

# theCHURCH of Arizona

## Annual Report - 2024



**Praise the Lord! Amen?!** There is no better time than today to be theCHURCH!

People are becoming more and more challenged with the circumstances and struggles of everyday life and it seems so many are searching for answers that are bigger than themselves.

There's **something lacking** and so many **don't know what it is... Most everybody is searching** and they **don't really know what** they are looking for.

This is why people become addicted to so many things... We **run our desires into the ground** hoping the **next time**, or the next **one thing**, or **next person**, will give us **the satisfaction** we are **craving and literally dying for**.

Billy Graham once said:

**People are actually searching for God and don't know it...** They will **never find** that total **satisfaction** and **peace** and **purpose** and **meaning** in their life **until they have surrendered** their life to God

**theCHURCH knows Jesus is** our satisfaction, our peace, our purpose, our wholeness, our healing, and our victory, because He is our life. He is the Greater Reality!

We, theCHURCH, have been put here to spread this message of hope and healing in a world that is literally dying to know Jesus. But it's going to take all of us!

**Acts 5:42** "And **every day**, in the temple and from house to house, **they** did not cease teaching and preaching that the Christ is Jesus."

So once again let's roll up our sleeves and get busy! Praise the Lord!

Pastor Ernie



**Our Vision:**

**Making it easier for people to know Jesus.**



**Our Mission:**

**Leading people into a growing relationship with Jesus**

## Fun Facts:

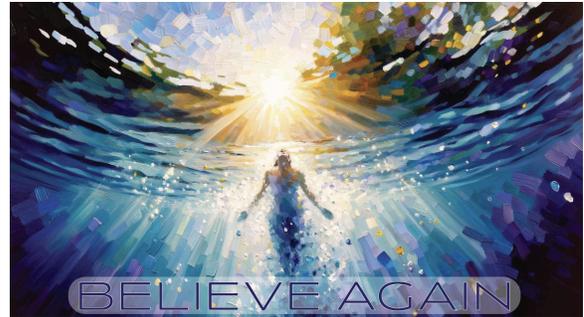
We baptized 82 new Christians in 2024!

**Praise the Lord** for another amazing year for all of us at theCHURCH as we work daily to **make it easier for people to know Jesus and lead them into a growing relationship with Him!** In 2024 we hosted an average of **862 people** every Sunday morning for worship services (at both campuses). This is a **23% increase** over last year. This year we had **407 first-time guests (up 16% in 2024)!** Through our leadership pathway, theWAY+, we had **99** people attend the Discovery Class, and **42 new theCHURCH partners!**



### HEBER-OVERGAARD CAMPUS

On **January 14, 2024** we launched our **first satellite campus in Heber-Overgaard (H-O)**. In this first year we began with 47 people and ended with an average of **79 people** attending H-O per week (**68% growth**). The H-O campus meets at the Mountain Meadows Primary School in Heber and is led by Campus Pastor Ron Everingham and Campus Leader Zach Mavrolas.



### EASTER and CHRISTMAS

As most of you are aware, our **Easter** and **Christmas** services are some of the largest events of the year when we get to come together as the family of God and celebrate the **birth and resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!** This year we had **1,389** people attend our Easter services and **1,212** attend on Christmas Eve!



**At Easter 2025, we will begin offering three services on Sunday Mornings in Lakeside.**

## Fun Facts:

theCHURCH social media was viewed 33,500 times and our content was played over 123,000 times in 2024

## COMMUNITY GROUPS

Our Community Groups are committed to providing a place where you can “get real.” Our Groups live out the philosophy that **Groups should be a place where together you encounter real life, real people and a real Jesus.** Our Groups are doing life together; serving, taking classes, exploring the weekly sermons and God's word, praying and taking communion and so much more. We are expanding God's kingdom by launching new Groups in communities like Snowflake, Vernon and Round Valley. **Our vision is to make it easier for people to know Jesus all over the White Mountains, one group at a time!** At the end of 2024 we had **32 community groups** meeting weekly. These groups have **387 active members led by 60 group leaders.**

### Fun Facts:

Our content on YouTube was viewed 34,600 times with over 6,500 hours watched.

## MENS and WOMENS DISCIPLESHIP

Our Men's discipleship ministry has really grown this last year. We had four **mens' discipleship groups with approximately 70 men** attending. Our women's ministry is absolutely on fire for Jesus! In 2024, **197 women** attended theCHURCH's **“Abide”: Women's Conference.** The **“Behold” women's retreat hosted 77 women.** Finally, the monthly **Women's Gathering had an average attendance of 35.**

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

This year we began the process of developing **classes to make more and better disciples of Jesus Christ** through Christian Education. At theCHURCH our **definition of a disciple is someone who knows Jesus, lives like Jesus, and leads others to do the same.** Our classes will cover three main areas that are essential to discipleship: **Bible, Beliefs, and Formation.** In the fall of 2024, **27 people completed the first Intro to Bible Basics class.** Please look forward to classes being offered during every Spring and Fall semester in the coming years.



## FAMILY MINISTRY

Our family ministry at theCHURCH includes NextGen ministries (His Kidz, Youth, Young Adults), marriage ministries, and parenting ministries.

