

SOMA

A Church of the Christ

Building Momentum Towards October

On Sunday evening, June 29, Soma had its second "preview" worship gathering at Kingwood Bible Church. We would have loved to see a few more people (the final count was 35 people), and we came away obviously feeling a little bummed.

However, we still felt God's presence as there were a number of good outcomes from the evening. We connected with two new potential families as well as created an atmosphere that was welcoming to new people and gave people the opportunity to encounter Christ.

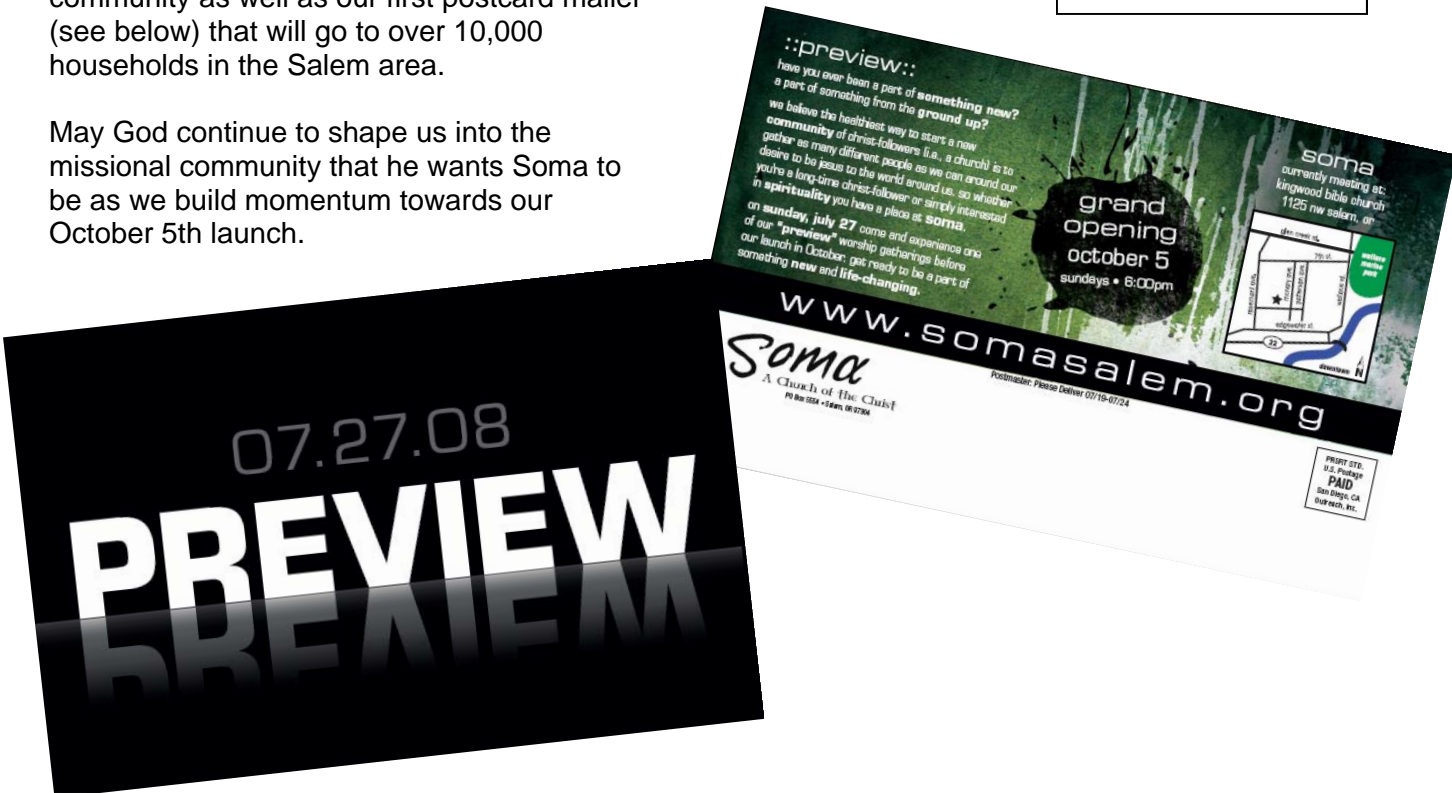
Quite honestly, our June 29 preview worship gathering was a great reminder to everyone on the launch team (and you, as a dedicated supporter) that church planting is hard work and is not something for the faint of heart to embark on. Some times we experience great ups; other times we are challenged in new ways. Either way, we hope and pray that they serve as excellent learning opportunities for us as we seek to share Jesus with those who are "missing" from the kingdom.

