





# COVENANT BIBLE SEMINARY

Apartment Chaplaincy Report  
Jan - Mar 2023



# CBS Apartment Chaplaincy Ministry


**Purpose:** to serve the residents, management, and owners of Boulder Park Apartments by establishing a faith-based, community-building apartment chaplain ministry; which also provides ministry and training opportunities for CBS students.





## Rationale:


**Over the last three years, the measures that were taken in response to Covid-19 have resulted in isolation, fear, loneliness, and a host of emotional and mental problems that will impact our society on a scale that will never be fully understood.**



But as we take a closer look at the individual problems we are currently facing, such as:


- increase in rates of mental health problems,
- a rise in substance abuse,
- an increase in domestic violence
- an increased sense of societal and political unrest,
- economic and social challenges, and
- a rise in the volatility of ideological tensions

**We observe that these are *increased and aggravated* symptoms of *existing issues and problems*, and they all stem in some way from people being disconnected from a supportive and caring community.**

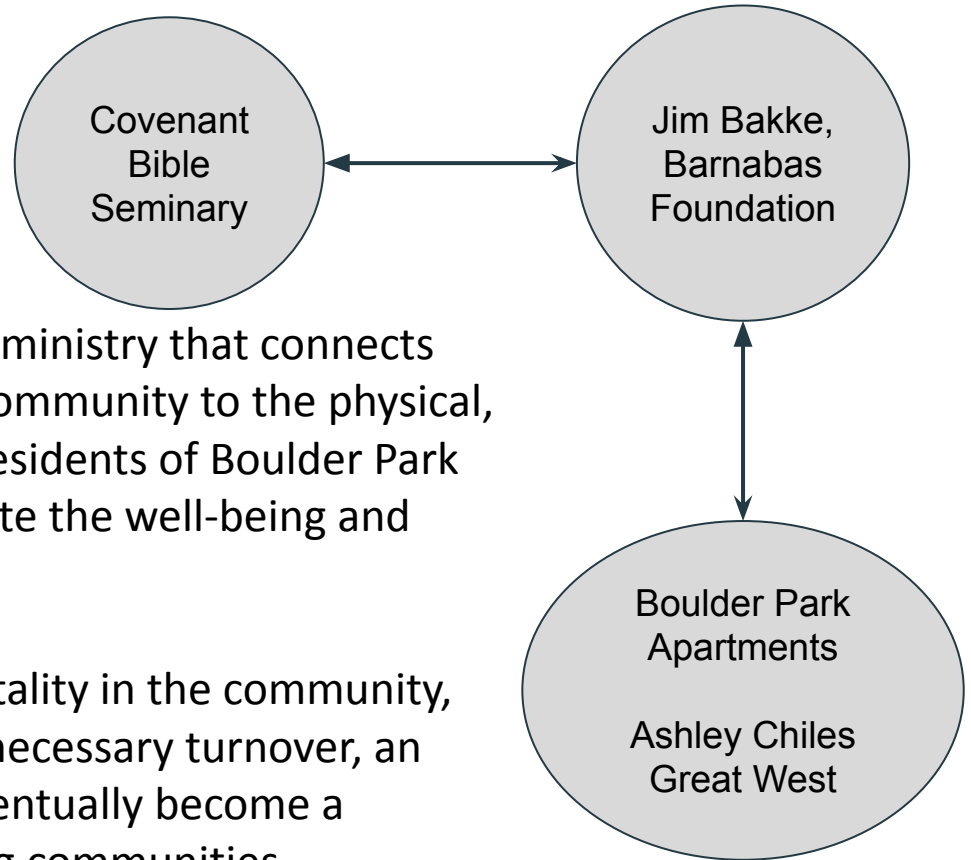


Knowing this, we propose that any strategy that seeks to address these issues must be *relational in nature*, and result in people who are disconnected from community being ***connected to a strategic network of supportive relationships.***

A successful strategy must result in a constellation of relationships that gives support to individuals within his or her community.



