



WAY OF THE LORD

Church

ANNUAL REPORT

July 8, 2023

our purpose

To have an intimate
covenant relationship with
God and reflect His glory
throughout all creation

the greatest commandments

our mission

To love and disciple
every generation into
the family of God

the greatest commission



WAY OF THE LORD
Church

our path

To follow and become like
Jesus with lifestyles of worship,
discipleship, fellowship, and
stewardship

the greatest journey

building an ark as a covenant family in the last days



WAY OF THE LORD

Church

this is how we journey together on

THE WAY OF THE LORD

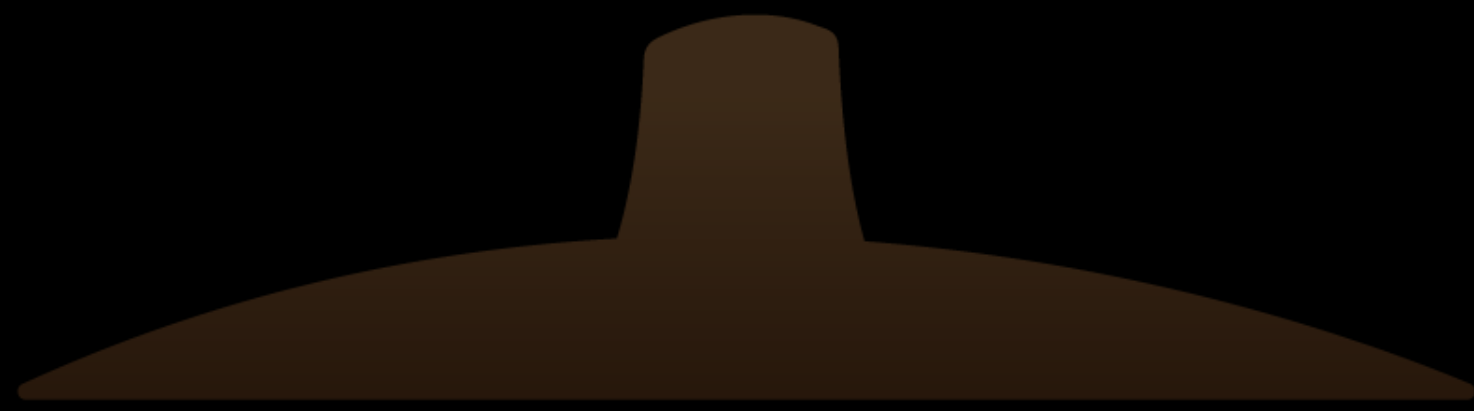
with lifestyles of

worship

discipleship

fellowship

stewardship



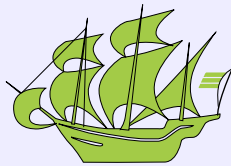
THE FOUR SHIPS

TO NAVIGATE OUR JOURNEY ON THE WAY OF THE LORD TOGETHER



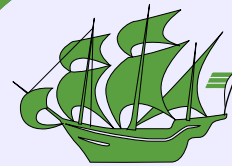
WORSHIP

BUILD THE ALTAR



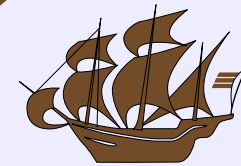
DISCIPLESHIP

BE LIKE JESUS



FELLOWSHIP

UNITE THE FAMILY



STEWARDSHIP

GENEROUSLY SERVE

WAY OF THE LORD CHURCH

BUILDING AN ARK AS A COVENANT FAMILY AT THE END OF THE AGE

The Seven Core Mandates at



WAY OF THE LORD Church

Every church and ministry in the Body of Christ has a unique and specific God-appointed role to fulfill (1 Corinthians 12). Also, Paul urged us to "find out what pleases the Lord" (Eph 5:10). We sense that these seven areas are, not only are close to the heart of God, but also connected to our unique calling. Therefore, we are praying, interceding, and taking influential action for the release of God's Kingdom to transform and revive these seven strategic areas in the world today. Each day of the week has a unique prayer focus.

1

THE CHURCH (SUNDAY)

May God bring us to complete unity so that the world would know Jesus is the Savior (John 17).

