

VICTORY FAMILY CHURCH



KINGDOM
BUILDERS

2025



Introduction

WHAT IS KINGDOM BUILDERS?

Kingdom Builders is a generosity initiative that helps accelerate the Kingdom of God by investing in local church expansion, global missions, and future Christian leaders. It's a way for Victory Family Church to give above and beyond our tithe to reach those who don't know Jesus worldwide. Through our giving, we have seen thousands of people come to know the unconditional love of God.



When you give to Kingdom Builders, your giving changes lives across the globe. Missionaries are equipped to reach people who have never heard the name of Jesus, children are saved from a life of being trafficked, and thousands experience miraculous healing. But it doesn't stop there. Your giving goes to local ministries across the country and right in our backyard. We're watching as churches across the United States are thriving because of the impact that Kingdom Builders has, all while we watch ministries in Western Pennsylvania grow, disciple, and meet the needs of those in our communities. As a Kingdom Builder, you are telling the whole world about Jesus.

Through God's supply and the intentional stewardship of our church family, we give away millions of dollars each year. When we give this way, we personify God's love. Please join us as we continue to make an impact worldwide through Kingdom Builders.



AREAS OF IMPACT

LOCAL: From our own backyards to the other side of the country, people are in desperate need of the unconditional love of God. When we support local ministries, we meet the needs of the surrounding communities and share the love of Jesus with our neighbors.

GLOBAL: In Mark 16:15, Jesus told us to “go into all the world and preach the gospel to everyone.” Through Kingdom Builders, people from every tribe and every nation are being told about Jesus for the very first time. We are rescuing children from a life of trafficking, building homes for those in need, and serving pastors from across the globe.

FUTURE CHRISTIAN LEADERS: The generation that is rising is not the generation of tomorrow; they are the generation of today. Through your generosity, we are sending young men and women of God on mission trips, building them up through Bible school, and preparing them for a life of ministry through internships and residency.



WHEN YOU GIVE TO KINGDOM BUILDERS, YOU MAKE AN IMPACT NOT ONLY ALL OVER THE WORLD BUT FOR GENERATIONS TO COME.

*Honor the Lord with
your wealth and
with the first fruits
of all your produce;
then your barns will
be filled with plenty,
and your vats will
be bursting with
wine.*

PROVERBS 3:9-10

×





SIX-YEAR IMPACT

SALVATIONS:

558,022,399

CHURCHES PLANTED:

8,212

FUTURE CHRISTIAN LEADERS GRADUATED:

3,896



SIX-YEAR IMPACT

Six-Year

SIX-YEAR IMPACT



RESOURCES TRANSLATED:

187,648

PEOPLE RESCUED FROM TRAFFICKING:

1,260

TOTAL KINGDOM BUILDERS GIVING:

\$12,340,821*

**As of 12/18/2024*

Impact

Global Missions

PROJECT LIST

CHINA MISSIONS- \$30,000

Funds will be used in 2025 to purchase and renovate a permanent church home in Hong Kong which will allow China Missions to have a greater impact in Hong Kong and mainland China.

COMPASSION INTERNATIONAL

Sponsoring children across the globe to receive medical care, food, education, and an opportunity to hear the gospel.

CONVOY OF HOPE

Humanitarian, faith-based organization on a mission to feed the hungry and bring help and hope to communities in times of disaster.

DYNAMIS WORLD MINISTRIES

Spreading the gospel in Africa and Asia through crusades. Several Schools of Ministry will be held for pastors and evangelists in conjunction with these gospel crusades.

EVERY HOME FOR CHRIST

Serving the Church by equipping and mobilizing believers to participate in sharing the truth and love of Jesus with every person and home on earth. This ministry operates in 152 countries, and we support them in several locations.

FIRM (FELLOWSHIP OF ISRAEL RELATED MINISTRIES)

Serving a network of almost 70 ministries and organizations that serve the people of Israel while teaching them about Christ.

FOUNDATION FOR THE REALIZATION OF ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

Creating income-generating opportunities for women in Zambia by developing a range of copper jewelry made by young women in Ng'ombe Compound, a peri-urban Lusaka community.

GLOBAL VENTURES

Bringing teams into the regions of the world where most unreached people groups live and ministering the gospel in parks, neighborhoods, and school assemblies.

GOSPEL TRAINING INTERNATIONAL

Equipping leaders in Zambia, Thailand, India, Nagpur/Mumbai/Coimbatore, Botswana, and Egypt by training them in gospel truths with practical ministry experience.

HANDS OF HOPE / JOYCE MEYER MINISTRIES PROJECT GRL - \$25,000

Rescuing young girls from trafficking while providing a safe environment and access to education to help girls realize their value and the amazing love of Christ.



HEART4MEXICO

Getting children off the streets and into school is the goal. Heart4Mexico is a home for many wounded children. We are giving toward developing the Boys' Home, which will have a complete kitchen, dining room, laundry, and storage areas. We are also funding their church planting efforts in Mexico.

HEARTS IN ACTION

Helping the next generation to know and love God through evangelism, construction, medical outreaches, and more in Lima, Peru.

HOPE FOR HISPANIOLA

Helping to strengthen local churches through evangelism, discipleship, and service within the community. We are helping them to build Phase 1 of the Santana Campus in the Dominican Republic, which includes a worship center, dining hall, medical clinic, apartments, and dorms for future missionaries.

HOUSE OF PALMS

Providing ongoing care for the girls rescued from the sex trade and resources to rescue more. These girls are part of an undisclosed community, considered one

of the lowest "castes" in a traditional class system. They are deprived of fundamental human rights and are forced into sex trafficking. This girls' home ensures they are cared for in a safe environment away from the negative influences in their community. Most importantly, they learn about God's love.

INSPIRE INTERNATIONAL, INC.