# The Inception

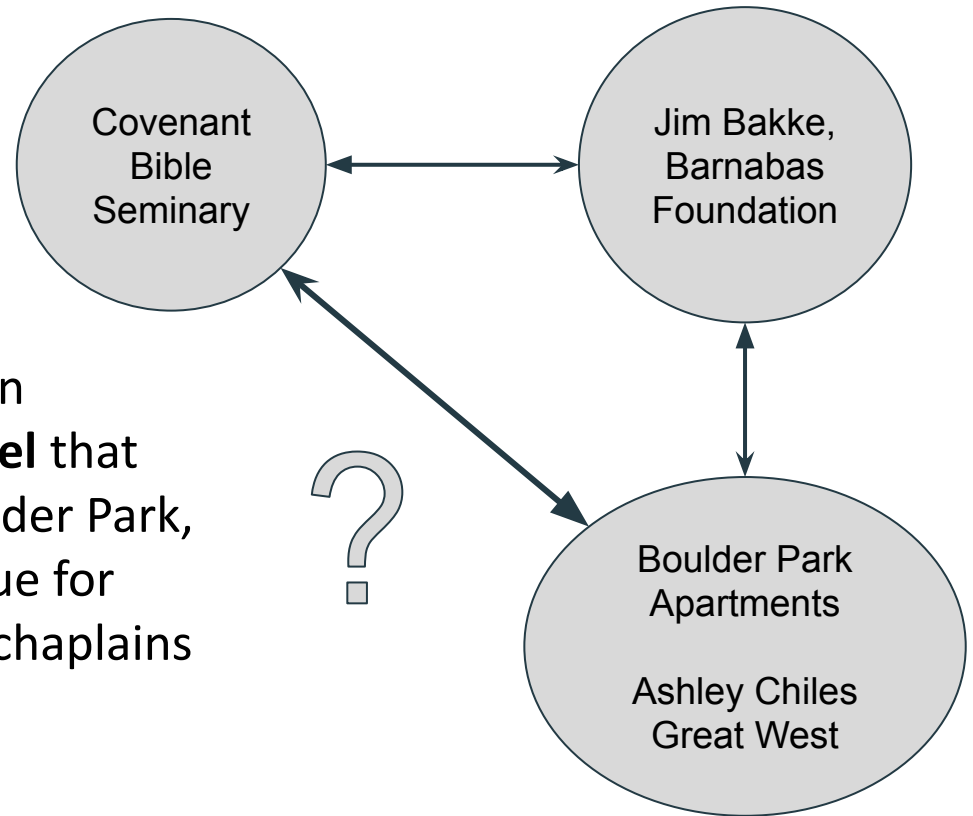


Can Covenant Bible Seminary create a ministry that connects supportive networks available in the community to the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of the residents of Boulder Park Apartments in a way that helps promote the well-being and flourishing of the community?

Could this ministry lead to a level of vitality in the community, that they experience a decrease in unnecessary turnover, an increase in overall satisfaction, and eventually become a resource for other multi-family housing communities.

