

Quarterly Report (Q4, 2018)

# Clapham Servants

## Rising leaders impacting local communities

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### Introduction

Now in its sixth year, Clapham Servants is entering a new, more dynamic phase. In September, I stepped down from serving as senior pastor of Medway Village Church. My primary focus now is to expand the impact of Clapham Servants throughout New England and beyond. One approach that God continues to bless is the Public Square Forum ([more here](#)). In short, there's nothing like a group of Christ followers from a local church functioning as salt and light by engaging people through impactful conversations. Following are a few highlights.

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## Raising up local leaders



In October, the Medway Village Church team hosted a Public Square Forum at a local community center. To help grow local leadership, we discussed the challenges overcome by the first woman president of Liberia, Ellen Johnson Sirleaf. Medway Village Church's new senior pastor, Funwayo Mafuleka, who is from Malawi, provided a personal window on the reality of Sirleaf's incredible achievements.

## Human rights awareness



In November, friends from the North Shore Community Baptist Church in Beverly, MA, hosted an impactful Public Square Forum. We discussed the account of Bartholomew Las Casas, who is known as the "father of human rights." It's rich conversations like these that build bridges into local community and have reverberating effects for God's Kingdom.

In each of these forums, our framework of Biblical truth, coupled with an inclusive love and respect for those who are different from us, generated a hospitality that was distinctly winsome and attractive.

## Training and multiplication

Also in October, our strategy for multiplying this type of impact throughout New England became a reality when five prospective team leaders traveled with me on a week long trip in Europe. These rising leaders each encountered the historical missional mentoring of John Stott in London, St. Patrick in Northern Ireland, and John Calvin in Geneva. They also participated in two forums as well as a day of moderator training. The impact was life changing. They are now taking steps to be involved in their respective communities via the Public Square Forum.

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To put the impact of this type of training in perspective, here is a quote from Daniel - an associate pastor in Gloucester, MA:

*To say that our trip to Europe from October 14th-21st was life-changing might sound cliché and overly dramatic, but I cannot think of a better or more accurate way to describe the experience. For someone who spends his time pouring into people in a very local and isolated context, the opportunity to learn and grow across the globe was one that I will never forget and has affected me greatly. Specifically, this experience was powerful for me in three ways: it was spiritually refreshing, culturally transformative, and personally empowering.*

Daniel and I are now planning his next steps with the Public Square Forum.

Much more to come! To learn more, visit [Clapham Servants](#). To support us, visit [Support Clapham Servants](#).

On behalf of the Clapham Servants board, we appreciate your encouragement, prayers, and support.

Respectfully,  
Dr. James F. Longhurst  
November, 2018