ISRAEL (MONDAY)

Revival in Israel will lead to revival in the nations of the earth (Romans 11).

2

3

GOVERNMENT (TUESDAY)

Righteousness makes a nation great; but sin is a disgrace to any people (Proverbs 14:34).

LIFE (WEDNESDAY)

Speak for those who cannot speak; seek justice for the needy (Proverbs 31:8)

4

5

FIRST NATIONS (THURSDAY)

We contend for healing, restoration, reconciliation and justice for Native Americans.

PERSECUTED CHURCH (FRIDAY)

Remember those being mistreated, as if you felt their pain (Hebrews 13:3).

6

7

MUSLIMS (SATURDAY)

May the love, freedom, salvation found in Jesus Christ blossom in the Muslim world.

STRATEGIC PLANNING, MISSION, AND VISION

REFINING OUR VISION

Why do we exist? [OUR PURPOSE | THE GREATEST COMMANDMENTS]

- *To have an intimate covenant relationship with God and reflect His glory throughout all creation.*

What is the main thing we are doing? [OUR MISSION | THE GREAT COMMISSION]

- *To love and disciple every generation into the family of God*

How do we get there? [OUR PATH | THE WAY OF THE LORD]

- *To follow Jesus on the way of the Lord with lifestyles of worship, discipleship, fellowship, and stewardship*

We are building an ark as a covenant family in the last days.

NEXT GEN TEAM

The Next Gen team was birthed out of the elder's strategic planning process (led by Brian Rupe) as a strategic alliance with the goal of answering this question: *"How do we steward a shared vision for fathering and mothering the next generation here on campus between all the "next generation ministries" (ACTS, NCS, WOTL's children's and youth ministries, and our homeschool families). This team is co-led by Sam Mayes and Joey Stontz with the oversight of Brian Rupe and the elders. The team has representatives from each next gen ministry: NCS (Jake Givand, Beth Dvorak, Lance Wonders, Derek Sontowski), ACTS (Lance Wonders), WOTL's children's and youth ministries (Kyle & Ellie Salley and Sam and Jamie Mayes), and homeschool families (Sharon Brodin, Andrew Anderson and Joey & Nicole Stontz).*

To start, the team crafted a discipleship road map for our young people from birth into their college years with 10 key mile markers (baby dedication, salvation, first Bible, water baptism, Holy Spirit baptism, service & outreach, retreats, participation in a discipleship group, sharing the gospel, and a gap year program upon graduating from high school).

Secondly, the team designed four "unifying events" with the dual purpose of 1) coalescing each of the next gen ministries on campus for the purpose of 2) helping our children and students arrive at these key destination points in their discipleship journey. In other words, we want each of these ministries to be working together and pulling in the same direction for maximum impact.

The events that the team organized were:

Family Fun Night on September 28th where around 300 people from both WOTL and NCS enjoyed food, fellowship, and fun. It was a substantial and formative way to begin aligning our next gen ministries.

The **Harvest Festival** on October 28th, 2022 was designed as an alternative event to Halloween and has been organized by NCS in the past, but this year had help from many volunteers from WOTL and garnered the same level of participation (over 300+ people). There were games, food trucks, hay rides, and a whole lot of fun for the kids (and parents!).

The **Holy Spirit Encounter Night** (February 17th, 2023) was birthed out of a desire for our young people to arrive at a prominent mile marker: being baptized and be immersed in the Holy Spirit. We had a night of powerful worship, the word, and testimonies, where many young people were prayed for to receive the Holy Spirit, and several people gave their lives to Jesus!

The **Blaine Garage Sales Outreach** keyed in on two of our mile markers: “service & outreach” and “sharing the gospel.” The influence and prominence of our church and school grew exponentially from this event as hundreds of people from around the North Metro flocked to our campus for free parking and food trucks. We had a great group of volunteers. John Zuppek led prayer with live worship from several of our worship leaders in the sanctuary during the event. Mary Akehurst led and sent out evangelism teams that shared the gospel and prayed for people (and at least one person surrendered their life to Jesus)! The food shelf passed out hundreds of free water bottles and snacks. There was always a line at the food trucks. And the Way of the Lord website drew in over 1,500 unique views over that weekend.

