
A LETTER FROM PASTOR MIKE MOZINGO



Every year is an opportunity to celebrate and be thankful, but this year we have so much to be thankful for, and we want to take the time to do just that. We want to celebrate God's faithfulness! This booklet is filled with pictures and stories of life change, new families, new life, redemption, good news, missions, hope, love, and faith. I pray that as you look through these pages you see a church that is alive, that's on mission, making a difference, and making much of Jesus.

Join us as we celebrate all that God has done, all that He is doing in our lives currently, and all that He has in store for us in the year to come. Join arms with us as we continue to reach people who are disconnected from God and lead them to become fully devoted followers of Christ.

Lets Celebrate,
Mike Mozingo
LEAD PASTOR

**FIRST TIME
GIVERS**

143

**AVERAGE WEEKLY
WORSHIP
ATTENDANCE**

723

BAPTISMS

71



PROFESSIONS OF FAITH

168



VALERIE TREAT

Valerie Treat had it all. She had a successful job at the University of Alabama, where she was the Director of Administration and Fiscal Affairs, managing 10 faculty members and over 100 residents and staff. She was successful and her staff loved her. Her work was her pride and joy.

In 2020, all that changed with one diagnosis – leukemia. She was immediately placed in isolation, and lost her job and all the pomp and circumstance that went along with the role. Valerie said, “All my life I was a career-driven person. A corporate ladder climber. Being in quarantine was extremely lonely.”

God had been speaking to Valerie for years about spending more time with Him. Relying more on Him and what He could do, not what she could do in her own strength. She explained, “God prompted me several times over the years. ‘You need to be a part of a church. You need to be in a life group so that you can get the connectivity that I created you for.’”

Valerie went seeking after God. She became involved with Journey Church through online services, and her relationship with the Lord grew deeper. “It wasn’t until I got sick and everything was stripped away. My career, my whole purpose in life, my identity, that I was like, ‘okay God, there is something more you want to do with my life.’ That was a hard realization, but God got a hold of me, and everything I went through was the best thing that could have happened.”

Wanting more connection, Valerie coordinated with a life group leader, and through a ZOOM call, Valerie was able to attend a life group! Friendships were made, prayers shared, and praises celebrated together! Today, Valerie is now able to attend church in person, and she shares an active leadership role in her life group!

“Through all the other trials and tribulations, and we all have heartaches and stories, having a God-centered purpose is the best thing that has happened to me. God loves me. I’m his creation, and I want to share that in a way that I couldn’t ever have before. I’ve spent a lot of time alone, but I have God. And he takes away all the loneliness.”



LIFE GROUP PARTICIPANTS

382



CIJI BELL

**CIJI
NOAH
EASTON**

Ciji Bell and her two sons, Noah and Easton, moved to Prattville in December 2021. As a military Mom, Ciji knew she needed a tribe that she could count on, one that could offer her boys more than she could alone. “Although I wasn’t required to move, I am now assigned to a new unit and have duties that are new to me.”

After attending Journey for a few months, Ciji got plugged into the Dream Team and began serving alongside other Cafe team members. She said thoughtfully, “The most rewarding part has been to have my two boys be able to help me on Sundays. We love serving together and I love showing them that no part in serving is too big or too small. A simple ‘good morning’ and pouring a cup of coffee can be the first part of Jesus that many may encounter.”

“Letting go and letting God” has been something Ciji wanted to live out for her boys. To not just do what is right for them, but do what is right for the Kingdom of God—which, in turn, is the best thing for her family! Ciji wanted more connection with people at Journey for her and her sons. And while she was very hesitant to lead a Life Group, God was nudging her heart. She said, “I am often afraid and fight feelings of insecurity – that I’m not qualified. But God has truly been working on my heart and life and led me to lead a Life Group.”

On a scale of 1-10, when asked how much of an extrovert Ciji felt she was, she replied with a negative 2! “I really stepped out in faith by obeying God and choosing to lead a Life Group. Stepping away from myself and letting God take over has been challenging, but no surprise, His ways are always greater than I could ever imagine.”

