



2023 ANNUAL REPORT



7 HABITS

ENGAGE **IN WORSHIP**
SERVE **ON THE TEAM**
CONNECT **IN A SMALL GROUP**
PRAY AND STUDY **THE BIBLE**
PURSUE **GENEROSITY**
IDENTIFY **WITH CHRIST**
TELL **THE STORY**

From our Lead Pastor

As 2023 comes to a close, it's important to take stock, name some wins, say thank you to the many FCCers invested in this work, and celebrate together how God has been using us to advance the gospel and extend Christ's Kingdom for the last 104 years!

Inside this Annual Report are stories of unbelievers discovering grace that saves, skeptics finding hope in healthy community, young Christians learning the Word and serving in the body, and maturing believers serving as disciplinarians whose fruit grows on others' trees! It is a record of God's faithfulness to His mission of preaching the gospel through His people. For when a local church commits to God's vision of Helping People Find and Follow Jesus, peoples' lives are changed and Christ is glorified!

Here are a few Habits-based numbers and ministry highlights, many of which are not found inside. (See facing page for Habits. Numbers are weekly avg attendance unless specified. "Weekday" is ministries like Re:gen, ReJengage, Pillar, 180 Students, etc.)

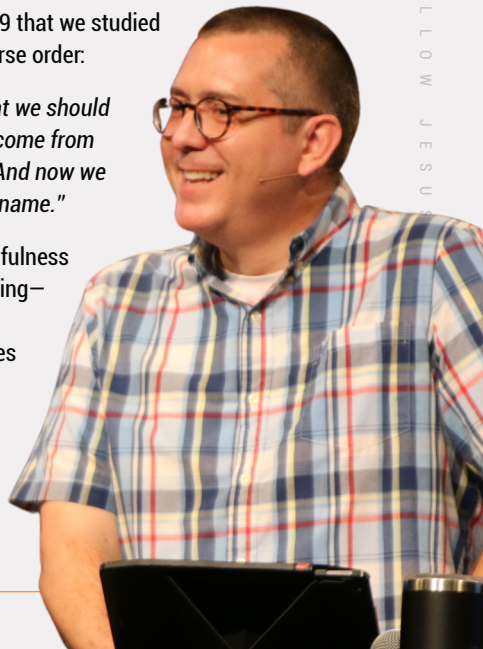
- H1 – Sundays: 505; Weekday: 210; Weekly Total: 715
- H2 – Sundays: 275; Weekday: 100; Weekly Total: 375; % of Sun H1 in H2: 55%
- H3 – Life Groups: 100; Weekday Groups: 169; Wkly Tot: 269; % of Sun H1 in H3: 53%
- H4 – Weekly Times of Prayer and Bible Study: 112; Yearly #: 5,824
- H5 – 2023 Budgeted General Fund INC (\$1,069,229) v EXP (\$1,050,595) = \$18,634
- H6 – 2023 Baptisms: 24 (13 Adults, 11 Kids); New Members: 32
- H7 – 2023 H7 Stories, Coffee Convo's, Testimonies, Outreaches: 142

Reading of our people, events, programs, and outreaches makes me grateful for the privilege of serving alongside you and reminds me of verses 13–14 from King David's prayer in 1 Chronicles 29:10-19 that we studied together on a recent Sunday morning, but in reverse order:

14 "But who am I, and what is my people, that we should be able thus to offer willingly? For all things come from you, and of your own have we given you. 13 And now we thank you, our God, and praise your glorious name."

Friends, it is fun to watch how God's perfect faithfulness can use even our imperfect—but nonetheless willing—offerings to bring Himself glory and advance the gospel! I hope the 2023 Annual Report encourages you as much as it does me!

For Christ and His Kingdom,
Scott Wakefield, Lead Pastor



Afton Campus

As we approach our five-year anniversary at the Afton Campus, I have been reflecting upon the service of those who arrive early and stay late every week to make portable church happen well. The story that has grabbed my heart is noticing how many on our team have been serving since the very beginning.

On any given week at Afton, I can walk the halls during setup and see the same faces pushing cases down hallways that first helped unload those cases off the trailer for our training in December 2018. The same faithful people who came out to pray on November 17, 2018, walking around the high school, praying and dreaming about how God may use our efforts to build His Kingdom in Afton and Chuckey – So many are there, continuing to faithfully pray and serve, week after week. For anyone who hasn't been part of a portable church for any length of time, you may not realize the amount of labor required to transform a school into an FCC Campus. It's no small task each week. So, in this Annual Report, as we reflect upon where God is working, I want to celebrate these faithful people who show up and serve again and again. This is what it means to Help People Find and Follow Jesus. This is what it looks like to faithfully surrender to the mission. So we celebrate your faithful service. You know who you are... And so does Jesus... He is glorified in your serving, and He will continue to use us to bring people to Himself. To walk into the Auditorium of a high school that has been transformed into a place where the Gospel is proclaimed every week. This Gospel brings hope, turns death to life, and makes those once lost now found. May God continue to use our hands and feet to push rolling cases down hallways, a seemingly mundane task, to Help People Find and Follow Jesus for the next five years. I can't wait to tell that story!



