### ANTIOCH COMMUNITY CHURCH DALLAS

# ANNUAL REPORT

## **Words From Our Lead Pastor**

Welcome to our 2023 Annual Report! We publish an annual report to reflect on the ways God is at work in and through our church.

Jesus and His Church are the hope of the world. Perhaps now more than ever, the world is looking for answers to questions only Jesus and the Gospel can provide.

He is still calling for all the weary and burdened to come to Him. To find rest in His yoke, for He is gentle and humble in heart.

I pray this report will build your faith and encourage us all to "come to Jesus" again and again.

Praying for you to experience God's love, peace, and nearness this year like never before.



For His Glory And Your Joy, Joe Paolino Lead Pastor

"COME TO ME, ALL YOU WHO ARE WEARY AND **BURDENED, AND I WILL GIVE** YOU REST. TAKE MY YOKE **UPON YOU AND LEARN** FROM ME, FOR I AM GENTLE AND HUMBLE IN HEART, **AND YOU WILL FIND REST** FOR YOUR SOULS. FOR MY YOKE IS EASY AND MY **BURDEN IS LIGHT."** 

**MATTHEW 11:28-30** 

## Lifegroups

Lifegroups are the heartbeat of our church and where we get to walk out life with Jesus in community.

This past year over 270 people were active members of a Lifegroup! That's incredible considering the size of our church. Approximately 80% of those who attend our church are active members of a Lifegroup!

We also welcomed in about 80 new people who joined a Lifegroup in 2023. About 60 of those people had never been a part of a Lifegroup at Antioch Dallas before. Woohoo!

In looking ahead, we are praying for more Lifegroups in 2024 to begin so that those desiring to join a group can find a way to be deeply knit into the church. We're believing for even more Lifegroup Leaders to lead new groups! Way to go church!



Donny Tapie
Associate Pastor
Families & Facilities

#### **Impact Story**

"We love Lifegroup for the fellowship, family connections, and opportunity to hear different perspectives on God's teachings. Going through life and coming to Jesus with others has made me more vulnerable to Him because we all share common troubles and prayers, we aren't alone in sin and repentance, struggles, and prayer."

- Steve Crawford

#### **Impact Story**

Our Lifgroup has supported us and prayed with us this year in a difficult situation, helping to carry our burdens. They have also shared vulnerably about pain in their lives and that has helped give us better insight about our situation. I love that our Lifegroup shares testimonies each week that remind us of God's faithfulness and miraculous power!

- Adelina Lewis

# **Kids Ministry**

During 2023 we served 158 different children throughout the year! We averaged 88 people in kids ministry each week! This includes those serving and the kids being served. For the past 3 years our kids camp attendance has increased from 9 kids, to 12 kids, to 19 kids in 2023!

Our kids ministry is growing in all areas and we are expecting 9 babies to age into the one year old room and so far have 7 ladies pregnant and expecting a little one within the coming 6 months! 15 babies were dedicated and 4 kids got baptized in 2023!

We had 18 new people step up to serve in the kids ministry the year of 2023! Family services have been sharpened and more engaging/interactive for our kids-these services are getting smoother every time! WAY TO GO KIDS TEAM!! We are so proud and love you all so much-you are making an eternal impact in the next generation!



Maci McLain Associate Pastor Kids Ministry

#### **Impact Story**

"I initially joined the kids ministry serve team because I knew there was a need, and I wanted to help in any way I could. Along the way, I've learned a lot about children what they absorb, how they respond to correction, and how to best communicate with them. I've seen the way that reading the Word, worshiping Him, and praying impacts them at such a young age and have recalled the deep roots planted in me during my Sunday School days. My prayer has always been to foster that same kind of seed-planting in them: seeds that God can and will breathe His Spirit onto as they experienced a fierce sense of belonging in the church. I've loved getting to know the little ones and their parents, and I feel like an integral part of the Body because of it."

- Jenna Owen

## **ADS**

In the Fall of 2023 our church relaunched our yearly Discipleship School, which exists to develop people in the Great Commandment and to empower them in the Great Commission.

