



life church

BUFFALO

2019 ANNUAL
REPORT



“ Every number represents a name, every name has a story, and every story matters to God. ”

As a visionary leader, I am wired to look ahead. Yet, as I look back to 2019, I am overwhelmed with gratitude for all that God did in and through our church last year. And I hope you realize that what God is doing in our church is NOT normal! Every year we continue to see God's favor on our church.

2019 was a watershed year for Life Church Buffalo. We saw incredible growth in every area of ministry...we added a third service, held our first ever Serve Day, and launched Legacy, a 15 month giving campaign necessary to build a new and larger auditorium. These have all been a part of our mission to help people know and follow Jesus step by step.

My favorite growth was seeing the family of Christ grow last year. In 2019, we had the honor of witnessing 188 people come to know Jesus, and 71 people take their next step in baptism! We have front row seats to these miracles every weekend, and I am so proud of the hundreds of volunteers and faithful contributors who live and give with generosity. Without them, none of this would be possible.

So as you read through this report, I want to encourage you to remember that every number represents a name, every name has a story, and every story matters to God. These numbers represent lives that were impacted by the gospel. Behind every story of life change is an army of selfless servants who give to the Lord to see the mission of our church realized.

So from the bottom of my heart, THANK YOU! Thank you for going on this journey with us. Thank you for investing your life and your resources into God's work through Life Church Buffalo. I truly believe that the best is yet to come!

Gratefully yours,

Pete Jankowski, Lead Pastor

TO HELP PEOPLE
KNOW AND **FOLLOW**
JESUS

STEP BY STEP.

REACH & TEACH

WITH EXCELLENCE

BELONG & BECOME

WITH AUTHENTICITY

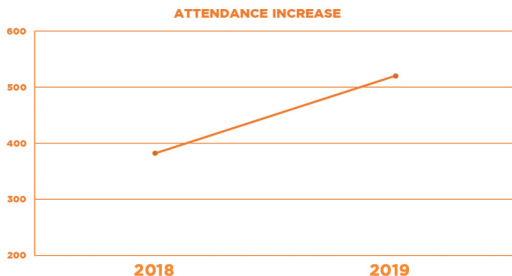
LOVE & SERVE

WITH INTENTIONALITY

REACH & TEACH

WITH EXCELLENCE





36%
INCREASE FROM 2018

AVERAGE WEEKLY ATTENDANCE

2018	2019
382	520

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FIRST & SECOND TIME GUESTS

2019 1ST TIME GUESTS: 551
2019 2ND TIME GUESTS: 231

791

EASTER EXPERIENCE

15% > 2018

1,118

CHRISTMAS EXPERIENCE

41.92%

CONVERSION 1ST TIME GUEST TO 2ND TIME GUEST

184 NEW COVENANT PARTNERS IN 2019

Covenant Partners Commit to:

- ◆ Protect the unity of their church
- ◆ Share the responsibility of their church
- ◆ Serve the ministry of their church
- ◆ Support the testimony of their church