15

Outreach Events

517

Unique People in Worship

165

YTD Weekly Average In Worship

99

YTD Weekly Average Sunday Morning Serving

21

Baptisms and Memberships

65

Pounds of Coffee Beans Donated to Teachers

HELPING PEOPLE FIND AND FOLLOW JESUS

Greenville Campus

As we reflect on the year 2023, we express sincere gratitude to God for the multitude of first-time visitors who have attended our worship services at the Greenville Campus. Whether they are new to Greene County or long-time residents, their intention has been to find a community where they can grow together and express their heartfelt worship. Recently, a family from California chose to visit our church, and they were deeply moved by the warm atmosphere of faith and fellowship. Inspired by the uplifting environment, they made the conscious decision to return for the quarterly Good Ol' Fashioned Potluck and Prayer on the same evening to further immerse themselves. Since then, they have continued to worship with us, and we are truly thankful for the blessing of their presence among us.

We have also been blessed by the addition of another remarkable family to our congregation, Brandon and Jamie Ivy. They have eagerly embraced the opportunity to serve on our dedicated team. Motivated by the vision of our church, which is to expand our ministry to multiple locations, Brandon and Jamie felt called to devote their efforts to the South Greene Campus. Brandon now serves as the Kids Coach, while Jamie selflessly Serves on the Team, both of them committed to spreading the Gospel and nurturing the faith of others. Their unwavering dedication is a true testament to their profound commitment, and we are truly fortunate to have them standing alongside us as we continue our mission. It is our goal for Greenville to remain a campus that fosters and sends out faithful servants.

J E S U S

H E L P I N G P E O P L E F I N D A N D F O L L O W

H E L P

12

Outreach Events

319

Unique First Time Guests

225

YTD weekly Average In Worship

80

YTD Weekly Average Sunday Morning Serving

12

Baptism and Memberships

4,500

Cups of Coffee Brewed

12,740

Cups of Coffee Brewed

HELPING PEOPLE FIND AND FOLLOW JESUS

South Greene Campus

October was an important month for First Christian Church as we celebrated the one-year anniversary of our third campus at South Greene High School. Similar to our other two campuses, the South Greene campus has been a welcoming space that attracts guests from the surrounding community every week. Our church's friendly atmosphere has provided an inviting place for people to grow, serve, and join our mission of empowering individuals who contribute to the strength of our community.

Even before its launch in October 2022, FCC had already made a significant impact in the surrounding area. The school administration invited FCC to lead the Prayer Walk at the beginning of the school year and the annual Meet Me At the Pole event. This event encourages students from local schools to gather around their school's flagpole and pray together for their peers, teachers, and the overall well-being of the school. When a tragedy struck the SG community last summer, FCC provided ministry through prayer, support, and counselling.

Moreover, SG Life Groups played a role in supporting the community by covering the cost of school lunches for children who couldn't afford them. Lori Wilhoit, Principal of SGHS, expressed her gratitude, saying, "You guys are such a blessing to all of us! Thank you for loving us! Thank you for walking this road with us hand in hand! We love you!"

The one-year anniversary of our South Greene campus was a celebration of the growth we've witnessed, the lives we've seen transformed, and the sense of community that has been nurtured. Looking ahead, we are excited to continue helping our corner of the county Find and Follow Jesus, welcome new members, and make a lasting impact in the lives of those we serve.



13

Outreach Events

10

Devotions Given to SGHS Football Team

25

Baptisms & Memberships

1,110

Gallons of Water Used for Baptisms

55

Towels Used for Clean-up and Drying After Baptisms

19,425

Feet of Scuba Wall Hung

Number of Times Bob said "Beautiful" from Stage:

Too Many to Count!

HELPING PEOPLE FIND AND FOLLOW JESUS

Admin & Communications

Admin Team:

Our Admin Team has ensured that everything runs like a well-oiled machine. With unwavering dedication, they have implemented systems that equip our leaders to shepherd people effectively. By fostering a deep understanding of how individuals are connected and cared for, the Admin Team enables our leaders to guide them in living out the 7 Habits. Each Monday and often on Thursdays, several members of the Admin Team come into the office to carry out their weekly tasks, some of which include inputting prayer requests from Connect Cards on the prayer sheet, assigning =. They enjoy this time, not only to serve Their relentless efforts behind the scenes have truly made a difference in helping our church thrive in its spiritual journey.

Comms Team:

The Comms Team plays a pivotal role in telling the story of FCC's mission. Through creative and interactive platforms, they ensure that God's mission is easily accessible and celebrated by all. One new member of the team is Jess Hudson. Jess joined the team with a unique purpose - to celebrate the everyday,

seemingly boring acts of faithfulness through social posts. Every week, she highlights the work of a team member, sharing how God is using their gifts and talents for His glory. These posts not only inspire others but also remind us of the power of using our unique gifts in service to God.

