



NORTHRIDGE ANNUAL REPORT

2019

2019 was a year to celebrate here at Northridge. We have seen God's faithfulness in the mission He has called us to. As I write this I am humbled to tell you that we have seen 57 people make decisions for Christ and 14 more were baptized. As Moses told the Israelite people when they were by the Red Sea in Exodus 14:13, "Fear not, stand firm, and see the salvation of the Lord, which He will work for you today." This is a work of God among us as we have seen the grace and mercy of Jesus Christ change people's hearts forever. So many more have stepped into deeper levels of spiritual community in small groups, mini-congregations, and Bible Studies and yet others into service. God is at work among us and we celebrate what He is doing as we walk with Him each day.

Each person who calls Northridge home is pivotal to the mission that we have in Connecting Hearts to Christ. Your investment in what God is doing here with your time, talent, and treasure is leading to an impact that is clearly showing us that God is at work. What could happen in 2020? We look forward to what He will lead us to together.

As you read through the pages of this report I hope you see how God is moving and how you can continue to invite people to join us in the years ahead. You belong here and we can't wait to see what God does through your life as you walk with Him.

God Bless
Pastor Ben, Lead Pastor



As 2019 comes to a close and we approach the season of celebrating the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ we thank God for his faithfulness and mercies that we see daily!

The overseers have committed to praying for our church body. We will adhere to Peter's calling in his epistle 2 Peter 3:18, "that we grow in grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ." We believe this happens by faithfully preaching God's word from the pulpit and developing a discipleship pathway through Mini Congregations, Life Groups and Bible Studies. We are thankful for God's calling of Gina Reynen in the position of Minister of Sending and Equipping.

We also praise God that this year we were able to make significant progress in our debt reduction thanks to your generosity, to your continued commitment to our Elevate campaign and 5th Sunday offerings.

In closing we ask God by the power of the Holy Spirit that we remain faithful in glorifying him by pointing people to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, to him be the glory both now and forever amen. God's blessing on all of you as we head into a new year.

Alan Miller
Chair of the Board of Overseers



YOUTH MINISTRIES

You have probably heard people say that the youth are the future of the church. To me, that comment seems pretty obvious. But if our youth, here at Northridge, are the future of the church, I believe that the church is in good hands. We have a really great group of teenagers. And they make up a big part of the church. We have over 130 youth on our mailing list. That number can be both encouraging and discouraging.

Because we are such a big group, we need to work hard to make things small. This is our second year of splitting up the high school and middle school. It gives each group a chance to flourish on their own. It creates a less intimidating atmosphere for the middle school and it helps keep things deeper for the high school.

We also break up into small groups every week. There are 11 different small groups that are broken up by gender and age. This is where the real community happens. My prayer is that they pray for each other and find support and encouragement from their peers that are fighting the same battles.

We have an incredible group of adult leaders that lead and co-lead these groups. The ministry would not be the same without them. They are an incredible group of leaders. Our teenagers are extremely blessed to have them. So make sure you are thanking your student's small group leaders on a regular basis.

Thank you for your encouragement and prayers. It is a privilege to be working with our teenagers.

Pastor Nate
Youth Pastor



YOUTH MINISTRIES

THE ENCOURAGING: We have a huge number of teenagers that are attached to this church in some way. They may come to both Charge and Sunday School. Maybe they go to just Charge or just Sunday School. Or maybe they come sporadically or just once in a while. They may be a friend of one of our regulars that wanted to be added to our mailing list. Whatever the reason, we have a large group of students that are attached to Northridge in some way.

CHARGE SMALL GROUP LEADERS:

Blake Waddell, Chris Haiar, Stu Rothschadl, Josh Stange, Renee Schroeder, Stephanie Dockweiler, Fredel Thomas, Laine Weerheim, Cara Van Zee, Heidi Eitemiller, Trisha Rothschadl, Clayton Moore, Jason Gebhard, Jared Hofer, John Schroeder, Greg Feiner.