By evangelizing the lost and equipping leaders through the building of children's homes, water wells, gift distribution, women's conferences, evangelistic outreaches, and leadership training sessions, Inspire is helping to reach the world with the gospel of Jesus. Funds in 2025 will be used for a number of these outreaches in Asia.

L3 INTERNATIONAL WORLD OUTREACH

In Zambia, L3 is deeply committed to impactful prison outreach, operating in over 40 facilities in every province of the country and empowering inmates through our "Impact Schools of Ministry." This funding will launch new schools in 2025, just as we did in 2024.

LIVING WATER MINISTRIES

Funds will be used for a number of ministry programs such as their Leadership Academy where future Christian leaders are trained, a retreat for college students, ministry reaching local school children, and a gathering of young Christian leaders from the business world.

LIVING WORD MISSIONS

Helping the unreached people in the Goz Beïda Region of Chad/Sudan in Africa learn about Jesus through Bible classes. Most don't have a Bible, don't know any Christians, and didn't have a missions group helping them until now.

M4 EUROPE CHURCH PLANTING

Funding to plant life-giving churches across Europe.

MERCY GIFT - \$25,000

Preaches the gospel, plants churches, trains and sends missionaries, and helps churches design robust mission platforms.

MESSENGER INTERNATIONAL

Translating materials and training local pastors worldwide so they will be uncompromising followers of Christ. All resources and tools that are provided to pastors/leaders come at no cost to them.

MIKE CAMPBELL MINISTRIES

Funding the training of pastors through their School of Ministry for Pastoral Training in numerous countries in Africa.

MIRACLE LIFE CHURCH & RHEMA ZAMBIA

Funding the expansion of the Bible school, Rhema Zambia, to train more leaders for the church in Africa. Rhema Zambia has trained over 80,000 leaders, serving in over 50 countries.

MISSION ESPERANZA - \$30,000

Providing books and training material to pastors across Cuba, along with food and other resources, to aid pastors in their daily lives.

MUTUAL FAITH MINISTRIES

Sustaining the Mutual Faith Philippines campus that equips pastors and leaders in sharing the Father's love, training kids and leaders, as well as meeting the physical needs of many at the Life Center in Beirut, Lebanon, teaching the gospel to the youth in Nigeria, and hosting retreats for pastors and leaders.

NETWORK OF RELATED PASTORS

Planting and supporting churches in Ukraine.

NEW VINES INTERNATIONAL

Funding a Director of Training to expand the training and equipping of leaders for the program in the Ivory Coast (West Africa).

ONEHOPE - \$100,000

Creating innovative scripture engagement programs for the next generation. Using research, each program is contextualized to reach children with the Word of God. The Bible app for kids (available inside the YouVersion Bible app) provides insight into how children can apply God's Word.

REACH MINISTRIES

Operating an 18-month church planting program in Cambodia for national church planters. This will also allow an 18-month Kids of Destiny program in Cambodia for national children's ministry leaders who will reach un-evangelized children with no gospel witness of Christ.

RINO FOUNDATION

Building homes in a new community in Jinotega, Nicaragua. This community will consist of a medical clinic, church, clean water, bathrooms, and a place to call home.

RUN MINISTRIES

Rescuing children from Africa and the Middle East who have been victims of human trafficking, exploitation, torture, and conscription into warfare, including suicide missions.

SAMARITAN'S PURSE - \$50,000

Helps meet the needs of people who are victims of war, poverty, natural disasters, disease, and famine with the purpose of sharing God's love through His Son, Jesus Christ.

SEAPC (SOUTHEAST ASIA PRAYER CENTER)

Building on our partnership from previous years in the Bantay Meanchy province in Cambodia, we will introduce the gospel, prayer, and the Word of God into public schools. This would help to multiply the program through training and staffing teachers and equipping students with Christ-based written and online materials.

STRATEGIC PARTNERS FUND

Funds to respond to crises locally and globally.

SURGE

Planting churches that start Christian communities and train disciples across the world. They tackle issues like orphan care, medical aid, and water wells.

THINK MISSIONS

Sponsoring church planters in Cuba while also providing food, fuel, and medication to those in need.

THE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF MINISTRY

Funding will launch new Bible schools in Hungary, Argentina, Zambia, and Holland. We will also fund curriculum translation into Farsi (reaching Iran), Greek, and Hungarian.

THE TIMOTHY INITIATIVE CHURCH PLANTING

TTI has planted more than 193,000 churches with 1540 unreached people groups impacted worldwide, and these funds will plant more than 100 new churches in multiple countries.

TONY COOKE MINISTRIES

Funding for ministry that strengthens churches and leaders in Zambia and Angola.

TRIUMPHANT MINISTRIES

Funding outreaches amid the military conflict in Myanmar. Funds will also be used to expand the ministry base of operations to train and equip more national leaders.

WORLD VISION - \$75,000

Partnering together to ensure clean water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) for every person in every community, including the most vulnerable populations in the hardest-to-reach places.

**We reserve funds for urgent requests from Kingdom Builders partners throughout the year.*

Local Church Expansion



PROJECT LIST

4:12 SPORTS - SUMMER BASEBALL ACADEMY

Funding for a five-week baseball academy that provides high-end training and mentorship to grow with Jesus.

AMEN TO ACTION - \$85,000

Provides over 1 million meals to Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Banks each year to distribute to the community in Jesus' name.

DAYTON DREAM CENTER

Connecting the people of Dayton, Ohio, to a community of support by addressing immediate and long-term needs in the areas of poverty, addiction, education, abuse, and joblessness as well as community re-entry.

EXTRAVAGANT LOVE PROJECT - \$15,000

Empowering women from every socio-economic background with tools to unlock their God-given potential through understanding God's unconditional and extravagant love. Once a year, women who are homeless or low-income receive makeovers and are given the opportunity to attend a banquet. They also get to hear about the love of God.