188

DECISIONS FOR CHRIST IN 2019

2019

188

2018

134

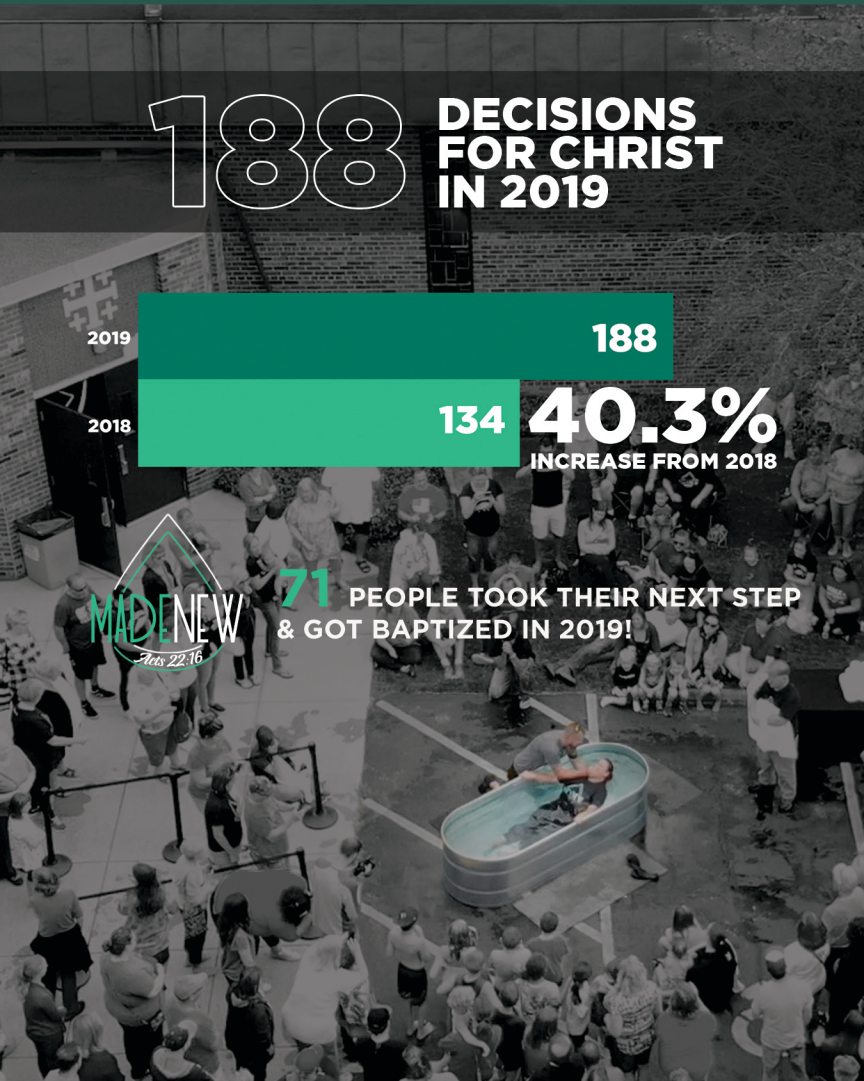
40.3%

INCREASE FROM 2018



71

PEOPLE TOOK THEIR NEXT STEP
& GOT BAPTIZED IN 2019!



BELONG & BECOME

WITH AUTHENTICITY

starting
point

A CONVERSATION
ABOUT FAITH

28

**people completed
Starting Point in 2019**

GrowthPath

YOUR LIFE WAS MEANT TO GROW!

209

**people completed
Growth Path in 2019**

PLEDGE GOAL
\$400,000

AMOUNT PLEDGED
\$485,375

LEG
AS ONE.

PHASE 1



NEW WORSHIP AUDITORIUM

Our vision statement calls us to be a local church who "joyfully makes room for people at every stage of belief." As we press the limits of our current building, we must "make room" in the most literal way. The new 10,000 approximate square foot worship auditorium will be connected to the back of our campus, and will help us **Reach & Teach** using the latest sound and multimedia technology. The addition of new, larger adult bathrooms will (finally!) give the children's ministry their own dedicated space on Sunday mornings.

197
JULY 2016

AVERAGE WEEKLY
SUNDAY ATTENDANCE

RENOVATED MULTI-PURPOSE COMMUNITY SPACE



PHASE 2



Doing life to the central aspect of **Become**. A goal to renovate and repurpose into a versatile, multi-purpose

- A welcoming atrium for conv take place
- A brighter, more intimate ch community events
- Meeting rooms for monthly St gatherings
- Easily accessible prayer room



FOR THE ONE.

