

WACC

ANNUAL REPORT 2024







Dear Friends,

The late writer and theologian Thomas Merton once said, “Gratitude takes nothing for granted, is never unresponsive, is constantly awakening to new wonder and to praise of the goodness of God. For the grateful person knows that God is good, not by hearsay but by experience.”

As I look back on 2024, I am once again amazed at the countless ways our church family has experienced the goodness of God firsthand. We experienced God’s goodness in seeing the testimonies of **337** people who were baptized, courageously professing their devotion to Jesus. We have seen it in the **630** kids who attended VBS, where **61** kids made a first-time commitment to follow Jesus. We have spotted it through over **\$297k** that was disbursed to support individuals and families in need through WACC’s Benevolent Fund. And we have witnessed it through **545** people who volunteered for the first time this past year, and over **\$7 million** that was given to share God’s grace both locally and globally.

Through these experiences, and so many others like our growing WACC en Español ministry, Monday Night Support Groups, and our growing Access Ministry, the evidence of the goodness of God is so moving to me. I pray that as you read through the pages of this report, the evidence of God’s goodness will both encourage you and lead you toward praising God for all he has done.

Church, thank you for the ways you have allowed God to work in and through you so that others might experience his goodness in a life-transforming way! God bless you!

John Riley

I remain confident of this: I will see the goodness of the LORD. (Psalm 27:13)

FINANCIALS

\$7,141,369.18

Total Donations Given to the
Ministry of WACC in 2024

\$3,102,386.11

Principal Paid towards the Debt Free
mortgage since it began

\$812,439.75

Principal Paid towards the Debt Free
mortgage in the last 12 months

\$297,238.68

Dispersed Through the Benevolent Fund
to Help Families in Need

BAPTISMS



337

Baptisms in 2024

“

Last year an elderly man named Gene Estes began visiting WACC daily. Grieving, lonely, and facing health challenges, he would often sit on the Upper Patio. As Gene’s health declined, his only caregiver was his grandson, Chris, who lived out of state. While visiting Gene, Chris began attending WACC and eventually rediscovered his love for Jesus. After Gene passed in January 2024, Chris was baptized at WACC. Two months later, his wife Heatherlee and their four children came for her baptism. Today, they continue to stay connected to the church from across the country.”

A large crowd of people is gathered at an event. The background features a wall with a white geometric pattern of interconnected triangles and a large, bright screen displaying a grid of dots. The text "JESUS TO PEOPLE & PEOPLE TO" is overlaid on the image in a large, white, sans-serif font.

JESUS TO PEOPLE & PEOPLE TO



GATHER

3,510

Average Adult Sunday Attendance

10,400

Easter Weekend Attendance

6,675

Christmas Attendance

47,148

Streams of Church Online

Sermon Series Throughout the Year

1



Blessing Sunday

BLESSING SUNDAY

God's first impulse is to bless you. Even when you are unsatisfied, the blessing of God's comfort and redemption can meet you.

2



Reset

RESET

Each year brings new opportunities to reset and lean into the truth that God desires to begin a new work in us.

3

LOUDER
than WORDS

LOUDER THAN WORDS

When Jesus communicated God's love to the world, the apostle John reminds us that he didn't just communicate it with words- he demonstrated it with actions.

5

WHEN
IN
Doubt
ADDRESSING THE
BIG QUESTIONS ABOUT
GOD AND FAITH

WHEN IN DOUBT

All of us have doubts and questions, but Scripture teaches that our doubts can serve as a pathway toward a richer and deeper encounter with God.

4

Easter

EASTER

What Jesus did over three days is the key to unlocking hope for you on your darkest day.

9



SETTING THE TABLE

Throughout Jesus' ministry, he repeatedly used tables as the setting to invite people to experience the grace of God. Discover from Jesus how ordinary meals can be transformed into sacred moments.

7



ALLELELON

A life of following Jesus was never meant to be lived alone. "One-anothering" describes how followers of Jesus are called to live and to put love into action daily.

6



SHOW ME A SIGN

Many of us ask that God would "show us a sign" that he is there. The Gospel of John reveals seven specific signs, in Jesus' ministry, that reveal that God is both present and active in the most challenging of situations.

8



WHO TOLD YOU THAT?

Many of our most familiar religious phrases and clichés are actually not found in the Bible. We must learn to speak and construct our lives based on what God's Word really says so that those around us experience God's true character and promises.