HELP YOUR NEIGHBOR OUTREACH

Funding for warehouse space so Help Your Neighbor can further impact the region.

JONI AND FRIENDS

Provides people who have disabilities and their families with resources through their retreat center. Retreats include small group time, activities, sports, and fellowship. Every Christ-centered retreat provides everyone with dignity and respect, treating them like the image-bearers of God that they are.

LIGHT OF LIFE

Providing funds to help renovate the Ridge Place building that will help those who need long-term care. It'll include the expansion and development of their new facilities.

LIVE ACTION - \$25,000

Provides compelling educational media, human interest storytelling, and investigative reporting to reveal the humanity of the pre-born and exposes the abortion industry's exploitation of women and families for profit. With a digital reach of over 75 million people per month, 43% of surveyed followers say Live Action's content has changed their position on abortion.

**We reserve funds for urgent requests from Kingdom Builders partners throughout the year.*

PINE VALLEY CAMP

Provides opportunities for all kids, regardless of financial situation, to experience a family-centered camp experience in Ellwood City, PA, where they learn how to use their gifts, talents, and abilities to serve God.

REFUGE FOR WOMEN

Providing a safe place for women who have escaped from human trafficking and exploitation. While at Refuge for Women, these ladies will have access to around-the-clock care, clinical mental health treatment, and opportunities to experience the unconditional love of God.

THE RETREAT AT CHURCH CREEK

The Retreat at Church Creek provides a place for pastors who feel alone, burned out, and need support. They will experience encouragement, resources, and rest to live out God's call on their lives.

SERVOLUTION - \$15,000

Helping the body of Christ to serve, share God's love, and change lives through simple acts of kindness. Servolution hosts the national "Serve Day" where thousands of churches and individuals participate from all around the world.



LOCAL

CHURCH EXPANSION

URBAN IMPACT

Funding the continual growth of at-risk children, youth, and their families into responsible followers of Christ on the North Side of Pittsburgh.

URBAN IMPACT FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

Includes training and equipping people for a year-long apprenticeship. They develop ministry and cross-cultural skills from those experienced in ministry at Urban Impact, provide a better understanding of theology and apologetics, and discern whether there is a call to God's ministry or not.

VICTORY CAMPUS DEVELOPMENT

Supporting our current and future campuses in any development needs they may have.

VICTORY CHURCH NETWORK: 1,000 CHURCH INITIATIVE

Funding for church planters in the Northeast. This also includes expanding our network of churches and increasing mentor relationships.

VICTORY KIDS CAMP

Providing a three-day, all-inclusive experience for kids from Kindergarten to 4th grade to experience the unconditional love of God.

XO BUILDING (MARRIAGE TODAY)

Funding toward the completion of a new XO Marriage Ministries headquarters. This will allow for a permanent home for XO Marriage, create a global hub for marriage advocates, provide a place of hope and healing, and more!



Future Christian Leaders

PROJECT LIST

ENCOUNTER CONFERENCE 2025

Providing a three-day, all-inclusive experience for students throughout the Northeast to experience the unconditional love of God.

FAITH BIBLE COLLEGE INTERNATIONAL - \$50,000

Funding improvements to the campus to further the mission of training leaders for the body of Christ.

HIGHLANDS COLLEGE

Educating, equipping, and empowering leaders in a ministry academy model, applying leading-edge methods in world-class facilities where students launch into their calling to expand the Kingdom of God.

Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the Word of God. Consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith.

HEBREWS 13:7

**JOHN MAXWELL EQUIP
LEGACY PARTNERSHIP -
\$100,000**

Empowering Christians to share their faith within circles of influence. This includes supporting the translation of the iLead curriculum for different countries that will help the next generation develop and practice essential values and leadership skills.

LEAD THE GENERATION

Funding mentorship of kids' ministry and youth leaders through year-long coaching groups.

**PITTSBURGH LEADERSHIP
FOUNDATION - \$52,500**

Equips, connects, and mobilizes leaders throughout the Pittsburgh area to reach those who are lost with the love of Jesus.

SOZO'S MISSION TRIP FUND

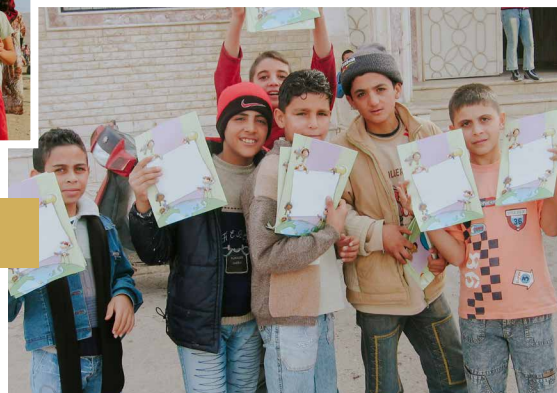
Funding for our SOZO juniors and seniors in high school to experience a mission trip.

**VICTORY INTERNSHIP
PROGRAM**

Continuing to provide in-depth, hands-on ministry experience to those who feel called to full-time ministry by adding resource materials and other miscellaneous needs within the program.

**VICTORY RESIDENCY
PROGRAM**

Growing our residency program as we seek to equip and train future leaders while providing a temporary, full-time, paid position at Victory Family Church.



GLOBAL MISSIONS ARTICLE

ONEHOPE

OneHope's outreach to the next generation has already delivered the life-transforming power of God's Word to more than two billion young people worldwide through programs available in 148 languages.

With a mission focused on getting God's Word to every child since 1987, OneHope believes that the life-changing narrative of the Good News brings hope and has the power to affect destinies. While many organizations strive to provide children around the world with much-needed tangible resources such as food, water, and clothing, we are called to provide the spiritual resources children and youth need for eternity.