Through Jess's love for writing, God has opened doors for her to Tell the Story of others on the team. The impact of sharing these stories has reached far beyond the confines of our church walls, creating an interactive experience that has touched the hearts of our congregants across all three campuses. Through the power of storytelling and social media, we have been able to connect with individuals on a deeper level, fostering a sense of unity and encouragement among our campuses.



7,394

Digital Connect Card Submissions

119,539

Text Messages Sent

2,714

App Downloads

- iOS: 508
- Android: 2119
- Apple TV: 2
- Roku: 85

37,256

Cumulative App Launches

195

Number of Newsfeed Posts

52

Number of H7 Stories

454

Social Media Posts

- Facebook Reach - 44,330
- Facebook Visits - 11,212
- Instagram Visits - 1,208
- Facebook Page New Likes - 101
- New Instagram Followers - 83

Catalyst Coffee Co.

We became a bean supplier!

Longview Ranch (LVR) received a donation from Catalyst in 2022, but as we built our relationship with them, they became the first place we supplied with beans in 2023! Year-to-date, LVR has purchased ~48 pounds of beans. This is all a part of our vision to focus on our locally-roasted beans via expansion of sales and supply. So, we didn't stop there! This year, we became the official bean supplier for Brumley's Restaurant and General Morgan Inn Banquets. Beyond that, we sell our bags of whole beans in our downtown location and at Uncommon Collective in the Greeneville Commons. This is all a huge win because it is a step in the direction God has called us. It's in our name: Coffee is how we remain a Catalyst.

Meet Elmer

"Meet Elmer. A few months back he decided to share his smile with us and it's been a contagious one ever since. He is a born-and-raised Appalachian man to the core, with a twin brother named Delmer—yes, that's right: Delmer. This friend of ours joins us at least 2-3 times a week for his daily 16 oz coffee with creamer in his mug behind the counter labeled "Elmer." It's hard to find him without a smile on his face or a cap on his head. He loves talking about theology, stories from his past (especially the spooky ghost stories), and different ways to share Jesus with the world. He is a kind soul who has deeply impacted our community with his sweet smile, or his classic phrase "Hey, gal!" It's the slow days and little talks between customers that have allowed our baristas to learn so much about Elmer, connect with him in deep ways, and welcome him into our little coffee shop on the corner."

— Emily Bailey



79,381 Items Sold

\$301,508 Gross Sales

\$7.40 Average Purchase

258 Most Items Sold in a Day (\$2,062)

8a Busiest Time of Day

3,050 lb Beans Roasted

501 lb Bagged Beans Sold

\$8,250 Money Donated

137,844 Ounces of Hot Drip Coffee

Facilities

At First Christian Church, our Facilities Team is the unsung hero behind the scenes. Their commitment and hard work often go unnoticed. These selfless individuals invest their time and energy to ensure that our church remains a true sanctuary for all who seek spiritual growth and community.

Led by the remarkable lay-leader Harry Hayes, the team consists of a diverse group of dedicated individuals who have taken our building's maintenance to the next level. This year, we have witnessed a significant shift in our team's focus as we increased "equipping of the saints," allowing everyone to contribute their skills and make a meaningful impact on our church community.

From ensuring our outdoor spaces are beautifully maintained, diligently taking care of our emergency light systems, regularly inspecting and maintaining our fire extinguishers, ensuring that our baptistry is in perfect condition, to caring for our fleet of vehicles, this team of dedicated volunteers makes our Greeneville Campus a warm, safe and welcoming place for people to Find and Follow Jesus.

However, it is Harry Hayes, our team lead and jack-of-all-trades, who ensures that no building need goes unresolved. Whether it's a minor repair, a major maintenance project, or handling unexpected emergencies, Harry's dedication and expertise shine through as he manages a wide range of responsibilities. His passion for FCC's mission is deeply ingrained in everything he does, and his leadership sets a shining example for the rest of the team.

JESUS

FOLLOW

HELPING

11 Heat Pumps Maintained

84 HVAC Filters Replaced

550 Light Bulbs Maintained

33 Acres of Grass Mowed

67,000 Linear Feet of Grass Trimmed

93 Bricks Mortared

14,094 Roofing Shingles Replaced

26M Gallons of Baptism Water Filtered
(it runs 24/7 @ ~50 GPM)

HELPING PEOPLE FIND AND FOLLOW JESUS

Finances

We asked a couple veteran FCCers to anonymously share their story of learning to pursue generosity. While some biographical and timing details have been significantly changed to keep their identities anonymous, the salient points are all true and accurate. The following is an excerpt from their story.

