

2023

Annual REPORT



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MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR

It's been an awesome year!

Our 2023 Annual Report is so much more than pictures, ministries, programs, events, and numbers—although they're all important! A deeper reading of the report is as a testimony to the gospel and to a church family that's joyous and passionate about our mission to make disciples of Jesus in Lexington and around the world. Let me point out just a few details:

- We've baptized 45 new believers so far this year, and every one of them is a cherished and loved part of our community of faith.
- Our church "replant," River District Church in West Columbia, has grown to an average of 91 in worship each Sunday and is reaching new people almost every week.
- Our new summer ministry for children, "Mega Camp," had an average daily attendance of 333 and so far has brought in 6 new families into our church.
- Our newest international ministry of church planting in Nicaragua is off to a great start with three LBC teams working in the country this year.



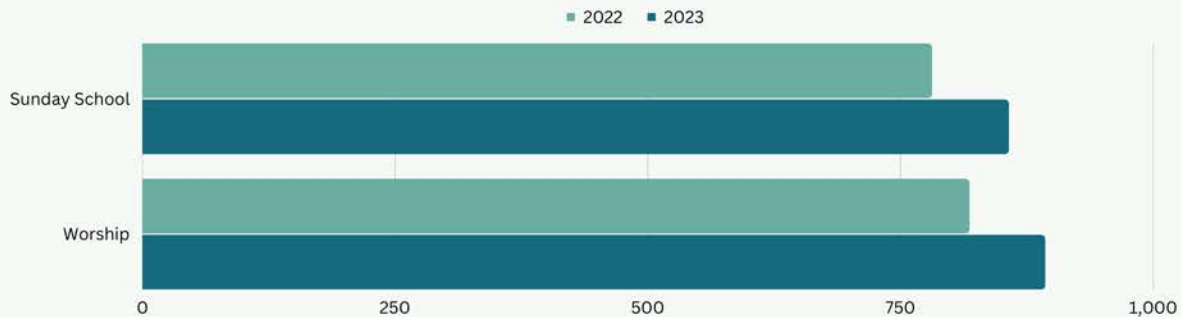
As I think back over the last 10 months, I think that our Prayer Weekend in January was a key moment and set the stage for all that was to follow. I know I speak for many when I say how that weekend touched our congregation and how much it oriented us toward a deeper work of God in and through our church life.

Please join me in praying that the Holy Spirit would continue to move in our people through the remainder of this year and into 2024!

Pastor Mike

2023 ATTENDANCE TRENDS

Both our Sunday school attendance & worship attendance have grown by 10% this year compared to 2022.



857 AVERAGE SUNDAY
SCHOOL ATTENDANCE
IN 2023

893 AVERAGE WORSHIP
ATTENDANCE IN
2023



80 People connected with our church
through membership so far in 2023

PRAYER

During our annual Prayer Weekend in January, the Holy Spirit used guest pastor, Bill Elliff, to lead us into a deeper relationship with God through prayer. Our theme verse for the weekend was 1 Thessalonians 5:17-19, and we believe these words became the road map for our year: "Pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit."

In many ways, our time at the altar defined our year. We gathered for prayer as families, as educators approaching a new school year, for graduates entering a new season, as dads seeking to lead our families well, and as intercessors praying for hurting family and friends.



BAPTISMS

45 PEOPLE BAPTIZED SO FAR IN 2023 AT LBC



SPECIAL EVENTS

4K LIGHT UP
THE NIGHT
ATTENDANCE



3K CHRISTMAS
ATTENDANCE



1.8K EASTER
ATTENDANCE

29 BAPTIZED
AT THE
RIVER

Nearly 4,000 people gathered on our campus for Light Up the Night last October. Of those in attendance, we were able to connect and follow up with 611 new families who do not attend LBC.

Experience Christmas and our Candlelight Christmas services were both highlights of our Christmas season. Collectively, these events brought over 3,000 people to our campus for worship.



God moved powerfully as we celebrated the Resurrection together on our LBC campus. Simply being together brought an undeniable sense of joy and sweetness. We watched families—many with multiple generations—worship alongside one another while also welcoming many guests.



This year at Baptism at the River, 29 people were baptized as hundreds more stood along the shore, cheering and clapping as each person came up from the water. Three of these people were from our church replant, River District Church, and three more spontaneously responded to the call to come forward and be baptized.

MISSIONS

179 PEOPLE SENT
OUT TO SERVE
ON SHORT-TERM
MISSION TRIPS

22 LOCAL MISSION
PARTNERS WE
FINANCIALLY
SUPPORT

6 NATIONAL AND
INTERNATIONAL
CHURCH PLANTS

Here at LBC, we believe that “everyone has a right to hear.” This vision was shared at our annual Missions Conference in February and then demonstrated as we sent 179 adults, students, and kids to serve on eight trips in six different cities in 2023.