Ciji and her boys now host a family game night on Fridays. Families with children from ages 2 to 12 gather at her house and go over a short Bible story that can be understood by all ages. Afterward, the families eat, play games, and laugh together as one big family. “The most rewarding part of listening to God and leading this life group, is the feeling that we have family here. We look forward to our Friday nights, and have people we can call on when there is a need.”



THOSE WHO
SERVE

342



AVERAGE
WEEKLY HOURS
SERVED



415

THE HILLS

**Lance & Kim
Leah, Austin, Sawyer, & Dawson**

Standing out and fitting in are two things that remain some of life’s most challenging things to balance. To find a place to belong, your people, your tribe and yet to stand out among others, to make a difference, be different, and change the world; these are the dreams most of us have at some point in our lives. We have all needed help before, but what if there isn’t anyone in your tribe looking to help those that are hurting?

When you meet Lance and Kim, you know there is something different and special about them, but it’s more than the mohawk, bright hair, tattoos and fully patched vest, or even the tricked-out Harley Davidson. You see how they listen and care for each other and those around them. They feel called to see the Gospel spread to their friends and those that see the world the way they do.

Along with their four children, the Hills serve a special group – the one percenters. Because motorcycle clubs have their own rites and ways of doing things, they often feel on the outskirts of the other 99% of society. Of course, being seen as the outcast of society can be liberating and emboldening; it also means that they may not believe that Jesus sees them and came for them. There are of course clubs that say they are Christians but are there such clubs that are sold out to serve others no matter the affiliation? The Disciple Christian Motorcycle Club has a simple calling. They want to disciple men to have a daily word and prayer time and to support the one percent world with prayer. That means being closer to God, having brothers who help you get there, and having a unique ability to speak into the lives of men in the old-school motorcycle clubs. They often serve other motorcycle clubs during rides and club meetings, being the hands and feet of Christ.

Lance, or as his MC family calls him Grimlock, is a Three Piece Patch MC member and can often be seen riding his motorcycle to church to catch the wind a little more before walking with his whole family into Journey. Earlier this year they were baptized as a couple. They felt that this sacred act shows their commitment to put Christ in their relationship first and foremost. At a recent club meeting Kim and Lance had the special privilege of seeing their oldest take the step of faith, commit her life to Christ, and follow in believers baptism in the back of a truck. What a great moment!

No matter the time or date, Grimlock is helping others grow closer to Christ, in his own house and motorcycle club. Thank you, Hills family, for serving others the way you do.





**GAS BUYDOWN ————— 3500
GALLONS BOUGHT
DOWN**





2022 THE BIG GIVE

The Big Give is our annual missions offering. 100% of the gifts given go to fund like-minded partners, globally, nationally and locally. The Big Give also supports some of our biggest outreaches in our community like Fallapalooza.

\$139,881



A woman with dark hair and a young girl with blonde hair and a blue headband are looking at a small, glowing object together. The woman is wearing a dark blue shirt, and the girl is wearing a red dress with white polka dots. They are in a room with a yellow wall and a framed picture.

INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS

AFRICA 4 JESUS

ARK INTERNATIONAL

CALL TO AFRICA

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH (JAPAN)

CHRISTIAN MISSIONS UNLIMITED

CMF INTERNATIONAL

DOULOS PARTNERS

GOSPELINK

ILLUMINATIONS

WATER FOR LIFE

INTERNATIONAL HIGHLIGHT

The **Compassion** Journey is a hands-on experience that allows you to step into the story of a child in poverty. To hear from them how they live their daily lives, the dangers and hardships they face, and what it really means to live with nothing. But there is hope at the end of the story. You also hear how a child's life is forever changed when they are sponsored. In other words, how you can personally step into the story of a child in need and help rewrite their ending.

