

Church: Ellington Wesleyan Church, Ellington CT

Church Data: Suburban Church located in metro Hartford, CT. Rev. Norm Mesel, Pastor
Avg. weekly attendance: 120, Launched whole body work-life ministry in Sept 2003,
church: www.WesleyanChurch.org workplace ministry: www.WesleyansAtWork.org

Weekly Workplace Influence: The church is intentionally influencing approximately 1,000 unchurched people in the workplace through the work lives of the congregation each week.

Ministry Overview:

Big Impact: Wesleyans At Work (WAW)

A manager in finance at a major corporation feels "beat up" by difficult people, and is encouraged and equipped to handle the pressure through WAW. Her co-worker trusts Christ as her Lord and Savior.

How do you balance being a professional with being a wife and mother of three young boys? Through WAW, the Lord gives a nursing supervisor at a local hospital encouragement and tidbits of wisdom that she can apply in her everyday life.

A plant manager at a local manufacturing firm is frustrated by some of the excesses he sees in the business. He is encouraged to be patient and faithful no matter what, and to trust the Lord.

A manufacturing engineer at a major corporation is encouraged to continue to glorify God at work through the weekly Work Life Sunday school classes and discipleship emails.

The owner of a marketing business is equipped to persevere through challenging economic times.

A local physician faces the relentless financial pressures of operating a private practice while trying to minister to patients with extreme problems. Through WAW, this physician receives helpful prayer support and encouragement.

The owner of a local retailing business has an employee dishonesty issue. Through the Wesleyans At Work ministry, the Lord confirms that dismissing the employee was the proper, albeit uncomfortable, way to handle the situation.

From the WorkLife Director of Ellington Wesleyan Church:

Although I grew up in church, I was saved later in life. This happened at a Christian business breakfast in June of 1985. Ever since that morning nearly 20 years ago, I know the Lord has called me to be a minister in the workplace. For years, I've served in that capacity through para-church ministries including the Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship, Campus Crusade for Christ's Marketplace Ministry, Fellowship of Companies for Christ, and Northeast Christians At Work.

But, my heart was yearning for my local church to intentionally address this area of each member's life. I kept thinking about the impact we could make as a church in this fertile area of ministry - the workplace. After research and prayer, the Lord inspired me to launch "Wesleyans At Work" at my local church in September of 2003.



We have launched a work life ministry for our whole congregation through the support of HisChurchatWork.org in San Diego. This included the start-up of online work tools as well as turn-key plans to help us equip our saints in this area. Our first step was the creation of a WorkLife Support Center as well as weekly discipleship content delivery to our

people. This has established the foundation for sustainable ministry for years to come.

As a part of our overall strategy and further commitment to equipping our people, we started a weekly adult Sunday school class that centered on work. We used curriculum from www.Marketplace-Network.org out of Boston specifically focusing on workplace issues. Topics we've shared include success, balance, materialism, leadership, stress, difficult people, office politics, honesty, lust, failure, business ethics, talking about God at work, answering skeptics, decision-making, and time management.

In the future we are organizing outreach events where local working people can hear testimony, respond to the simple Gospel, meet local working Christians, and check out our local church ministries.

In addition to ministering to those within our church and community, our dream is that Wesleyans At Work will be an encouraging model for small churches across the USA. This focus really does work in smaller churches like ours. We're still in our infancy, but already the practical impact for the Kingdom has been very encouraging.

Drew Crandall, Director
Wesleyans At Work, Ellington CT



To learn more on how to effect change in this area for your church
Visit: www.hischurchatwork.org
Phone: 619-660-3330
Email: info@hischurchatwork.org