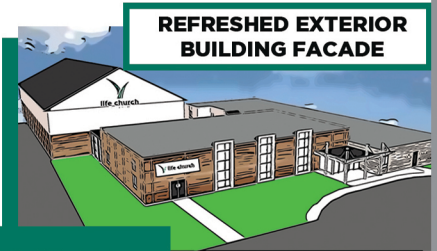
RECEIVED
IN 2019
\$270,158

537
AUGUST 2019



SE
together in community is a
of our value to **Belong &**
of the Legacy project is to
use our current auditorium
space that will include:

versations and new connections to
pel for weddings, funerals, and
Starting Point and Growth Path



PHASE 3

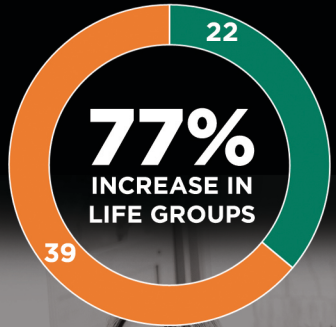
The buildings that house Life Church were originally built 50 years ago to serve a different audience, with a different vision, in a different era. Through a fresh, contemporary redesign we hope the exterior of our building will help each of us **Love & Serve** an un-churched community with the same warm, welcoming spirit that weekly guests currently encounter on the inside. This phase brings clear signage, safer traffic flow, updated landscaping, and a vastly enlarged parking lot for nearly 450 vehicles*.

*Renderings and figures are projected and may change

Life Groups
2018 VS 2019

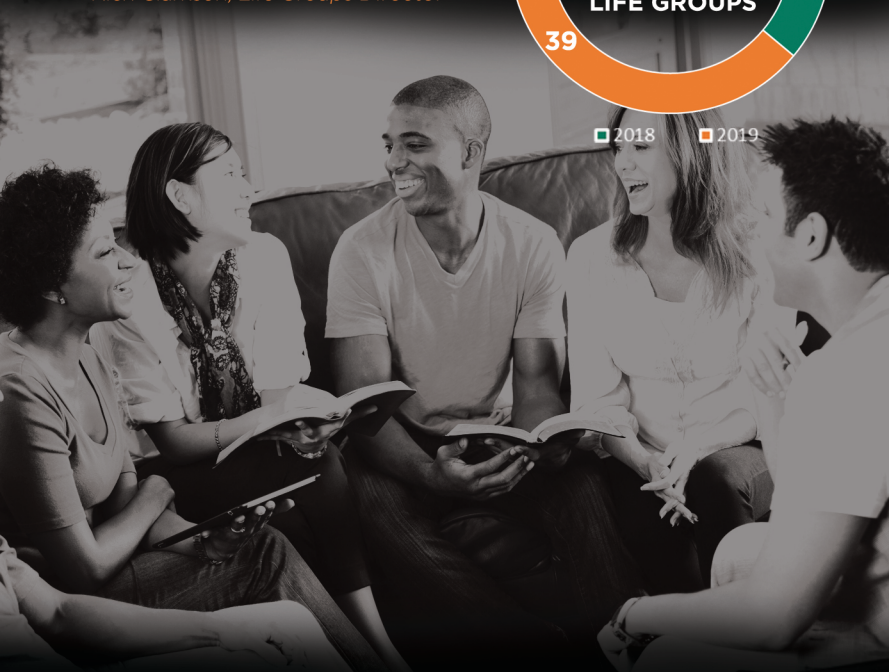
“COMMUNITY with others is where relationships are built. We grow spiritually when we connect relationally.”

-Rich Clarkson, Life Groups Director



2018

2019





Jason & Nikohl Bliemeister

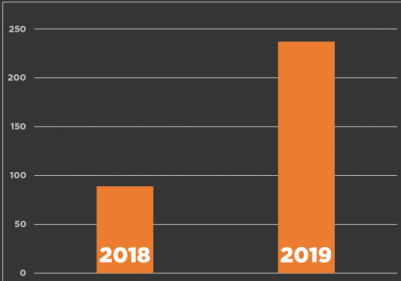
Jason and Nikohl Bliemeister joined a Life Group in 2019. They had struggled through a medical situation that left Nikohl with a tracheotomy and unable to speak. Together they worked to adapt to their circumstances and overcome the difficulties they now faced.

It was in community with others, where they could be open about their challenges and seek the support of those in their Life Group. It was this community who provided the prayer, guidance and loving care they needed to persevere through this trying season of their life. Their group has grown from being friends to becoming like family.

