

# THE LANGFORDS

GLOBAL STRATEGY MISSIONARIES SERVING ALONGSIDE  
THE THREE WORLDS TEAM AND THE CHURCH OF GOD IN ENGLAND.

## "You are Loved"

Since returning to in-person worship services in February 2022, Zach sensed that God was shifting his understanding of success and growth within the Sunday morning service. Several older believers were no longer able to attend because of health reasons, a few others stepped away during the Covid pandemic. We, and a few others thought everything was going well, but God was exposing that Zach's focus wasn't entirely in the right place. God revealed that assessing success based on the number of people in seats can be a dangerous metric. Regardless of how Sunday morning looked, the weekly ministries were growing rapidly, and partnerships were blossoming. God was truly on the move in ways we didn't expect. Within the context of our community, church or faith in Jesus is not an essential part of daily life. Many struggle to pay bills and put food on the table. How can we begin to address these issues and display the love of God to our neighbors? The focus of getting people into the building on a Sunday morning began to shift to equipping our church to display the love of God in every aspect of what we do as a body of believers. From our weekly tots sessions, sensory session, kids club, to our youth hub, how are we connecting personally and emotionally with people we meet? A majority of our current congregation are engaged in at least one weekly ministry that impacts a family in the neighborhood.

Instead of Sunday morning being the focal point for reaching non-believers, we are using the time to invest in our current attendees through encouragement and discipleship. As they are further equipped and mature in the faith, they are able to share the love of Jesus and redemptive nature of God more freely.



## Spotlight: Lola

Our adventurous Lola was recently interviewed by Chris Kaczmarek, outreach pastor, at County Line Church of God. Have a listen by clicking on the following link:

<https://www.facebook.com/countylinechurch/videos/787349739708324>



## "You are Known"

"You are Known, Loved, and part of Community" is at the essence of everything we do at Egan Road Church. It often surprises us how that is lived out in our daily lives and relationships. After launching Egan Explorers Sensory Session last year, Audrey met a parent through a coffee morning support group. When mentioning the new session, one parent responded with, "I'm a practicing pagan... are we welcome at this group?" Audrey's answer was simple, "Absolutely. This stay-and-play is simply to provide a safe place for you and your kids to be yourselves." Other parents were just as anxious about a church group. Several visited unsure of what to expect. One mum took a chance after that coffee morning, and the very first session one of her boys had a huge meltdown. Toys were thrown. Words were shouted. Her immediate response was to apologize. This is a group at a church after all. What our team demonstrated instead was Grace. Meltdowns are going to happen. The church and Egan Explorers is a safe place for all of it - the fun moments and the angry moments and the overwhelming moments. This is the sole intention of this group. Families who often feel isolated or unable to participate in "normal" play sessions can come and find a space dedicated to them. To be known. That simple message of value is a part of the gospel. You belong. You are known. You matter. These moments are holy and should not be minimized. **How are you demonstrating the gospel without your words?**

## Youth Hub

Our partnership with the Hive Youth Hub continues to blossom. Each week, we connect with youth, many of whom were a part of our Tuesday kids club when they were younger. The Hive staff and resources provide encouragement, fun activities, dinner, and safe spaces to connect with their friends and make new ones. Although the Hive is a non-religious organization we are able to share the Gospel each week. Continue to lift this partnership up in prayer as we meet new faces each week.



## CONNECT

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**Call:** Prefer a Zoom meeting or phone call? Email us to arrange a time to connect.

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