

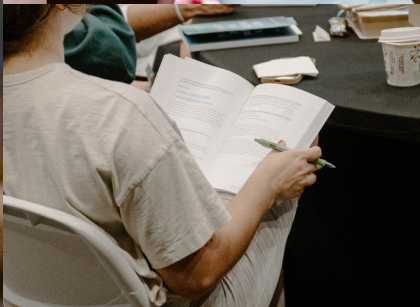
Y E A R

O F

2023 YEAR END REVIEW

A W E





Harris Creek Family,

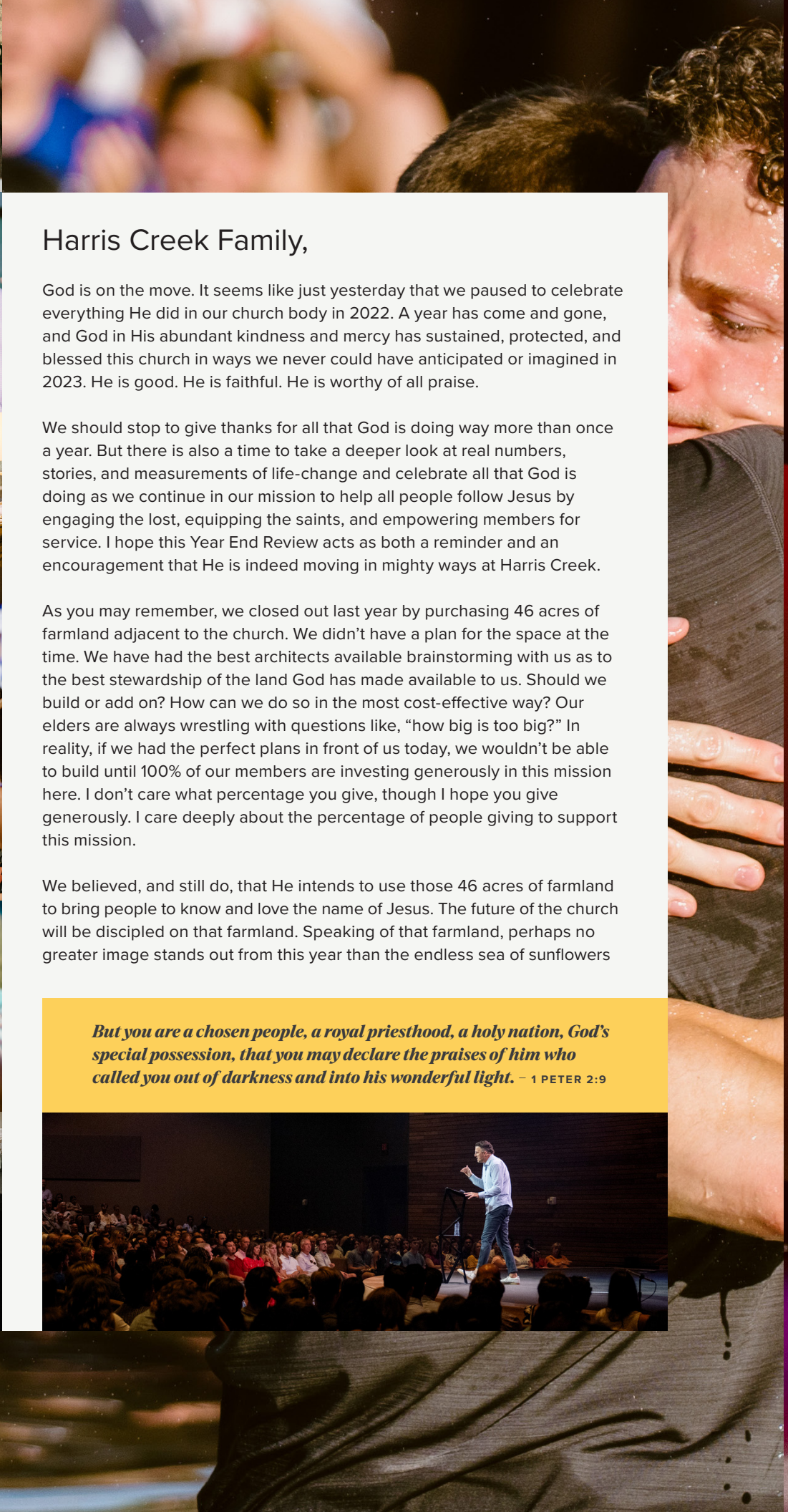
God is on the move. It seems like just yesterday that we paused to celebrate everything He did in our church body in 2022. A year has come and gone, and God in His abundant kindness and mercy has sustained, protected, and blessed this church in ways we never could have anticipated or imagined in 2023. He is good. He is faithful. He is worthy of all praise.