SNACK LADIES:

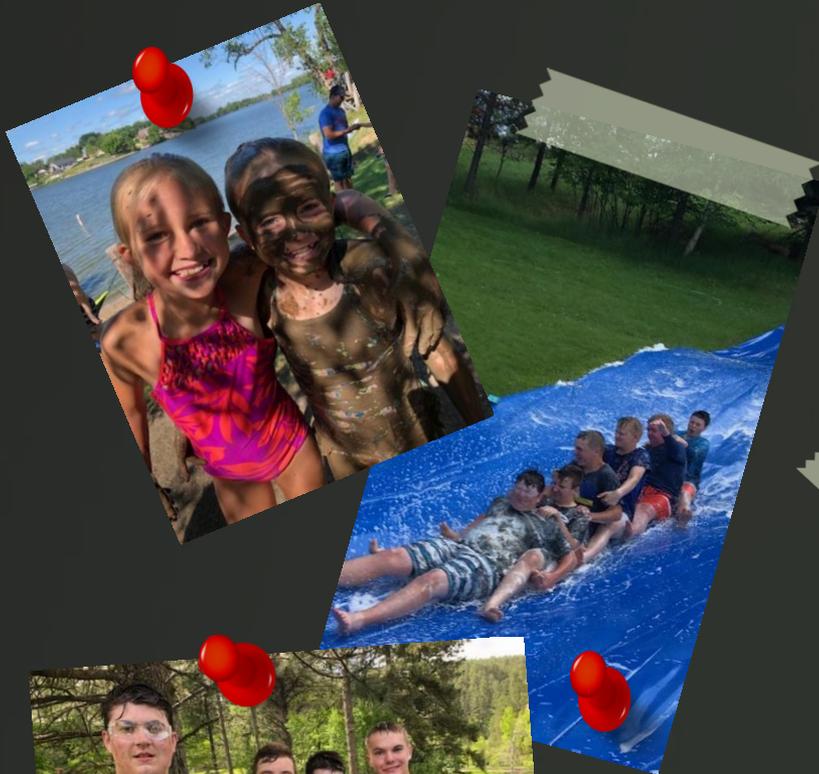
Mandy DeBoer & Melissa Stange

THE DISCOURAGING: We can have anywhere from 70-90 students here for a typical Wednesday night. That means we have 40-60 students that are not there. Sometimes it is homework, sometimes it is school activities, sometimes they are at DWU basketball games, and sometimes they don't have an excuse at all. That means well over a third of the teenagers that could be here are not here. I don't have to tell you how important I feel it is for them to be here. This world is throwing all kinds of negative ideas at them. This is one of the few things in their life that can fight against those negatives influences and offer positives. It is a chance to get a spiritual boost half way through their school week. Being a middle schooler or high schooler these days is extremely hard. There are so many struggles and temptations they are facing. They need all the support and encouragement they can get! I would love to see more consistency in some of our more "fringy" students. Because I know how important a "Charge" in their spiritual life can be every week.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS: Ramona Bloodgood & Lori Jones



Middle School & High School



Hebrews 10:24-25 And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Our discipleship path is continuing to grow and I am excited to share some of the things that we currently have going on. On Sunday morning we have four adult mini congregations meeting as they spur one another on while digging into His Word and mining His treasures together. This fall these groups have explored the topics of prayer and how God speaks to us. They are a sweet picture of discipling and making disciples.

We currently have a dozen active Life Groups with new groups continuing to be formed. We have two men's Bible studies and three women's Bible studies weekly. Bible Study Fellowship (BSF) for women meets on Thursday mornings at Northridge. We have a prayer team that is presently praying through our worship services with more opportunities ahead.

As you can see, there is a place for YOU here to learn and grow and serve at Northridge. My favorite thing about this position at Northridge is listening to people and helping them find their place in this church where they can learn and serve and grow! My door is open if you are looking for your place here in the body of Christ at Northridge.

