

Novus Article
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Myriad
Gareth Williams

“You have to be crazy to be a church planter!” said Gareth Williams. “If I don’t succeed, people will point the finger and say ‘I told you so’.”

But Gareth also said he has no choice. This is God’s call on his life. “I want to change the world! I want my workmates and friends to come to know God- even if it is in 5 or 10 years time. I want to see needs being met. This is my opportunity to start something new and shape it from the ground up.”

Gareth’s vision for the new venture named Myriad is a network of communities that will impact their suburb or subculture, and the local communities around them. Leaving his role as Youth pastor of Subiaco Church of Christ, Gareth birthed the first group in February 2006.

“We started as a church focused on mission”. People are involved with projects to meet the needs of others. For example, they regularly cook meals for families staying at Ronald McDonald House.

In addition there is a weekly gathering grown from relational networks. With a strong goal of building community, this gathering takes place in cafes, parks and homes. A simple format of a shared meal, time of thanksgiving, sharing personal sorties, a spiritual exercise, such as Bible study or prayer, followed by any necessary housekeeping.

Gareth acknowledges the risks and costs of starting something new. It can be quite isolating and the need to work in paid employment reduces the amount of time available. Yet, as he said, “I am an idealist, a dreamer. I would love to see Myriad around the world.”