



FAITH VILLAGE CHURCH OF CHRIST

To whom it may concern,

It's my pleasure to recommend my brother in Christ, and good friend, John Orr. In the Kingdom of God, there are those who want to see the Kingdom grow and those who actually devote their lives to that purpose. John's heart beats to the tune of the latter. Those who dream big but live even bigger are few and far between.

Several years ago, a dream was born called HomeMission. The vision was to equip and encourage small congregations across the United States that were living on life support. Recent, heartbreaking studies continue to speak to the number of congregations we're losing every year. Something must be done to reverse the trend.

Three years ago, the dream for HomeMission became a reality. Since that time, HomeMission has organized and travelled to churches across the United States serving this purpose. By the Lord's blessing, HomeMission has seen paramount success. Churches (Lockett, Texas; Hewitt, Texas; Sioux City, Iowa and others) that had shrunk to single-digit, Sunday-morning attendance, are now boasting in the Lord of attendance in the 30's and 40's, and continuing to grow. A congregation in Palestine, Texas which was meeting in a hotel, after leaving their former congregation which brought in instrumental music, has built a building and is operating debt-free. We give God the glory for what He's done, and for the way He's using HomeMission.

A big reason HomeMission succeeds is because of its operating system. Upon arriving to work with a congregation, John, and his wonderful wife Susie, conduct different training sessions with leadership and members, helping them cast a new vision, choose areas to implement for improvement (congregational singing, children's classes, ladies' programs, etc.) as well as establishing a visitation and outreach program. As with the model we find in the book of Acts, the Orr's return to these congregations months later to check on their progress so it's not a "one and done" trip. These return trips usually (though not always) take place over a period of three years.

HomeMission doesn't just work with small churches. They have also partnered with larger churches (400 + members) helping them with personal evangelism—that is, getting their members actively involved in teaching the story of Jesus in their own "circle of influence".

During the week of April 18-21, 2018, HomeMission sponsored the “Revive Us Again” workshop at Faith Village church of Christ in Wichita Falls, Texas. God blessed that week beyond our imagination. Over 600 different people attended the event from 8 different states. The entire week was devoted to classes, keynotes, and panels on evangelism and church growth. Plans have already been set next year to host the conference March 27-30, 2019.

For HomeMission to not only grow, but continue, additional funds are needed. We understand every congregation must be very careful and selective of the mission efforts they support. Funds are always limited, and one congregation can’t support everyone; but if you desire to partner with a mission effort that is truly making a difference, especially in America, HomeMission is that group. HomeMission is desperately needed in the Lord’s Church, and John and Susie Orr have given their lives to its glorification of Jesus Christ.

HomeMission continues to operate under the oversight of the Faith Village eldership, in an office of the Faith Village building. Along with two Faith Village elders and a few deacons, I’m honored to serve on its advisory committee. I also co-direct the “Revive Us Again” Workshop with John. If we can answer any questions you might have concerning HomeMission, please do not hesitate to contact us. We can be reached at the number below.

On behalf of the Faith Village elders,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Jacob Hawk', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Jacob Hawk

940-692-0032