MISSION TRIPS

We sent groups to serve on short-term trips to Central Asia, Portland, Florida, Nicaragua, and West Columbia.

\$687,275

This amount was given through the designated 10% of the church budget, as well as additional Global Mission Offerings and then sent out to support our church partners in Lexington and around the world.



BUILDING A CHURCH IN NICARAGUA

This summer, two teams traveled to Nicaragua for two weeks and worked together to host Bible camps for children, Bible classes for adults, and build New Covenant Church in the Carlos Fonseca community of Nicaragua. While they were there, many came to faith in Jesus and were baptized. A third team traveled in October to build a house for a family in need.

44 PEOPLE SENT
TO NICARAGUA

3 TRIPS THIS YEAR



ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

We have men and women representing Bangladesh, Burma, South Korea, China, Colombia, Venezuela, Mexico, Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico, and Italy attending our weekly English classes. Along with the free language classes, these men and women are welcomed into a community of friends where the gospel is shared. One man responded to the gospel by receiving Jesus this spring.

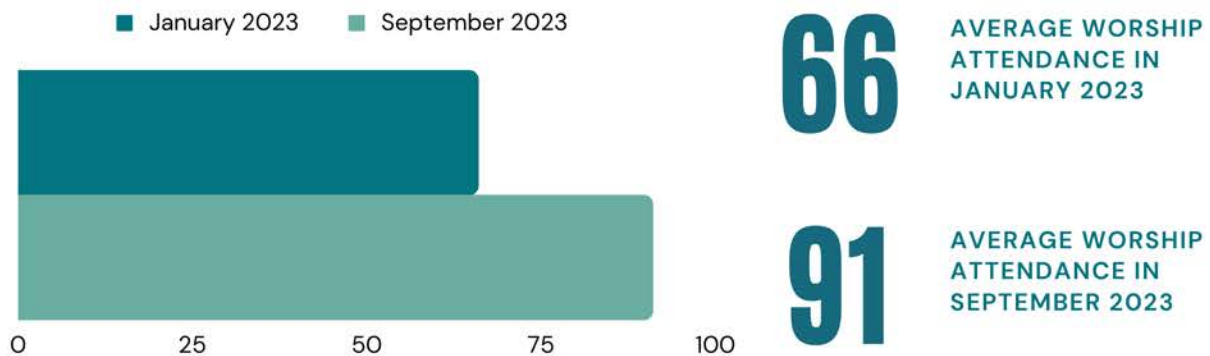


**MEN AND WOMEN
FROM 10 DIFFERENT
COUNTRIES ATTEND
OUR WEEKLY
ENGLISH CLASSES.**



RIVER DISTRICT CHURCH

RDC's worship attendance has grown by 38% in 2023. Our average attendance in January 2023 was 66 people compared to 91 people in September 2023.



RDC welcomed Joshua Forrest, a new campus pastor, in August 2023. His family has been embraced by the RDC church family, and this transition has given RDC momentum to continue growing and influencing their community.

11 New members joined RDC in 2023

6 People baptized at RDC this year

4 Ladies commissioned and sent out to serve on a short-term mission trip to Nicaragua

16 Average attendance for internationals attending our weekly ESL classes



ADULTS

We believe small groups are the best way to get connected in a large church, which is why we offer so many ways for adults to get plugged in here at LBC.

On Sunday mornings, we have 33 adult Sunday school classes that meet on our campus, covering every age and stage of life. In addition, we have several Home Groups that meet throughout the week to study scripture and live life together. There are L-Group small Bible study groups that meet weekly, walking through the entire Bible together in a year. We have a Tuesday morning Bible study for women, and many from the community come onto our campus each week to participate in this multi-generational group of ladies. Our women's and men's ministries each host events to reach into the community and create lasting relationships with one another.



SENIOR ADULTS

Our senior adults have been active this year. They gather regularly for small group Bible studies, Cornerstone lunches, retreats, and outings. Our Legacy Choir leads worship in local assisted-living facilities. They coordinate our Backpack Ministry that provides weekly meals for 125 children from Gilbert Elementary. Also, 30 senior adults served on a local mission trip to River District Church in West Columbia in June.



LBP, WEEKDAY PRESCHOOL

245 TOTAL STUDENTS

46 TOTAL
TEACHERS +
STAFF

This year, our Weekday Preschool has welcomed 245 children into its classrooms. We integrated a kindergarten program into our school, and in our first year, we were able to offer two new kindergarten classes.



