# THE POINT CHURCH

## IMPACT

2023

#### OUR MISSION

TO LOVE GOD, LOVE PEOPLE, AND LOVE LIFE.

#### Dear Point Family,

As we reflect on the past year, our hearts overflow with gratitude and joy for the incredible ways in which God has moved within and through our church community. Your unwavering dedication, generosity, and commitment to our mission to Love God, Love People, and Love Life have catalyzed extraordinary growth and impact.

In 2023, we witnessed a remarkable growth in our church attendance, increasing 27%. This is a testament to God's faithfulness and the inviting culture that permeates our church family. Our NextGen ministry experienced an even more impressive growth, expanding by over 28%, indicating a bright and promising future as we nurture and empower the next generation of believers. On top of this growth, we saw 163 people baptized.

Our commitment to discipleship and spiritual growth was evident in our Groups' engagement. Over 820 adults were engaged in more than 90 Groups, fostering a community of support, learning, and spiritual nurturing. This engagement is crucial for our spiritual health and collective growth as a body of Christ.

In October, we launched a gospel-centered Path Out of Poverty, a concerted effort to address poverty in our communities. The impact since launching has been profound:

- We served 1,560 teacher lunches at local schools, showing our appreciation and support for educators.
- Several small groups prepared 200 snack bags for students, aiding their nutritional and academic success.
- Distributed 145 teacher appreciation bags, recognizing the invaluable contribution of our educators assembled by a family that attends The Point.
- Donated 1,350 toys to community organizations, exceeding our goal of 500, bringing joy and hope to needy children.
- Provided 125 homeless care bags, essential supplies, and a message of love and hope.
- Served 6,442 dinners to teachers and staff as part of our Annual Educator's Dinner.

As we move forward, let us continue to embrace God's call with the same passion and commitment that marked our journey last year. We anticipate launching a Waynesboro campus in the fall of this year. We also anticipate launching our downtown campus in 2025 as renovations will begin later this year.

Thank you for being an integral part of The Point family. Your involvement is changing lives, and for that, we are profoundly grateful. May God continue to bless and guide us as we seek to fulfill His purpose in our lives our community, and in the world.

In Chrjst,

Chip Measells Executive Director

#### **ATTENDANCE**

1,738

**UP 27% FROM 2022** 

AVERAGE SUNDAY MORNING ATTENDANCE

INCREASE OF 3,484

EASTER SUNDAY ATTENDANCE

3,508 35% INCREAS FROM 2022

CHRISTMAS ATTENDANCE

Our Louisa Campus moved into a permanent facility in January 2023. Our Waynesboro Campus is expected to launch in the Fall of 2024.

We anticipate opening our downtown campus in 2025, with renovations beginning later in 2024.













#### LIFE CHANGE

44

163

2022 BAPTISMS

2023 BAPTISMS







## NEXT GEN



TOTAL AVERAGE ATTENDANCE: 291,
AN INCREASE OF 28%



Loren Kearney, is not only a cherished member of our Guest Service team but a dedicated mother of four. Her four wonderful children are regular attendees at KidsPoint, representing various stages of childhood: one in Pre-K, another in the K-2nd grade range, and two more in the 3rd-5th grade classes.

Loren's eldest child, Lila, started to express a deep curiosity about accepting God into her heart. Recognizing the sincerity of her daughter's questions, Loren reached out to our Next Gen Director, seeking guidance on how to navigate this in Lila's faith journey.

In the conversation that followed, something truly special unfolded. Lila didn't just understand the concept of accepting Christ; she passionately articulated it. What's even more inspiring is that she spoke of a profound transformation taking place within her. Lila shared how she felt convicted to change her ways after making this pivotal decision. She actively chose to try and avoid behaviors that didn't align with making God happy, especially in how she interacted with her parents and siblings during moments of frustration or anger. It was a testament to the depth of her understanding and the sincerity of her commitment.

Lila's decision to accept Jesus led her to be baptized at our Louisa Campus in December.

## SERVING

**261** 

**GROWTH TRACK GRADUATES** 

203

DREAM TEAM FIRST SERVES

**552** 

DREAM TEAMERS







After retiring, Mike Sheffield and his family were looking to get plugged into a church community. Their journey led them to The Point, where they attended a Christmas Eve service just before the pandemic hit. The warm and welcoming atmosphere immediately resonated with Mike, who noted, "Everybody made you feel welcome. Everybody made you feel like family." This inspired a desire to contribute to this new community, getting his 'hands on the net', in any way he could!