And Jesus gets the win for all of this.

Also, one of the unifying results of this team was the inclusion of all of Way of the Lord’s homeschool students being able to attend Northside Christian School chapel services.

The Next Gen Team will now be focusing on one event per season:

FALL 2023: Harvest Festival

WINTER 2024: A Holy-Spirit-centric event TBD

SPRING 2024: Blaine Garage Sales Outreach

SUMMER 2024: TBD

There are also other ideas the Next Gen team is exploring for how to further our unity of the vision to love and disciple, not only the young, but every generation into God’s family.

DEVELOPMENT

The Building Development Team, along with the Elders, wants to share with you today an important update in our strategic planning process and how that relates to our building development. As you know, we want a new building to accommodate the growth we foresee at Northside (and our church!) and to enhance these facilities as we move into the bright future God has for us here.

We want to be transparent with you and acknowledge that even though we do not have a set date for breaking ground, we are working with a team from an architectural firm, Vanman Architects that includes a former member of this church, Chris Fleck.

While we remain committed to our vision of creating a space that fosters and can accommodate increased enrollment, community engagement, and to ultimately prepare us for the last days, we feel it is crucial to continue to dream, strategize, and assess best practices both fiscally and logistically before making any final decisions to begin a capital campaign. Our dedicated building development team, led by Hans Martens, is working extremely hard to gather all the necessary information for and from Vanman Architects and will continue to evaluate the potential impact of their designs. We assure you

that your opinions and concerns are of utmost importance to us, and we will keep you informed at every step of the way. We invite you to join us in prayer for wisdom and discernment as we navigate this exciting yet challenging phase together.

Thank you for your unwavering support and understanding as we endeavor to build an ark as a covenant family in the last days.

Ministry Reports

ACTS BIBLE COLLEGE

ACTS, since it moved here from Eden Prairie in 2006, has been the primary adult education ministry arm at Way of the Lord. After its president, Don Pfothenauer, experienced debilitating health issues in 2020, we shifted the emphasis from focusing on Bible College degrees to being more "seeker-friendly" in our classes.

Among the more popular have been

- a study of American culture and government (Christianity, the Constitution, and Capitalism);
- the NT Letter to the Hebrews (on the real Jesus, real faith, and real salvation);
- the NT Book of Revelation (salvation-history's "wrap-up": the Final Conflict, the Return of Christ, and the Coming Kingdom of God);
- what the Bible teaches about women and their role and calling as spiritual and practical partners with men (especially as understood by Paul);

and, most recently,

- The Koran: understanding Muhammed, the roots & development of Islam, and its views on God, Jesus, salvation, & human purpose (as compared with the views of Christianity).

Next Fall we plan

(a.) to study the New Testament as a whole (surveying each book individually) and

(b.) comparing the biblical worldview with the emerging ideologies of Wokism, Transgenderism, and the Post-Modern revolt against "reason" and "authority" as cultural norms.

We invite the curious and the studious (and all who are "in between"!) to join us in being a part of ACTS!

DEACONS

Deacon Team: Steve Ackermann; Audrey Halverson; Doug Weikert; Geri Buck; Dan Buck; Kyle Salley; Niki Inoue; Barb Star

Elder liaison: Hans Marten's

Accomplishments over last year:

- Annual fall and spring cleanup. Geri does a great job organizing this event and Niki makes a great breakfast for the early birds. We always have a great turnout.
- Last summer we had the parking lot potholes patched, large cracks filled, seal coated and repainted.
- Last summer we worked with a contractor to provide better water runoff for the slope on the east side of the sanctuary. Early spring rains had occasionally flooded the lower level. The slope was graded away from the building and the sidewalk was removed. However, the contractor could not get concrete due to material shortages, so Buck Landscaping saved the day and installed a paver block walkway.
- Doug replaced all sinks in the Genesis restrooms.
- We hired a plumber to fix leaky toilets in lower-level restrooms.
- Doug's ongoing maintenance and repairs.
- Audrey and Steve interviewed various insurance companies. We will be changing to Brotherhood Ins. for a savings of \$1500 annually and better coverage.
- There are many annual inspections required, including the kitchen, elevator, fire sprinklers, fire extinguishers, fire panels, fire dept inspector.
- Will soon be requesting quotes for the annual snow removal contract.
- Working through the details for adding CC cameras to the Genesis bldg.