When we got married many eons ago, we wanted to make sure we “started out right” by faithfully contributing to our church. We knew giving to the church was an important part of helping fund its staff, programs, ministries, and missionary endeavours, and even an important part of living out our Christian faith.

So we did what seemed natural and reasonable. We began to put together our budget based on all the normal things we knew we needed—housing, food, transportation, insurance, healthcare, pets, misc/unexpected, fun, etc.—and then we took out for savings, retirement, investments, and a couple other long-term goals.

Over the years, as God blessed us with children, promotions at our jobs, and additional responsibilities and resources, we increased our regular giving a few times and gave to other church needs we felt led to help with. That seemed like plenty.

Well, after we came to FCC, we were consistently challenged to think “intentionally” about our Christian life and occasionally even our giving. This wasn’t exactly new for us, but God had plans for our growth we didn’t know when we first came.

Since then it has slowly become a habit of thinking, praying, talking, and learning together about biblical financial stewardship that learns contentment and builds security through Give, Save, Live. No, it hasn’t been easy. But it has been good! We have learned the joy of sacrificing for the cause of Christ in a way that has deepened our love for His sacrifice for us.



94

New Donors

\$1,101,619

Total Giving

- Online: 64%
- Worship: 32%,
- Mail: 5%

72

Recurring Donors

\$1,069,229

General Fund Giving

\$32,390

Total Other Giving

\$16,544

Mexico Trip Giving

4,068

Number of Donations

\$271

Average Donation

\$41

Average Donation Per Sunday Morning
Worship Attendee



JESUS



HELPING PEOPLE FIND AND FOLLOW



HELP

Guest Team

On the Guest Team, we seek to warmly welcome guests as a reflection of the love that we have received in Christ. After examining our website and prayerfully considering, Melissa Marrs made the decision to visit FCC. From the moment Melissa stepped foot into our Afton campus, she noticed the friendliness radiating from every person she encountered.

Encouraged by this warm reception, she attended Next Steps, a program designed to help newcomers integrate into the church community. Melissa also joined re:generation, our main discipleship program. Each step brought her closer to finding her place at FCC. She now serves on the Guest Team, is helping others discover their Next Step, and is apprenticing in re:gen leadership.

Reading through the Gospel of Mark, Melissa came upon Peter's account of the disciples leaving everything behind to follow Jesus. It resonated deeply within her heart because she, too, felt the sacrifice she had made when she chose to follow Christ. But God graciously revealed to her that FCC and its fellowship were an embodiment of His blessings, restoring what Melissa had left behind. Within this church family, she found mothers, fathers, brothers, and sisters. Each one had a profound impact on her faith. Whether they were cheering her at when she placed membership or joining her at her re:gen commencement, she has been surrounded by a supportive and connected community that all began with a warm welcome.

15,000

Wint-O-Green Mints Munched

300

Pounds of Coffee Roasted

100+

Bibles Given Away

150

Unique People Scheduled

Prayers for Those on the Team, in Worship, Leading
in Ministry, in our Community and our World:

COUNTLESS

H E L P I N G P E O P L E F I N D A N D F O L L O W J E S U S

We value people over
policies, principles
over preferences, and
growth over control.

Kids

The Kids Team seeks to partner with parents and families to build an environment where young people can become who God created them to be. Kids Team is a place that is all about Helping Kids Find and Follow Jesus!

This summer, Anna Sutton began serving as the Afton Kids Coach. In her pursuit of nurturing a vibrant and inviting environment for our kids at this portable campus, Anna observed a pressing need for a dedicated team to help with clean-up in the Kids' area.

With unwavering determination, Anna harnessed the power of community and rallied her own Life Group to join forces with the Kids Team. Their dedication has been remarkable. Like a well-oiled machine, the newly-formed clean-up team joined forces to tackle this task with remarkable efficiency. What was once a chore that consumed precious time for the Kids Ministry volunteers, now required mere minutes to complete with everyone working together.

For Anna, witnessing her Life Group wholeheartedly embrace their newfound serving role was a testament to the power of community, generosity, and unity. It was a reminder that together, great things can be accomplished, and even the most daunting tasks can be conquered with the support of like-minded souls.

**We enjoy the
fellowship of
mutual surrender
to the mission.**



47

Volunteers Serving at Splash

54

Unique Attendees (Monday Night Kids)

3,456

Baby Wipes Used

15

Catechism Questions Learned

432

Broken Crayons

312

Water Fountain Trips

2

New Kids Coaches

64

Average Weekly Volunteers Serving (3 Campuses)

48

Distinct Positions on Sundays

8/10

Schubert Family Members Participating in Kids

H E L P I N G P E O P L E F I N D A N D F O L L O W J E S U S

Life Groups

Connecting in a Small Group is crucial for building healthy long-term relationships with other believers that can become the God-designed environment for your connection and care.

At FCC, Life Groups are the frontline for connection, pastoral care, and community service. Life Groups provide a safe and challenging environment for people to Find and Follow Jesus, and then grow in their faith and work together to Tell the Story to the wider community.