Mike chose to participate in Growth Track, an environment that helps individuals explore their spiritual gifts and passions. It was here that he identified his spiritual giftings and redemptive purpose, having a major impact on his faith journey. Mike shared, "So often in life, you're so busy and you keep going. The most valuable part of Growth Track was to sit back and evaluate our gifts, talents, and abilities. 1 Peter 4:10 says 'As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace.' That's a beautiful thing. If someone hasn't taken Growth Track, I highly, highly recommend it. It is an incredible time to reflect and learn a little bit about The Point and a little bit about yourself."

Since taking Growth Track, Mike has used his spiritual gifts of encouragement, hospitality, and service to be a part of the Michie Drive Local REACH Team and the Greeting team. His story is an inspiring example of how identifying and embracing your unique God-given gifts can lead to a more fulfilling life and connection to God's higher purpose for you.

GROWTH TRACK HARNESSES THE UNIQUE SPIRITUAL GIFTS OF EACH INDIVIDUAL, FOSTERING A VIBRANT CHURCH COMMUNITY WHERE EVERYONE SERVES WITH PASSION AND PURPOSE. THIS APPROACH NOT ONLY EMPOWERS PERSONAL GROWTH AND FULFILLMENT BUT ALSO AMPLIFIES THE CHURCH'S IMPACT BOTH INTERNALLY AND IN THE WIDER COMMUNITY.

#### **EVENTS**

THE GATHERING: WOMEN'S EVENT

427

EVERY WOMAN RECEIVED A 30 DAY DEVOTIONAL JOURNAL THAT WAS WRITTEN BY 30 WOMEN OF THE POINT.



#### MEN'S EVENT

## 278

MEN CONNECTED TO A SMALL GROUP INCREASED BY 65%

MORE THAN 70 MEN GOT CONNECTED TO A GROUP FROM THE EVENT.



### **GROUPS**



90

**TOTAL GROUPS** 

820

ADULTS CONNECTED WITH A GROUP

Mike Hopkins has been attending The Point for the past four and a half years. Recognizing a need in his community, Mike took the initiative to begin a Men's Group in Louisa. Together with his brother Rodney, Mike co-leads this group, emphasizing fellowship, discipleship, and outreach projects. The group nurtures a strong sense of camaraderie, sharing meals together at their weekly group meetings and taking trips together, the most recent one being to West Virginia.

Mike's group makes a significant impact through their ministry, Crosspoint Outdoorsmen. This unique ministry aims to reach men through outdoor activities, particularly those who are not currently attending church. Their annual spring event includes a fishing tournament and ax throwing among other activities. Remarkably, at last year's event, an attendee was moved to give their life to Christ.

Mike and his group extends its outreach to Louisa through building ramps and chopping firewood. Throughout the fall, they successfully installed six handicapped ramps. In addition, they cut between 40 to 50 cords of wood; a generous act of service, as Mike observes that, "A lot of people in Louisa still heat with firewood...we will get firewood... they can come get it from our place or we will deliver it to them."

Mike encourages others to think 'outside the box' when considering joining or starting a group. He shares, "Step out of your comfort zone and become part of a group. When we first joined The Point and we heard about groups, we thought that groups were just sitting around and reading Scripture... there are also so many other ways you can get together and participate in a group to make it worthwhile." His story serves as a testament to the power of community engagement and the impact of hands-on service.

SMALL GROUPS ARE ESSENTIAL IN FOSTERING DEEP,
MEANINGFUL CONNECTIONS WITHIN THE CHURCH, CREATING
INTIMATE COMMUNITIES WHERE FAITH IS NURTURED, LIFE'S
CHALLENGES ARE SHARED, AND SPIRITUAL GROWTH IS
CULTIVATED THROUGH CLOSE, PERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS. THEY
SERVE AS VITAL PLATFORMS FOR DISCIPLESHIP, SUPPORT,
AND SERVICE, ENRICHING THE CHURCH'S COMMUNAL LIFE
AND INDIVIDUAL SPIRITUAL JOURNEYS.

#### LOCAL REACH

LOCAL REACH AT THE POINT CHALLENGES US TO LOOK BEYOND OURSELVES TO THE PEOPLE AROUND US AND SHARE THE LOVE OF CHRIST AS WE SERVE AND CONNECT WITH OUR COMMUNITY. LOCAL REACH WILL CHANNEL ITS FULL ENERGY BEHIND THE GOSPEL—CENTERED PATH OUT OF POVERTY INITIATIVE, WEAVING TOGETHER PRACTICAL SUPPORT WITH GOSPEL—CENTERED PROGRAMS TO EMPOWER AND UPLIFT INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES FROM FINANCIAL HARDSHIP.