We should stop to give thanks for all that God is doing way more than once a year. But there is also a time to take a deeper look at real numbers, stories, and measurements of life-change and celebrate all that God is doing as we continue in our mission to help all people follow Jesus by engaging the lost, equipping the saints, and empowering members for service. I hope this Year End Review acts as both a reminder and an encouragement that He is indeed moving in mighty ways at Harris Creek.

As you may remember, we closed out last year by purchasing 46 acres of farmland adjacent to the church. We didn't have a plan for the space at the time. We have had the best architects available brainstorming with us as to the best stewardship of the land God has made available to us. Should we build or add on? How can we do so in the most cost-effective way? Our elders are always wrestling with questions like, "how big is too big?" In reality, if we had the perfect plans in front of us today, we wouldn't be able to build until 100% of our members are investing generously in this mission here. I don't care what percentage you give, though I hope you give generously. I care deeply about the percentage of people giving to support this mission.

We believed, and still do, that He intends to use those 46 acres of farmland to bring people to know and love the name of Jesus. The future of the church will be discipled on that farmland. Speaking of that farmland, perhaps no greater image stands out from this year than the endless sea of sunflowers

But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness and into his wonderful light. – 1 PETER 2:9





that popped up throughout May and June. You probably remember. I'll never forget. I love that while we were strategizing on what to do, God made something beautiful out of land that belongs to Him. He filled it with His creation keeping their face turned toward the sun. I can't wait to see what He does next.

While we still don't have the full picture of what He plans to do over there, we do know what He has been doing right here at 401 Stageline Drive. Across the board, our ministries are actively looking to seek and save the lost. That's thanks to you, the body of Harris Creek. We get to stand side by side with you and lock arms as we push back darkness here in the Waco area and around the world. What a gift. What an honor. If I attempted to break down all the wins of each ministry, I'd certainly fall short. Kids, Life Groups, Bible Reading Plan, Re:generation, Podcasts, Frontlines, Sisterhood, Worship. And I haven't scratched the surface. I want to remind you that these and all the other incredible HC ministries don't belong to the staff. They belong to you, the church. There is no JV and Varsity. We are one body, seeking to serve one God. As the family of God, a win for one ministry is a win for all of us.

We are entering our 145th year as a church. That's incredible. Harris Creek has been a local expression of the body of Christ since before the invention of the light bulb, the telephone, the zipper, the cardboard box, or the ballpoint pen. Harris Creek was a church when the USA had 38 states. That length of time is hard to fathom. And while the church is always going to be imperfect because it is made up of imperfect people (like me and you), we are honored to carry forward a tradition that began so long ago. The world needed Jesus then, and it needs Him now. I fully believe there is no hope, no answer, no purpose outside of Him. People are desperately seeking truth that can only be found in His life, death, and resurrection.

Our mission is clear. We want to share the Gospel with every single person who walks through our doors or encounters us online. In the pages and graphics below, we've gathered some highlights of how





we've done that in 2023. We have some truly amazing ministries, led by faithful staff and volunteers. No matter what stage of life you're in or where you are in your walk with the Lord, we have a place for you to be discipled and developed. My hope for you—the members of Harris Creek—is that you would go all in this year. Serve. Be discipled. Disciple someone else. Grow in your faith. Invest your time, talents, and treasure in the mission and vision of this church.