OneHope's various programs are generally presented and distributed by local churches that can disciple young people whom they welcome. Scripture-engagement programs include:

- Print programs such as the Book of Hope, which shares the life story of Jesus
- Film programs such as The GodMan film, available in several language dubs and tailored for different cultures
- Storytelling programs, such as God's Big Story, a series of illustrated cards and Bible stories
- Digital programs such as the Bible App for Kids and the Kids Bible Experience were created in partnership with YouVersion.

This kind of outreach is perfect for the Middle East, where Islam is often the dominant religion, yet Christians are committed to reaching the next generation with the Good News. For instance, OneHope's "What If It's True?" web-based program reached Ahmet and Ahmed, two young men in the Middle East.

“We are called to provide the spiritual resources children and youth need for eternity.”

GLOBAL MISSIONS

Ahmet's father was the imam, the Muslim holy man in the community. Ahmet grew up studying Islam's holy book, but searching for answers online, he found "What If It's True?" He corresponded via email with other believers in his region. Today, he says, "I realized God alone could move me from darkness into light!"

Another young man, Ahmed, was appalled by the violence in his nation, some promulgated by religious extremists. He was looking for peace when he found the "What If It's True?" website and began reading the Bible. He was happy to connect with an online missionary, and today, he is following Jesus!

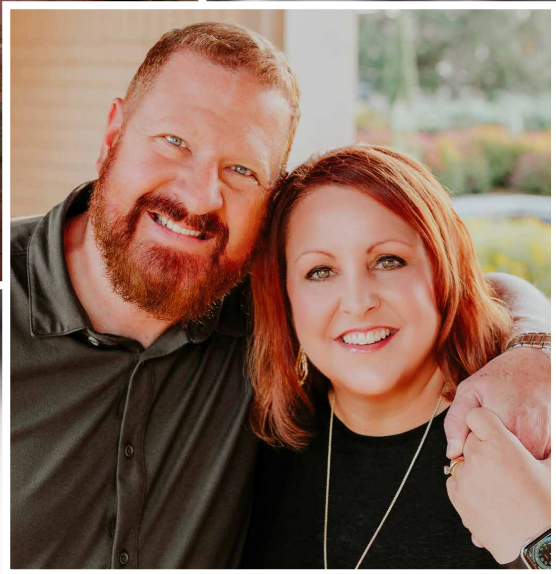
A young woman in a majority-Muslim country, Lamia, had a similar experience. Scrolling online, her attention was caught by a digital ad that said: "Light could be a step away. Experience it now." It came from OneHope's digital evangelistic program

called "Unfinished Story," which shares the gospel and connects seekers to online missionaries where they can chat in real-time.

Lamia responded, and an online missionary contacted her. She accepted the message of the gospel, confessed her sins, and gave her life to Christ. Today, she expresses her desire to experience God and is overwhelmed by the greatness of His love.

Although we must change names and can't publish details for security reasons, we can tell you: through OneHope, we're equipping the Church in the Middle East to reach out to the next generation with the life-changing Word of God!





GLOBAL MISSIONS ARTICLE

GLOBAL VENTURES

The staggering reality is that more than four billion people have never heard the gospel.

Most of them live in the 10/40 Window, a region that stretches from northern Africa through the Middle East and into southern Asia. This area is predominantly home to Muslims, Hindus, and Buddhists, who often have little to no access to the gospel, churches, or even Bibles. Global Ventures is dedicated to changing that.

Founded in 1998 by John and Martine Smithwick with the vision of training and equipping the church to go to the harvest fields, Global Ventures' mission is to facilitate a Global Evangelism movement by raising up an army of front-line Harvesters. Through their combined efforts, Global Ventures aims to see hundreds of millions of souls saved in their lifetime.

Over the past four years, Kingdom Builders has partnered with Global Ventures and helped support mass evangelism projects in Ecuador, Zambia, Brazil, Peru, Thailand, and most recently, Indonesia. It has truly been a groundbreaking year, and YOU have played a huge part in it all! In Thailand, we were joined by several incredible teams from Victory Family Church, where, for the first time in GV's recorded history, a former staunch Buddhist monk

and a practicing Buddhist monk received Jesus during our ministry! In addition to that, one of our long-awaited mass evangelism projects in the 10/40 Window finally came to fruition in Indonesia. Despite the anti-conversion laws in place, restricting how we share and in what settings, we adapted with innovative approaches to share the gospel and saw many people openly pray to receive Jesus as Lord! We believe this is just the first of many evangelism projects in this nation!

As a result of the faithful partnership from Kingdom Builders over the past four years, YOU had a part in getting the gospel to over 180,000 people. Of those who heard the gospel, 138,139 made the decision to give their lives to Jesus, and 2,136 people received miraculous healings! Many precious lives will never be the same!

Thank you, Kingdom Builders, for partnering with us in the most vital mission: bringing the gospel to those who have never truly experienced the love of Jesus Christ! In the coming year, we will continue pressing forward, taking teams into Thailand, Peru, the Philippines, and— for the first time ever—Chile! It's because of you and your unwavering generosity that thousands of lives have been transformed by the power of Jesus, with countless more still to come. Together, we will reach those who need it most and change lives for eternity!

LOCAL CHURCH EXPANSION ARTICLE

FRED AND PAM MARTSOLF

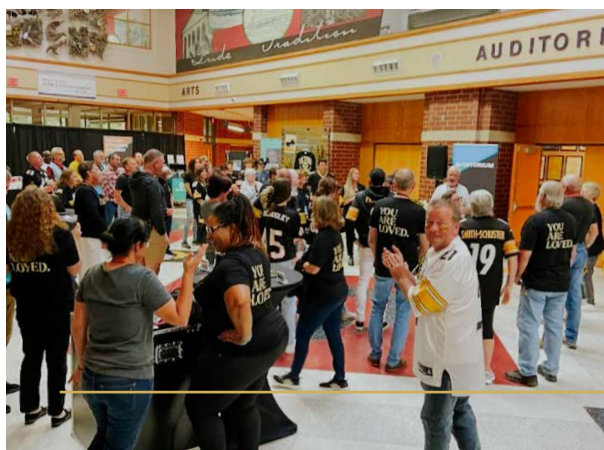
NEW CASTLE CAMPUS

One of the things that you must agree on when you get married is how you spend your money. When we got married, we were in complete agreement that we would follow God's Word through tithing and offerings. Scripture is specific about this principle and how God blesses people who live this way. God showed us that His Word in Malachi 4:10 is true. There were many times that it would have been easy to pay an unexpected bill instead of bringing our tithe and offerings to God. God was faithful to His Word, and it seemed that His storehouse was always capable of getting us through a month.