As the launch team for FCC's South Greene campus formed in 2022, Ken and Carla Nickle and David and Dawn Wells were quick to jump on board. The new campus was closer to where they lived, and they relished the opportunity to be a part of something new. The two couples also agreed to participate in a Leadership Life Group crash course, a four-session group formed to help prepare new Life Group Leaders as the South Greene campus was launching. The two couples decided to co-lead a group, which has now grown to six couples and meets weekly.

Their commitment to co-leading has also had unexpected consequences for David and Dawn. According to Dawn, "Stepping outside our comfort zone by co-leading has not only enabled us to grow individually but also as a couple as we are intentional about discussing Sunday's sermon and prepping for our next gathering. This area of spiritual discussion was lacking in our marriage – and that void is now filled!"

23

Total Life Groups

- Greenville: 9
- Afton: 8
- South Greene: 6

230

Total Adult Life Group Participants

- Greenville: 99
- Afton: 79
- South Greene: 52

10

Leadership Life Group Sessions – LLG is the primary training tool for Life Group Leaders. Usually lasts for 6 sessions and equips potential leaders to launch new Life Groups.

12

Leadership Life Group Participants

We celebrate
everyday boring
faithful service.

Marriage Team

One way our Marriage Team seeks to minister to couples is by shepherding those who are seriously dating or engaged in what is one of the most important decisions of their lives: Is marriage God's plan for their relationship? Through Merge, they are given the opportunity to learn, seek wisdom, and receive Biblical counsel about marriage in a safe, fun, challenging, and authentic small group environment.

When David Bowlin and Melody Steele attended Merge earlier this year, they were only dating but, as Melody says, "Merge brought so much clarity and peace and was super helpful for us taking our step toward engagement!" When asked what was helpful toward that end, she shared that the detailed content and intentional questions helped them think through who they were called to marry and to serve.

Furthermore, Melody said, "Merge began to break our pride, called us to a higher form of selflessness, and was the beginning of the oneness and closeness we are pursuing today."

David added, "The personal nature of Merge meant that we were intentionally poured into by leaders who cared for us. They met with us, answered our questions, and calmed our foolish anxieties. They called us out on our sin, and showed us how our future marriage was to reflect Christ and the Church. We are grateful, and so excited for our future!"

We praise the Lord for the growing number of couples like David and Melody who are humbly seeking God's desire for their relationship through Merge and count it a privilege to have a marriage ministry ready to help them succeed in marriage, all for the glory of God.



2

New Leader Couples

2

New ReJengage Couple Testimonies

2

New Marriage Programs Launched

36

Leader Meetings

8

Marriage Ministry Sessions

32

Participant Couples (24 from FCC, 8 from the Community)

27

Young Children Positively Impacted by Their Parents' Commitment to Invest in Their Marriage

4

Merge Engagements and Weddings

4

Merge Babies Born or Soon to be Born

3

Celebration Dinners

52

Mondays Dedicated to Praying for Past, Present, and Future Merge, Foundations, and ReJengage Couples

Breakfast, Coffee or Dinner Meetings:

COUNTLESS

HELPING PEOPLE FIND AND FOLLOW JESUS

Missions & Outreach

Every other summer, our ONEEIGHTY students go on a mission trip. This past May, ten high school students and four courageous adults spent nine days working with FCC missionaries, Steve and Kay Carpenter in Tultepec, Mexico. They helped spread the gospel while also learning more about the Mexican people and their culture.

Despite extreme sickness and fatigue the group recalled that it was God who helped them through the week. "Watching the youth of FCC witness to and build relationships with the Mexican people was like watching prayers come to life," adult leader Jama Doty noted. "Not only the prayers we prayed specifically for this mission trip but the prayers that parents of our young people have prayed over them for the entirety of their lives. That type of ability to express the love of Jesus doesn't just happen. It's something that has been fostered all their lives. Parents, you should be proud of your children and the love they were able to share!"

Hannah Staggs recalled. "We will never forget everything God did through the people, the Carpenters, and us in Mexico."

Travis Chapman, Students Director, summarized what he hopes each of the team members as they returned home. "The Lord has placed each of us in Greene County Tennessee. He has placed us in the lives of people here. Let's allow this trip to be a reminder that Christ is building His Church everywhere and the gates of Hell will not prevail against it, fuel to be on mission here in Greene County because the souls here are just as precious, and a memory that we can look back to when we are tempted to complain because our limits are tested or our comfort is disrupted."

