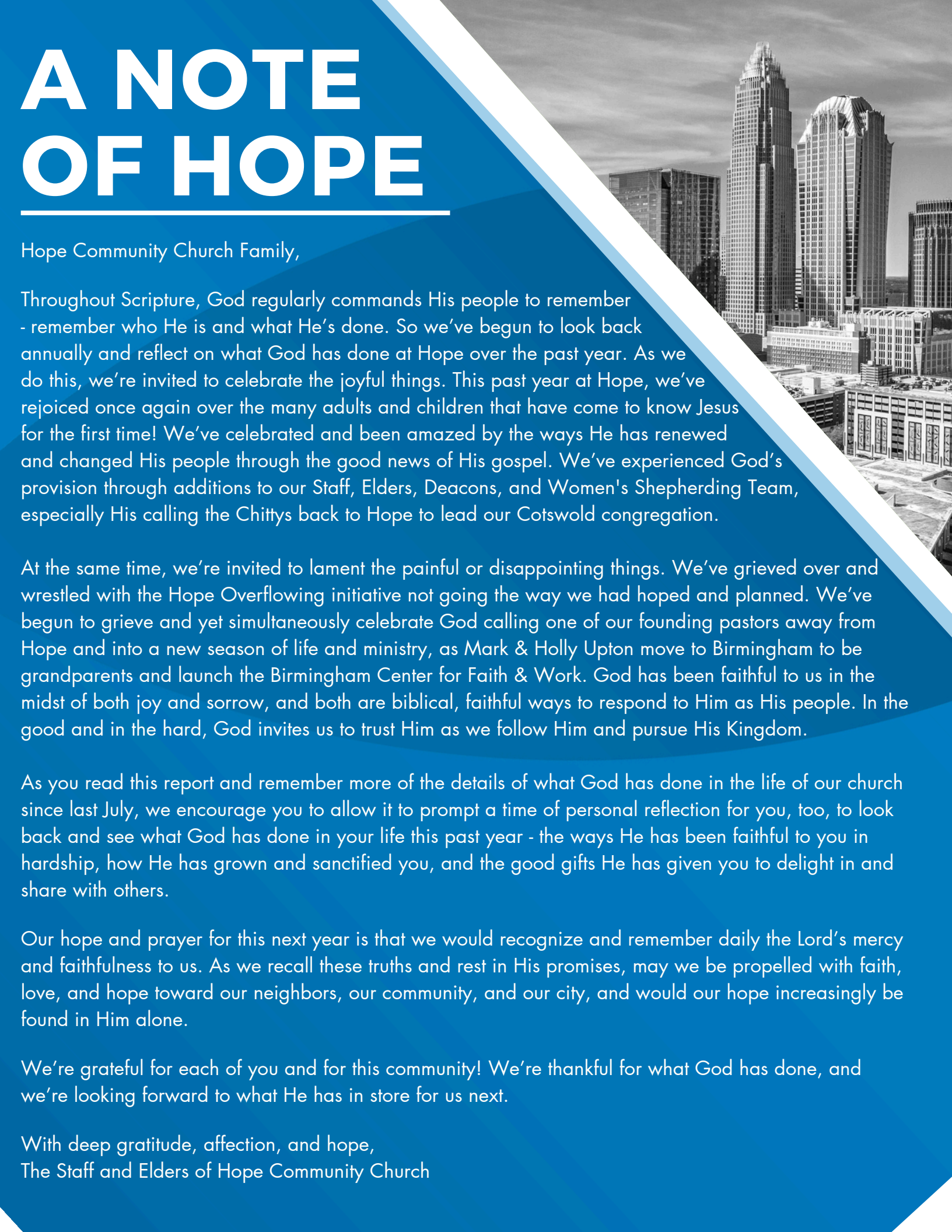


ANNUAL REPORT



FISCAL YEAR 2026

A NOTE OF HOPE



Hope Community Church Family,

Throughout Scripture, God regularly commands His people to remember - remember who He is and what He's done. So we've begun to look back annually and reflect on what God has done at Hope over the past year. As we do this, we're invited to celebrate the joyful things. This past year at Hope, we've rejoiced once again over the many adults and children that have come to know Jesus for the first time! We've celebrated and been amazed by the ways He has renewed and changed His people through the good news of His gospel. We've experienced God's provision through additions to our Staff, Elders, Deacons, and Women's Shepherding Team, especially His calling the Chittys back to Hope to lead our Cotswold congregation.