There were times in our married life when we had the opportunity to bless different missions and

projects with an offering but often wished that our scope was broader than our knowledge. Then, we listened to Pastor John talk about Kingdom Builders, and we realized that God wanted us to be obedient in a new way—one that provided a much larger impact in many different opportunities. Kingdom Builders allowed us a larger scope. How would we have known about opportunities like House of Palms, new church plantings in the Northeast, or the many projects listed in the Kingdom Builders booklet/website?

Soon after Kingdom Builders was introduced to Victory Family Church, conversations started to develop about a new campus. The new campus wasn't listed as a Kingdom Builders project, but there were many similarities between Kingdom Builders and a new campus. New Castle was going to be the new home for the first campus. The new campus was started with a heart for serving the community. Our campus did many community-focused service projects, from helping to beautify the town square to cleaning up streets to joining in with other churches and groups to clean up whole blocks of neglect. Our campus grew, and we saw places where we





could bless people through home improvements or by contributing to a community garden. We even built a unique relationship with the school that we rented for our church services when the pandemic shut down the school system. The families that relied on the school to provide free breakfasts and lunches for their students needed a source of food for their families. Our new campus served alongside the cafeteria staff to prepare meals to be distributed to hurting families during this crisis. We provided as many as 500 hot meals per day in a drive-through service at the school three days per week during the pandemic shutdown. God opened doors that may have taken years to develop. Now, Kingdom Builders enables our campus to provide funding for the church's outreach through Help Your Neighbor. We have been able to provide basic needs to families that are in crisis, from groceries to clothes to furniture. We are blessed to serve our local community.

This year, an announcement was made that we had purchased a building for our church in the New Castle

area. Kingdom Builders will be providing the funds to update the building plus add a large addition to focus on the next generation. Investment into the next generation will lead to future Kingdom Builders in the truest sense.

Kingdom Builders has allowed us to be part of many ministries of which we wouldn't have otherwise been aware. Kingdom Builders provides us with an opportunity to pour into many ministries that God has ordained. We were always inspired when we both would agree on an amount that God had put on our hearts individually.

God has blessed us personally by allowing us to touch lives all over the world and to be a part of Kingdom Builders. From our local church to our community to our nation to the world—God's love abounds!"



2025

BUILDERS

LOCAL CHURCH EXPANSION ARTICLE

THE PINES CHURCH

It's been three-and-a-half years since we were launched from Messenger International, sold everything we had, said goodbye to friends and family, and left Colorado with our five kids (now six) to plant The Pines Church (TPC) in Bangor, Maine. We moved in the middle of a global pandemic, toilet paper shortages, and swarming murder hornets to parachute into central Maine without a team to follow the vision God had entrusted to us.

Maine is ranked in the top ten for opioid addictions and overdose. It ranks in the top ten of alcohol addiction and alcohol-related deaths. It also ranks in the top ten for divorce, suicides, and government assistance. So, if there is any state that needs a church, it's certainly Maine.

Since the launch of TPC, we have seen over 175 people surrender their lives to Jesus and more than seventy people



KINGDOM



baptized, and we are just getting started. We currently meet in a movie theater and have been bumping against capacity for quite some time. In the summer of 2023, Pastor John Nuzzo challenged me to exercise my faith and drive through the city and prayer walk buildings that were for sale and large enough to host a church. When he came to visit that December, he asked me to take him to each of the buildings where I had been prayer walking. We inspected each building and had one more left to visit. I remember distinctly that it was raining that day, and rain in December in Maine is COLD. As I drove up to the last building, it was closed, and I expected Pastor John to say something like, “Alright, let’s go grab lunch,” but instead, he asked me to park the car. He got out of the vehicle in the rain, walked up to the glass doors, and pressed his head against it to see inside. I took that as my cue to get out of the vehicle and try to look inside as well. As I was walking up, a man opened the door and invited us in. He introduced himself as the owner, and we struck up a conversation that lasted an hour. He shared that he had recently (a month earlier) given his life to Jesus and disclosed some struggles he was having with his family. We prayed for him and exchanged contact information. He reached out later that day and shared that the sale of this building was going to be his last business transaction and that he wanted to leave something behind that was going to make a difference in this world. He offered us the building at roughly 70% of the asking price. In July of 2024, through the

faithful partnership of Kingdom Builders, we were able to purchase the 31,000-square-foot building on 6.1 acres of land. It is conveniently located off two major interstates in Maine that run north, south, east, and west, which results in over 30,000 people driving by the property every day.

This building is going to give us the ability to serve our community better. We know God doesn’t just bless us for the sake of us and that through this entrustment, much is required. We have a heart for serving the lost and the next generation. We want to see a community thriving and full of hope. We would love to create a safe place for families to bring their children and to come alongside them in discipleship and meeting tangible needs. Fortunately, the building is large, and I believe there is an opportunity to serve in a variety of ways, whether that’s through feeding our community (we have a commercial-sized kitchen that needs appliances, but it’s all piped and ready), we could support kids through hosting youth events, VBS, moms’ groups, or supporting homeschool families. We would love to be able to bring in clothing to supply our community for cold winters, items that expectant mothers may need, and food for those less fortunate. We are excited to love the people of Maine. There is a feeling here that it’s been left behind, drenched in poverty and darkness with not much hope for the future. However, we know God has plans for Maine to bring hope and a vision for the future, to raise followers of Jesus, and to transform our city through our schools, our families, and workplaces.