In September, Journey Church had the honor of hosting The Compassion Journey. For 3 days, Journey Church members walked through exhibits and heard stories of hope, like that of Owen Githanga from Africa, who was living in extreme poverty. One day Owen was sponsored, and his life changed forever. He received food, an education, and—most importantly—heard of God's great love. Today he continues to have a personal relationship with his sponsor and works for Compassion International as an accountant—a dream he had as a child that, thanks to his sponsor, became a reality!

Over the Compassion weekend, Journey Church came together and, as a church family, sponsored an entire village and a few children from the neighboring community. That is 164 or enough kids to fill almost 3.5 school buses. 164 kids will hear the word of God and receive a regular meal, and be given the chance to get them and their families to move beyond poverty! Not counting Christmas and birthday gifts, Journey Church, as a whole, promises to invest \$76,152 every year in these children's lives through Compassion International! What an incredible act and move of God!

Two men are seated on a stage. The man on the left is wearing a blue and white plaid shirt and is speaking into a microphone. The man on the right is wearing a light blue button-down shirt and is looking towards the first man. There is a small table in front of them with some papers on it. The background is dark with blue geometric shapes.

**KIDS
SPONSORED**

164

NATIONAL PARTNERS

ALABAMA STATE BOARD OF MISSIONS

BLANKET FORT HOPE

BRUCE OUTREACH

CAMPUS OUTREACH

SACRED ROAD MINISTRIES

THE WELLHOUSE

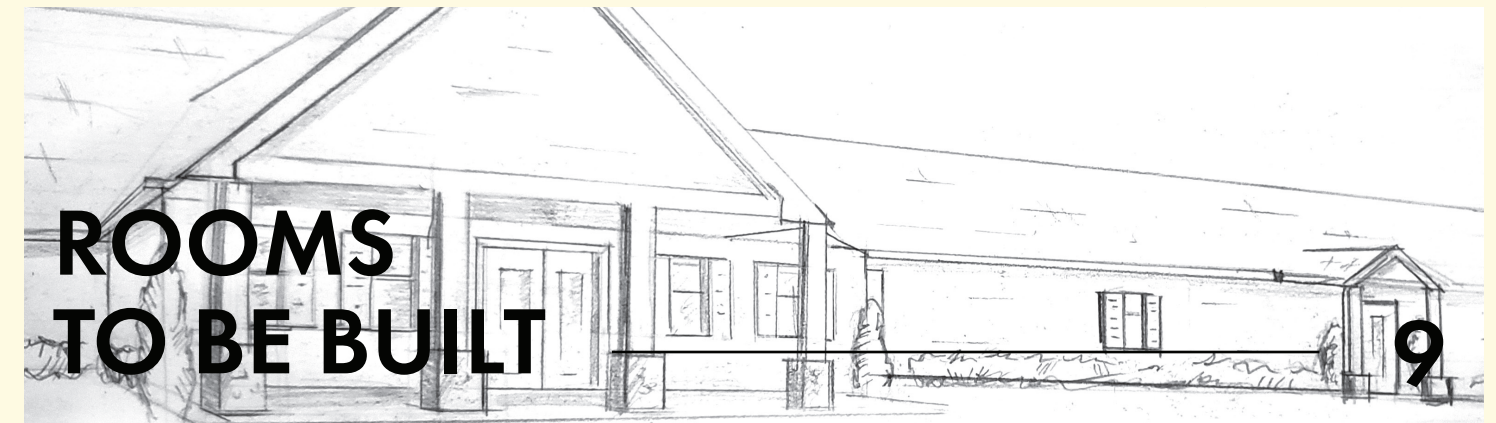


NATIONAL HIGHLIGHT

Blanket Fort Hope is one of our brand-new partners this year through the Big Give, tackling something that few may recognize as a need in our area. Human trafficking is a scary and daunting problem, but Blanket Fort Hope is making a difference in this space as they begin to build on their newly acquired 73 acres outside of the Birmingham area.

