

**Scott & Nicole Davis**

Began ministry in October 2004

This past year was incredible for Ardent. With a greater level of autonomy we have been able to develop some momentum in some significant areas. We were able to enter into a partnership with a local dance studio that has provided us with a facility for worship and access to the families of over 500 students. We have been able to engage the community in unique ways as we continue to find that deeper presence of God in our midst both personally and communally. We have found meaningful success in unique expressions of worship and have begun to build rapport with literally hundreds of families in the community as well as a couple of organizations that could prove to be more phenomenal partnerships in ministry. Our kids events have proven to be a great success in reaching the community with things like our Backyard Bible Club.

This year we set out to follow two key rules. We will break the rules and believe God for the impossible. We break the "rules" of how church is done when a rule stands in the way of truly advancing the gospel of Christ and building His Kingdom. In the process, we step out into new areas of faith as a church and in our individual relationships as we believe God will be faithful in reaching those whom we would typically treat as unreachable. The celebration of our formal organization as a church and the opening of our charter was a perfect mix with our Paschal Celebration as we more than doubled our average attendance and found God's presence in a powerful way. We look back over this past year and see God's blessings and provisions at every turn, though often in the face of barriers.

We have begun an outreach ministry to help improve the financial standing of low income families in the community as well as a ministry approach in the two local jails that has proven results of lowering repeat-offender rates. We plan to expand our Backyard Bible Club to multiple homes this summer, and have also begun to build a youth ministry around our sole teenager. We have also very recently begun a dance ministry involving our children with plans to expand to adults. Ardent is a young and growing group of worshipers who are ardently pursuing relationship with God and each other. We don't fear a large body, nor a small body. We only fear a complacent body. That has proven to be a challenging, yet powerful mindset for us. We have spent time developing in the cocoon and this past year finally broke free. This year, we eagerly look forward to flight.

-Scott Davis