At the same time, we're invited to lament the painful or disappointing things. We've grieved over and wrestled with the Hope Overflowing initiative not going the way we had hoped and planned. We've begun to grieve and yet simultaneously celebrate God calling one of our founding pastors away from Hope and into a new season of life and ministry, as Mark & Holly Upton move to Birmingham to be grandparents and launch the Birmingham Center for Faith & Work. God has been faithful to us in the midst of both joy and sorrow, and both are biblical, faithful ways to respond to Him as His people. In the good and in the hard, God invites us to trust Him as we follow Him and pursue His Kingdom.

As you read this report and remember more of the details of what God has done in the life of our church since last July, we encourage you to allow it to prompt a time of personal reflection for you, too, to look back and see what God has done in your life this past year - the ways He has been faithful to you in hardship, how He has grown and sanctified you, and the good gifts He has given you to delight in and share with others.

Our hope and prayer for this next year is that we would recognize and remember daily the Lord's mercy and faithfulness to us. As we recall these truths and rest in His promises, may we be propelled with faith, love, and hope toward our neighbors, our community, and our city, and would our hope increasingly be found in Him alone.

We're grateful for each of you and for this community! We're thankful for what God has done, and we're looking forward to what He has in store for us next.

With deep gratitude, affection, and hope,
The Staff and Elders of Hope Community Church

HOPE BY THE NUMBERS

* July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026



*Real people looking to the real Jesus
for real change.*

24

YEARS OF HOPE

3

CONGREGATIONS

34

TOTAL STAFF

185

NEW MEMBERS

*(118 communing;
67 non-communing children)*

82

BAPTISMS

(77 child; 5 adult)

1,568

**AVERAGE WEEKLY
ATTENDANCE**

(1,170 adults; 398 kids)