10



A LOT LIKE CHRISTMAS

Although many of us have a picture of Christmas as merry, festive and bright, the true Christmas story presents a very different picture. If Jesus entered the darkness of that first Christmas, he can enter into yours as well.

WACC EN ESPAÑOL

220 People at 2nd Anniversary Service

125 Average Attendance on Sundays

13 Baptisms

29 People in Financial Peace

15 New Volunteers

07 Child Dedications

40 Average Number of People in Thursday Night Small Groups



“

God has been moving powerfully in our WACC en Español congregation. We've witnessed both physical and spiritual healing, transforming lives in amazing ways. Prayers and support overflow when someone is in need, reflecting the love of the early church. People have been baptized, others have come to know Jesus, and many have found not just a church, but a family. This season of small groups has drawn us closer, and we give glory to God for the work He's doing in our midst.”

ACCESS

Access Ministry serves individuals
with specialized needs and their loved ones

70
People at
First Access
Gathering

200
Night To Shine
Guests

785
Volunteers
at NTS

67
Artist
Participants at
Art Show



“

WACC's First Access Worship Gathering on August 25th created a space for teens and adults with special needs to worship. A parent, attending for the first time, shared how she finally felt seen as the mother of two sons with autism. She was moved to tears as her boys were embraced and given the freedom to be themselves.”

NEXT STEPS



“

When Jennifer registered for Next Steps earlier this year, it was clear she was eager to connect. From week one, she naturally led conversations at her table, sharing her desire to grow closer to God and build community at WACC. Jennifer openly discussed how God had worked in her life through her Monday night group and listened to others' experiences. By week two, everyone at her table had exchanged phone numbers. Jennifer has since celebrated her new friends' journeys in Rooted, invited them to serve at Go Serve Love, and remains a friendly face on campus.”

844 Guests in Guest Central

115 People Attended Next Steps to Get More Connected and Continue Growing in Their Faith

151 New Guests Online

2,384 Times People Signed Up to Volunteer In a New Way

SUPPORT GROUPS

A safe place to share experiences and hopes with others who are also seeking God's restorative healing through worship, fellowship, small group interaction and prayer.

100+

People Attending **10** Different Groups Each Week

“

This group is a safe place and community where I am not alone in my experience. The other women know the unique journey of being married to a first responder.”

“

I get to be myself and talk about my past and my struggles in a place where there is no judgement and there is genuine support. I walk out not feeling so alone.”

“

Support Groups is a place where you can learn and grow as you journey through a tough season.”