### **theCHURCH Kids**

Our NextGen ministry represents the future of theCHURCH. In 2024 we averaged **111 children per weekend** in our His Kidz services.

This year's Vacation Bible School (VBS) “Start the Party - Celebrate the Good News” included **135 children** for an entire week at theCHURCH!



In 2025, VBS will take place June 2nd-6th. The theme for this year is **LIVE IT OUT** Where kids discover they can love like Jesus.

We are so thankful that we had **seven more people in our church step up to lead as His Kidz team members** just in the last quarter. If you feel called to **teach biblical principles and make a difference in the lives of our kids**, we welcome you to contact Pastor Chad.

## Fun Facts:

Operation Christmas Child resulted in 367 gift boxes for children around the world!

### **YOUTH:**

Our youth group, “**Elevate**” (Jr. High and High School) meets on Tuesdays at 6:30 PM. Last year, Elevate averaged **50 students per week**. In February 2025 we will relaunch the Tuesday night group “**the Mix**” for our 4th-6th graders on **Tuesdays from 5:30-7:30pm**.

The Youth Ministry held a powerful Night of Worship this fall with **students leading worship for the service**. The

youth group’s attendance has grown by 10% and more importantly **we are seeing more students serving on ministry teams on Sundays** (Currently about 15% of regular students are serving in theCHURCH).



Our youth Summer Camp (Theme: Know Thyself - Discovering your God Given Purpose) had **68 students** attend and **19 of them committed their lives to Jesus and were baptized**.

## Fun Facts:

In 2024, theCHURCH app was downloaded 1,007 times, launched over 18,800 times, and pages were opened more than 146,300 times

### **YOUNG ADULTS:**

Our **Young Adults continue to meet on Thursday nights from 6-8pm**. The group averaged 10 people each week with larger groups (15-20) for special events (game nights, high ropes courses, etc.). **The group provides a weekly connection point, bible study, and discipleship opportunities**. This

fall, the Young Adults did a service project providing oil changes and car maintenance for single-moms and people in need.

#### **MARRIAGE:**

Our Marriage Ministry held a spring marriage workshop with 35 registrations. **We are working to equip and utilize marriage mentors in 2025.**

### **Fun Facts:**

In 2024, we received approximately 1,820 prayer requests which our staff and Pastors diligently prayed over each week

#### **PARENTING:**

theCHURCH Parenting Ministry offered two Dedicated workshops followed by two Baby Dedication services. **We had a total of 15 families who dedicated themselves and their children to following Jesus in their homes.**

Starting January 12th, 2025 theCHURCH is offering a **12-week parenting workshop based on the book, "Shepherding a Child's Heart"** by Tedd Tripp. This workshop is designed to equip parents with **biblical principles for guiding and nurturing their children's hearts**, not just their behavior.

This is a wonderful opportunity to **gain practical insights, grow in your parenting journey, and connect with**

**other parents.** Whether you're a new parent or navigating the challenges of older children, **this workshop provides valuable tools to help you disciple your kids with grace and purpose.** We look forward to offering this workshop again in the fall of 2025.



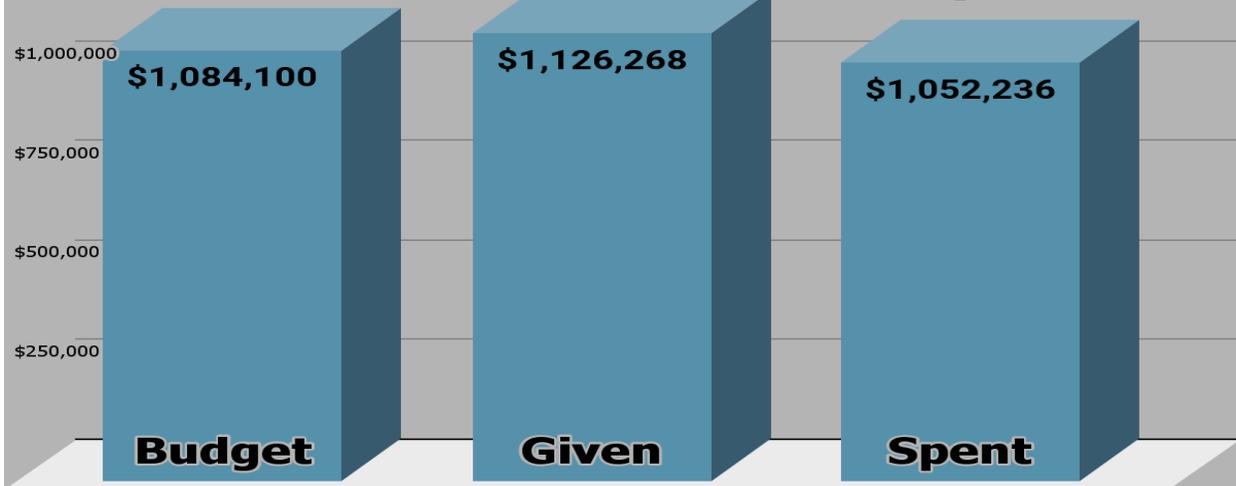
#### **RE:CENTER**

**The RE:center is a workbench for our community.** It is where we can all come together to be the **hands and feet of Jesus as we show his love to people** that don't know that they can know him. Last year the RE:center provided **28,848 meals** and **5,255 food boxes** to people in our community. There were **262 homeless people who were connected to housing services.** In the recovery housing program, **100% of the participants were employed within 30 days.** Because of your generosity, as well as grants and other funding sources, the RE:center was able to provide **\$24,000 in financial aid to secure employment, prevent homelessness and stabilize people in crisis.**

