

"Taste and see that the Lord is good. Blessed is the one who takes refuge in Him."

Psalm 34:8

**SUMMER HARVEST:
GOOD NEWS, NEW LIFE IN CHRIST**

Each summer at Camp Harlow, typically 260 - 290 children commit their lives to Jesus, but this year was different. By the end of July, with still a month to go, 380 children & youth had responded to the Good News! Our prayers for the proclamation of the Gospel and for many to meet Jesus are being answered.



Since a Springfield church began praying for their Alpha Course through *One Church – One Day*, the course’s participation has nearly doubled! During their last class, 41 people participated, and 29 of them were exploring faith or new believers.

A church in the heart of Downtown Eugene was thrilled to receive an invitation to their neighborhood association’s summer block party. They took it as a sign of growing relationships & rapport with their neighbors!

**MENTAL HEALTH CARE + JUSTICE
CONNECTING COMMUNITY HEALTH SYSTEMS**

Lane County is one of only two counties in the nation awarded funding from the Centene Foundation. This will enable an outside organization to work with the county to connect & enhance community-based health systems: jails, justice systems & health care. Lane County will receive training, research & technical support to identify the best models suited for our community. Local mental health professionals will serve as a focus group.

Additionally, the State of Oregon has hired a consultant to gather data around behavioral health justice. The findings will influence future funding for behavioral health in our local justice system. We’ve prayed for God to add more mental health services to our community.

INSPIRED ART AT CITYFEST

Christian artists created the work below at CityFest. It symbolizes the Gospel message and our unity in Christ. Guests at CityFest had their hands traced to be part of the painting!



“BLOOMING BUSINESS”

“Business is blooming” in Downtown Springfield, according to the Register Guard (7/15). In the last year, more than 10 new businesses have opened or moved to the 300 block of Main Street. The revitalization has created a family-friendly atmosphere, attracting more professionals as well. Business owners call it a clean, youthful and up-and-coming area, that “doesn’t have some of the problems that we’ve had in the past.” On top of this, some of the businesses are Christian-owned. It’s an answer to prayer for the Springfield economy!



Two banks with headquarters in Lane County - Summit and Oregon Pacific - reported strong profits during the first six months of 2018. They attributed the growth to a booming local economy (RG 7/24).

We prayed for God to bless the 5th Street Market Development. In July, the City Council unanimously approved three actions to move the project forward. This is also a testimony of increased government/business cooperation & collaboration (RG 7/24).

STORIES FROM A SUMMER OF UNIFIED OUTREACH

Read the full recap at OneHopeNetwork.Org/Cityfest



CITYFEST AT PK PARK

A woman who lives in the PK Park neighborhood heard the music and decided to walk over to see what was happening at the baseball stadium. She gave her life to Jesus at CityFest!

God provided deaf translators for the festival, an answer to prayer in itself, and two deaf individuals responded to the Gospel!

A man named Ryan had been ministering to two of his son's friends for some time, while their father was in jail. The day of the festival came, and Ryan's family was packing for a camping trip. Ryan's oldest son said, "Let's go to CityFest" because the boys "need to know Jesus." They dropped everything and took the boys to CityFest.

A dad, who had committed his life to Jesus a few weeks earlier, brought his son to CityFest. His son responded to the Good News during the BMX presentation.

"I prayed with four and five year olds to receive Jesus for the first time. I was that old when I accepted Christ, and I remember how real it was!" – a local pastor

A boy responded to the Gospel, and later his Festival Friend (counselor) learned he was adopted from Bulgaria three months earlier. God brought him all the way from Bulgaria - just in time for CityFest - to hear the Gospel!

A Jesus-follower was disappointed that a family he'd been sharing with couldn't come to CityFest. However, the story didn't end there. The next day, the family came to church and committed their lives to Christ!

A festival leader's Spanish-speaking nanny volunteered as a Festival Friend. She said, "All the people I prayed with were English-speakers, but I led them to the Lord anyway!"

A deacon at a local church was emboldened to share his faith with people who were hired to help tear down after CityFest.

The hot weather didn't limit God, and neither did a short circuiting microphone. We saw God work all things together for good, when the microphone cut out during Andrew's Gospel presentation. It caused the crowd to grow quiet and fix their attention on Andrew. The audio problem was solved and the presentation continued!