Jason and Nikohl have grown together, both in their faith and in their marriage. They continue to meet in their Life Group each Thursday evening and are both active in serving at Life Church Buffalo every weekend.



VOLUNTEERS IN 2018 VS 2019

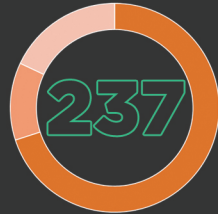


48% OF ATTENDEES
SERVE 1 / ATTEND 1



LOVE & SERVE

WITH INTENTIONALITY



■ GUEST SERVICES ■ PROD/WORSHIP TEAM ■ KIDSLIFE

1ST ANNUAL SERVE DAY

165 VOL
UN
TEERS

10 EVENTS

370 VOL
HOURS

LOVING & SERVING OUR COMMUNITY!



154
Volunteers

24
Vendors

1700

Adults & Children enjoyed this FREE
premiere fall event on the grounds of
Life Church Buffalo!



175
Participants

14
Sponsors

\$4500

Raised to support Pro-Life Organizations
(Compass Care Buffalo & Son Rays Ministries)

12.9%

OF WHAT CAME INTO THE CHURCH
WENT OUT TO MISSIONS IN OUR
COMMUNITY & AROUND THE GLOBE.

\$149,857

GIVEN TO MISSIONS IN 2019

- ◆ 8 Days of Hope
- ◆ Andhra Pradesh (India Church Plants)
- ◆ Buffalo City Mission
- ◆ Buffalo Dream Center
- ◆ Carol McLeod Ministries
- ◆ Christian Counseling Ministries
- ◆ HBI Bobby Gupta
- ◆ HBI Craig McLeod
- ◆ Hope for the Hurt
- ◆ mPact Churches
- ◆ Ross Family Ministries
- ◆ West Seneca Food Bank
- ◆ Youth Advantage

KidsLife Attendance

2019

111 kids

2018

76 kids

46%
INCREASE

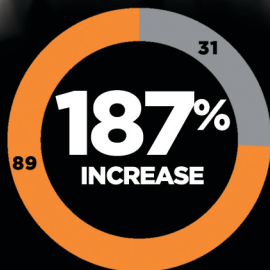
"We believe that our God is BIG enough to become SMALL enough for every child to experience Him & know Him."

-Beth Miller, Children's & Family Pastor

15

MIDDLE SCHOOLERS
MEET WEEKLY TO
LEARN HOW TO
FOLLOW JESUS
STEP BY STEP

KidsLife VOLUNTEERS



■ 2018 ■ 2019

TOTAL INCOME 2019
\$1,165,186

47.4%
INCREASE FROM 2018

General Offering	\$850,969
Designated Offerings	\$ 43,584
Legacy Offerings	\$270,633

TOTAL EXPENSES 2019
\$ 868,136

BREAKDOWN OF EXPENSES

Administrative	\$ 75,310	8.7 %	Reserves & Legacy Expansion	
Ministry Programs	\$ 87,182	10.0 %		\$300,612
Facilities	\$128,785	14.8 %		
Missions & Outreach	\$150,007	17.3 %	Missions & Outreach Reserves	
Personnel	\$426,852	49.2 %		\$ 21,152

**Life Church engages the independent certified public accounting firm of Alan Jeff CPA, PC to conduct an annual review of all financial statements. Our Leadership Council approves the projected annual budget and meets regularly to monitor the organization's financial status and maintain oversight of its implementation.*



Mary Heenan was away from church for quite some time and came to Life Church Buffalo after she was invited by another attendee in early 2019. She attended a Meet & Greet in February 2019 and signed-up to attend Growth Path the following month.

Upon finishing Growth Path, she joined the Dream Team serving at the VIP table. In May of 2019, Mary made her public declaration to follow Jesus the rest of her life and was Baptized! She continues to serve in church every week and is living life with a heart full of Jesus. She consistently brings 'the ask' to everyone in her circle, introducing them to Life Church Buffalo including her daughter, son-in law and their 3 children who are following Mary's example!



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