There is only one other state with a lower Christian population than Maine, making it one of the darkest states in the United States. We believe that the church is a lighthouse for the hopeless and that we have been commissioned to carry that light into all the state.

You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden.

MATTHEW 5:14

FUTURE CHRISTIAN LEADERS ARTICLE



LAURA ADAMS

WORSHIP RESIDENT

Tell us about yourself.

I'm 42 years old and from Ellwood, Pennsylvania.

What is your favorite food/restaurant?

It used to be cheesecake from the Cheesecake Factory; however, lamb has become my favorite since my recent travels to Greece. Mary's Restaurant in New Castle, PA, is a nearby place that makes lamb really nicely!

What do you like to do for fun?

I love to read, learn, be outside, spend quality time with family and friends, and play some board games. Our family's favorite is Clue; it's cutthroat and all about the strategy. Everyone plays; nieces and nephews are not exempt.

If you could travel anywhere in the world, where would you go and why?

Israel is my top destination. I want to go to the Holy Land. I went to the Mediterranean in the summer

of 2024 instead of going to Israel due to the events going on there, and that was incredible, but I want to walk where Jesus walked and have the Bible come to life.

Tell us your testimony.

When I get this question, I often struggle to answer it. I grew up in a Christian home with a Christian family, in a Spirit-filled church much like Victory Family Church. I can't remember my life without Jesus in it, and I am so grateful for my parents and that foundation of faith. Jesus was my first love, and I truly remember what it was like to have child-like faith. For this reason, I felt like I didn't really have much of a story or testimony, which I always felt bad about because I didn't know how I would minister to someone, but I was reminded of one of Pastor Sean Moore's recent sermons during the Domino Effect series where he said that everyone has a story. Mine is one of faithfulness; God's faithfulness to me, and my faithfulness to Him throughout life. This caused me to reflect on that season; it has been tested, tried,

and proven true. I have gone through the journey of wrestling with my own questions and trials and seasons of refining as I have grown from being a child with that kind of faith to adulthood. God led me, protected me, redeemed me, and recalculated every missed step, of which there were several.

What's the story behind your feeling called to full-time ministry?

I have always felt called to full-time ministry at some level. When I graduated from high school, I didn't know if I would go to Bible School or music school. I chose classical music training! I went to Duquesne University and graduated with a Bachelor of Science and a master's in music education. I was a piano major and was blessed to spend the last two decades of my life ministering to 7th through 12th grade students as a music choral director at Lincoln High School. God was kind and knew my heart was to worship, so I was able to serve bi-vocationally and part-time, leading worship teams, starting when I was just 16 years old. The entire time I was teaching, I was at a church leading worship teams, singing,

and playing keys, except for a brief period when God told me to get off the platform, and He taught me that obedience is His love language. So, in 2017, I took a step back from the platform after serving as a worship director for nineteen years, and during that time, God led me to Victory. My sister had invited me to The Christmas Show, and I continued to attend services for a while. I hung out in the background because it was a big church, so I just came to receive. I've always had a heart for serving, so I began serving on the Echo Middle School team in production and small groups. I told God, "If you ever want me back on the worship team, you're going to have to give me a sign." And He did just that. That day, I walked into the bathroom, and there was a sign on the stall door that said, "The worship team needs you!" and I thought, "Well, that's pretty blatant!" I was still hesitant, thinking to myself during worship that they didn't need me. It was the same day that Pastor John announced we would be starting a campus in New Castle. The Holy Spirit dropped in my heart, "That's why, and that's where you're needed." In the fall of 2019, I auditioned for the worship team and began serving on the New Castle launch team to help build the worship team. The New Castle campus launched in 2020, a few months before COVID happened, and then the school shut down. There really wasn't much for me to do at the time, so I asked God, "What are we doing?" and I felt led to apply for Waymaker School of Ministry. I did a year in the evening program before it became the Residency Program. In February of 2021, the worship department approached me about a part-time position at the New Castle campus in worship while still teaching at Lincoln High School. I began in June of 2021, and over the last several years, God had been taking things off my plate in the extra-curricular areas I was helping with after school, so there wasn't much capacity for anything else. About



You're not too old, and it's not too late! If He's calling you to it, He's going to equip you for it, qualify you for it, and empower you to do it.

every five years, I would revisit God and ask, “Am I still doing this teaching thing? Or is it time to step into ministry?” He would tell me, “You’re already doing ministry; teaching is your ministry.” In the last few years, God has opened more doors in ministry and fewer in teaching. One Sunday, I was meeting with a couple that was visiting Victory and ministering to the worship team when God put it on my heart, “This is what I have for you.” I thought, “Are you calling me to be a worship pastor? Are you calling me to do worship one day with my spouse?” I was a little confused, and I spent the next week repenting as the enemy was attacking my thoughts, telling me that this was what God had for me, and I missed it. I regretted going to music school and repented for not going to Bible school and doing the wrong thing; I missed it, etc., when God stopped me and said, “The enemy is a liar, and I would never tell you this to bring condemnation on you. You’re not too old, and you’re not too late.” On a Friday morning, I was walking down the hallway of the school where I was teaching, and the Holy Spirit spoke to me, “You’re done here.” I immediately obeyed, and by the next Friday, the wheels were in motion. I submitted my retirement letter of resignation, which had been approved by the school board, and my job had been posted. I had no idea what the next step was.

What drew you to the Residency Program? Why the Worship track?