1,940

TOTAL MEMBERSHIP

*(1,179 communing;
761 non-communing children)*

955

**PEOPLE IN COMMUNITY
GROUPS**

603

**PEOPLE WHO SERVE ON
SUNDAYS**

150

**STUDENTS IN YOUTH
MINISTRY**

608

**KIDS IN
CHILDREN'S MINISTRY**

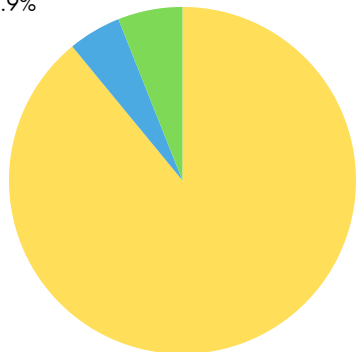
FINANCIAL REVIEW



REVENUE

Designated
Benevolence
4.9%

Other Revenue
6%



General Contributions
89%

10,764

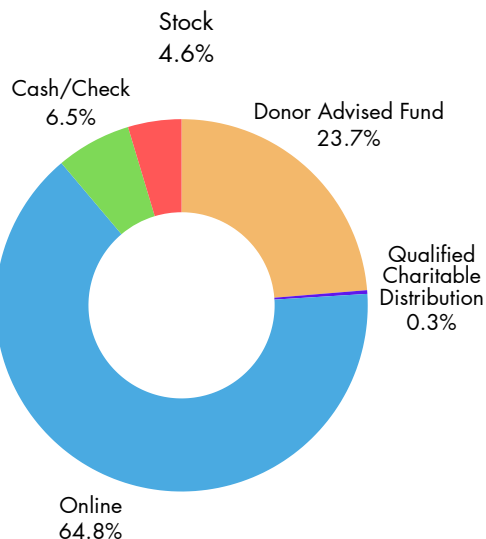
DONATIONS

324

NEW DONORS

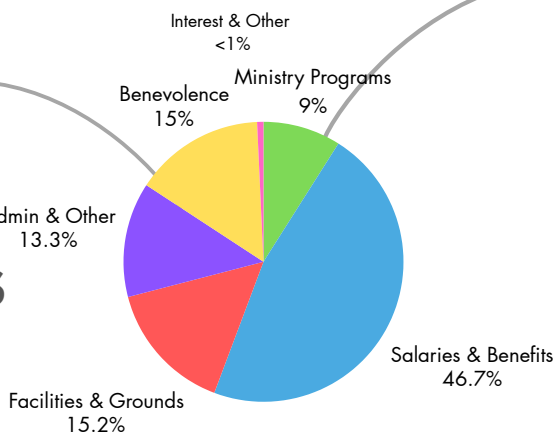
409

RECURRING DONORS

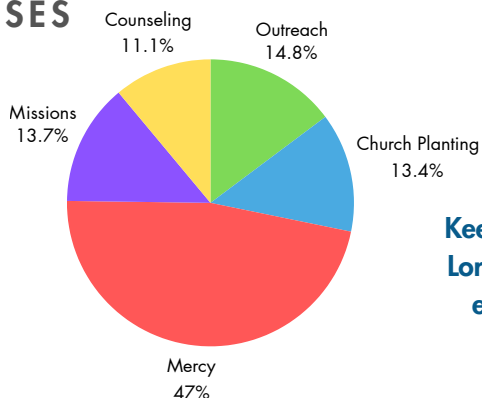


EXPENSES

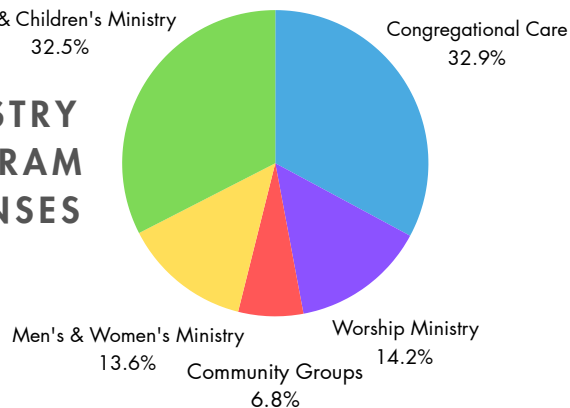
TOTAL
EXPENSES



BENEVOLENCE EXPENSES



MINISTRY PROGRAM EXPENSES



Keep reading for what the
Lord has done this year in
each of these ministry
areas!

FINANCIAL REVIEW



	FY ENDED JUNE 30, 2026 ¹	FY ENDED JUNE 30, 2025
Revenue		
General Contributions ²	\$6,550K	\$7,272K
Designated Benevolence Contributions	\$363K	\$237K
Other Revenue	\$443K	\$336K
Total Revenue	\$7,356K	\$7,845K
Expenses		
Operating Expenses	\$5,871K	\$4,536K
Ministry Programs	\$627K	\$576K
Congregational Care	\$206K	\$220K
Worship Ministry	\$89K	\$29K
Community Groups	\$43K	\$56K
Men's & Women's Ministry	\$85K	\$140K
Youth & Children's Ministry	\$204K	\$131K
Salaries & Benefits	\$3,257K	\$2,863K
Facilities & Grounds	\$1,062K	\$820K
Admin & Other	\$925K ³	\$277K
Benevolence Expenses	\$1,049K	\$952K
Interest & Other Expenses	\$51K ⁴	\$46K
Total Expenses	\$6,971K	\$5,534K
Net Income	\$385K	\$2,311K
Other Key Metrics		
Cash on Hand ⁵	\$4,680K	
OP Mortgage	\$864K	
Annual Mortgage Amortization	\$143K	

¹ Unaudited financials may change with year-end adjustments; you can find audited financials at hopecommunity.com/giving when available