Gina Reynen
Minister of Equipping and Sending



Adult Ministries



“I look forward to Tuesday morning Bible study each week. It is an amazing group of women who are inviting and accepting and it doesn’t matter what we study, I learn so much from our study and from them. There hasn’t been a study I haven’t loved. I feel truly fed each week!”

Bible Studies

Jodi Asbenson, Women’s Bible Study

“Life Groups provide such a great opportunity to get to know others in our church on a more personal level. It encourages growth in your faith to regularly meet for fellowship, prayer and studying God’s Word with others who desire the same. We look forward to each of our meetings.”

Kris Enga, Life Groups

LIFE GROUPS

“Life Groups have been a place to slow down, develop relationships that are not superficial, and take a closer look at the current condition of my heart. They have been a safe place to wrestle through tough life issues with fellow believers who also provide a layer of accountability in my life.”

Glen Nydam, Life Groups

Mini Congregations

“We are made strong with fellow believers around us, holding each other up and encouraging us for life’s battles.”

Doug Northrup, Mini Congregations

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

Mandy Deboer, our Children's Director, finished out the school year in June. The CHARGE youth and Pastor Nate joined Mandy to put on the winter carnival in February. This spring, 26 kids asked Christ into their lives during our Vacation Bible School- ROAR! Following VBS Mandy stepped down from her position and volunteered to serve in our youth ministry CHARGE.

God continues to provide a multitude of volunteers who have done a remarkable job ministering to the kids of Northridge. Traci Moore and Cassie Meier have been serving in Orange 252 for years and they joined with Jennifer Bainbridge to plan each weeks programming. Jennifer has been the point person for leaders and kids on Wednesday nights.

In addition to Orange 252, Jennifer has helped with Sunday School teachers and with the little kids Christmas choir. Jessica Baas took over directing the Children's Christmas musical *The Christmas Express*. We have so many wonderful volunteers who have helped over the years to make this event happen. Duane Lippert, Brad Jelinek, Pat Shannon, DeAnn Prill and Casey Eitemiller have filled in with set design, music and sound.

We are blessed to have 30 volunteers every Wednesday night at Orange, 20 volunteers for the Sunday School program and over 70 nursery volunteers! Kids are a big part of Northridge and we appreciate everyone who is passionate about making sure they know Jesus!

Deb Weitala, Ministry Assistant



GLORIFY GOD BY CONNECTING HEARTS TO CHRIST

Children's Ministries

Orange252

10 Connect Groups
30 Leaders
90-95 Kids

Sunday School

7 Classes
18 Leaders
90 Kids

Children's Church

31 Leaders
20-40 Kids

Vacation Bible School

41 Leaders
1 Kids
26 Decisions for Christ

Nursery

71 Volunteers



WORSHIP MINISTRIES

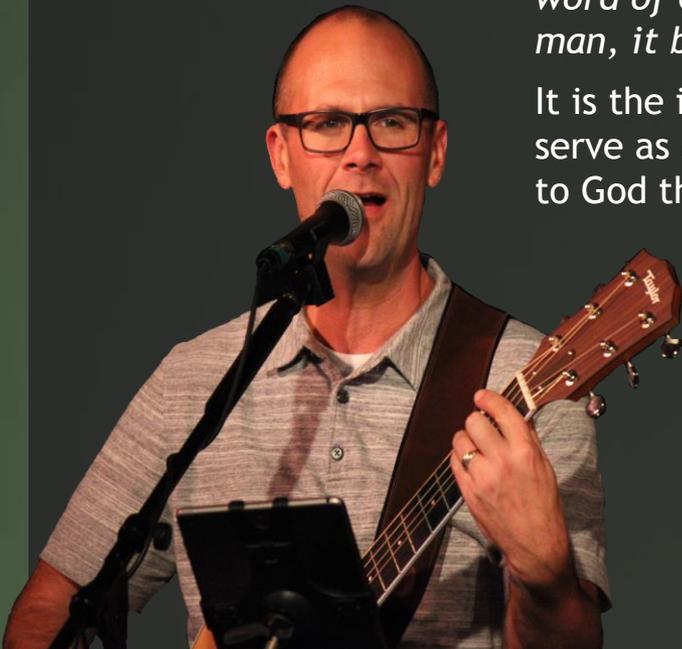
Sing for joy to God our Strength; shout aloud to the God of Jacob (Psalm 81:8).

