

Annual Report 2017

Word Spirit Street

Tierra Nueva is committed to bringing good news of Jesus' love, liberation, and abundant life to the neglected and excluded—with special focus on those affected by incarceration, addiction, and immigration.

We seek to raise up disciples of Jesus through engagement in active faith communities: jail, prison, migrant camps, homes, and churches.



Family Support Center and Migrant Chaplaincy

Mission:

The current political climate continues to be a point of unease and mistrust with our local migrant population.

Our commitment to stand with the migrant community in supportive, pastoral relationships remains as strong as ever.

Family Support Center and Migrant Chaplaincy are the lifeblood of Tierra Nueva. We are known in the community as a hub of support, welcoming, kindness, and prayer. Our team's overflowing hearts of compassion gathers God's people on the streets to receive Christ's boundless love.

Impact:

- conducted **87** pastoral visits that included prayer, visiting migrant camps, the Faith House and the Trust recovery houses, and listening to griefs and struggles
- received **39** visits: prayer, help with applications, use of computer, and connection to supporting agencies
- distributed **1,230** diapers
- received **351** visits to the clothing closet
- served as mail pickup location for **47** families
- provided **53** rides to food banks, court dates, documents, and often times people showing up just needing a ride home



These numbers reflect the services our staff performed on Mondays and Wednesdays. We've since begun collecting data all throughout the week. Look forward to a more accurate representation of our work in 2018.

Jail Ministry

Mission:

Most jail inmates view God as a judge or prosecutor, ready to convict and damn them forever. Tierra Nueva's Skagit County Jail Ministry seeks out prisoners who feel rejected, condemned, and forgotten. We consider them lost treasures. Our aim is to incorporate them into a community of faith. Through open discussion of scripture and healing prayer, many inmates are discovering that God is eager to liberate, heal, love, and restore them.

Impact:

- We have four new chaplains: Danielle Riley, Kevin Riley, Deana Strom, and Don Harpole. As formerly incarcerated individuals, it is a huge victory to have Danielle and Kevin serving in this capacity.
- In October, the new Skagit County Community Justice Center (County Jail) opened and we have been collaborating with jail staff on best practices in the new environment and adjusting our chaplaincy schedules.

- Our chaplains conduct **9** weekly Bible Studies at the Skagit County Jail, Thursdays and Sundays; approximately **450** Bible Studies every year.

- We visit the Munroe Correctional Facility twice every month; **24** Bible Studies every year.





Faith Community Sundays at 4:30pm

Mission:

Our Sunday afternoon faith community continues to more reflect our vision of a sheep pen for the “lost sheep” we encounter on the margins of Skagit County.

Our desire is for all to experience abundant, joy-filled life in communion with our heavenly Father. Our desire is to walk together as sisters and brothers of our Savior Jesus Christ. Our desire is to be guided, encouraged and empowered by the Holy Spirit for mutual liberation and sharing the Gospel. Many members of our faith community do not feel welcome in other congregations but feel at home at Tierra Nueva.

Our Hope:

- Experience a personal connection with the living Jesus, who brings us to the Father, and fills us with the Holy Spirit.
- Experience God’s empowering love mediated through vibrant worship, community, Scripture, and the Sacraments (Communion, Baptism).
- Grow as disciples of Jesus through increased understanding of life in Christ received through teaching, preaching, and conversation.
- Receive prayer for needs, including physical and emotional healing.
- Go deeper in holistic transformation through TN’s prayer ministry, New Earth Recovery, The People’s Seminary, and faith community trainings.



Impact:

- 9 baptisms in 2017 (3 in the Skagit River and 6 at Tierra Nueva building)
- Partnering with local churches in children’s ministry
- Emerging leader, Kevin Riley, stepping into the invitation to be trained as a commissioned lay pastor for Mount Baker Presbyterian Church in Concrete
- Commissioning of Julio Montalvo as licensed pastor to daily Psalms and Gospels community



The People's Seminary

Mission:

TPS is committed to training leaders from the margins, equipping the larger body of Christ for transformational ministry to the underreached and excluded. TN Skagit has been described as the vineyard from which the wine of TPS teaching is produced.