### **Fun Facts:**

We had 1,569 registrations for events at theCHURCH in 2024

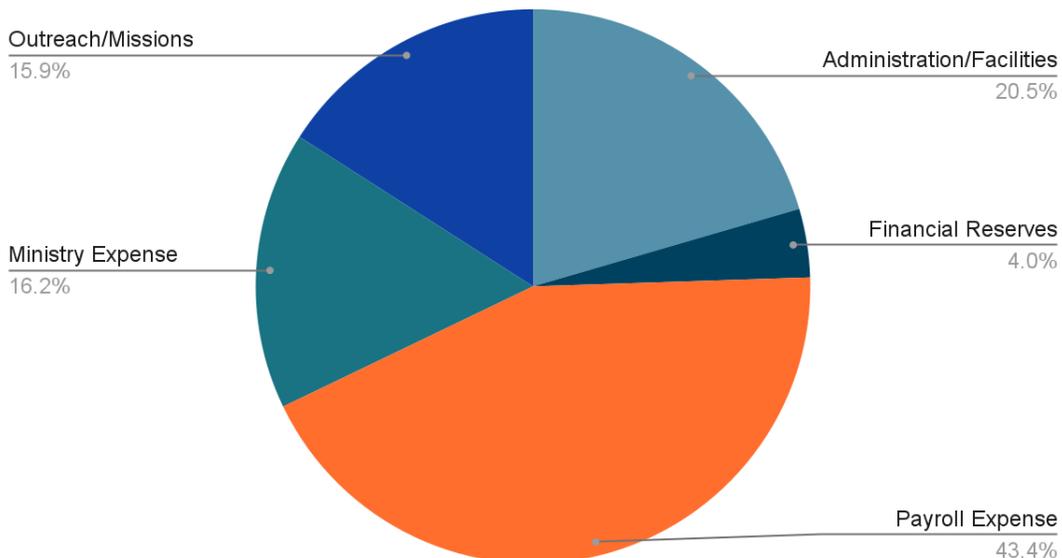
# theCHURCH 2024 Financial Report



At theCHURCH we believe that we are each called to be **irrationally generous with our time, talents, and treasures**. God has richly blessed theCHURCH in so many ways including 100's of volunteer leaders and the financial means to accomplish everything he is calling us to do. We believe that **God honors his people and his church when we faithfully lift up the name of Jesus** in all we do.

The Annual Christmas Gift (ACG) was committed to our primary outreach ministry, the RE:center. Through your generosity the **ACG raised \$67,772 to create a Jesus culture in the White Mountains that doesn't demand a Jesus response**.

## Expenses by Category



**VISION 2025**  
**EVERYDAY CHURCH!**

Our pastors and staff are constantly seeking God's vision and His will for theCHURCH, and for our community. Since God planted theCHURCH, and again this year, **we are being challenged through Scripture to be the everyday church**

And **every day**, in the **temple** and from **house to house**, they did not cease teaching and **preaching that the Christ is Jesus**. (Acts 5:42)

I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to **present your bodies as a living sacrifice (everyday)**, holy and acceptable to God, which is your **spiritual worship**. Do not be conformed to this world, but **be transformed by the renewal of your mind (everyday)**, that by testing you may discern what is **the will of God**, what is good and acceptable and perfect. (Rom. 12:1-2)

These passages show that God is calling us to be **more than a Sunday only church**, collectively as well as individually. We are to **dedicate our**

**whole selves** to the service of the Lord Jesus every day; in theCHURCH and in our homes. We are to present our very selves (our bodies) as **a living sacrifice to God**. We are to be **transformed and renewed daily by the presence and leadership of His Holy Spirit in our lives**.

God is calling His church, you and I, to big things this year and beyond. He has given us a vision to **purchase land for a new campus** and continue planning for that campus. He has called us to continue to develop classes to **grow more and better disciples of Jesus**. He has led us to understand the need for a **third service beginning at Easter in 2025**.

These things can only be accomplished by the grace of God and by the commitment and generosity of partners just like you. Thank you so much for being a part of getting this far, praise the Lord, now let's dig our heels in because we are just getting started, Amen?!

**THANK YOU!**

On behalf of all of the pastors and staff at theCHURCH, we would just like to say thank you! None of what was accomplished last year would have been possible without the generosity of each of our committed partners like you. We are excited about what God is calling us to in 2025 and we hope you will continue to join us in serving, leading, and generously giving to His vision. The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you. [Our] love be with you all in Christ Jesus. Amen. (1 Cor. 16:23-24)

**Making it easier for people to know Jesus.**