Worship music is one of the best and most available blessings in our daily lives. The chance to sing these songs and hymns together with other believers is an amazing opportunity. We were created to glorify God, and one of the most tangible ways to do this is through song.

Each week at Northridge, the worship team leads the congregation in songs that are meant to infuse us with joy and strength with words crafted into song from the holy word of God. Better yet, while increasing joy and energy of man, it blesses the name of the LORD.

It is the incredible honor and privilege of the worship team to serve as a means to help bring the people of Northridge nearer to God through our service.

Casey Eitemiller
Worship Director





WEEKLY ATTENDANCE



2017



401

2018



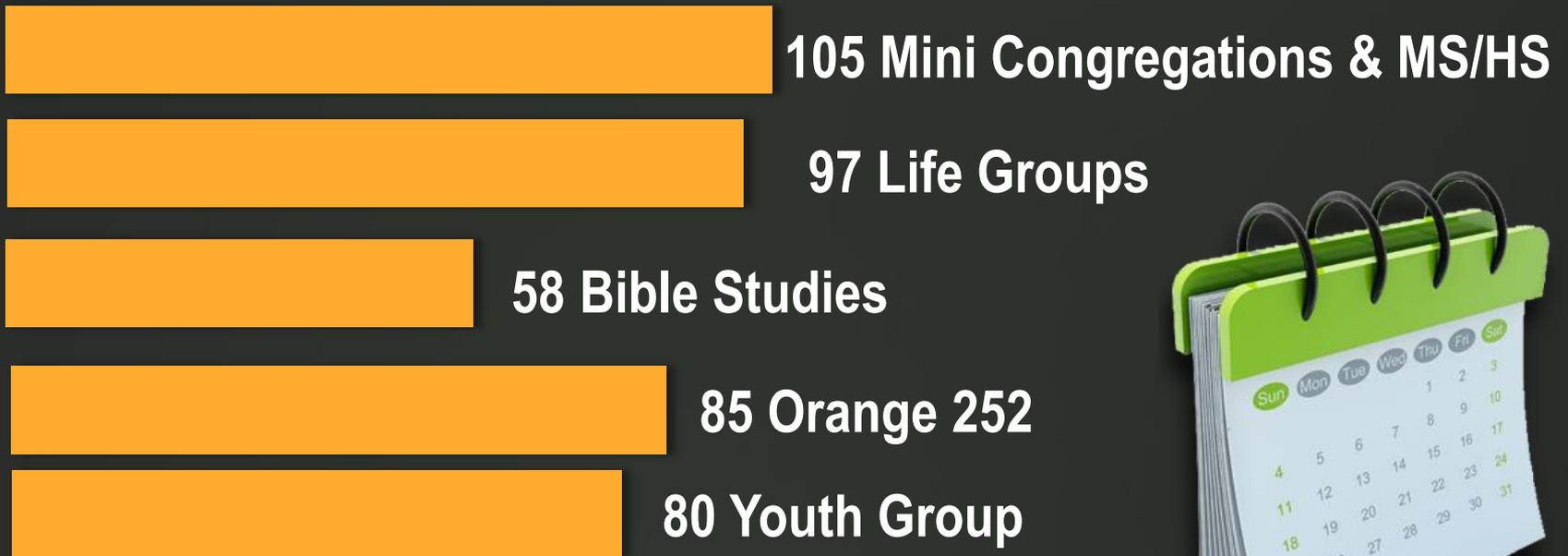
364

2019



376

OTHER AVERAGE WEEKLY ATTENDANCE



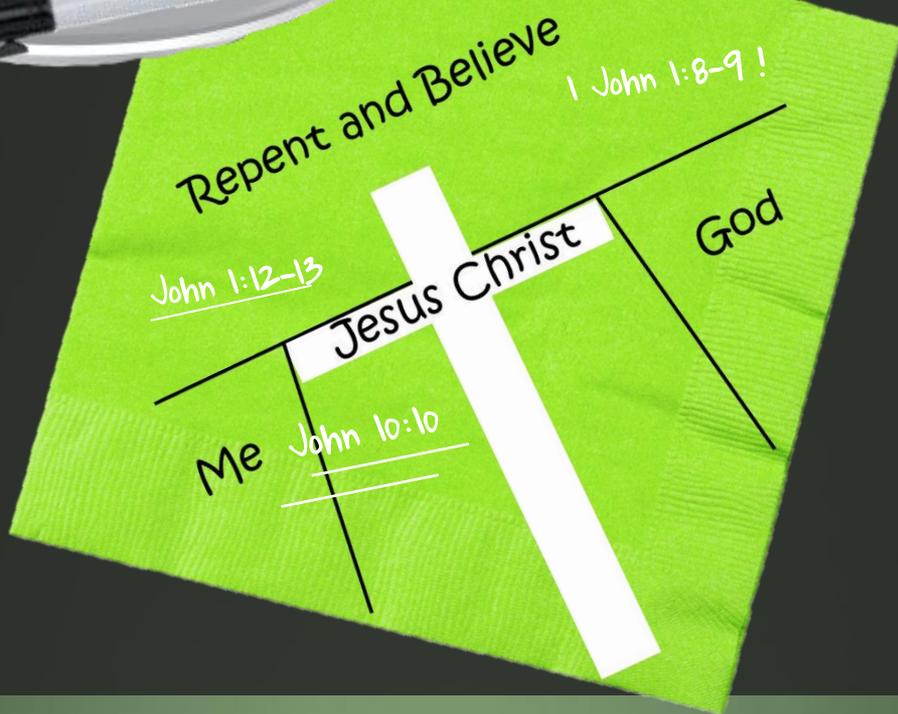


LIVES CHANGING

DECISIONS FOR CHRIST - 57

NEW MEMBERS - 16

BAPTISMS - 14

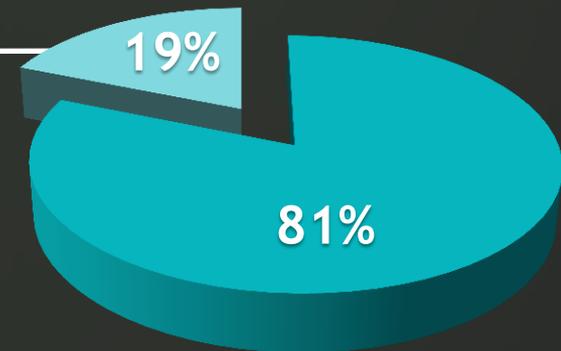


2019 Financials

Total Budgeted Income:

