 17 (6:30 pm service) and Sunday, November 18 (8:30 am, 10:00 am, 11:30 am services) 11340 Century Circle East, Cincinnati, OH, 45246

More Information: 513-671-0422