PEOPLE GROWING IN GROUPS

506

Community Groups

256

Bible Study

89

Rooted

34

Adult
Center

FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY

\$390,927

Total Non-Mortgage Debt Paid Off

\$8,700

Saved

25

Credit Cards Cut Up

156 Couples

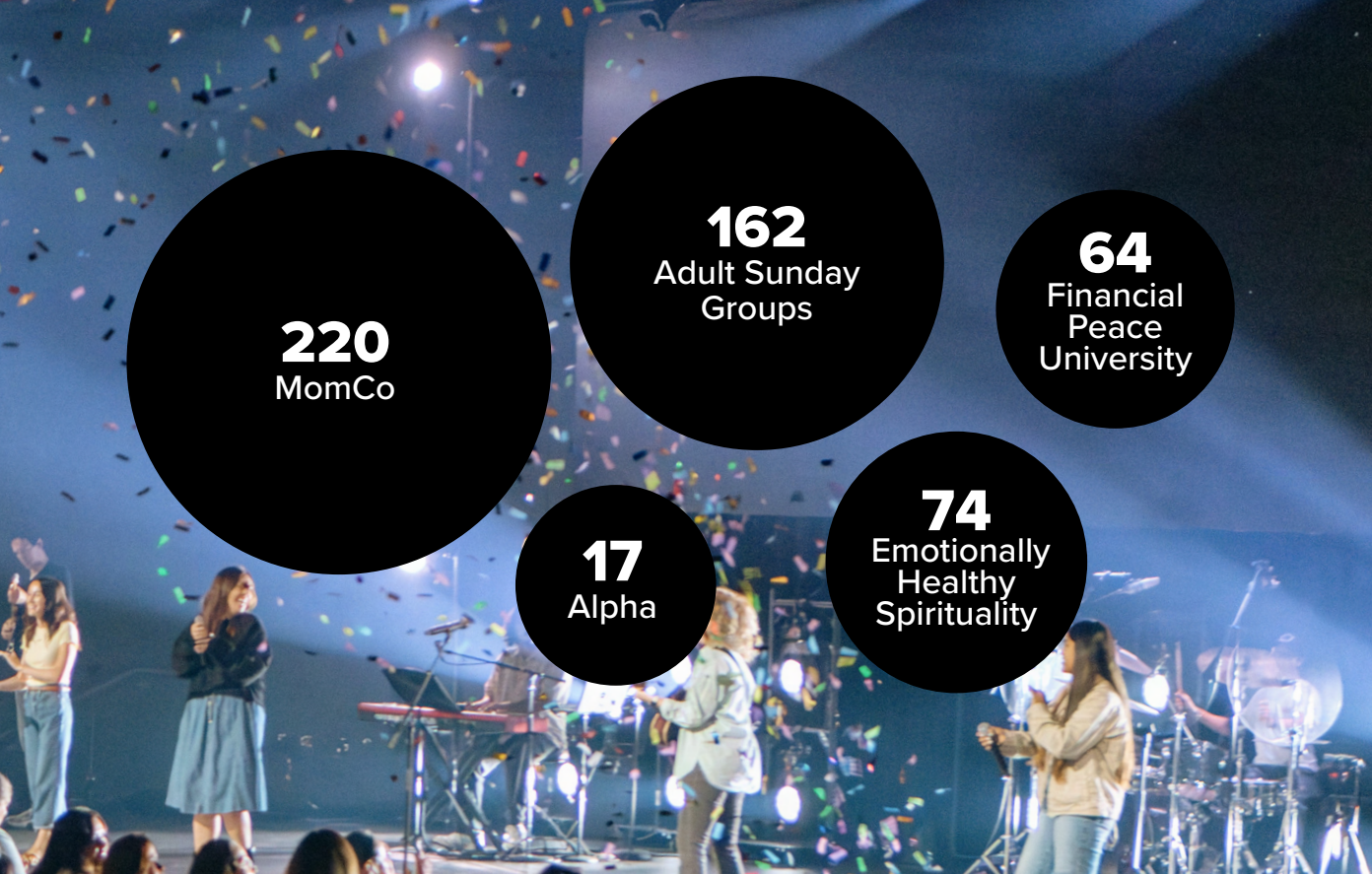
At Marriage
Connection Date Nights

200 Men

Average at Each Men's
Ministry Events This Year

“

In the midst of a difficult time, a small group at WACC found remarkable strength in their shared faith. When one member, Sarah, was facing a challenging health battle, her group rallied around her, offering constant prayer, meals, and simply being present to listen. Through their collective support, Sarah felt a deep sense of community, and the entire group grew closer, realizing the profound power of their shared faith in times of need.”



661 Women attended the ARISE Women's Conference, where they worshiped together and heard from **3** incredible speakers who taught us how to Flourish in God's Love.





545

New Volunteers at WACC

\$26,191.70

In Needs Met for Kids and Families in Crisis Through Care Portal

93

Families in Crisis Served by Care Portal Response Team

350

Students Received Back to School Supplies

600

Less Resourced Families Who Shopped at the Rack at WACC

98

Go Serve Love Projects Served Our Community in March

250

Donated Easter Baskets For Families Served by The Whole Child During Go Serve Love

1,000

People Volunteered or Donated During Our Go Serve Love Campaign

33

Newly Housed Families Shopped at Welcome Home

15





GO

40

Graduating Foster Youth Who Were
Celebrated and Received Gifts

200 Kids

Received a Christmas Gift on Behalf of
Incarcerated Parents Through Angel Tree

133

Foster Youth Attended a Holiday
Party and Received Gifts

\$38,216

Donated Goods and Funds Given to Serve
Clients of Community Partners at Christmas

GLOBAL



\$309,306

Given to the Global Missions Fund in the Last 12 Months

\$35,228.26

To provide support during the holidays to
our Global Partners

30

Global Partners and Missionaries
Serving Around the World

5

Short-Term
Mission Trips

83

People Went
on Short-Term
Mission Trips

3

New
Global Partners



Team of young adults serving in Estonia.



630 Kids Attended VBS

Kids raised over **\$12,000** towards our Global Fundraiser providing over **1,000** Bibles for people across the world including Malawi, Estonia, Mexico, and the U.S.