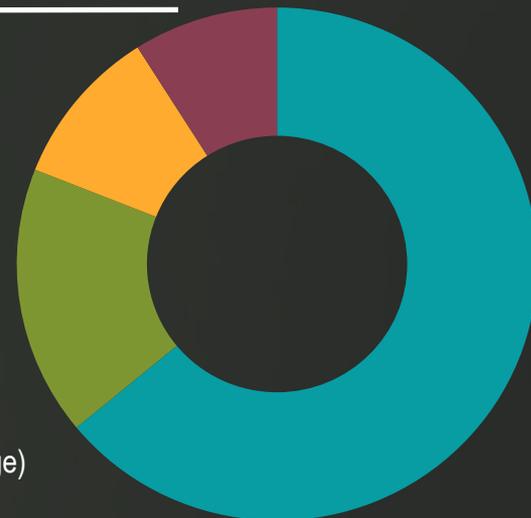
\$651,550

as of 12/1/19 – \$529,066

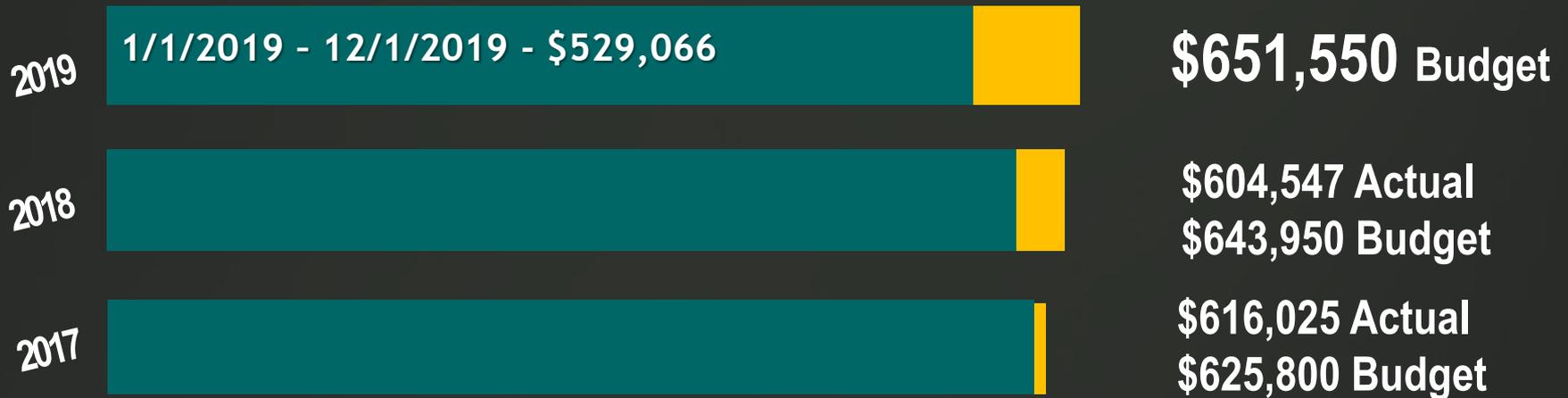


2019 Expenditure Allocation:

- Facilities 17% \$110,763
- Personnel 64% \$416,992
- Ministry 10% \$65,155
- Mission/Outreach 9% \$58,639
(payments made at the end of the year increase percentage)



GENERAL FUND GIVING COMPARISON



DIGITAL GIVING



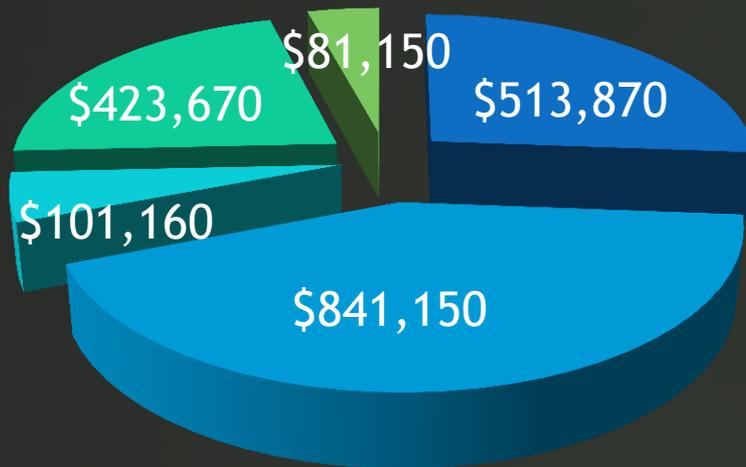
In 2019 the digital averages \$3,409 per week.

31%

of our offering is online.

