



Celebrating New Leaders throughout Evana Network

Evana Network celebrates the placement of several new leaders within our churches, as well as any promotions for current pastors. Below are just a few of the transitions that have taken place in the latter half of 2021.

Clinton Frame (Goshen, IN)

On May 23, Bailey Horn was voted in as youth pastor of Clinton Frame Church in Goshen, IN. Bailey transitioned from a residency at Nappanee Missionary Church (IN). Pastor Bailey noted, "As a pastor, I strive to help people see that God has an incredible purpose that He desires to accomplish in their life."

On Sunday, Nov. 28th, Julie Lehman and Chet Miller-Eshleman were installed as pastor of congregational care and pastor of outreach and mission respectively. Julie was recognized for her giftedness in ministry and called from within the congregation. Chet has served in church planting, church growth and conflict transformation, most recently planting Lifebridge Church (Dover, OH).

Pastor Julie is passionate about providing pastoral care and guidance across the spectrum of life by encouraging emotional, mental, physical, and spiritual wellness. And Pastor Chet shared, "My calling is to empower Anabaptist congregations to engage and impact their communities by befriending people and changing individual lives in Christ's name."

Dayspring Christian Fellowship (Massillon, OH)

On November 14th, David and Heather Curtis were licensed for ministry at Dayspring Christian Fellowship in Massillon, Ohio. David is serving as Youth Pastor and Facilities Director, while Heather is the Worship and Administrative Pastor. The Curtises have been attending Dayspring since mid-2018, and are excited to be stepping into more formal ministerial roles there.

Heather told us, "I love my Dayspring family, and am honored to be able to serve alongside them in this way as we work together to advance God's 'big K' kingdom." And David shares her love and honor, adding "I'm excited to work with the youth to build the next generation of Christian leaders."

Lifebridge Community Church (Dover, OH)

On October 10th, Tyler Saldaña was installed as the Pastor of Lifebridge Community Church in Dover, OH. While southern California natives, Tyler and his family relocated from the greater Seattle area where he had been a Youth Pastor.

Pastor Tyler shared, "I'm passionate about the gospel of Jesus and His kingdom. My hope and ambition is to help our church community see how God is currently building His kingdom in our cities, and to find creative ways to join in."

North Clinton Church (Wauseon, OH)

Following Pastor Glenn Coblenz's resignation, Interim Ron Kauffman provided continuity of leadership while the church discerned their next Lead Pastor. On August 8, Dan Martin was called upon and accepted the role of Lead Pastor and has been in the process of transitioning from his previous role of Associate Pastor of Youth and Discipleship over the last five years.

Pastor Dan writes, "I am honored to be called upon to serve our congregation. The church has been so caring and supportive throughout our time here and I'm excited to reciprocate that through my new role. Our growing team here at North Clinton has been incredible to work alongside and we look forward to what is ahead. It is our desire that all may come to know and experience the fullness of Jesus Christ and it is a blessing to be involved in God's work in our church and community."

On November 21st, Craig Roth was installed as Associate Pastor of Worship. Craig was previously serving as Interim Director of Worship and Technology.

Pastor Craig said, "I am honored and blessed to become an Associate Pastor at North Clinton Church where I can serve God and lead people to Him in the same church that invested so much time, energy, and prayers in me as I grew up here. God's faithfulness is evident in my own life and the life of the congregation here. May He continue to work among us and through us."

Shore Church (Shipshewana, IN)

Feeling a further call to ministry, Corey Short pursued special licensing as a preacher/teacher with Shore Church this past summer. Previously, Corey has worked as a leader for Shore's youth and has had the opportunity to bring the message to Shore's congregation on occasion. Corey looks forward to seeing how the Lord will lead him in the future.

We celebrate with these pastors and their faith families and we look forward to seeing how God uses them together in Kingdom impact.

If someone you know is experiencing a pastoral ministry call, let us know & visit evananetwork.org/job-openings/ in 2022.

A Warm Welcome to our New Executive Assistant!

We are pleased to announce the appointment of Darlene Sommers to fill the vacant Directors Assistant position previously held by Jen Tapp. Darlene comes to Evana from Eastern Mennonite Missions where she had served for six years as Executive Assistant to the President of EMM.



"I am so pleased that we have been able to hire someone like Darlene with her experience and skillset for this role," said Executive Director Matt Hamsher. "I believe both Evana staff and members will be blessed by her energy, creativity and enthusiasm."

Darlene will join our geographically dispersed staff from her home office in Elizabethtown, PA on January 1, 2022. Her responsibilities will include providing support services to Matt, Wes, and Tyler and coordinating Evana events.

Darlene has been excited about the Evana Network since attending a Flourish retreat a couple years ago. When asked about her new role, Darlene said, "I look forward to serving at Evana with the leadership team and the membership network of people and churches. I eagerly await the opportunity to provide hospitality at events and connect with the members of the broader community."

Welcome, Darlene! We look forward to seeing how God uses you as part of our team and His Kingdom work.

Thanks for Your Support!

As the year's end approaches, we thank all our financial supporters over the past year. Whether you have supported through individual gifts or through congregational support, we appreciate the Kingdom investment each you have made in the work of the Network.

If you are considering year-end gifts, would you consider supporting our work via a one-time or continuing gift towards general operation costs, our church planting fund, or our events fund?

General operations support helps underwrite the staff costs in an organization that works hard to keep our costs predominantly in human capital. A gift toward church planting allows us to bless new endeavors launched by members and partners. And support of our events fund helps with our yearly Flourish Retreat for pastors and spouses. We offer this event at a loss because we believe strongly in providing quality support while keeping costs down for participants.

If you wish to join us in supporting pastors and resourcing congregations from a distinctly evangelical Anabaptist faith perspective, consider clicking "Donate" on EvanaNetwork.org or send a contribution via mail.

- Matt Hamsher, Executive Director

Evana Offices will be closed

from December 24, 2021 til January 2, 2022.

Have a blessed time celebrating birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. And may your New Year be filled with joy!

VMissions Launches a Church of Many Cultures Campaign

On Saturday, November 6, Virginia Mennonite Missions, a strategic partner of the Evana Network, launched the public phase of a comprehensive fundraising campaign at an event in Harrisonburg, Virginia. The vision for the \$3 million campaign includes support for Global Church Planting, a Business for Transformation program, and the renovation of a barn on the property of VMissions into a fully accessible meeting space designated for prayer, training, and community events.

For more info and how you may get involved, visit <http://vmmissions.org/campaign-launch/>