LIFE GROUPS (WOTL Small Group Ministry)

Life is beautiful when it is spent with people that love and care for you. God never intended you to walk through life alone. At WOTL, Life Groups exist in varying configurations, focuses and schedules to help us in our pursuit of Christ and in loving one another.

Overall coordination of Life Groups has been assigned to Wade and Kathleen Scheil, Chris Massoglia and Sam Mayes. A listing of current groups and their leaders is on the WOTL website under www.wayofthelord.org/ministries. Coordination involves updating the list of current groups, knowing the status of the groups and helping individuals get connected with a group. It is the goal of the coordination team to have regular Life Group Leaders meetings. The next leaders meeting is scheduled for August 27, 2023, in the fellowship hall following the Sunday service.

If you are interested in joining a Life Group, contact one of the overall coordinators, one of the elders or a group leader directly.

The Life Group Coordination Team

MISSIONS

The last year for IAM has been a productive one! Many changes were made over the last year. We have, as a team considered those we support and those we would like to support. Trying to stay within relationship, which is so important, we released some ministries that we were supporting, but we added those that we have relationship with (Chaim Malespin and Nick and Rebecca Dimalanta). We increased support for those that have been part of our body (Lora Korynta and Rachel Anderson) and Brian Buuck

found that communicating with Irene in Spanish brought about more communication! We are believing God for greater increase in vision and purpose. We want to come alongside the body at Way of the Lord to keep them abreast of those we support, what they are doing and we do have a plan to have a short-term outreach to one of those that we support! Post covid has made entry into some countries difficult, but we will be prayerfully endeavoring to put something together for the body to be part of working alongside of one of those we support!

We are also adding to our team in this next fiscal year. Joey is launching a new Missions page on the church website that is awesome and amazing and you can check out all those we support and give right there!

As a team we have worked together with great unity and we find it a great privilege to serve the body in this way.

Reach out to any one of us if you have specific questions concerning anyone we support or general IAM questions.

Blessed to Serve In His Name

The IAM Team

James & Diane Weber, Joey Stontz, Hans Martens, Brian Buuck

NORTHSIDE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

2022-23 school year highlights:

Theme: unwavering/unshakable & walking in God's steadfast love - We observed students who demonstrated being good servants, doing hard things, and going above and beyond academically.

Chapels: There were many great sermons that motivated the students to press deep into God's Word. We had two students who gave their testimony of how they came to know Christ as their Savior. Nick Ramirez, our 5th teacher, shared his heart to sit quietly before the Lord and let Him heal all areas of their heart. The teachers and students came to the front altar and sat quietly before the Lord to listen to the Holy Spirit.

Classes were full of exploration, academic learning, and experiencing God.

Events: We had various events throughout the year that combined WOTL and Northside (Harvest Festival, Family Fun Night, Christmas Program, Holy Spirit Encounter). It was great fun joining together as a community and with neighbors.

2023-24 school year coming soon:

New Staff: Christy Oates teaching 1st Grade replacing Jen Musokwa; Abby Gustafson teaching K-8 PE classes replacing Kate Harper; Sam Mayes teaching 7-8 Science plus 8 Math and strengthening the connection with the church. We are in need of another Middle School teacher to teach 6/7-8 History, 6 Science, 6 Math, and some possible electives as Jen Roufs is moving on. We are also looking for someone who would like to teach K-8 Art.

Pray for wisdom/guidance for “Next Gen” leadership and building as WOTL and NCS seek to expand.

Pray for NCS teachers along with other teachers in our church (homeschoolers, public and private school teachers). We need God’s grace, wisdom, and armor as we train up the next generation to excel in this generation.