ELEVATE

TOTAL BUILDING: **\$1,961,000**



- 26% Previously Dedicated Funds
- 43% Paid Pledges
- 5% Outstanding Pledges/Short Term Loan
- 22% Long Term Loan
- 4% 5th Sundays

ELEVATE

TOTAL BUILDING: **\$1,961,000**

PAID PRIOR TO THIS YEAR - \$1,411,180

2019 ELEVATE PAYMENT - \$45,000

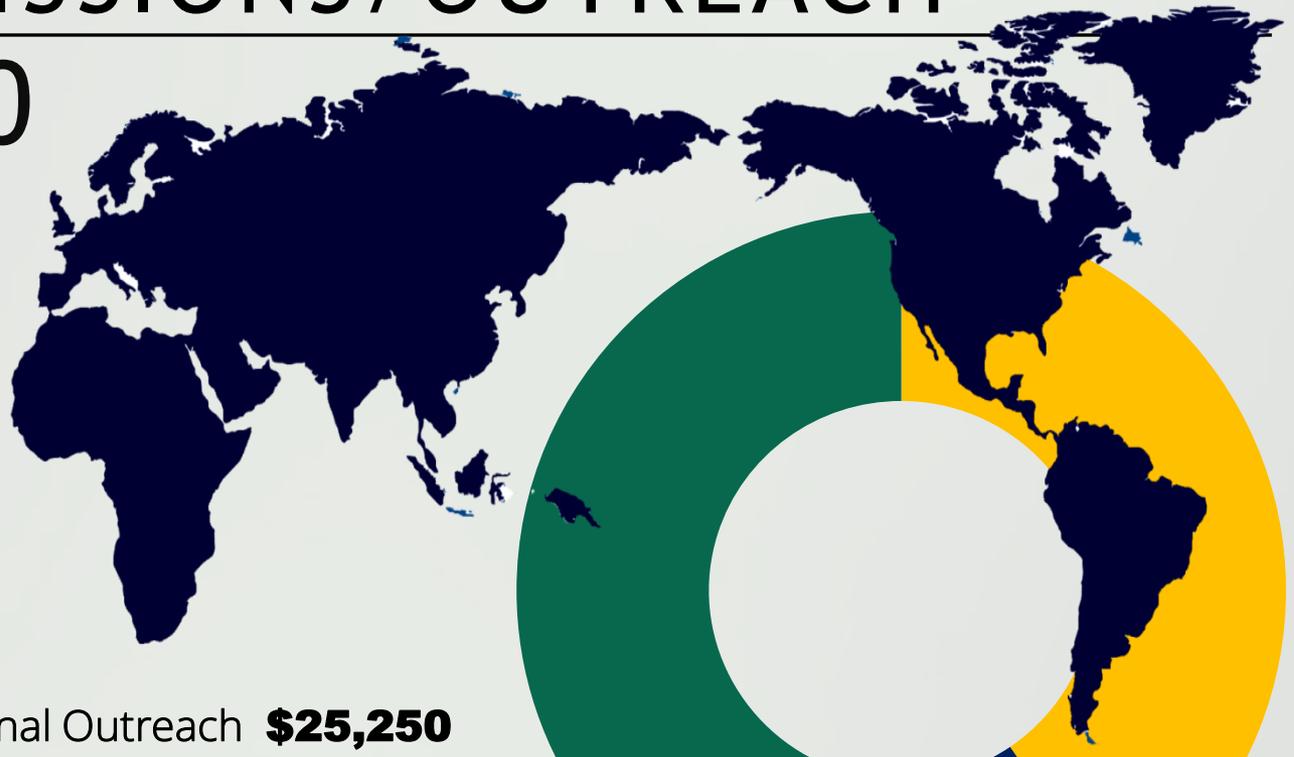
2019 5TH SUNDAY OFFERINGS - \$81,150

LONG TERM BALANCE: **\$423,670**



2019 MISSIONS/OUTREACH