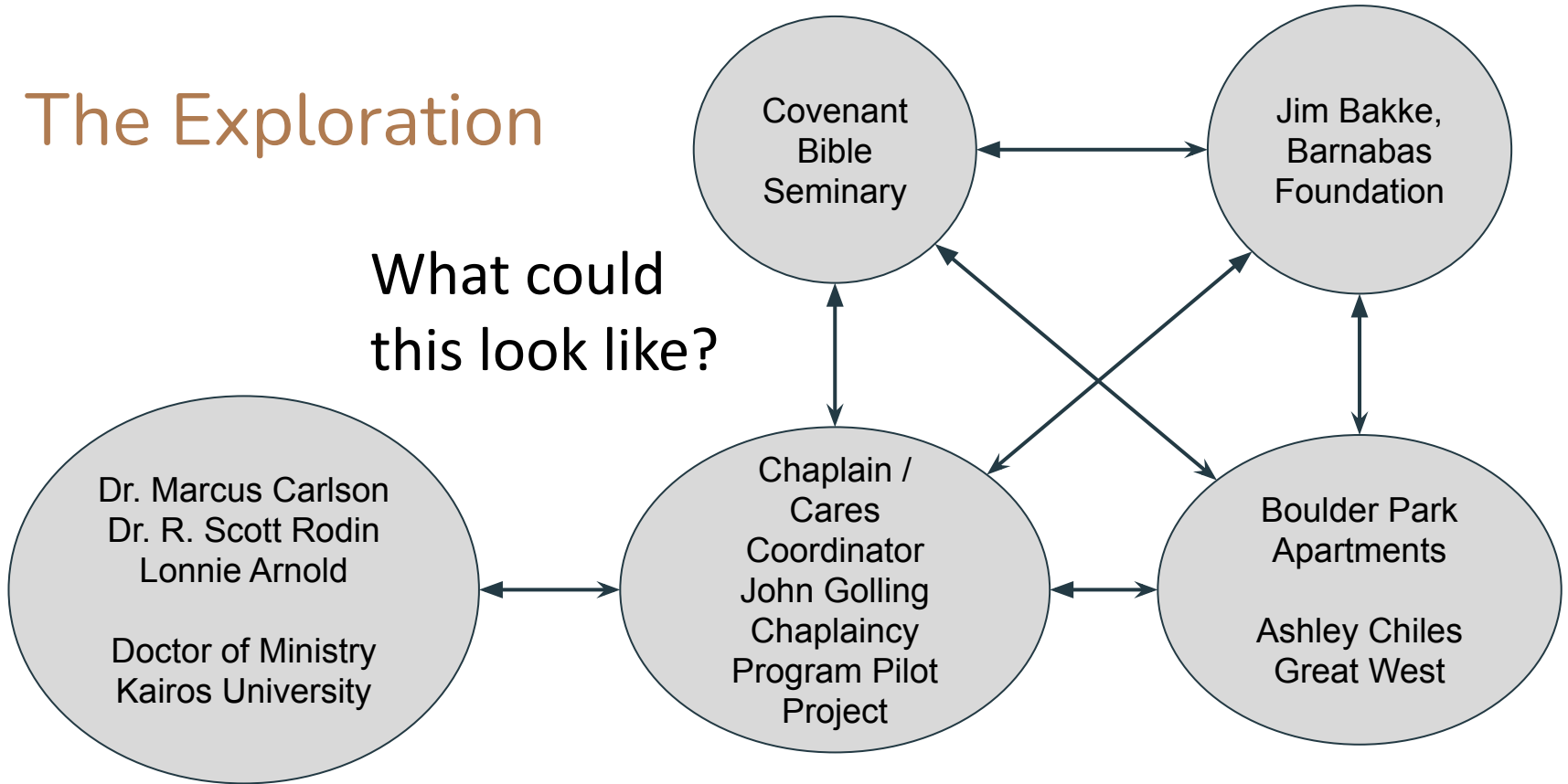
# The Concept

Can we discover or create an **apartment chaplaincy model** that serves the residents of Boulder Park, as well as provides an avenue for ministry training for future chaplains and other CBS students.



# The Exploration

What could  
this look like?





# Stewardship

## Stewardship Goals:

We want a strategy that allows us to leverage:

- Resources, connections and context
- Unique contributions of individual staff and, eventually students
- Unprecedented openness to spiritual guidance for emotional and mental health issues to achieve holistic wellness

## Kairos Doctor of Ministry


Research Modules become a path for ministry design and collaboration:

- Effective Project Design
- **Biblical and Theological Reflection**
- Cultural and Sociological Reflection
- Each phase includes Mentor and Peer Review ←



# Theological Reflection and Matthew 10

Matthew 10, contains instructions from Jesus to his first disciples as he was training them for their role in the eventual spread of the Gospel. Within these instructions, His followers today can find spiritual principles, and rich food for theological contemplation, as we seek to be trained as apprentices of our Master.







# Theological Reflection and Matthew 10

These twelve Jesus sent out, instructing them, “Go nowhere among the Gentiles and enter no town of the Samaritans, but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. And proclaim as you go, saying, ‘The kingdom of heaven is at hand.’ Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, cast out demons. You received without paying; give without pay.

And whatever town or village you enter, ***find out who is worthy in it and stay there until you depart. As you enter the house, greet it. And if the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it, but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you.*** And if anyone will not receive you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet when you leave that house or town.






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And whatever town or village you enter, ***find out who is worthy in it and stay there until you depart. As you enter the house, greet it. And if the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it, but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you.*** And if anyone will not receive you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet when you leave that house or town.

In this initial phase, the disciples are sent out to, among other things, find what are often called *people of peace*. These are people who live within a community, who are part of the existing culture, and who will serve as a host for future visits, and also as a connector, introducing the disciples to the people in their neighborhood.