YOUTH

Youth group this past year has consistently had between 10 to 20 students. About half of these are kids who attend WOTL and the other half are friends from the neighborhood. We took a number of weeks to focus on the fruits of the spirit. We continue to place a large emphasis on small groups/accountability and discussion/participation of all (1 Cor 14:26). We enjoyed an awesome week on the Legacy Youth Ranch trip with 7 of the boys! We are planning a beach bbq sometime in July/August and the girls are taking a hiking trip at the end of July. We have several amazing leaders on the youth leadership team who invest and contribute week after week (Mike M., Talitha B., Gavin G., Brittany D., Jason B., Jamie M., and Ellie S.) We are taking a break for July and August and encouraging small group leaders to organize organic hang out times with their small groups. We are currently discussing with the elders about some potential changes for next fall and are excited about the possibilities of working with and supporting NCS.

WORSHIP

This church has walked in a unique, remarkable, time and multi-generation-tested Levitical and priestly call to minister to the Lord. We sincerely desire His presence and will not compromise in our familial and intergenerational pursuit of Him. Because of the many young ones in our midst, there was a need to roll out a few parameters that promote both reverence and freedom in worship, not quench it. My encouragement to all of us is to continue to ask God for His help in laying aside our preferences for the sake of our convictions, which is to see the next generation get caught up with the Lord in praise.

THE TEAM

We have an amazing worship team of over 30 gifted, talented, but most importantly “called” singers, musicians, and sound & media techs that faithfully minister to God and also faithfully serve this congregation with long hours of behind the scenes work that no one sees. Please honor them for their love and service!

LIVESTREAM ARCHIVE

I just wanted to remind us that we have a digital archive of all our services and worship times (minus Friday night intercession). Anyone with the password (*wotlfire*) can access all of WOTL & GUH’s past livestreams via our church website under the sermons tab.

GOALS

- **Goal #1** >>> We have a desire to begin a rotation on Thursday nights from 6:30-8:00 PM of 1) a night of prophetic praise, and 2) worship practice. Implementation will begin in the fall or winter.
- **Goal #2** >>> We want to release three unique worship albums in the next three years.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Our numbers continue to grow especially in the younger age groups. We are at about 15 in all three age groups. This summer is a transition time. Some of our main volunteer point people are stepping down but we are excited to have Julia Oats and Braden Allen, recent Bethany Mission School grads, joining and taking on much of what Talitha and Ellie have been doing. One highlight is Jessica Peterman and Talitha have started a small group with some of the older elementary age girls.

Kyle and Ellie

ALTAR MINISTRY

We are grateful for those that continue to serve on this ministry team. And are also thankful for those that are joining the ranks. There is not a lot for which to report. However, we just completed the reconfiguration of the prayer teams. The new teams are starting in July. We have lost roughly 10 members, but have gained almost 12, so there should be close to 27 total on the team. There has been some concern about consistency of prayer ministry available after the service and we are working at improving that.

HEALTH MINISTRY

Report prepared by Chris Resch RN FCN

Health Ministry operates in the LIFE MANDATE.

The Goals of Health Ministry (from 2022 Annual Report) remain in place. I have more detailed information available upon request.

The Tools of Health Ministry (from 2022 Annual Report) remain in place, and all are dependent upon the LIFE-GIVING BREATH of HOLY SPIRIT.

Health Ministry will celebrate its 3rd Anniversary of service to WOTL community on October 23, 2023. I continue to keep my focus on following Jesus and seek Holy Spirit's specific direction. one step at a time. Health Ministry responds to people who request prayer over an illness or surgery or death in their family. Or of whom I become aware of any health situation across the lifespan. I offer support and await and honor the response of the individual. Confidentiality is honored.

I continue to research as much as possible on topics relating to promoting greater physical and mental health and "Hot Health Topics" in American culture. I continue to have much to share with the WOTL community if given greater public opportunities to do so.

Shauna Massoglia RN FCN has continued to serve in Health Ministry. Her counsel and support is highly valued. She is currently on a Maternity Leave due to the birth of her daughter.

Jen Molitor continues to contribute highly valued assistance as HM's Correspondence Assistant.

Geri Buck has resigned from her participation in Health Ministry. Geri was instrumental in carrying a vision for what Health Ministry is doing and providing invaluable support to HM's founding and first few years. Thank you so much Geri for carrying this vision before the Lord and all the energy you invested.