Over 57% of the victims of human trafficking in our state are children. It is overwhelming to think of what these precious children have gone through; even after they are freed from that, extraordinary steps are necessary to bring them to a place where they can be made whole again. As the president and founder Alexa James shared, "Our blanket fort has a name, and the name is Hope. We want you to be hopeful and not sad about what is happening in our community because we have an opportunity to help these survivors."

Blanket Fort Hope has cleared land and, in the next few months, will begin constructing a beautiful building that will host nine young female sex-trafficking survivors. They work closely with the Alabama Department of Human Resources to secure funding, and continue partnering with great, faithful churches like Journey to serve and reach the least of these so that they might hear and experience the true love of Christ.



LOCAL PARTNERS

AUTAUGA INTERFAITH CARE CENTER

ELMORE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

ELMORE WELCOME CENTER

FAMILY HOME & PARENTING

FLATLINE CHURCH AT CHISHOLM

HOPE INSPIRED MINISTRIES (HIM)

RIVER REGION PREGNANCY CENTER

LOCAL HIGHLIGHT

Hope Inspired Ministries, or H.I.M., stands in the gap for those that need and want help to find and keep work after being chronically unemployed. With a success rate of 85-90% of graduates gaining and keeping employment, it is easy to see how H.I.M. is making a difference in our community.

Journey has partnered with H.I.M. for many years, and we have seen a fruitful connection as our staff and elders have had opportunities to speak at and partner with this vital organization. The H.I.M. staff meets students where they are, helping them unpack a lifetime of negative thoughts and behaviors. Students rebuild their lives by developing employment and life skills that will lead them to self-sufficiency - introducing a way of life that fosters the development of each student's emotional, physical, and spiritual maturity. Each and every student is also encouraged to put God in their lives in deeper and more meaningful ways.

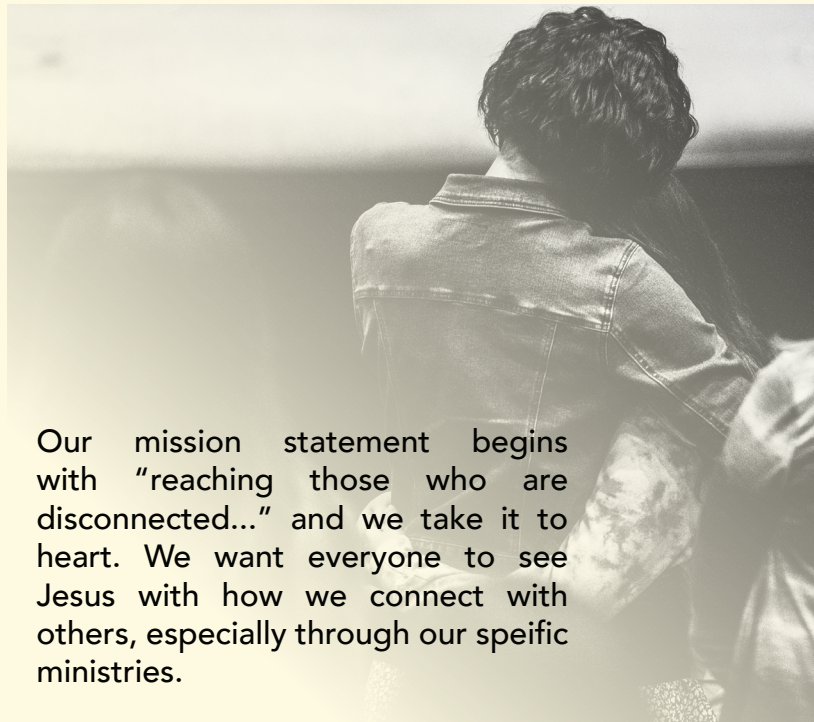
H.I.M. replicated the original Montgomery model in Birmingham in 2017, Lowndes County in 2020, and the Department of Youth Services at Mount Meigs in 2021. They also collaborate with The Foundry in Bessemer, Alabama, where the Birmingham staff teaches every Saturday. Today, these campuses are multiplying the life change transformations of the original campus.