TPS trains primarily, though not exclusively, through the Certificate for Transformational Ministry on the Margins (CTMM). These are three four-day gatherings designed to encourage and equip God's people in sharing a liberating gospel to poor, marginalized, and unserved communities.

Theological education that connects the mainstream with the margins reveals a gospel that is active and powerful, enabling both groups to discover their vocation and serve together as Christ's body in the world.

Included in these gatherings:

- God's Identity and Mission—and Ours
- Healing and Holistic Liberation: Biblical Foundations and Principles
- Social Prophetic Mission: Justice, Advocacy, and Peacemaking
- Word on the Street: Preparing and Leading Transformational Bible Studies
- Practical Reflection: How does this work in my life and ministry?

Impact:

- CTMM module 2 in Kenya and Zimbabwe
- CTMM modules 2 & 3 in Burlington
- CTMM module 3 in London and Glasgow
- Hosted UK CTMM alumnus gathering
- First ever "Training of the Trainers" conference in northern England
- Hosted "Reading the Bible with the Damned" workshops two weekends in Burlington
- First CTMMs in Siberia and Ethiopia

Pastoral Advocacy

Mission:

We come alongside people who are in the criminal justice system, actively using, in recovery, gang-affiliated, and struggling with mental illness. We primarily meet folks through the jail, the faith community, and the Family Support Center in order to connect people to Jesus. Through our Pastoral Advocates, they are received into a loving and safe community that offers pastoral care, practical support, and advocacy, addressing root issues and systemic blocks.



Impact:

1. This year we started two Bible studies, one for men and one for women, for those connected to our faith community but with little prior church involvement. With these groups, we hosted events at the building, BBQs, movie nights, a summer festival, and a trip to the zoo.

2. We've continued to follow up with men and women when they get out of jail, as well as write to folks who are transferred to prison. We lead Bible studies in the jail and visit with community. Two of our women pastoral advocates were able to visit three women in a women's prison three hours away, and another advocate visited some youth in juvenile detention who had been transferred to long-term programs. Male advocates continued correspondence and visits to numerous inmates in prison.

3. We walk with many burdened with addiction and mental health issues. We seek to be a positive, consistent presence in their lives, checking in regularly, and praying together in everything. Our team also took three women and two men through the individual six month-long Genesis Process addiction recovery and relapse prevention program this year.

Impact Story

My work today takes me back to the streets. My life was trauma, guilt, addiction, and self-destruction. I was severely lost, and now am found. Jesus sends me back to the marginalized to rescue others like me.

I first met Daniel* at The Trust at New Earth Recovery four years ago. We were both struggling through our addictions.



Two years ago, Daniel was overcome with shame and took his own life through asphyxiation. He was officially brain dead and descended to hell. When he was found by his family, the church gathered in vigorous prayer and, though suffering brain damage, Daniel returned back to the living.

I met with him weekly so we could encourage each other, encounter faith-based studies, and pray. He relapsed again. I continued to visit him in one of the local treatment centers as a brother and advocate. By the grace of God, Daniel engaged with the social workers and voluntarily sought further, more holistic treatment in mental health. Along with the community at Tierra Nueva, I surrounded him with prayer and Bible passages to encourage his healing. He was moved to various facilities and treatment programs in and out of Washington state.

His struggles, like mine, are not uncommon.

His triumph, like mine, is full of grace and nothing short of a miracle. Our Savior brought him back from the dead, back to his family, and back to the Skagit Valley. Today he is clean of addiction, in active recovery, gainfully employed, reunited with his family, and active in our community here.

May the Lord be praised.

Kevin Riley
Pastoral Advocate, Tierra Nueva

**name changed for privacy*

Rescue people from the depths of hell and raise them up to be followers of Christ



Underground Writing

Mission:

Underground Writing is a literature-based creative writing program serving migrant, incarcerated, recovery, and other at-risk communities in northern Washington through literary engagement and personal restoration. We facilitate generative encounters with literature spanning the tradition—from ancient texts to those written in our workshops. Honoring the transforming power of the word, we believe that attentive reading leads to attentive writing, and that attentive writing has the power to assist in the restoration of communities, the imagination, and individual lives.

