

CHURCH *for* REAL LIFE
RIVER CITY COMMUNITY CHURCH

2023-2024

ANNUAL *Report*



The 2023-2024 ministry year has been one of focusing, pruning, celebrating, learning, and prayerfully seeking after the Lord as we ask for His work to be done both in and through His Church.

Dear River City Members,

Let me say this upfront. This last ministry year has been challenging to say the least! But as I look back, I still have one word that comes to mind... thankful!

No, not because last year is over, but because our God is faithful and has led and protected us every step of the way! In spite of serious challenges, we have had a very fruitful year of kingdom ministry, and for that, we give thanks!

There are definitely things that didn't work out in the way that we had hoped. For example, we have had to put a pause on the Real Life Amphitheater operations due to a number of factors outside of our control. This put a serious dent in our financial outlook. Our school, River City Believers Academy, went through a very rough year and a difficult leadership transition. But even in this we have seen God do an amazing, transformative work, and our team is more excited and unified than ever before. We have seen **2 Corinthians 12:9-10** up close... *"But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me."*

Nobody likes to navigate difficult seasons, but it is in those times that we truly discover the faithfulness of our God!

This year:

- We saw hundreds of new believers profess their faith and enter the kingdom of God!
- We launched multiple new ministries and groups fully engaged in making disciples!
- Our San Marcos church plant, Landmark Church, has continued to grow to more than 100 in weekly attendance!
- Our City on a Hill campaign saw over \$12 million dollars pledged to advance the gospel through our campus and ministries!
- We began a new ministry called the Real Life Collective, focused on young adults between the ages of 18-35 with over 50 regular participants and 5 focused community groups!
- We added two gifted young pastors to our teaching team!
- Our local missions arm, Real Life Community Outreach, continues to grow significantly in our ministry to the under resourced in our community!

And these are just a few of the things our God has done! I am so grateful for our faithful elders, staff, and the countless volunteer ministers who serve through River City! I am thankful for the things we have learned this year that have positioned us for even greater impact in the future. And I am most thankful for the presence and power of our Heavenly Father among us. He is always faithful! His presence fills us with hope and vision for what lies ahead.

Gratefully,

Pastor Sean

Total Salvation Decisions:

220

Adults: 89 Español: 27 Next Gen: 104

Total Baptisms

106

Adults: 38 Español: 20 Next Gen: 48

Groups:

Total Community Groups

64

Adults in Community Groups

735

Re/Generation: A pilot group of 46 leaders engaged in a year-long training as we prepare to launch this powerful recovery ministry church-wide in 2025.

Next Gen:

In addition to our weekly Sunday services, our Children's Ministry team does significant ministry work through our AWANA program where we get to engage 100 kids and 101 adults, representing 54 families, in intentional discipleship weekly.

AWANA

Sophia, a 4-year-old, and her family were flying back from vacation in Mexico when the plane hit turbulence. Sophia noticed her mom was scared and immediately grabbed her hand and made her say a memory verse they had learned a few weeks prior in AWANA. They said the verse over and over until the turbulence was over. Her mom loved that Sophia automatically knew to lean on God.

RCY

21 students are actively and electively engaged in our Student Disciple Group; a group of student leaders who meet regularly, outside of weekly youth group, to further their knowledge and application of the Word and what it means to be passionate followers of Jesus. This group is an exciting reflection of a generation that is actively pursuing their call as Christ followers and leaders within His Church.

The launch of the Real Life Collective

What began as a small group of 18 – 35-year-olds playing pickleball, has rapidly developed into a thriving ministry engaging over 50 regular participants. With a passionate and dedicated volunteer leadership team and an age demographic hungry for connection, this groups-based ministry has incredible potential for growth and kingdom impact!

City On A Hill

Amount pledged: \$12.734M
Amount collected: \$1.209M
Projects completed: 2
Projects started: 10

Number of families who pledged:
340

Families who have donated
without a pledge: 130 -
\$151,159

Real Life Community Outreach

- Approximately 400 families fed weekly, representing over 20,000 family distributions annually
- 60-70 weekly volunteers serving over 3,000 annual shifts annually
- Food Distributed: \$2,671,073 worth of food given to those served

Where did we Invest?

