

# The Project SoL Report

Episode 4: December 2020

## Andersens Arrive

Much has happened since our last report. One of the most significant events is that the Andersens have completed their move to the area. They sold their house in the Chicago suburbs in the late summer, lived with the Blocks for two months as they searched for housing (in a COVID-crazed market), and are now moved into their beautiful new home just a few minutes away from the Blocks and the Nenns in O'Fallon, IL. This is all in answer to your prayers!

## Mission: Accepted!

Also since June (our last report; [get previous editions here](#)), we have done some important spade work to define and distill the mission of our church as a local embassy of the Kingdom of God. We are particularly drawn to Jesus' summary of the law in Matthew 22, "Love God and love your neighbor" and His command to "go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you" (Matt 28:19-20a). Consequently, we feel we are sent by Jesus...

- To love God by walking with God, that we might really know Him, and obeying Him when He speaks to us, even when it's hard
- To love our neighbors by boldly proclaiming the gospel in word and deed, serving them sacrificially, and extending hospitality that might be considered radical in our day
- To make disciples by teaching them to obey Jesus in all that He has commanded us, which gets us right back to "love God and love our neighbors"

### Our Mission

1. Love God
  - Walk with God
  - Obey His word
2. Love your neighbor
  - Proclaim the gospel
  - Serve sacrificially
  - Extend hospitality
3. Make disciples
  - Teach others to do the same

## A Place to Belong

This leads us directly to our church's slogan or tagline: "***The King has prepared a place for you.***" We believe God has shown us radical hospitality – setting a place for us and welcoming us to the wedding feast of His Son ... which is no place for sinful wretches like you and me, except for God's grace. And if the alarmingly pure and majestic King of the Universe has made a place for me, then how much more are we expected ... commanded ... honored to make a place for others at our table. It is the goal of our church to be a place for everyone to "fit," no matter where they come from.

## Happening in the Neighborhood

The last six months have been busy ones, meeting our new neighbors and hosting events in the neighborhood. With the King's mission in mind, here are a few things we've been up to lately... *(click on these images to see larger versions online)*

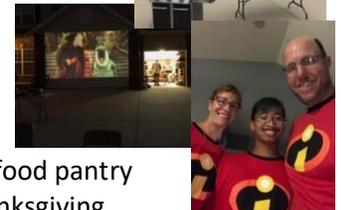


August: **Ice Cream giveaway** – We set up a stand on the street by the neighborhood pool and gave away ice cream on a Saturday afternoon ... and had some great conversations.

August-October: **Driveway BBQ's and Movie Nights** – Once a month, we hosted themed, COVID-friendly get-togethers in the driveway.



Halloween: **Fall Fest** – Candy, pumpkin decorating, and movies for the kids. Chili, cider and a roaring bonfire for the parents. And a fun time for all.



November: **Food Drive** – We collected food from the neighbors for the local food pantry and partnered with a local family who makes meals for the hungry every Thanksgiving, buying turkeys and piles of other food stuffs to feed many in need.



December: **Christmas Cookies, Caroling and Community** – I [wrote about this recently](#). We hosted a night of caroling in the neighborhood and at the local senior living home. We distributed branded Christmas cards (about Jesus!) and hundreds of cookies. Many heard the gospel and were blessed in a season of loneliness.

December: **The Lighting of Deer Creek** – We lined the streets in the Andersen’s neighborhood with luminaries. You wouldn’t believe how loved people felt! It was fantastic.



Want to follow along or give to support these kinds of activities? Check out our Church Center app: [Calendar](#), [Giving](#), etc.

## Gift Cards of Love

COVID has meant hard times for many, including the wait staff at some of our favorite restaurants. One of the ways we seek to bless our community is to distribute \$25 Aldi’s gift cards to those in need. We’ve given away over \$500 so far and hope to grow this ministry in 2021. Each member of the launch team (even the kids) has cards in their wallet or purse, so if they perceive from the Holy Spirit that someone is in need, they give them a gift card and one of our church’s business cards. Check it out →



## Brand Identity Created

And as this image of the business card demonstrates, we have completed the work of creating a brand identity for the church. In our June 2020 report, we announced that God has selected the church’s name: **The King’s Table**. In the months since then, we have created a logo and our website and social media are all up and running. Check them out (click icons):



We also created business cards, “we prayed for you”

door hangers, note cards, sweatshirts, and more. It’s so exciting! What started out as just an idea is now a reality that people are talking about, wearing, browsing to, and handing out to people in the community.

## Mugs of Remembrance



One of the traditions we’d like to nurture over the years is to create a different mug each year to commemorate what God has done among us. We give these as gifts each Christmas and hope they will serve as “stones of remembrance” (Joshua 4:1-7), not only for us but for those who are praying for and supporting our church. If you are committed to prayer on our behalf and would like to receive one of these 2020 mugs with our church logo and tagline, please [contact Jeff](#) and we’ll get you one.

## Please pray!

Your partnership in prayer means so much to us. Please pray for these specific needs:

- 1) Pray for our new neighbors – that God would draw them to Himself and create opportunities for us to invest in them
- 2) Pray for Faith, Chris and Kayla, all of whom have jobs in the community, as well as the Andersen’s resale business, that God would bring them in contact with many who are eager to hear the gospel
- 3) Pray for great jobs for Bob and Alex Andersen, John Block and Maddie Pongetti (friend of the family who is staying with us for a season), all of whom are searching for work
- 4) Pray for all of us as God teaches us how to love one another and our neighbors well
- 5) Pray that God would add the 4<sup>th</sup> family to our launch team and expand our elder team, specifically someone with apostolic gifting who is called to church planting

Signup for these reports at [report.projectsoil.net/signup](http://report.projectsoil.net/signup), and read more about our journey on [our team’s blog](#). And visit our church’s website: [TheKingsTable.Church](http://TheKingsTable.Church). Grace and peace in the Lord Jesus be with you in 2021 and beyond!