The Eugene Emeralds were thrilled with the turn out, donors were blessed, and CityFest added to the good reputation of the Church in our community.

Those are just a few stories of lives forever changed by the Gospel at CityFest! More than 600 people made commitments to Christ on July 28th.



WOMEN'S OUTREACH DINNER | "STORIES OF HOPE"

Over and over, women were delighted to have all their friends accept invitations to the CityFest Women's Dinner and Outreach. Their friends' eagerness defied their fears of sharing the Good News. In all, 400 women attended and 124 responded to the Gospel!

A woman invited her self-professed atheist friend. Not only did she accept the invitation, but she invited six of her friends! When the Gospel was shared, two of them made commitments to Christ, while others indicated they wanted to learn more.

A woman with severe MS invited six friends & caregivers. At least two of the women responded to the Gospel!

A ministry leader invited her best friend. As the speaker shared her story of losing a child, her friend broke down, hurting because she'd had a recent abortion. As the presentation went on, the ministry leader thought to herself, *"I've ruined it."* Yet in the end, the *Story of Hope* broke through, and she recommitted her life to Jesus!

A woman battling mental illness, addiction, and homelessness attended the event. She received Christ, saying *"I want to be normal."* After the event, she said even though the women had different financial backgrounds and histories, she *"felt so welcome; like I was one of you."*

Some women working at the event spontaneously invited their friends with a few hours to spare. Afterward, one of them asked the outreach leader to call her friend who couldn't attend, because *"she really needed to hear about the Hope that was shared."*

YOUTH: SKATEPARK + CORRECTIONS

A long-haired teenager skated away from the Skate Park Outreach, with a Bible under his arm. A volunteer overheard him on the phone saying, *"They talked about Jesus and it was actually really cool!"*

A 16-year-old boy from a youth group, who a few years earlier was a vocal and self-proclaimed atheist, served at the outreach. He had the opportunity to pray with a boy to receive Christ.

On the Thursday of CityFest week, Andrew Palau shared the Gospel at a youth correctional facility. Of the 70 youth who attended, 20 made clear decisions for Christ. Two of them even chose to be baptized in front of everyone the next day. On top of this, a few employees responded to the Gospel invitation as well!





FIRST RESPONDERS

A pastor of a church in a surrounding town met their new Police Chief through CityFest. He attended the First Responders Breakfast and the festival because a dispatch worker invited him. The pastor prayed with him at CityFest! The Chief asked him to pray for peace in their city and blessing on their civil servants.

GOD'S PEOPLE + BEYOND CITYFEST

A West Eugene church saw a "full culture shift" during the CityFest partnership. Half of their congregation were trained as Festival Friends, and they held community barbeques for their neighborhood in an effort to make sharing life with lost people more natural. And that's what happened. After CityFest, a church member came sprinting into their service, overjoyed because she prayed with six people at the festival!

Another church discovered that people who never "filled out response cards," made commitments to Christ at CityFest. They came to church the next Sunday!

CityFest was instrumental in catalyzing unity among Hispanic pastors and churches. They mobilized people to be Spanish-speaking counselors at the festival, and pastors began meeting to pray together monthly. Three weeks following CityFest, Hispanic churches decided to host a bilingual VBS, and Anglo-churches served to assist them. At least five kids made commitments to Christ at the event.

At Una Esperanza, the Monthly Hispanic Pastors' Prayer Gathering, a pastor shared how a core member of their church was on life support due to Lupus complications. The pastors prayed together, and he left to pray for the man and his family at the hospital. *God resurrected him, and he was released from the hospital!*

Children's ministry leaders came together in an unprecedented way to create the Family Fun Zone at CityFest. But July 28th was just the first fruits of their unity. A vision is developing for future collaboration and united outreach to unchurched children in our cities through coordinated VBS efforts next summer!

CITYFEST PARTNERSHIP STATS

Overall	850 confessions of faith / 113+ partnering churches/ministries
PK Park July 28	Attendance = 9,500 / Decisions = 679
First Responders	Attendance = 104 / Decisions = 23
Women's Dinner	Attendance = 400 / Decisions = 124
Skate Outreach	Attendance = 350 / Decisions = 20