\$83,631
\$23,097
8

Yearly Budgeted Global/Local Outreach, (incl Schools)

Extra unbudgeted Missions (Youth Mexico Trip, Noah Nasekos' Appy Trail Mission Trip, Hope Center Baby Bottle Fundraiser)

% Of Total Giving Given to Outreach (Global and Local Missions
(Including Schools)

Global & Local Organizations and Missionaries we support:

Jesse & Sophia Bentley - Spain	ETSU Campus Student Fellowship
Jim and Laurie Barnes - Czech Republic	FCC Multisite School/Community Outreach
Joshua and Ruth Barron - Kenya	Greeneville/Greene Co. Community Min
Martin Sanders - Columbia	Hope Center
Paul and Debbie Pinckley - Portugal	Johnson University
Steve & Kay Carpenter - Mexico City	Milligan College
Valsa Abraham - India	New Creation in Christ
Good News Productions	Opportunity House
Catalyst Outreach Ministries	UT Campus Student Fellowship
Covenant Baptist Theological Seminary	Greene Young Life

Outreach in the Schools:

- Catered breakfasts, lunches, and dinners for students, teachers, and football players throughout the year (GHS, CDHS, SGHS).
- Provided doughnuts and refreshments for several events, such as academic award ceremonies, concerts, and teacher appreciation days (GHS, CDHS, SGHS).
- Gave gifts to show appreciation for the SROs (GHS, CDHS, SGHS).
- Provided AV equipment for countywide teacher's event and graduation ceremonies at high schools and middle schools (SGHS/CDHS).
- Purchased wireless microphones, other tech equipment, and donated a printer (CDHS).
- Helped with special events such as Veteran's Day breakfasts and lunches (SGHS/CDHS), Greeneville City Schools Pre-K event, and Special Olympics event (CDHS).
- Decorated areas throughout the high schools during Thanksgiving and Christmas (GHS/CDHS/SGHS).
- Partnered with CDHS and SGHS to collect and distribute food to support Greene County Food Bank.
- Provided volunteers to run chains at football games (CDHS/SGHS).
- Volunteered numerous hours to help in tech support, parking for events, set up and cleanup for events (GHS/CDHS/SGHS).

Community Outreach in Greeneville:

- Helped with Juneteenth Celebration.
- Provided music for the 5k Turkey Trot.
- Organized cookie decoration event at Catalyst.
- Organized Kids Fun Zone during the Midnight on Main (New Year's Eve celebration).

Next Steps Team

Our Next Steps Team is dedicated to helping others discover God's vision for their life. Myra Ettenborough embraced God's "trajectory for her life by becoming a community-building producer instead of a spiritual consumer." After completing the Next Steps program at the Greeneville Campus, Myra developed a close relationship with Kendra Hinkle, her dedicated Next Steps Helper. Inspired by Kendra's guidance, Myra desired to continue Kingdom work and become a Next Steps Helper herself.

Her genuine enthusiasm for FCC's serving culture and her passion for Gospel-centeredness led Myra to dive headfirst into her role as a Next Steps Helper. She embraced the opportunity to pass on FCC's beliefs and culture to other folks, desiring to serve others meaningfully. Myra's intentional, caring, and disciple-making mindset perfectly fits the Next Steps program.

Since becoming a Next Steps Helper, Myra has already helped three individuals go through the process. She is faithful in meeting with her participants, actively helping them share their Gospel stories (which is a main aspect of the Next Steps process), and establishing personal connections. Myra's heart for sharing the Gospel and conveying biblical truths in an understandable way makes her an "everyday boring faithful" disciple-maker and mentor for those seeking spiritual growth and connection within the body of Christ.

Myra shared, we need each other to live out the teachings of the Gospel; promoting love, supporting each other, and continuing spiritual growth in our lives. What better way than through FCC's Next Steps?"

JESUS

HELPING PEOPLE FIND AND FOLLOW

12

Adult Baptisms

11

Children's Baptisms

28

Memberships

88

People Who Attended Next Steps

- Afton: 21
- Greeneville: 49
- South Greene: 18

360

Next Steps Booklets Printed

1

New Next Steps Coach
Rick Mearns, South Greene

H E L P I N G P E O P L E F I N D A N D F O L L O W J E S U S

Pillar

Young Adults at First Christian Church, known as "Pillar," was established with the intention of reflecting the value of being a steadfast support, echoing the sentiment from 1 Timothy 3:15 that the church of the living God is a pillar of truth. This ministry recognizes that by becoming established in a church body, young adults can experience meaningful growth and develop into pillars of truth for the world.

Over the past year, we have witnessed a growing number of young adults becoming members of our church, and one such individual is Zoe Breeding. In 2021, Zoe initially visited FCC and found our streaming of sermons to be somewhat strange. However, in 2022, she attended a service at Pillar and was captivated. Zoe recalls, "I really liked it, so I kept coming back. When I realized that our approach here aligns with how Sundays are run, I overcame my initial reservations about the technology aspect. I hadn't found a church home until then, so I committed myself to attending. Since then, my family has followed suit, and we have been here ever since."

Zoe officially became a member of our church this year and expressed, "Early last year, after a year of fruitless church hunting, I met a member of FCC who invited me to Pillar. Witnessing the intentionality and Christ-centeredness of this community, I made the decision to make FCC my new church home!"