Impact:

- Skagit County Juvenile Detention: **100-150** youth per year
- Migrant Leaders Club: **60-90** youth per year
- Skagit Valley Recovery Community: **20-30** adults per year
- YMCA Oasis Daylight Center: **75-125** youth per year
- **The Stories We Save May Include Our Own** essay published in Iron City Magazine, No. 2
- Assembled first anthology: **What No One Ever Tells You** (141 pages, selected student writings, and resources) to be published in the fall of 2018
 - Foreword by Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright, Quiara Alegría Hudes

Minas de Oro, Honduras



Mission:

Tierra Nueva Honduras is committed to building thriving households of faith and churches in rural Honduras. Our focus is reaching the unreached, those excluded from the church.

Impact:

New church building opened and over **40** people meeting in the village of Mal Paso, a small town that has been traumatized by violence that reflect the general lawlessness in Honduras at this time.

Minas de Oro is the base of operations for Tierra Nueva and gathering place for some **70+** people for worship and teaching.



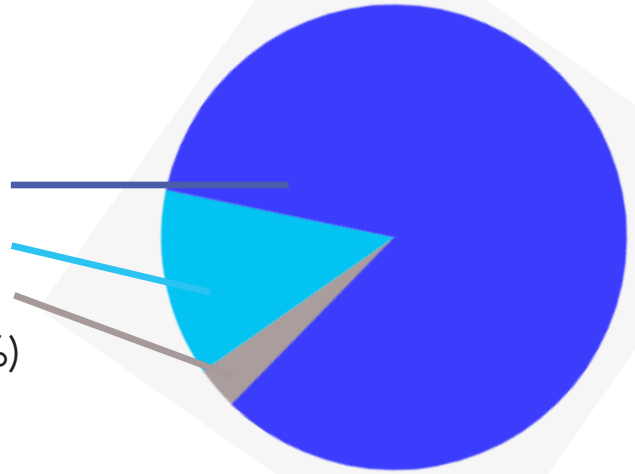
Financial Information

Calendar year 2017

Income

1) Donations	836,916	(92%)
2) Grants	49,899	(5%)
3) The People's Seminary	19,878	(2%)
4) other income	6,210	(0.7%)

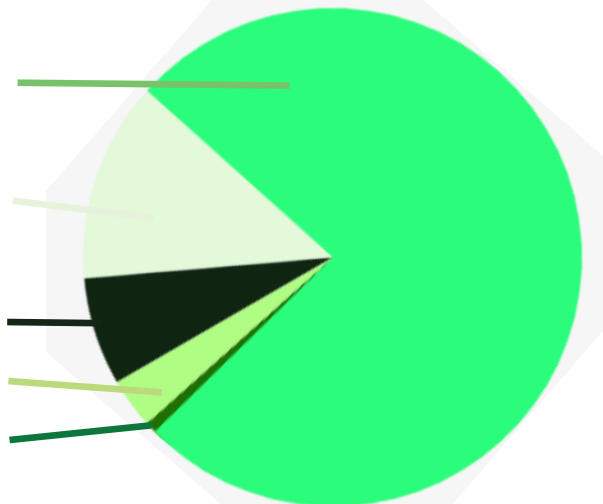
Total Income: 912,904



Expenses

1) Personnel	696,374	(76%)
salaries, taxes, benefits		
2) Administrative	115,102	(13%)
utililities, building, bookkeeper		
3) Programs	62,468	(7%)
4) Underground Coffee	23,153	(3%)
5) Honduras	16,930	(2%)

Total Expenses: 914,027
(-1,123)



Psalms Group y Centro de Apoyo Familiar



We are Tierra Nueva (New Earth), an international Christian ministry based in Burlington, Washington that seeks to share the good news of God's total liberation, healing, and transformation in Jesus Christ with people on the margins.

We invite you to journey with us as we seek and find the Gospel that has the power to save, heal, liberate, deliver, and bring total transformation. Join us so we can see together the signs of God's kingdom: faith found or renewed, strangers welcomed, addicts recovered, prisoners released, the sick and broken healed, ordinary people empowered for ministry.

Tierra-Nueva.org

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