The Residency Program was not on my radar at all; nothing really was. God had told me, “Don’t promote yourself, don’t send out résumés, and don’t go looking for a job.” Throughout the year, God had been telling me, “Bloom, bloom, bloom where you’re planted.” I knew I needed to stay at the New Castle campus and continue serving where God had planted me. Shortly after, I told Pastor Ben Archer that I had quit my job and was feeling led to full-time ministry, and he immediately asked, “Did you apply for the Residency Program?” I said, “No, I didn’t know I was eligible.” I had asked other mentors and friends about it, and one friend I had asked to pray about it said, “I don’t need to pray about it; I think it’s a great next step for you!” So, I applied soon after for the Worship track! I chose the Worship track because Jesus really encapsulated my heart through worship as a little girl. My earliest memories involve me using the gift of music—singing or playing—to offer a song to Him; it was very much associated with a first love out of a pure heart of worship. It was always in my heart to worship through the gift of music. As I have come into adulthood, I have been studying and learning that music is not worship in and of itself but that only a triune being can worship a triune God. He created music to involve all three parts of our being—music

encompasses body, soul, and spirit. When you are in the act of making music, it makes it this incredible and powerful tool that we have to express worship. To have the honor of serving in the gift of music and worship and to facilitate encounters between Jesus and His people is a deep honor of my heart and a passion of my heart. That's why I worship.

What was it like to completely change vocations?

It was scary, but I had great peace as well. When you walk by faith and not by sight, that fear does disappear. It was crazy on the outside, but I had complete peace on the inside. I truly trust He will supply all my needs. He is the God who's way beyond our way beyond. I am excited to see where He leads and how He shows up in the season.

What would you say to someone who is working a full-time job but feels called to go into full-time ministry and apply for the Residency Program?

You're not too old, and it's not too late! If He's calling you to it, He's going to equip you for it, qualify you for it, and empower you to do it.

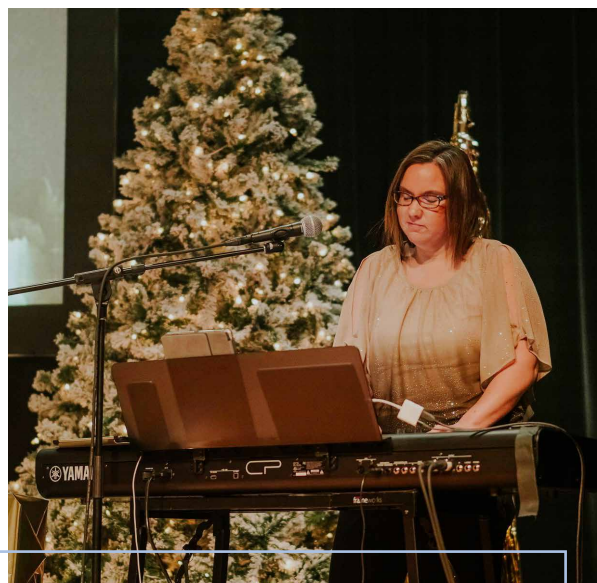
Even though you just started the Residency Program, is there anything that has surprised you or exceeded your expectations? Have you already learned something you didn't know before?

Sitting in class the first day and feeling overwhelmed with gratitude, I can't believe I get to do this. Going through Thriving in the Second Chair by Mike Bonem showed me a picture of my entire vocational life in teaching. I wish I had known what I learned in this first class before then because it took us many years to figure out how to work together and use

each other's gifts to fulfill our weaknesses, and we could've accelerated growth. God so quickly has already shown me how I can apply what I've learned to where I am in ministry right now. It's really shifted my perspective in a healthy way for growth.

Where do you see yourself in five years?

I wish I knew! If I look back on what God's shown me, there are many different places God could use me, and I don't know if that's here or somewhere else one day, but I do know I will be in full-time ministry. Beyond worship, my heart burns for those who struggle with their identities. That was something I struggled with, and I didn't have someone to help disciple me in the church at the time. Especially those struggling in the LGBTQ community in general, I would love for them to experience the love of Jesus and to encounter Him, become new creations in Christ, understand that that doesn't disqualify them from being a part of the Kingdom, and truly know who they are in Christ and live their identity in Him from a place of freedom, healing, and true joy.





FUTURE CHRISTIAN LEADERS ARTICLE

ELIJAH MAINES

WORSHIP INTERN

Tell us about yourself.

I'm 19 years old and grew up in West Decatur, PA. I have five siblings, and I am the second oldest.

What is your favorite food/ restaurant?

Italian food from Luciano's. Mexican is a close second.

What do you like to do for fun?

Photography and playing guitar.

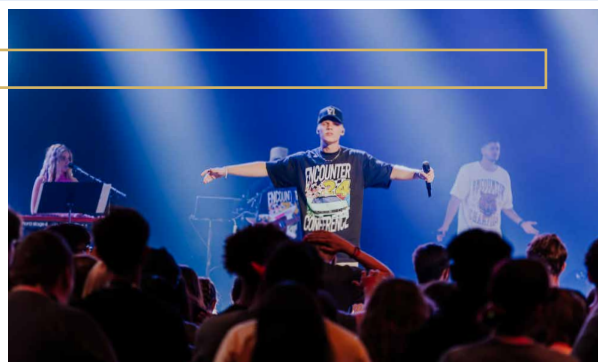
If you could travel anywhere in the world, where would you go and why?

South Wales. From the pictures I have seen, it looks beautiful. I think it would be cool to explore. I have never been outside the United States, so I think it would be great to spend some time there.

Share your story and the reason you applied for the Internship Program.