Today, Zoe plays a vital role in our church family. She is a leader at Pillar, a barista at Catalyst, a committed member of a Life Group, and faithfully attends the Afton Campus where she and her fiancée assist with the Kids setup. It is truly inspiring to witness the young adults BEING the Church, embodying the ideals of being pillars of truth.



175 Unique Young Adults Attendance

17 Young Adults Placing Membership

64 Average Unique Monthly Attendance (Weekly: 36)

1909 Yearly Attendance

1,820 Minutes of Sermons Delivered

29 New Volunteers on the Team

234 Huddles and Prayers

587 Peeps Chat Messages

92 First-Time Guests

H E L P I N G P E O P L E F I N D A N D F O L L O W J E S U S



Residents

First Christian Church's Residents ministry has experienced significant growth and impact throughout the past year. Our Lead Pastor, Scott Wakefield, started his tenure here at FCC as Student Director. Recently, one of his former students, Brandon Ivy returned to FCC. Since returning to FCC, Brandon has become an integral part of our church community and has also embraced various ministry roles. Currently serving as a Student Small Group Leader, Kids Team Coach, and an essential member of our preaching team in the Residents program, Brandon's journey showcases the potential for growth and leadership.

In Brandon's own words, First Christian Church's Student ministry played a pivotal role in his spiritual development as a teenager. Through the guidance and mentorship of Scott and other dedicated leaders, Brandon grew from having minimal knowledge about Christ to becoming a fervent follower. The transformative impact of our ministry programs, particularly the life-changing 180 program, charted a new course for Brandon, leading him toward a calling to pursue ministry.

We are immensely grateful for the commitment and dedication shown by the volunteers who selflessly invest their time in the Kingdom Work within our Student Team. Their everyday faithfulness and willingness to pour into the lives of students have made a tremendous difference, shaping the future of our church community.

16 Total Residents

7 New Residents in 2023

4 Former Residents Hired as Staff in the Past Four Years

7 Days of Prayer

30 Chapters Read and Discussed

15 Bible Project Videos Watched

6 Lessons on Sermon/Lesson Building

36 Hours of Discussion/Teaching

6 Residents Leading Good Friday Service

HELPING PEOPLE FIND AND FOLLOW JESUS

re:generation

Re:gen is Bible-based and gospel-centered discipleship training focused on deeply understanding identity in Christ by applying God's grace. This community meets every Monday evening at our Greeneville Campus, providing a safe and supportive space for individuals from diverse backgrounds to come together. From 6:30 - 8:30p, participants gather to share their struggles, build deep and lasting roots in a daily and abiding walk with Christ, and find freedom.

At the core of re:gen's culture is a strong emphasis on leadership development. Currently, we have a dedicated team of 22 leaders who invest their time and energy into our community on a weekly basis. Before each re:gen session, our leaders engage in a dynamic 45-minute leadership development meeting, where they enhance their skills and knowledge. These sessions cover a range of topics, including theology, handling specific struggles, establishing healthy boundaries, and offering support to participants in crisis situations, among others.

Our commitment to leadership growth and learning extends beyond our local community.

Recently, nine of our re:gen leaders had the invaluable opportunity to attend the Church Leader's Conference in Texas. This event provided them with firsthand insights into how Watermark Community Church successfully operates their re:gen program, which serves over 1,000 participants. During the conference, crucial subjects such as burnout prevention, group and individual safety, as well as caring for abuse victims, were extensively discussed.

Through our ongoing training and leadership development efforts, we are actively advancing God's mission in Greene County. Our aim is to love God and love others in personal and effective ways, ensuring that everyone who walks through our doors finds the support, encouragement, and resources they need to thrive on their spiritual journey.



397

Re:gen Books Ordered

**We multiply
influence by
reproducing
leaders.**

195

Unique re:gen Participants

3,348

Name Tags Worn

48

Mentors Helping re:gen Folks

52

Finished the Program in 2023

2

Faux Holidays Created—IndeFRIENDendce Day and FRIENDsgiving—in order to gather, have fun, and eat good food!

H E L P I N G P E O P L E F I N D A N D F O L L O W J E S U S

Student Team

The 180 Student Team has implemented a lead small, gender, and grade-specific small group strategy aimed at Helping Students Find and Follow Jesus. The unique aspect of this strategy is the focus on longevity in small group leadership, with each Small Group Leader (SGL) being trained and encouraged to stay with their group from 6th grade until high school graduation. This emphasis on continuity has led to the formation of remarkable relational discipleship communities.

Michelle Hamilton, who has dedicated over 20 years to ministry with students, is a prime example of the positive outcomes of this approach. One of her former students, Amy Bailey, not only returned to serve on the Student Team but also received training from Michelle herself. They both shared their thoughts on the experience. Michelle expressed her joy in being involved in student ministry and witnessing the transformation of disciples into disciple-makers. She highlighted the Holy Spirit's work through young leaders, as they passionately share their love for Jesus and their journey of faith with younger individuals. It is a source of great joy for her to see this cycle of ministry unfold.