Antioch Discipleship School has always been a foundational piece to our church and has deeply impacted so many people throughout its history, but has been on hiatus for the past few years. We had 10 new students enroll for this first class, and 4 new leaders volunteered to help make it happen.

A common theme so far for students is how much growth there has been in connection with God, through slowing down in His presence to receive His love and listen to Him. The natural fruit that has resulted from that deeper connection with God is inner healing, genuine love for God, freedom from religion, and ministering to others from the overflow of the love of God.



Marshall Herndon **Associate Pastor** ADS, Prayer & Missions

#### **Impact Story**

"ADS has been incredibly impactful in my walk with the Lord. My relationship with Holy Spirit is richer than it ever has been. For the first time, Holy Spirit has started to speak to me through images and words for others, and that has increased my confidence in Him tremendously. ADS has been a safe place to process what God is teaching me and to practice walking out in the gifts of the Spirit. It's been edifying beyond what I had hoped for."

- Kerry Hinote

## **Serve Teams**

Our Welcome Home Team leads the way in hospitality and welcoming everyone in our church on Sunday morning from the Parking Lot to the Sanctuary in the same way that Jesus has welcomed us (Romans 15:7). This past year we had an average of 33 members of the Welcome Home Team and we're excited to be adding more each and every month via Discover Antioch. We also had 3 new Welcome Home Team members step up to be Team Leaders (a volunteer role) who lead and coordinate that team on Sundays, which is a huge answered prayer! We also had two separate all team trainings to get familiar with our responsibilities and gain expertise in Kids Check-In as the team handles that for our Kids ministry! Our Welcome Home Team is a great landing place for people who are new to our church to serve! It provides a place to grow in relationships and get to know all those who help to organize and put on our Sunday morning gatherings through our weekly Serve Team Rally. Way to go church!



Donny Tapie Associate Pastor Families & Facilities

#### **Impact Story**

"When I first came to find Jesus and walked up to Antioch Dallas, I was welcomed by what I now know as the Welcome Home team. I was greeted with hugs, smiles, and simply genuine people. When I walked upstairs and asked if there was assigned seating, they could tell I needed special attention. I was escorted to a seat and told they would join me when they were done at their post. Sure enough they did, I could go on and on about my first experience with not only my first encounter with the church, but the Welcome Home team. By the time we parted ways that day (well after service was finished) I was invited to a lifegroup, bible study, and lunch. I knew I was in the right spot. Antioch has changed my life. From my first encounter on the website, then going to the actual facility and seeing it was just like the website. Then being greeted by an amazing welcome home team. I never felt out of place."

- Jennifer Lookenbill

# Worship

Worship team and production team love to make melody to the Lord and to invite the congregation in through lyrics and lights and beautifully blended instruments and voices!

The worship team and production team have seen 40-50 members in our church body who have dedicated their time and talents to facilitating and making a joyful noise to the Lord. As well, they spend time seeking God before choosing the songs for each service, encourage one another regularly, and pray for the congregation at large before each Sunday.

In addition to Sunday morning practice and service, they meet every quarter during the year to practice new songs and get united in vision and heart. So exciting to see how God is moving and working in our people as we praise and worship Him!



Rachel Thacher Associate Pastor Worship

#### **Impact Story**

"I felt that vision for worship was given well today, I was needing a bit of help getting into the right headspace, and the prayers before practice and afterward during production meeting helped a lot. Personally, I've been feeling distant from God for a couple weeks and a bit stressed about how I'd perform this morning because I didn't have the time to finish practicing all the songs. I was asking God to help me before I got to church this morning, and, during practice before service, I really felt like my part fell into place! Also, everybody telling me they thought I sounded good made me really encouraged. During acoustic worship in the ADS room afterward Service for our quarterly meeting, I felt like I was able to worship God in my favorite way for the first time in forever. It was such a precious moment."