God is improving numerous communities through Hope Inspired Ministries, and we are proud to partner with them.





CONNECTION MATTERS



Our mission statement begins with "reaching those who are disconnected..." and we take it to heart. We want everyone to see Jesus with how we connect with others, especially through our specific ministries.



KIDS BAPTIZED

ONE BIG DAY LEADERS



14

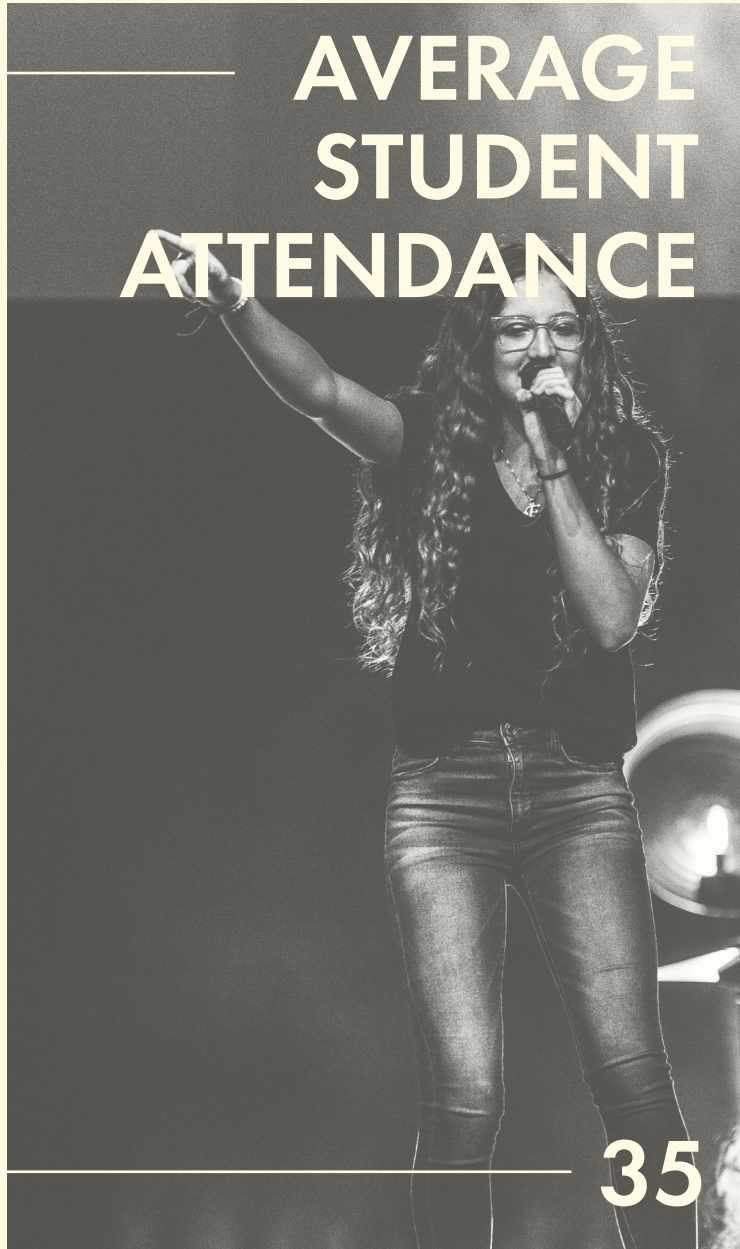


75

92



AVERAGE
STUDENT
ATTENDANCE



35

MISSION
TRIP MEMBERS



12



STUDENT
SALVATIONS



CONNECTED
YOUNG ADULTS



75



CELEBRATE RECOVERY ————— 65
AVERAGE
ATTENDANCE

COMPLETED
6-MONTH
STEP CLASS



75

EMBRACE
WOMENS
CONFERENCE

162





**MAN
CAMP**