As a former businessman, it is easy for me to get caught up in the numbers. We're punching way above our weight. The data shows that your investment in this mission is earning a Kingdom return of changed lives, reaching millions, and advancing the Kingdom right here in Waco. The numbers are incredibly encouraging and a way for us to reflect on what's working, what isn't, and where we should excel still more. But I'm always brought back to the truth that these numbers represent individual people, made in the image of God, loved by God. These numbers represent families, marriages, relationships. They represent people who are overcoming addiction, people who are walking into a church for the first time, people who are embattled and looking for hope, people who have come to Waco for a season and are looking for a home. They represent kids who have big questions about God and teenagers who are navigating a million voices about identity. Ministry is work. I don't only mean that for me or our staff. I mean that for each and every covenant member of Harris Creek. This is work, and we are at war. But it's also a gift I wouldn't trade for anything in the world. And I'm grateful to do this work alongside you. Let's finish the year strong. The Kingdom of God is upon us, right here, right now.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Jonathan Pokluda
Lead Pastor



NEW AT HARRIS CREEK IN 2023

***The 4P! // College Student Leadership Team // More than Roommates Podcast
The NET // Marriage Conference // International Mission Trips to India,
Thailand, & Dominican Republic // Courageous Hope - Sexual Abuse Ministry***





Harris Creek Financials From 2023

WHAT IS HARRIS CREEK'S OPERATING BUDGET?

\$5 million (for the fiscal year ending 6/30/24). Every dollar you invest goes toward advancing the gospel of Jesus Christ, both locally and around the world. Because of the generosity of our members, we are able to reach millions of people with the gospel every year, and we have seen our local church body here grow to our current facility's capacity and beyond. We believe Harris Creek is one of the best Kingdom investments you can make.

DOES HARRIS CREEK HAVE ANY DEBT?

No. Because of the generosity of our church body giving faithfully towards our mission, we were able to become debt free in December of 2021. In December of 2022, we paid cash for 46 acres across the street to give us options for our future. We continue to pray and seek wisdom from the Lord regarding how to best steward His resources toward our mission of engaging the lost, equipping the saints, and empowering members for service, acknowledging we don't have much space to care for "the lost" we engage. Please join us in praying for wisdom.

DO WE HAVE A FUTURE GROWTH STRATEGY?

Yes. Our strategy is two fold. First we are focused on church revitalization. We have become a place where pastors come to be trained. Either on our staff to be sent to other locations for ministry or through our residency program. We also bring pastors in annually from around the country to be invested in here, with a specific focus on preaching. Secondly, we are aggressively saving for facility expansion to further our disciple making efforts locally. Since becoming debt free in 2021, we have saved \$4.2M toward this effort.

WHAT IS OUR BUDGET ALLOCATION?

73% goes toward all midweek and weekend ministries, our ministry partners, and our staff. 27% goes toward operations (facilities, IT, production, and administration).

DID HARRIS CREEK GIVE TO ANY MINISTRY PARTNERS IN 2023?

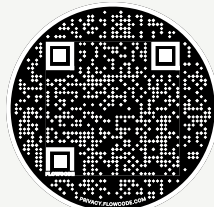
Yes! As the Lord continues to provide for our needs, we were also able to provide for others this year. We gave \$100k to Mission of Hope in the Dominican Republic. We took one trip there in 2023, and we already have three trips planned for 2024. We gave \$30k to Together for Good as we continue to invest in foster care in McLennan County. We also gave \$20k to Mission Waco as they care for the under privileged in Waco, \$15k to Convoy of Hope as they provide disaster relief, \$10k to Care Net as they provide care to moms and fight for the gift and miracle of life, and \$10k to Texas Baptists (the Baptist convention Harris Creek is affiliated with).

2023 FINANCIAL SUMMARY:

In 2023, we have had 437 new people invest in the mission of Harris Creek. As the Lord adds to our number both in person and online, we are humbled and grateful to see giving up 10% compared to 2022. Historically, roughly 20% of our annual giving comes in the month of December. We believe our best days are ahead as we come up to the starting line of a new season.

HOW CAN I GIVE TOWARD THIS MISSION?

To learn more about our financial processes or invest in God's work here, visit harriscreek.org/give.