\$62,450



 41% International Outreach **\$25,250**

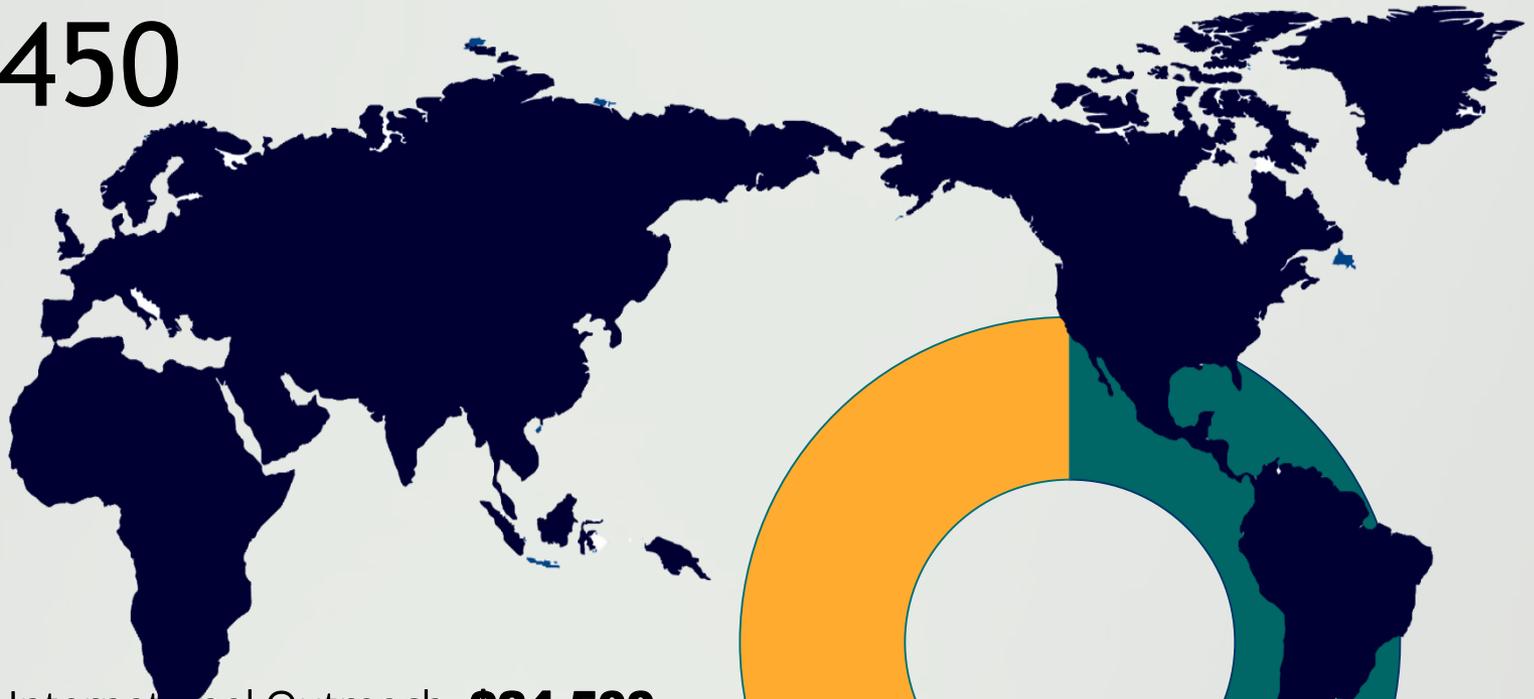
 14% National Outreach **\$9,000**

 45% Local Outreach **\$28,200**



2020 PROJECTED MISSIONS/OUTREACH

\$64,450



 38% International Outreach **\$24,500**

 7% National Outreach **\$4,400**

 55% Local Outreach **\$35,550**



VOTING

PROPOSED BUDGET
SEE HANDOUT

OVERSEER NOMINATIONS

Jason Thomas - 1st Term
Jared Hofer - 1st Term