As we look ahead to our next "preview" worship gathering, the in-between time will include a number of service projects in our local community as well as our first postcard mailer (see below) that will go to over 10,000 households in the Salem area.

May God continue to shape us into the missional community that he wants Soma to be as we build momentum towards our October 5th launch.

Please Pray 4...

- **People.** They are the reason we do ministry. Please pray that God will use us to lead people to a saving relationship with him.
- **Work Funds.** There are a few things on the horizon, but specifically pray that God would provide us the funds to launch our mailing campaign in the community.
- **New Leaders.** God continues to send us very talented, gifted people. Pray that Soma would be the kind of people that develops leaders who are intent on leading others into the Christ life.
- **Location.** Please pray for us as we consider a potential location right here in the heart of the Edgewater area.



Truly a "Community" Church



It's funny. Sometimes we work so hard to create and develop "community" within a church culture that we forget to just let community happen.

On Saturday, June 28 our neighbors (and now great friends) Nate & Melissa Bordewich decided to throw a neighborhood block party in honor of Nate's birthday. The Bordewichs have been getting more and more plugged

into Soma and Nate's birthday party is an excellent example of being the church in your local community. Not only did they invite their family and close friends, but Nate and Melissa invited everyone at Soma and, well, our entire block to come to a huge Saturday afternoon cookout. Two pools, one air castle, one DJ, a huge water fight and tons of food later, "community" was happening in the most natural way.



Why do we appreciate that so much? One of Soma's core values is authentic community and for us that means following Christ in ways that are interrelated, interdependent, and focused outward as we incorporate new people into Soma..

Up Ahead...

July is quickly shaping up to be a busy "momentum building" month at Soma. Check out what's coming up ahead...

- ◆ Bethany Suppes (Soma's first intern) will be here all through July working with our Worship & Creative Arts LiFE group.
- ◆ July 21 our first postcard mailer will go out into the community into over 10,000 households inviting them to be a part of the Soma community.
- ◆ July 22-27 Soma and Cascade Hills (our sending church) will host over 40 missionaries from the Southwest Church of Christ in Jonesboro, Arkansas for a week of service in our local community.
- ◆ Sunday, July 27 at 6:00 p.m. we'll be having our 3rd preview worship gathering at Kingwood Bible Church...(if you happen to be in Salem...)

By the Numbers...

29

June's Sunday night weekly average (which includes our 2 "preview" services)

\$1,350.00

June's contribution total, which will largely be going towards launching Soma

21

The approximate # of kids and adults that were involved in a massive water fight at Nate Bordewich's neighborhood birthday party.

8.8

How many much Bailee Elizabeth Elliott weighed on June 16 when she was born to Trevor & Jacque.

93

The number of Costco muffins we delivered to local business employees on Saturday, June 21

300

The approximate # of legos that we used for 2 of our prayer stations at our June 29 preview worship service.

07-27-2008

Date of Soma's next preview worship service.

SOMA

A Church of the Christ

PO Box 5554
Salem, OR 97304
503.689.1995



Being Jesus to an Emerging Generation
by

Creating Authentic Community,
Practicing Missional Living,
Engaging in Creative Dignity,
& Nurturing Spiritual Formation