In addition to hosting an annual summer camp, LBP also hosts special events like Donuts for Dads, Munchkins for Moms, Western Day, 50's Day, and a Christmas program each year.



LEXKIDS

Every week, hundreds of children are welcomed into our environments for kids. Dedicated leaders ensure a safe and fun environment where kids are taught Biblical truths and practical applications while building lasting friendships.

178 THE NUMBER OF
PRESCHOOLERS WHO
HAVE BEEN TO LBC
THIS YEAR.

244 THE NUMBER OF
ELEMENTARY KIDS WHO
HAVE BEEN TO LBC
THIS YEAR.



OTHER NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

32 Moms and daughters attended
Camp La Vida in June

46 Dads and sons attended Camp
McCall in July

45 2nd through 4th graders attended
Look Up Lodge Summer Camp

16 Babies and children dedicated this
year during our worship services



MEGA CAMP

333 AVERAGE DAILY
ATTENDANCE
FOR KIDS AGES
3K-6TH GRADE

110 MEN, WOMEN,
AND STUDENT
VOLUNTEERS
WHO SERVED

6 FAMILIES BEGAN
ATTENDING LBC AS
A DIRECT RESULT
OF MEGA CAMP

We welcomed hundreds of kids to our campus each day for Mega Camp in June. Through the support of 110 leaders, they each heard the gospel, created fun memories, and felt a sense of belonging. It was a joy every morning to welcome members and non-members into our church, and six families have since connected with our church through regular attendance or membership.



\$3,200

This amount was given by the children attending Mega Camp to support two children through Chosen Children Ministries in Nicaragua. Dylan and Jusmara will be sponsored for two years and will be provided basic needs like food, housing, and healthcare.

**SALVATION
IN NICARAGUA**

Later in the summer, our student team serving in Nicaragua was able to meet these two sponsored children, Dylan and Jusmara. The gospel was shared, and Jusmara's mom accepted Jesus.



LEXSTUDENTS

Our students are given a place to belong, serve, grow, and worship through weekly Bible studies, huddles, events, camps, mission trips, and more.

110 AVERAGE SUN.
STUDENT
ATTENDANCE
IN 2023

80 AVERAGE INGROUP
ATTENDANCE
(SUN. EVENING
DISCIPLESHIP)

50 AVERAGE
MIDWEEK STUDENT
ATTENDANCE IN
2023



OTHER NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

85 Students and leaders who participated in Winter Weekend

29 Preteen (5th and 6th grade) students and leaders who attended Look Up Lodge

53 Students and leaders who served in Jacksonville as a part of a national mission trip

22 Students and leaders who traveled to Nicaragua for an international mission trip

5 Salvations this year

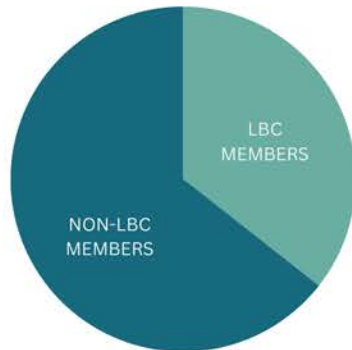
60 Students and leaders who attended Fall Retreat



RECREATION

Our Recreation Ministry offers a walking track, fitness classes, sports leagues, and a weight and cardio room.

Church membership is not required to take advantage of these offerings, and therefore, this ministry has a far reach into our community. People have a place to connect with our church in an informal way with the hope that spiritual conversations will follow. Our Family Life Center is a place where our mission of “making disciples in Lexington and around the world” can be seen clearly.



131
237
10,082

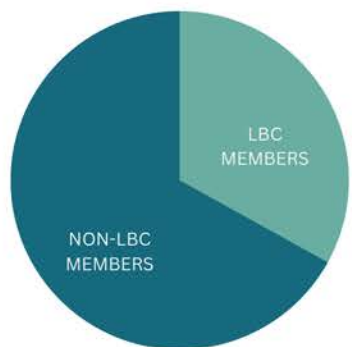
MEMBERS OF OUR FLC WHO
ATTEND LBC

MEMBERS OF OUR FLC WHO
DO NOT ATTEND LBC

TOTAL NUMBER OF CHECK-INS
TO OUR FLC SO FAR IN 2023



UPWARD BASKETBALL AND CHEER



40
81
20

UPWARD ATHLETES WHO
ATTEND LBC

UPWARD ATHLETES WHO DO
NOT ATTEND LBC

TOTAL NUMBER OF UPWARD
COACHES





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