During this short trip, they are doing what I call *spiritual cartography*- they are making a spiritual map of the area. Jesus is sending out of His 12 disciples on a recon mission, to find those people in the surrounding towns and villages who are sympathetic with their cause and supportive of the Kingdom Mission. This prepared the way, so that when Jesus visits each town in the following months and years, He and His disciples will know who they will stay with and where they will go. In Matthew 10 the disciples are creating a map of the location of all these friendly hosts, or *people of peace*, in each town, so that all the travels mentioned in chapters 11- 28 are likely places that the disciples have already been.

Click [HERE](#) to read more about *people of peace* and their role in missional strategies.



## Research as Ministry:

- The Doctor of Ministry process provides a means to combine **ministry** and **research** in such a way that the goals and activities of each become mutually beneficial and work together to maximize the quality and sustainability of both.
- Our reflection on Matthew 10 has led us to keep in mind the task of ***spiritual cartography*** and consider with whom and how we might forge partnerships in this initial phase of designing the chaplaincy ministry. Therefore ...

## *Research as Ministry:*

- Prior to the official launch of the Chaplaincy Pilot Project (Jan. 1, 2023), our CBS team began working on several ministry events that were designed to equip Jesus followers in our community, promote the seminary, and also become **part of the scaffolding for the chaplaincy ministry research.**
- In October, we created and hosted a half-day mini-conference called *Mentoring Teens in a Post Pandemic World*. This was in-person only.
- The relationships built through the course of the event process, the growth experienced, and the material covered all contribute to developing a greater understanding of the cultural context for the Chaplaincy Ministry.

## *Research as Ministry:*

- In January, we partnered with the Racial Reconciliation Network and several area churches, as we hosted *The Dream of the King of Kings*. This was a night of worship, learning, and celebration, which also provided another opportunity for growing the connections in our community and experiencing the inseparable link between the Gospel and racial reconciliation.
- Again, the relationships built through the course of the planning and execution of the event, the growth experienced, and the material covered all contribute to developing a greater understanding of the cultural and spiritual context for the Chaplaincy Ministry.



## *Research as Ministry:*

- In the winter quarter, I taught a class called *Foundations of Ministry*.
- This class is an introduction to some of the topics and concepts important in the development of a biblical and culturally appropriate philosophy of ministry. It also emphasizes understanding the importance of character development for the follower of Jesus.
- This gave me an opportunity to review and refresh my own philosophy of ministry,
- As well as help introduce the concept of doctoral candidates teaching classes at CBS as part of the culture of the school.

# Research and Preparation

On March 1st, I previewed the ***Assisting Individuals in Crisis*** course (ICISF). This course provides training for first responder chaplains, social workers, and is also used for Continuing Education credits in many fields.

The goal is to ensure that we **incorporate adequate training for future chaplains, in the areas of stress management, self-care,** and other important skills and habits that lead to **resilience, effectiveness and longevity** for those in the people caring professions.

# Research and Preparation

**Interview with Pastor Jesse Mendoza** (Jan. 18, 2023), concerning his two years as an Apartment Life Cares Coordinator in Edgewood, WA.

