

IH-35 Gets Sculpture Prayer Garden

Kerrville, TX - The Coming King Foundation of Kerrville, TX announced that the first monumental bronze sculpture has been placed in the second **“The Coming King Sculpture Prayer Garden,”** located 44 miles south of Minneapolis, MN on **IH-35**. The 18-foot tall bronze sculpture depicts Jesus Christ as a mighty warrior, returning in glory on a white horse, based on the Bible scriptures from Revelation 19:11. The 5,000 lb. **“The Coming King”**[®] sculpture was recently placed on the 22-acre campus of **Christian Family Church**, a non-denominational congregation in Owatonna, MN.

The church’s pastor, Dr. Tim Peterson exclaimed: ***“It’s magnificent! Majestic! I couldn’t be more pleased! It has exceeded my expectations!”*** The massive rock pedestal was just completed for the \$200,000 sculpture that was installed on August 28, 2010, amidst the cheers of about one hundred church members on hand for the occasion. Dr. Peterson and his wife, Cherrie pastor two southern Minnesota congregations and have founded 350 churches around the world. The couple is well known for their passion to share the love of Jesus Christ with others.

In July of 2009, the church first contacted Texas artist/evangelist, Max Greiner, Jr. (58) of Kerrville, TX, regarding his artwork and “vision” to build beautiful **Sculpture Prayer Gardens** across the USA and world. Greiner earned an architectural design degree from **Texas A&M University** in 1974. His art is collected in all 50 states and more than two dozen countries. It is included in the collections of presidents and popes, governors and the stars of sports, movies, TV, music and business. Well known Christians such as Billy and Franklin Graham, Pat Robertson, James Dobson, John Hagee, Rick Warren and Mike Huckabee own Greiner artwork.

In May 2004, the artist and his wife, Sherry founded **The Coming King Foundation**, a non-profit 501c3 arts foundation, which is administered by 17 Trustees who include pastors, evangelists and business people. Their objective is to bring people and glory to Jesus Christ by building world-class **Sculpture Prayer Gardens** along major highways. The free gardens are also expected to bless their communities wherever they are located and to be financial boons because of the tourists who will visit.

The first garden, which is the “prototype” model, is now being built on **IH-10** in Kerrville, TX, just one hour northwest of San Antonio. On July 27, 2010, the first sculpture, a giant 77’7” tall sculpture called **“The Empty Cross”**, was erected in the Texas garden. This was despite a lawsuit and the objections of atheists and others who did not want to see the symbolic 70 ton red/brown cross raised over the transcontinental highway, in the center of the USA.

The Owatonna church has also faced resistance. Like the “prototype” garden in Texas, the Minnesota **Sculpture Prayer Garden** will feature a 300-foot, landscaped, cross-shaped garden. It will be adorned with five monumental Christ-honoring sculptures. In a pathway to the cross, 77 Bible verses will be engraved in multiple languages on 16” ceramic “Scripture Tiles”. In addition, the **Christian Family Church** campus will feature walking and nature trails around the perimeter and a small lake. These trails

will be graced with other monumental sculptures made by various Christian sculptors for the enjoyment of the public.

“The Coming King”[®] bronze that was placed in Owatonna was cast by **Eagle Bronze** of Lander, WY, one of the largest foundries in the USA. The art foundry has placed more than 5,000 monumental sculptures around the world. Located right next to the church, a monumental bronze sculpture of two giant white-tailed deer is on display at the **Cabella’s** outdoor store. This giant sculpture was also cast by **Eagle Bronze**.

The Christian owner of the art foundry, Monte Paddleford, installed the 105% life-size sculpture of Christ with the help of a local crane company and volunteers from the church. After the installation, Paddleford and Greiner spoke to both **Christian Family Church** congregations.

Currently, funds are still needed to complete the Minnesota and Texas spiritual Gardens which are being built on faith in God without debt, public tax money or professional fundraisers. The 22 acre Owatonna campus has room for several restaurant pad-sites. Revenue from pad-sites will enable the Garden to be maintained and free to the public forever. Research shows that about 1,000 people a day are expected to visit these free family attractions, once completed.

Shortly before his death, world-renowned evangelist, author and educator, Dr. Oral Roberts prayed for the success of the unique **Sculpture Prayer Garden** “vision” with the Petersons. **Christian Family Church** believes the spiritual garden will be a great blessing to their community. Pastor Cherrie Peterson, wife of Tim, said when she dropped the sculptor off at the Minneapolis airport for a return flight: ***“This is the beginning of something BIG!”***

For more information on **“The Coming King Sculpture Prayer Gardens”** contact:

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PHOTO CAPTIONS:

1. ***“The Coming King”*** 18’ tall life-size bronze sculpture was erected at Christian Family Church.
2. The 22 acre church campus is located on **IH-35** about 44 miles south of Minneapolis, MN.
3. Artist, Max Greiner, Jr. & art foundry owner, Monte Paddleford erected the monumental sculpture for Pastors Cherrie and Tim Peterson in Owatonna, MN.
4. Dr. Oral Roberts prayed with the Petersons for God to fulfill the **Sculpture Prayer Garden** vision.