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401 STAGELINE DR., MCGREGOR, TEXAS 76657
HELLO@HARRISCREEK.ORG



261
PARTICIPATED
IN SISTERHOOD
SPRING STUDY



25
HIGH SCHOOL
STUDENTS WENT
THROUGH
RE:GENERATION
FOR STUDENTS

254
VOLUNTEERS
AT KIDS MINISTRY
FALL KICKOFF

1 NEW MINISTRY HELPING
WOMEN RECOVERING FROM
SEXUAL ABUSE

800
AT LIFE GROUP
EQUIPPING NIGHT

97
BAPTIZED
IN 2023



1 NEW MARRIAGE PODCAST
"MORE THAN ROOMMATES"
RELEASED 54 EPISODES



8
JOINED OUR
RESIDENCY
PROGRAM TO
BE EQUIPPED
IN MINISTRY.

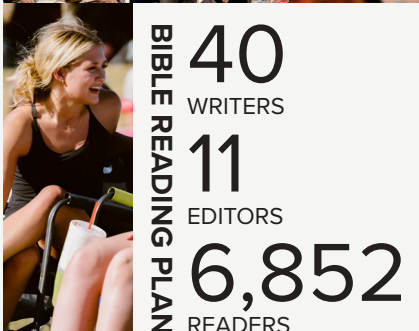
58
MEN LED AT FALL
MEN'S STUDY

256
COUPLES
PARTICIPATED
IN MARRIAGE
CONFERENCE

8,500
WEEKLY LISTENERS
ON MORE THAN
ROOMMATES PODCAST



382
SERVING IN
FRONTLINES



40 WRITERS
11 EDITORS
6,852 READERS
BIBLE READING PLAN



400
PARTICIPATED
IN RE:GEN FOR
THE FIRST TIME



50
SENT ON
INTERNATIONAL
MISSION TRIPS

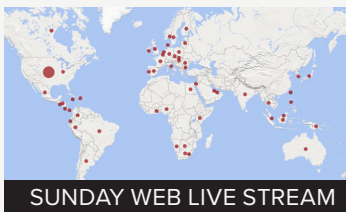
500+
KIDS HEARD THE GOSPEL
EVERY SUNDAY IN
KIDS MINISTRY



1,283,929 x
SERMON STREAMS ACROSS MAJOR PLATFORMS

"ANGEL ARMIES" REEL PLAYED
2,020,118x
ON SOCIAL MEDIA IN 2023

2.1m NON-FOLLOWERS
REACHED
IN PAST 90 DAYS



SUNDAY WEB LIVE STREAM

55,720 HAVE DOWNLOADED
THE HARRIS CREEK
MOBILE APP

HC POSTS SHARED / SAVED
396,428x
ON INSTAGRAM



"WHAT DOES
IT MEAN TO
FEAR GOD?"
FROM THE
AWE OF
GOD
SERIES

TOP COUNTRIES
REACHED ON INSTAGRAM
UNITED STATES /// SOUTH AFRICA
NIGERIA /// CANADA /// INDIA

35,569 NEW FOLLOWERS
ADDED TO HC INSTA
SINCE MARCH 2023

5,255,321
BESO EPISODE STREAMS IN 2023

4.2m ACCOUNTS
REACHED
ON BECOMING
SOMETHING
INSTAGRAM IN
PAST 90 DAYS



119 COUNTRIES
LISTENING
TO BECOMING
SOMETHING
PODCAST

**MOST VIEWED
BESO REEL**
"IS CONFLICT
HEALTHY?"



IN YOUR WORDS

“My wife and I have been blessed to be table leaders at HC marriage class. It has been a true joy. It has made a big church become smaller. Our age group (50+ something) has one of the highest trending divorce rates as they enter the empty nest years. The More Than Roommates podcast hits that issue straight on by preparing couples to do just that, be more than roommates. So, when they get to their empty nest years, they are ready to flourish. What a blessing!!!”

– John W.

“The HC residency has been an incredible learning opportunity! I have also been equipped to help care for and love people right where they are as Jesus would.” – Nathan M.

“Serving as a creative volunteer has impacted me because it pushes me to dig deeper into my faith by thinking of how to share the Gospel in unique ways.”

