

# CHURCH PLANTING IN MOUNT COBB, PA

THIS IS WHY I LEFT YOU IN CRETE... TO APPOINT ELDERS *IN EVER Y TOWN.* TITUS 1:5

#### MOUNT COBB RESIDENT:

"Now let me get this straight... you guys have chosen rural, insignificant Mount Cobb as a place for a church plant? Why?"

(www.city-data.com)

#### EASTERN PA PRESBYTERY:

"There is no better place for spiritual regeneration than a place where God has provided regional regeneration."

\*www.google.com

# COMMUNITY FACTS

#### 2000 census data:

Urban population: o

Rural population: 12,113

Median age: 41.0 Median household size: 2.61 Median household income (1999): \$37,332 Median house sale value (2000): \$112,200

# ethnic demographics:

White population: 11,797 African-American population: 133 American Indian population: 13 Asian population: 32 Native Hawaiian /Pacific Islander population: 1 Other: 137





# Mount Cobb adults 25 years and over:

- High school or higher: 88.8%
- Bachelor's degree or higher: 25.6%
- Graduate / professional degree: 9.4%
- Unemployed: 3.8%
- Mean travel time to work: 23.0 minutes

# a local flavor:

- Percent of population that rents is significantly below the Pennsylvania state average.
- The 'length of stay' for residents is significantly above the Pennsylvania state average.
- The number of rooms per house is above the Pennsylvania state average.

proximity: Nearest city with 50,000+: Scranton, PA (11.2 miles \*, 76,415) Nearest city with 200,000+: Philadelphia, PA (101.7 miles \*, 1,517,550)



#### industry:

24.2% - Ed., health, social 15.7% - Manufacturing 13.4% - Retail trade

#### agriculture: 91.7% - Family farms 114 acres – Average farm size

Mount Cobb is in the rural eastern side of Lackawanna County, bordering Scranton/Wilkes-Barre.

## politics:

2004 Presidential Election Kerry/Edwards: 56.3% Bush/Cheney: 42.3%

## history:

Coal, steel and railroads played huge roles in the development of late 19th and early 20th Century America. Lackawanna County happened to manufacture all three. Residential settlements popped up wherever coal was mined and the economy ran smoothly because there was a need for "black gold", steel and rail ties.



Lackawanna County, PA

Lackawanna County enjoyed nearly a century of prosperity. In the 1880's, the first electric street car system in the United States was built in Scranton, naming it "The Electric City". Coal breakers dominated the skyline of every community in the County. This time also saw many immigrants coming to the area in search of employment. Scores of Irish, Polish, Italian and Russian immigrants took to the mines and thus the rich, ethnic history of our County began to take form. The fingerprints of this heritage can be seen throughout our County today.

Shortly after the turn of the Century things turned for the worse. In 1902, the coal

miner's labor union went on strike and Scrantons' Lackawanna Steel Company left for Buffalo. In the following decade, oil was discovered as a cheaper, cleaner means of energy. Coal became increasingly less popular, hitting rock bottom during the Great Depression of the 1930's. Though it saw new life during WW II, it eventually disappeared in the 1950's. The driving force behind Lackawanna County's economy was gone and thus, the county suffered population loss. For the past half-century, Lackawanna County has been in a transition – or should we say – "regenerational" phase.

Today Lackawanna County offers its residents a low cost of living, a high quality of life and a superior educational and healthcare system. Situated in a region that boasts the eighth lowest crime rate in the country, its residents enjoy affordable housing and a growing number of shopping, cultural and recreational facilities. Some of the County's attractions and amenities: the Montage Ski Resort, the Coors Light Amphitheater at Montage, the Scranton Cultural Center, the Lackawanna County Stadium, the Steamtown National Historic Site, the Mall at Steamtown and the Viewmont Mall. Sports are a popular pastime, with several minor and major league baseball, basketball, hockey and football teams located nearby. American History buffs would enjoy the Lackawanna Coal Mine Tour – a journey 300 feet beneath the earth's surface into three different veins of an actual coal mine.

Residents of Lackawanna County take their education seriously. Besides the top-notch elementary and secondary schools, locals can take advantage of the 15 colleges, universities and technical schools that collectively enroll over 54,000 students within an hour's drive of Scranton. There are seven colleges located in Lackawanna County.

\*adapted from <u>www.lackawannacounty.org</u> and <u>www.pennsnortheast.com</u>



# WHY A CHURCH PLANT IN MOUNT COBB?

† THE PROMISED PROGRESS OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD WILL BE FROM TOWN TO TOWN!

> "I must preach the good news of the kingdom of God to the other towns as well; for I was sent for this purpose." Luke 4:43

This is why I left you in Crete... to appoint elders in every town.

Titus 1:5

† GOD HAS ORDAINED THE SOCIETAL REGENERATION IN MOUNT COBB FOR A REASON. A REDEMPTIVE REASON.

\*www.google.com

#### INTERESTED? CONTACT...

TE BRUCE FINN CPPhilly@comcast.net 267.983.1133 Metro Philadelphia Church Planting Partnership

TE JOHN KINYON john@cornerstonepca.net 610.282.5683 Eastern PA Presbytery Church Planting Team