I have gone to church for as long as I can remember. My mom would never let us skip a Sunday. The earliest I remember giving my life to Jesus was at seven years old. Growing up, I kind of started to just go through the motions of living in a Christian household and consistently going to church. My Dad was the worship and associate pastor at our former church for as long as I can remember. I joined the worship team when I was 10 or 11 years old and played until I was 16. My mom's dad was the lead pastor of the church. As he was beginning to retire, he offered the Lead Pastor position to my dad, and while praying about taking over the church, my parents felt led to move to New Castle, PA, and ultimately decided not to take the Lead Pastor position. I had started to stray away from a relationship with God around 13 years old. During that time, I was very lukewarm in my relationship with God and only really prayed and went to God when I needed Him. In November of 2021, my family and I moved to New Castle and





began attending Victory at the New Castle Campus. For the first year and a half after moving here, it was a struggle as I was going into my junior year of high school. Being away from my friends and cousins, who still lived in West Decatur, made it a hard transition. I attended the Encounter Conference for the first time, and it woke me up. There was a fire inside me that hadn't been there for a while, but unfortunately, a couple of months went by, and it dwindled. I began serving on the worship team in New Castle at the end of 2022, and for a while, I honestly just went through the motions and did it because I was asked to. I had a willing heart, but I didn't feel like it was a calling on my life. My relationship with God was very back and forth and inconsistent. In May of 2023, right before I graduated from high school, I woke up one day and asked myself, "What am I doing with my life? I'm not forward progressing anywhere." This was when I started getting more serious about my relationship with God. If I want to grow and do what God has called me to, then I need to take the steps to build an intimate relationship with Him. I set a consistent time to read my Bible and get to know who God is, and over time, I put away past things that were temporary fillers. I greatly matured over time as well and learned more about my purpose and calling. There was no specific moment, but I realized

during the time I was serving on the worship team that this was something I enjoyed doing and that it was a gift God gave me. One day, Connor Greene asked me if I had considered applying for the Victory Internship Program. I was not interested, nor had it ever crossed my mind, but I processed it with my parents and eventually decided to apply. I applied for the Video track because I really enjoyed photography and video, but a couple of weeks after applying, I felt it was in my heart to go into the Worship track instead. It was one of those things where I felt that calling, grabbed a hold of it, and started to run with it. I got accepted into the Internship Program, but the worship department, at the time, was going through a lot of transitions and couldn't take me on, so I started my internship in the Students/Young Adults track. At first, I said, "God, what are you doing with this?" I felt like it was a test of, "This is where you're called, but are you going to be able to face adversity and remain steadfast?" I knew God had called me here, so I was patient and faithful. I was in the Students/Young Adults track for about a month, and I gave it all my effort. Even though I knew it wasn't where I ultimately wanted to end up, I knew I could learn something from it. I was serving in SOZO, and I kept catching myself, unintentionally, studying and thinking about what the worship team was doing.

***"You have nothing
to lose, only to gain.
Take that leap!"***

FUTURE CHRISTIAN LEADERS



That night, as I was driving home, the enemy was coming at my thoughts that I was not doing what God called me to and that I was not supposed to be here. I just began praying in tongues, and I felt the presence of the Holy Spirit so strongly. I just kept saying, “God, I know this is where you have me, where you want me to be, and I know you’re going to get me there in your timing.” The next day, I had a meeting with my supervisor, and he told me everything had fallen into place so that I could start in the Worship track the next week!

How has the Internship brought out your calling of worship?

I did not expect to grow as quickly as I did, and I know I still have a lot of growing to do, but if you had told me seven or eight months ago that I would be where I am today, I wouldn’t have believed you. Serving on the worship team for Encounter Conference was eye-opening; I felt peace that I belonged there and just got to experience it. It gives you fire and desire, and I want other people to experience their purpose and calling, too.



What would you say to someone who is on the fence about applying for the Internship Program?

You have nothing to lose, only to gain. Take that leap! If you’re able to make the time for it, it is very well worth it. You can learn and grow a lot.

You’ve been in the Internship Program for a little while now; what is something that has exceeded an expectation you had coming in? What’s something you’ve learned so far?

The growth exceeded my expectations—not just in singing or playing guitar but in leadership. I feel much more confident and equipped to lead others and reflect God in worship.

Where do you see yourself in five years?

I am currently in school for photography, which is a passion of mine. I know I have a calling in my life to worship ministry, whether that is full-time or not, we will see! No matter what, I will serve on a worship team or maybe even lead a worship team.

PLAN. VISION. DREAM.

THANKS TO THE GRACE OF GOD AND YOUR GENEROSITY, VICTORY FAMILY CHURCH HAS GIVEN MILLIONS OF DOLLARS OUTSIDE OUR WALLS.

Through Kingdom Builders, we support organizations that expand God's Kingdom throughout the world. If you want to join this journey, here are some steps to get started.

- **Plan to give.** Making a plan to give establishes accountability and helps you to create practical steps to reach your giving goal.
- **Next, ask God to give you a vision for your giving.** Remember what Philippians 4:19 says: "God shall supply all your need according to His riches and glory by Christ Jesus" (KJV). Partnering with God gives Him the ability to work through us.
- **Finally, create a dream amount.** This number is between you and God. Take the steps and watch as God meets you where you are and provides more than you could ask, think, or imagine (Ephesians 3:20). Remember: It's not the amount; it's the heart and obedience behind the giving.

**OUR KINGDOM BUILDERS GOAL FOR
2025 IS 6.8 MILLION DOLLARS.**

Thank you for your generosity and faithfulness. This goal wouldn't be possible without you!

Don't do the math, do your part.

When you take part in Kingdom Builders, you are changing the lives of countless people around the world. Ask God what He wants you to do. Seek Him and His guidance, and watch as He works wonders through your generosity.

EVERYONE IS INVITED TO BE PART OF THE VISION OF KINGDOM BUILDERS.

MY GIVING GOAL: \$ _____



— SCAN HERE TO GIVE TO
KINGDOM BUILDERS



SO
THAT
—— × ALL
MAY
HEAR.



SO THAT ALL MAY HEAR. SO THAT ALL MAY HEAR.
SO THAT ALL MAY HEAR. SO THAT ALL MAY HEAR.



VICTORY
FAMILY CHURCH