Since the fall of 2023 we have provided:

200

SNACK BAGS FOR KIDS

145

TEACHER BAGS

1,560

**TEACHER LUNCHES** 

6,442

**EDUCATOR MEALS** 

Emma Bowles' path to The Point started with Miss Betty, a friend her daughter met through the Local REACH efforts in her former neighborhood, Riverside Avenue. Her daughter was at the end of her life, and Miss Betty and others were ministering to the family during this time and introduced Emma to the church. Even through dealing with the sorrow of losing her daughter and moving from her old neighborhood to a new one, Emma stayed connected to the Local REACH community she had gained. The Point and our volunteers in the community turned out to be a place where she found fellowship, comfort and peace.

Emma started attending church regularly in the Fall of 2023. From the moment she attended her first service, Emma knew she had discovered a place where she could be herself. She enjoys hearing the teachings and being regularly encouraged; and she finds that she reads her Bible more after attending. She continues to be actively involved with the REACH group that is helping people in her previous neighborhood, now meeting and talking to even more people there than she did while she lived there. "Every Thursday night, I still go see Miss Betty and the volunteers. They help the people in the neighborhood and make me feel like I'm a part of something. They are people I can depend on."

Emma's experiences have fostered a special connection to our church and the community. The REACH volunteers continue to inspire Emma, resulting in her own desire to show compassion and empathy to others. "I do try to implement some of the stuff I learned from Miss Betty and the others, just watching them and seeing how they help others makes me want to do that, too." She looks forward to the future and the ways in which her faith will continue to influence her life and others. Her words of encouragement to others are, "Try it out. You need to come and see what's going on and experience it yourself." Her story is a shining example of how personal growth and community involvement go hand-in-hand at The Point, shining as a light of hope through Christ in tough times.

#### NATIONAL REACH

WE HAVE A HEART FOR CHURCH PLANTING IN OUR NATION.

WE SUPPORT CHURCH PLANTERS

ACROSS THE UNITED STATES BY GIVING
TO ORGANIZATIONS THAT SPECIFICALLY

CONNECT PASTORS AND RESOURCES TO

COMMUNITIES THAT NEED JESUS!







## INTERNATIONAL REACH

#### INDIA

Along with our international partners at ICM, we were able to assist Impact Poland to acquire a ministry training center where they will train church planters throughout Poland.





#### ISRAEL

Because of your generosity and trust, we continue to give the first 1% of every dollar we receive through your tithes and offerings towards the spread of the gospel in Israel by supporting our partner, The Fellowship of Israel Related Ministries, FIRM.



Megan, who has always had a heart for missions, attended a few services at The Point before the pandemic in 2020. A few years later, she got married to her husband, Connor. Over this time, Megan who is a nurse, saved diligently for three years to fulfill her passion for missions. Knowing Megan's desire to go on a Missions Trip, Connor gave his full support and embraced the common goal with a resounding, "I really want to be there with you." On their first wedding anniversary, Connor and Megan embarked on their first mission trip together.

They responded to a calling to serve in Mexico, since Megan is fluent in Spanish. Together, Megan and Connor worked with children in an English school, integrating language learning with fun activities like charades. Megan's fluency proved invaluable as she translated between students, while Connor created a supportive, fun and engaging environment for the students, fostering connectivity through laughter. Megan recalls, "The Lord did have a purpose for us to be there together." "Yes", Connor adds, "To lean on each other's strengths and lift up the ministry together."

They also participated in a soccer ministry, a strategic initiative founded by a local pastor to combat the influence of drugs and cartels on young lives; which is having a profound impact on the local community. Together, with a fellow trip member who is a local soccer coach, they engaged with the teams, offering drills and support.

Unfortunately, the mission trip's planned construction project was disrupted due to a heatwave. However, they found solace in the care provided by the local leadership. Megan reflected, "It was so easy because of their love and Christ-like example to persevere throughout the day." A testament to the resilience and adaptability that mission work often requires; adding to the appreciation of each unique experience.

In the end, Connor and Megan discovered purpose in their shared mission and mission trip. Their story is a powerful illustration of how faith, unity, and service can transform lives and communities, reinforcing how serving others with love and humility is as impactful on the ones giving, as those receiving.

IN 2023, WE SENT TWO MISSION TEAMS TO MEXICO AND NICARAGUA, LAUNCHED A NEW PARTNERSHIP IN INDIA AND CONTINUED TO SUPPORT OUR PARTNERSHIP IN POLAND.

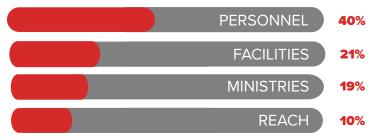
#### GIVING

#### \$4,138,263.75

**GENERAL GIVING FUND** 

22% AHEAD OF BUDGET

#### GENERAL FUND EXPENSES



\*BASED ON A PERCENTAGE OF GIVING FUND GIVING

#### LEGACY OFFERING \$1,214,565.35

**GOAL \$750,000** 

THE POINT CHURCH
IMPACT
2023