NOTE: AMERICAN RED CROSS CPR AED Course is being arranged for AUGUST 2023. Details will be released soon. This is to promote access to North Side Teachers before the school year begins.

Health Ministry is interested in welcoming more people onto the Health Ministry Team. Please talk with Chris Resch about your interest or any other questions. Thank you so much for your prayers for Health Ministry! 763.438.7713 wotlhealth@gmail.com

OUTREACH/EVANGELISM

Over the past year, we have been working to implement a BLESS style and culture of outreach, hoping to take it from being a method, to being a lifestyle. Even as we transition into our season of new leadership, there have been many opportunities to bear good fruit along the way, both in strategic ministry partnership outreaches, as well as Way of the Lord sponsored events, such as Holy Spirit Night, and the Garage Sale Outreach.

Quotes from Garage Sale Team Summary: The team shared testimony of having gospel conversations and handing out the gospel flyer to numerous people. There were the congregation members at the gate engaging with people. A lady named Amber wanted to meet and talk more. Brian N and Leon engaged with a couple that were open to the gospel and surrendered their lives to Christ! Chris Ferrar talked about the atmosphere in this area, with the years of intercession and worship, the cover of darkness is thin! As my teammate Romona and I were coming back for debrief I sensed the Lord gave a word for the congregation —steward. A garage sale shopper referenced WOTL as a hub.

There was also an amazing report from Joey Stontz, regarding the spike in hits on the church website, directly correlating with the garage sale event. All of the events in the last year have birthed salvation and discipleship, and can be easily replicated and duplicated exponentially. As we implement this coming year's calendar and programs, our plan is to introduce the BLESS model via the pulpit and classroom teaching, along with testimony and lifestyle application. We want to be deliberate to BLESS people at every level of our fellowship: Begin with prayer, Listen with care, Eat together, Serve in love, and Share the story - BLESS.

FOOD SHELF

- Designed & Completed 17'x34' addition - mostly volunteer - pd. for roof framing & finishing
- Donations - received \$5,000 grant from Second Harvest & \$25,000 from Blaine Charitable Gambling Fund, & designated gifts
- Need to finish: siding/soffit/gutters - hiring crew and deacons decision on changing siding materials
- Last item - seal the perimeter wall/floor joints & floor of addition.
- Have used new space since March for storage & Client check-in
- Rearranged existing space to accommodate all food inside & more families
- Now seeing 150+ families between 2:30 & 5:30+ PM = approx. 30% increase in one year
- Now serving the Hispanic Church when open on Sundays

- Challenge - need for more afternoon workers - (talk to Geri), increased food and utility costs
- Stats: in the past year we have Served 3,682 children, 4,877 adults & 1,463 Seniors for a total of over \$10,000 (that we know of)
- Average 20-25 new families each month
- Handled and given out 468,756 pounds of food = 234.4 TONS
- Distributed 17,000 diapers (individual not bags)
- Volunteer hours number in the thousands

Way of the Lord Budget 2023-2024

	12 Month Average of Actual	Monthly 2022/2023 Budget	Monthly 2023/2024 Budget
Net Income	30,630	30,000	31,000
GUH Income	449	500	500
Bldg. Usage	204		400
Interest Income			1,250
TOTAL INCOME	31,283	30,500	33,150
Missionary Support	(3,150)	(3,150)	(3,150)
Apostolic Oversight	(500)	(500)	(700)
Ministry Designated-Deacon	(200)	(200)	0
Ministry Designated-Food Shelf	(250)	(500)	0
Ministry Designated-Youth	(100)	(100)	(100)
Ministry Designated-Children	(100)	(100)	(100)
Staff Salaries	(15,914)	(17,400)	(18,000)
Administrative	(1,970)	(1,500)	(1,700)
Ministry Expenses	(328)	(300)	(450)
Capital Improvement		0	(1,200)
Utilities/Insurance/Tax	(5,367)	(5,000)	(5,500)
Repairs & Maintenance	(1,995)	(1,300)	(2,000)
Seasonal Grounds	(329)	(250)	(250)
TOTAL EXPENSES	(30,203)	(30,300)	(33,150)
EXCESS REV(EXP)	1,080	200	0