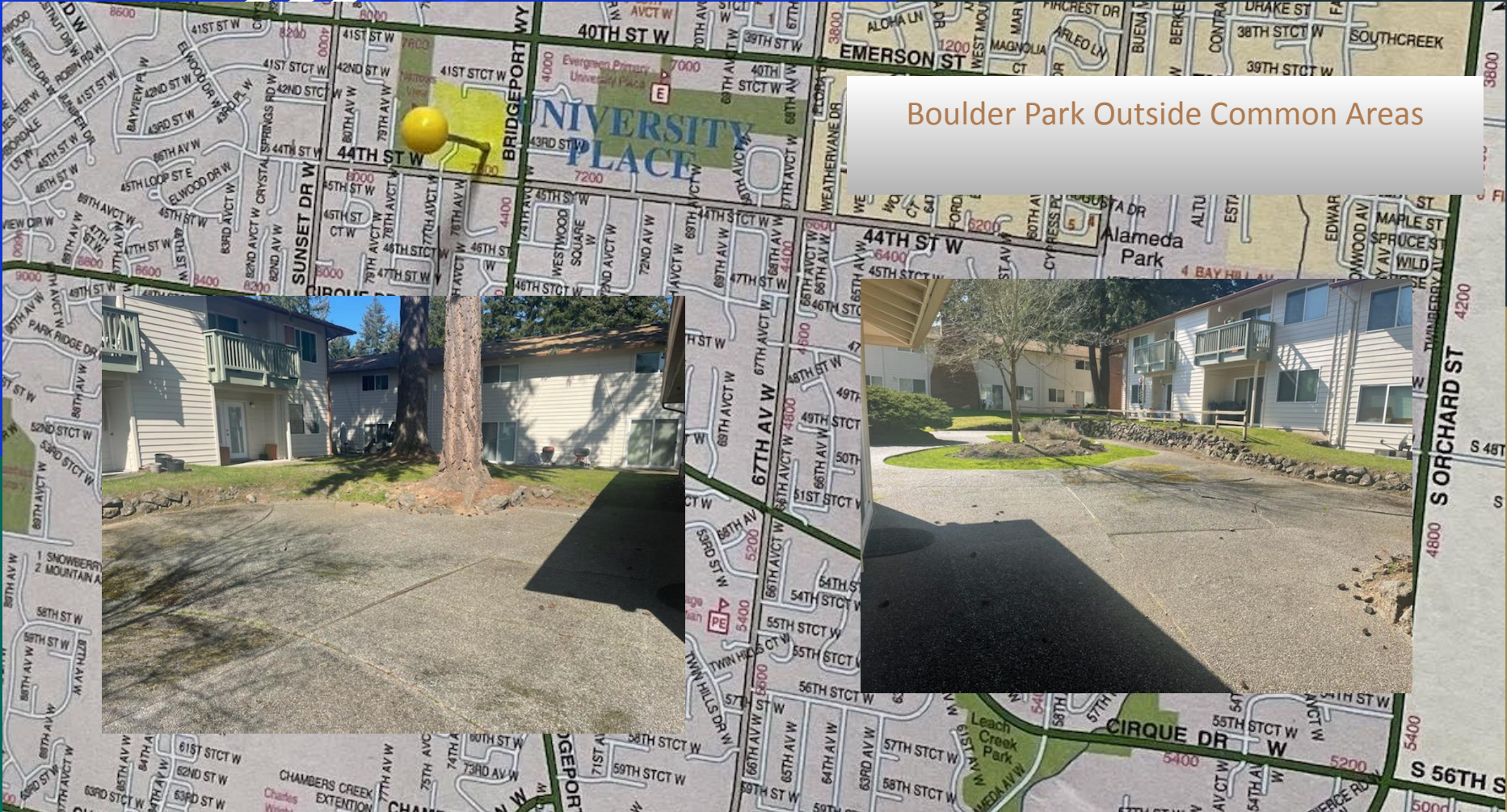
**Interviews with Ashley Chiles** (Feb. 6, 27, and Mar. 27, 2023), to learn as much as I can about life at Boulder Park Apartments. My goal is to make observations and try to understand the culture, values, and socio-economic climate of the residents and community, as well as the goals and corporate-culture of the management team and owners.



Boulder Park - New Indoor Common Area



Boulder Park Outside Common Areas



## Next steps:

Find out the **legal requirements we need to consider in sharing information** between GreatWest, Boulder Park, and CBS Chaplaincy Ministry.

Continue to work with Ashley Chiles to create the **structure** that accurately builds out the vision, **represents the values and goals of stakeholders**, and becomes the framework for the ministry functions.


Create a **Welcome Bag** for new residents that includes information about the community, resources, businesses, schools, as well as any other items we think would be useful and helpful in welcoming new residents as well as introducing them to the concept of a Cares Coordinator or Chaplain.

Find a way to **uncover the life issues that residents believe are the most crucial** for them, as citizens of this specific community at this specific time.



To share our learning and resources and to seek collaboration with our community, a website was created, called the [People Caring Resource Network](#).

To document the progress of the ministry, share stories, and provide an in-depth analysis of the project, including detailed reports, this site: [Pilgrims Postscript](#), was created.





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This report was compiled and edited by John Golling,  
and submitted on April 24, 2023.





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