

God Grows

The Stepnowski Family on Mission in Lansing with Jesus

Who We Are

Hi! We're Phil and Elizabeth Stepnowski and we are support-raised missionaries in our Churchill Downs Neighborhood in Lansing, Michigan. We invest our time in our neighbors because we know God's love for this city and neighborhood and we want our neighbors to know His love, too. We desire to see every person fully surrendered to Jesus so they can experience the life and wholeness they were created for. This doesn't happen through pushing or coercion - we love and serve our neighbors regardless of their interest in Him. But for those who are interested in pursuing a relationship with their Heavenly Father, we engage in discipling friendships.



Mission

To help others know Jesus, follow him in every area of their lives, and make disciples of Jesus who make more disciples.



Strategy

Jesus demonstrated a discipling lifestyle where he spent time with people, invited them to help minister to others, used everyday moments to teach and help people understand the Father, and then told his disciples to go and do what He did with others. We are doing the same. Through meals, bible studies, projects, and regular life activities, we are building relationships with the people around us, meeting needs as they come up, modeling and sharing with them who Jesus is, and, as opportunities arise, inviting them to journey with us in seeking deeper relationship with Him.



Context

The Churchill Downs neighborhood was created in the early 1960s and is about a 1/2 square mile in size. There are about 1000 households and 3,500 people living here. The neighborhood is diverse in many ways, racially, ethnically, and in age. There are two parks in the neighborhood and an active volunteer-led community association.

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