– Ellie W.

“Moving here from across the country was scary, and God used the young adult ministry at Harris Creek to put community in my life when I needed it most.”

– Morgan D.

“My 2023 life group journey has impacted me by allowing myself to embrace and understand what it truly means to be authentic and transparent.”

– Elizabeth L.

“The Becoming Something podcast has taught me so much about how to live a godly life.” – Addison B.

“This summer’s mission trip to India profoundly transformed my perspective. The experience exposed me to the spiritual world, revealing instances of spiritual warfare, profound suffering, and the true nature of Jesus. Witnessing stories of individuals liberated from addiction, sickness, possession, and anguish through the power of Jesus left an indelible mark on me.” – Clay J.

“God helped me become a Christian and get baptized this year. He has helped me do hard things and pray for other people.” – Judah D., age 8

“Getting to serve this semester as an intern has shown me so much about how each member of the body plays a crucial role in the church.” – Olivia B.

“Our life group has helped us immensely as we have navigated having two children within 15 months of each other. Meals, check-ins, encouragement, and more have marked our group. They are truly our co-laborers through every season of life.” – Jonah E.

“The Net has given me the opportunity to not only grow my community but also be a better man, build my relationship with the Lord, and create a new foundation for the next phases of my life.” – Shane T.

“This year through the college ministry, I have learned how to speak the truth in love to people in my life.” – Jack D.

“Before I started Regen, I was afraid to be honest. I was afraid I would be rejected. Because of that fear, I constantly tried to manage how people perceived me. It really came down to just me not trusting God with my life. I can’t tell you how grateful I am through what I’ve learned this year. I now have a deeper security in knowing who I am in Jesus. I’m free.” – Andrew O.

“My love for God has deepened, and the bonds formed within this extraordinary group have ignited growth in my own spiritual journey. God’s Word is being rapidly spread across Baylor’s campus.” – Kendall P.

“The Lord has sanctified my understanding of serving the Church: from obligation to joyful obedience! My soul has been filled & encouraged through the work of Re:Gen Mentoring and creating with the Art Install Team!!” – Lizzie A.

“The Bible Reading Plan has challenged me to dive daily into scripture to inform, shape, and direct my mind and heart so that I reflect Christ.” – Ella S.

“The Lord has used HC to show me that my life is not my own—and that is good and freeing news.” – Emmy B.

“Sisterhood and Nest provided me with prayer warriors and sweet friendships that I’ve needed in this season of my life.” – Sam L.

“Being involved in Harris Creek Youth has been a great experience for me this year. I love helping set up. It’s helped me take ownership of my faith.” – Caleb O.



3 SNAPSHOTS THAT LEAVE US IN AWE OF GOD IN 2023

1 //
ONE OF OUR FIRST GRADERS IS UNDERGOING TREATMENT FOR LEUKEMIA. THE FIRST-GRADE TEAM HAD THE IDEA TO SEND HER A CARE PACKAGE EVERY MONTH WITH CARDS, COLORING PAGES, AND MEMORY VERSE PRIZES. HER MOM SAID THIS MADE HER WHOLE DAY!

2 //
A MARRIAGE THAT WAS HANGING ON BY A THREAD DUE TO INFIDELITY AND DISHONESTY TOOK THE COURAGEOUS STEP TO GET PLUGGED IN AND WENT THROUGH RE:GENERATION. GOD HAS RESTORED THEIR MARRIAGE AND ENABLED THEM TO INVEST IN OTHERS TODAY.

3 //
A COLLEGE STUDENT RAISED IN A MUSLIM HOUSEHOLD WAS INVITED TO HARRIS CREEK AND HEARD ABOUT JESUS AND THE POWER OF THE GOSPEL. SHE CONTINUED READING THE BIBLE, FELL IN LOVE WITH GOD, AND GAVE HER LIFE TO JESUS. SHE NOW SHARES WITH EVERYONE ABOUT HIM.



HELPING EVERYONE FOLLOW JESUS BY ENGAGING THE LOST, EQUIPPING THE SAINTS AND EMPOWERING MEMBERS FOR SERVICE