- Sean Davis

## Missions

Antioch Dallas is part of a global family of churches called to be a multiplying church-planting movement through whom He brings transformation to personal lives, families, neighborhoods, and every sphere of society in our city, nation, and nations for the glory of God.

We have 3 long-term missionaries/families sent out of our Dallas church to Africa, Asia and Europe, to be part of the Antioch Movement's global church-planting work. In 2024 we are adding more long-term laborers to the international harvest as we plan to send out one more family from our church to the Middle East, and we also plan to have our first short-term mission trip from ADS since 2019!

Here at home base, we have many more people in our church supporting those missionaries through prayer, finances, and pastoral care.



Marshall Herndon Associate Pastor ADS, Prayer & Missions

#### **Impact Story**

"We are currently in our first term, living in Thailand and working to learn the Myanmar language and build relationships with Myanmar people. One young believer couple has become especially dear friends to us. They are committed followers of Jesus and leaders in our church, and we've wanted to envision them to reach their friends. For the wife's birthday could have a birthday party at our house and we could share the gospel at it. She invited some of her friends from the factory where she works, and we worked with our language teacher to write and translate a testimony and the gospel message. The couple came over to our house to cook a big dinner for her guests, and then a group of them came over to eat. After we had birthday cake, we gathered around and shared our testimonies and the gospel, and sang a worship song. It was a special milestone in our language learning, and also we were so proud of her for leveraging her birthday celebration to introduce them to Jesus!"

## **Pure Desire**

Pure Desire is a ministry which seeks to enable men to walk free from pornography and other unwanted sexual behavior through a 10-month structured program.

We had 25 men go through Pure Desire last year. 10 of these men stepped up to lead a group. This is our 4th year to have Pure Desire groups at our church. It's been amazing to the hope and healing God's brought to men through this ministry and how it's impacting our church.

Thank you Sean Conroy and small group leaders for making Pure Desire groups possible!

## **Betrayal & Beyond**

Betrayal & Beyond is a partner sensitive approach to healing from the effects of sexual betrayal. We had 10 women go through our Betrayal and Beyond group this past year.

"Betrayal & Beyond has been a safe haven for me. For years I refused to share this part of my life with anyone, it felt too shameful that my husband and I were struggling in this way and I convinced myself that no one else was experiencing what we were. Joining B&B made me realize there are many other women, even within the church, who had been walking this journey in isolation like I was. This group has given me a safe place to be fully understood, supported and challenged in my own healing journey without shame or judgment. It's given my husband and I fresh hope for our marriage as we've received tools and common language to use to overcome the challenges we're facing... In light of my husbands addiction I've learned that I also have issues that are playing a part in how I cope with the hard things in life and have found that God wants to bring us both to a place of healing so we can move toward health together."

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Impact Story

"I knew I needed help to stop my compulsive sexual behaviors. I joined Pure Desire to receive that support and accountability. Maybe this time it would work. It's been extremely challenging and I've wanted to give up, but the men in my group rallied around me to just keep coming. They said they cared, but the hurt I received long ago caused me not to trust words. After all, how could they love me if they didn't even know me? Biblical phrases and words of support flying around the group text we shared, sounded hollow and empty to me. My cynical mind said they were just saying things which sounded good. But over time, I'm starting to believe they may be genuine in their minds and hearts. Prayers said during our meetings concentrate on others instead of ourselves. For the majority of my life, I've been far more concerned with my own needs. Turns out my Pure Desire men's group is also teaching me how to pray. How to love others and seek to serve rather than be served. I've stopped my behaviors but I'm gaining far more than Biblical sobriety

## 2023 In Review

We started the year with 21 days of prayer and fasting. Our theme last year was "drop the oars." The "oars" represented our own wisdom, power, and efforts to control our lives. It was a powerful time of surrendering all aspects of our lives to Jesus, the captain of the ship.

We also honored Zach Daniel for over 10 years of faithful leadership as Lead Pastor at Antioch Dallas! Zach and his family stepped into a new chapter as he accepted a role with Antioch Waco. Joe Paolino was selected to step into the role of Lead Pastor.