375+

Volunteers
Helped with VBS

61

Kids Made a First Time
Decision to Follow Jesus

“

One of our VBS volunteers, Alexis, was deeply moved by the 1st and 2nd graders she led throughout the week. She guided her group through games, crafts, skits, and small group time, all while helping them learn how they can know God and how God knows them. By the end of the week, most of the kids in her group made the sincere decision to follow Jesus. Alexis described how overwhelming it was to witness their genuine desire to follow God. It was a powerful reminder of God's work in both our volunteers and kids!”

KIDS

49

Elementary Kids Went to Camp

57

Kids Have Been Dedicated

354

Children From Birth to 5th Grade
Attend WACC Kids Weekly

361

New Families Have Attended on
Sunday Mornings Since January

45

New Volunteers Have
Joined the Sunday Team



“

A family attending our WeE service began bringing their son weekly to ease him into his Sunday school class. Initially, he hesitated due to a language barrier, but with consistent greetings and support, the family’s burden eased as he grew more comfortable. His father would sit outside the classroom to offer reassurance, and over time, we placed a bilingual volunteer in his class. Slowly, the boy gained confidence and eventually joined full-time without his father nearby. He even attended VBS, made friends, and learned English through worship songs. His joy has been contagious, and we’re grateful to serve a God who unites us across languages.”

JUNIOR HIGH

“

In the Junior High Ministry, we focus on three things: having fun through games and events, making friends in small groups, and growing in faith through messages, worship, and prayer. These three elements had a huge impact on one 8th grader. He started attending for fun because friends invited him, even though his parents weren't involved in church and he didn't own a Bible. Over time, he grew in his faith, got a Bible, asked great questions, and now he's decided to get baptized! This student is a testament to how God works in JHM to reach and grow students.”

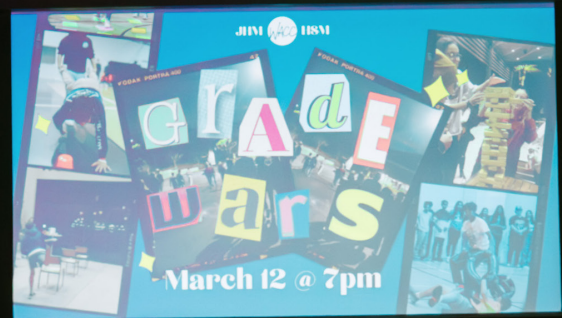
17 Small Group Leaders

480 Students at FAD

14 Students Baptized

36 Students Serving

95 Attended Camp



HIGH SCHOOL

“

This year, a student who hadn't attended church in years started coming on Tuesdays after his family encouraged him. He even decided to go to camp, where he experienced God for the first time and dedicated his life to Jesus. Since then, he's become one of our most focused students in his faith. Recently, he shared his testimony with his cousin, who had been making some bad decisions. Though his cousin was unresponsive at first, a week later he opened up about feeling God's presence during a service. Our student shared the gospel, helping his cousin take his first steps towards walking with Jesus.”



26 Student Volunteers

17 Students Baptized

122 Attended Camps

25 Small Group Leaders

230 at UNITE a Multi
Church Worship Night

26 HS Students Recommitted
to or Accepted Jesus Into
Their Lives for the First Time at
Summer Camp

YOUNG ADULTS

“

We saw God at work when 10 of our young adults went to Estonia. Despite flight delays and lost luggage, the team stayed united, finding God in the challenges. They served in various ways—preaching, leading worship, and guiding small group discussions. Estonia holds a special place for YA, with five team members returning for their second or third trip. We witnessed God in the Estonian youth and leaders, reminded that we all follow the same God and are part of the same family.”



This year we launched Bible study small groups for YA men and women.

Summer Nights services averaged **50** YA coming out to worship and listen to a message from Scripture.

15
Young Adults Went to Beach Camp

Young adults serve in all our ministries here at WACC from the prayer and welcome team, kids and student ministries, worship team, etc.

SPORTS



166
Volunteers

335
Kids in our Youth
Kicks League

426
Kids in our Youth
Hoops League

\$33,000+

Raised Between our Golf Tournament,
Shoot-A-Thon and Kick-A-Thon Fundraisers

“

WACC Sports has been a tremendous blessing for my family and me. My son and wife are involved in the ministry, and I feel privileged to coach and serve on the Sports Council. Our weekly team talks have significantly contributed to the growth of my son and his teammates' relationships with Jesus. This ministry has also blessed the parents in their spiritual walks, creating an effective way to unite families. To God be the glory!”

HOLY FO



FOREVER





WHITTIER AREA
COMMUNITY CHURCH

PIV
Service
8140
Collins Road