

2024 ANNUAL REPORT



In 2024, we experienced an extraordinary season of growth and transformation, driven by the momentum of our Decades campaign, which concluded in the spring. People are not only coming to Know God but also Find Community and Make a Difference in remarkable ways. Small groups have grown like never before, and the number of weekly baptisms has soared to new heights. Our Sunday gatherings are filled with energy and life—from the bustling NextGen environments to our packed Auditorium and Theater venues. As we look back on this year, it's evident that we are reaping a great harvest, and we expect that God will continue to move in even greater ways. The best is ahead!

WE'VE SEEN HOW GOOD IT WORKS
IF YOU START IT YOU'LL COMPLETE IT



Put on your new nature, and be renewed as you learn to know your Creator and become like Him.

- Colossians 3:10 (NLT)

KNOW GOD



- ▶ **3149** (32% increase)
people attending Sunday services (average)
- ▶ **1609 adults in person** (19% increase)
 - ▶ **589 NextGen** (17% increase)
 - ▶ **836 online** (25% increase)



- ▶ **1318**
first-time guests
(includes preschoolers, kids, and students)
- ▶ **230 gifts given to first-time guests**
(January-October)



- ▶ **3467**
people attended an Easter service

“ I’ve been attending The Bayou for six weeks, and the recent sermon on relationships really resonated with me, even while I was away for work in the Netherlands. I’m so grateful for this church’s openness and acceptance. Thank you, Sean and Derek, for all the work you’re doing! ”

- David Kieu

- ▶ **185**
baptisms

“ Last year, I took Sean up on the challenge to attend four weeks of the *Soundtracks* series. That decision changed everything. Since then, I’ve completed First Steps, joined The Bayou, volunteered, joined a small group, and even read the Bible cover to cover. ”

- Mike Dohrman



When we get together, I want to encourage you in your faith, but I also want to be encouraged by yours.
Romans 1:12 (NLT)



FIND COMMUNITY

▶ 1661

people participating
in groups (average)

- ▶ 113 adults in discipleship groups
- ▶ 24 new small groups started
- ▶ 980 adults in small groups
- ▶ 144 adults in care groups
- ▶ 179 students in small groups
- ▶ 67 students in Bayou Students Internship
- ▶ 245 kids in small group

▶ 156

First Steps graduates

▶ 94

K-WOW participants (4th and 5th graders)

▶ 390

preschoolers/kids/students
attended a summer camp

▶ 111

adults, students, and kids attending
Celebrate Recovery on Monday
nights (average)

▶ 270

singles attended Complete in
Christ events (average)

▶ 340

Women's Night attendance (average)

▶ 183

Men's Night attendance (average)

“After moving back home from college, I felt both excited and nervous about what God had in store. I wanted to join a young adult small group but couldn't find one that fit, so after prayer and encouragement, I took the step of starting a Bible study. God moved in incredible ways, bringing both new and old friends, and within a few weeks, we had 13 regular members. It's been amazing to see how a simple step of obedience can lead to more fruit than I could have imagined.”

- Emma LeBouef

God has given each of you a gift from His great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another.

- 1 Peter 4:10 (NLT)



MAKE A DIFFERENCE



- ▶ **172** volunteers serving on a Sunday (average)
- ▶ **8** Bayou Crew projects with 345 volunteer hours
- ▶ **226** educators encouraged with gifts at #ForAcadiana Educators
- ▶ **8** Lafayette Parish schools received checks for special projects
- ▶ **450** Haitian kids received a hot meal at school each day
- ▶ **\$566,067** donated to ministry partners in Acadiana and beyond (Dec 2023-Nov 2024)
- ▶ **\$17,500** given for disaster relief for Hurricane Helene, Hurricane Francine, and Hurricane Milton

“ In January 2023, Sean and the staff preached the *Chazown* series about finding God's vision for your life, which came at a perfect time for me. After moving from education to real estate, I missed the connections with students, and soon after, I was invited to be the chaplain for Comeaux High's football team. It's been a highlight of my week, allowing me to mentor and share God's love with young men in a new way, reminding me that God uses us exactly as He plans when we make ourselves available. ”

- Matt Wells

“ Wow! I was so surprised and delighted by your Educator Drive-Thru. Thank you for making what is usually a dreaded and hectic time a joyful one. I appreciated the lunch and the prayers. Your team was incredible! ”

- Lynley Jones,
elementary teacher at Ascension Episcopal School