Amy, who was mentored by Michelle during her high school years, spoke highly of the inspiration and encouragement she received from her. Michelle's teachings about God's Word and her support during difficult times left a lasting impact on Amy. Now, Amy herself is being guided by Michelle in teaching young girls, and she is excited about the opportunity to influence others, just as Michelle did for her.

Overall, the lead small, gender and grade-specific small group strategy employed by the 180 Student Team has proven to be highly effective in helping students grow in their faith and become disciple-makers themselves, creating a powerful ripple effect within the community.

200+ Unique Students Attending Events

156 Highest Attendance

8 New Small Group Leaders

5 Students Identifying with Christ in Baptism

1,290 Minutes of Biblical Lesson/Sermons Delivered

6/10 Small Group Gatherings/Lesson Discussions

228 Students Attending Special Conferences/Retreats

106 Average Weekly Attendance

7 New Students Joining Student Leadership Team

10 Student-Led Bible Studies

0 Injuries to the Student Director — Woot woot!

HELPING PEOPLE FIND AND FOLLOW JESUS

Tech Team

As a Tech Team, we work together in surrender and sacrifice to the mission of Helping People Find and Follow Jesus! Alex McCoy's story began 12 years ago when he first stepped foot into First Christian Church with his family during middle school. As a teenager, he quickly found his place in the Tech Team and started helping out alongside like-minded individuals in his student group.

Over the years, Alex's involvement in FCC's Tech Team grew from a casual helper to a dedicated learner. With the guidance and mentorship of Wes Ford and Nathan Dickerson, Alex delved deeper into the technical aspects of AV production, mastering the skills required for leading the team as a producer until he left for college.

During his college years, even though Alex couldn't be home most weekends, he tried to stay involved in any way possible.

Upon returning home from college, his passion for serving took a prominent role in his life. He wasted no time in jumping right back in, whether it was lending a hand on Sunday mornings or serving on the Tech Team at Pillar, the Tuesday Young Adults meeting. Eventually, his dedication and expertise led him to become the Tech Coach for Pillar, a testament to his growth and commitment.

For Alex, the journey at FCC has not only been about growing as an individual but also about making a meaningful impact within his church community. Each time he serves, he strives to give back and contribute to the place that helped him Find and Follow Jesus.



35

People on the Tech Team

9

New People Added to the Team

25

Average Age of Tech Team
Greeneville: 22, South Greene: 23, Afton: 32

13

Number of 180 Students Serving
in Tech

Video with the most views:
Easter Service at NPAC

**We have a growing-by-
learning mindset, not a
fixed one.**

H E L P I N G P E O P L E F I N D A N D F O L L O W J E S U S

Worship Team

The Worship Team at First Christian Church had an exciting year, highlighted by a combined Easter service on April 9 at NPAC (Niswonger Performing Arts Center). Over 800 people attended the service, which focused on the hope of victory over sin and death through Jesus' sacrifice and resurrection. All ministry teams collaborated to create an incredible worship experience for everyone present. The FCC choir and orchestra played a significant role, with over 50 people on stage as part of the Worship Team. Special thanks were given to the staff at NPAC for their cooperation.

The Worship Team at FCC embraces a growing-by-learning mindset, and it was exciting to see several members exemplify this mindset throughout the year, stepping up to lead worship at all three campuses. At Afton, David Bowlin continues serving as Worship Coach, and special thanks go to his brother Jonathan who filled in while David was away on a trip to Israel. At South Greene, Dylan and Allison Pruitt stepped in to lead worship at the South Greene campus while Kris Carlson was unavailable or leading worship at another campus.

At Greeneville, Jamie Kilgore concluded four faithful years of service as the Worship Coach. Lynn Doty took over and shared responsibilities with Allen Nance and Rance Tipton.

In November, Jonathan Lewis became the new Worship Coach and has made a great start. He is interested in ministry and has a heart to lead people to the throne of grace. Having many Worship Leaders at all three campuses this year was a significant blessing!

Not only have the aforementioned people been "instrumental" for our worship but we've continued to add to our team—over 13 new team members between all campuses and 180 Student Worship Band!

The following numbers reflect Sunday worship, re:gen, Pillar, and 180 Students:

9

Number of Worship Services Each Week

24

New Team Members

104

People Serving on Various Worship Teams

95

Different Songs Sung Across all
Service Platforms

276

Total Hours in Sunday Morning Worship
Across All Campuses

H E L P I N G P E O P L E F I N D A N D F O L L O W J E S U S

We lead with
vulnerability.

**We “praypare”
as if souls are
at stake, the
Word does the
work, excellence
matters, and
feedback helps.**

fccgreene.org/teamcode