Our collective prayer was for God to "Make Us ONE." We joined in with Jesus' prayer for the church in John 17:20-21 for us to be one as He and the Father are one.

We studied the letter of Ephesians to grow our "Identity in Christ". In the fall, we focused on Jesus' command to "Love One Another" as He has loved us.

We saw the Antioch Discipleship School re-launched with 10 new students! A new overseer team was also installed August of this year.

Pastor Joe also shared a 3 year vision for us to go from being a "Greenhouse" to a "Farm" from Isaiah 37:30-32. Get your bib overalls and hang on. Excited to take root below and bear fruit above, together!



270

**PEOPLE INVESTED IN LIFEGROUPS** 



124

**PEOPLE SERVING ON SERVE TEAMS** 



\*158 CHILDREN DISCIPLED ON SUNDAYS



80

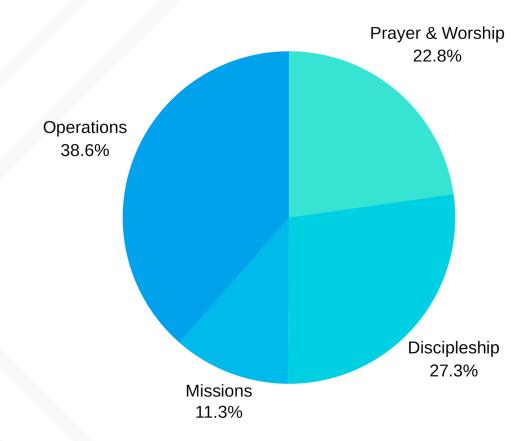
**PEOPLE WELCOMED IN DISCOVER ANTIOCH** 



**PEOPLE BAPTIZED ON BAPTISM SUNDAY** 

# Stewardship Update

How Did We Use Those Resources?



How Are Church Finances?

Avg. Monthly Tithe & Offerings 2023: \$51,800

**Total Givers: 170 households** 

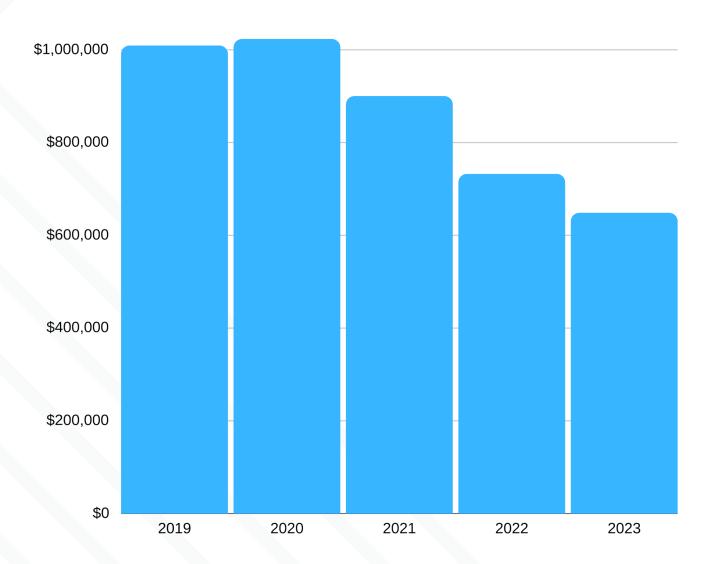
**Recurring Givers: 80 households** 

# Stewardship Update

## Tithe and Offerings

From the foundation of our church we have been blessed by the generosity of our members. We take each gift seriously as a stewardship with which we want to honor the Lord and invest in the vision and mission He has called us to!





NOW TO HIM WHO IS ABLE TO DO IMMEASURABLY MORE THAN ALL WE ASK OR IMAGINE, **ACCORDING TO HIS POWER** THAT IS AT WORK WITHIN US, TO HIM BE GLORY IN THE **CHURCH AND IN CHRIST JESUS** THROUGHOUT ALL **GENERATIONS, FOR EVER AND EVER! AMEN.** 

**EPHESIANS 3:20-21**