² Two-year Hope Overflowing generosity initiative ended March 31, 2026

³ Includes one-time charges related to employee benefits administration and abandoned project costs from Hope Overflowing pivot

⁴ Includes gain/loss from disposals of fixed assets

⁵ Intended to help address facility needs in the future and maintain cash reserve

COTSWOLD CONGREGATION



We started this section last year by saying that our Cotswold congregation is no stranger to change. While this is still true in many ways - we've added staff this year and we've experienced another move - we've seen the Lord's faithfulness as things have begun to steady. The Chittys have been with us just over a year now, and Steven's leadership has been a gift in many ways. Along with Steven settling into his role, we've had the privilege of adding 1 Elder, 1 Deacon, 4 new members of the Women's Shepherd Team, and 2 new staff members this year. We've really spent time focusing on making sure **our leadership is heading in the same direction for mission and vision at our Cotswold site.**



Steven Chitty,
Cotswold Site Pastor

One area we're looking forward to more stability in the upcoming year is our worship space. For the last year, we've worshiped at Charlotte Christian School while the church on Sharon Amity was being renovated. It's been exactly one year - we moved in July of 2025 and returned in August 2026. **We could not be more grateful for Charlotte Christian's generosity to us this past year;** the Lord really provided for us again and again with that space. We're also very much **looking forward to continuing our partnership with the Seventh-Day Adventists**, who graciously allow us use of their building. We have about 138 kids in our Children's Ministry at Cotswold - which is amazing - and we're grateful to have a space that's more permanent and doesn't require setup and tear-down for those classrooms each and every Sunday. We're hopeful and excited to once again be **a presence in the Cotswold neighborhood**, where we hope the Lord uses us in the specific proximity of this church building.

The Lord has really grown Cotswold as a "family" as we've experienced newness together. We've had Sunday picnics, block parties, retreats, Sunday bagels & coffee, Bible studies, and 9 Community Groups at our Cotswold site this year, all of which have helped us grow in community and relationship with each other. We hope as these relationships continue to deepen that we'd not only love and serve each other, but go out together in love and service to our neighborhood, too.

"After attending Hope Costwold for more than 3 years, we decided to join the church this year. Our family has found a genuine community. We've been blessed with new friendships and the opportunity to deepen relationships that continue to encourage and strengthen our faith."

- Jake and Kate Kennedy, Cotswold Members

Would you join us in **praying these specific things for our Cotswold congregation** this year? 1) That our church would be a place where the people of Cotswold would feel welcomed to come as they are, as we engage with our neighbors? 2) That our Cotswold congregation would continue to grow, not just in numbers or breadth, but in depth - specifically in the ability to rest in Jesus and not in the ability to keep up with Charlotte pace or culture. Thank you!



OLDE PROVIDENCE CONGREGATION



We're grateful for the work the Lord continues to do in South Charlotte through our OP congregation. While *physical* growth at this site is still limited (see the Hope Overflowing/Facilities page for more info), our OP site continues to be a congregation of **emotional and spiritual growth**. Our desire has always been that Hope is a church marked by vulnerability, by **real people who look to the real Jesus for real change**, and we see that regularly modeled within our OP congregation. Often on Sundays, you'll hear stories from people who bravely share what the Lord is doing in their lives. We love this, are thankful for this, and believe it is so important - to hear other people share, and to practice paying attention to what the Lord is doing in our own hearts and lives. Also this year, over 100 OP men joined us for a seminar on spiritually healthy emotions. We're encouraged that **God is fostering a community of vulnerability and trust in our OP congregation**, and we hope this draws people into deeper communion with each other and with Jesus, who uses this to change us.



Matt Ham,
OP Site Pastor

"This year, I had the unbelievable privilege of witnessing God use Hope OP to call my unbelieving neighbors to Himself. Women's Ministry & Children's Ministry drew the wife and kids to our campus first, and the husband followed when he experienced the kind and vulnerable community God has cultivated here. For the first time, they not only heard the gospel message laid out clearly, but saw it in action through the body of Christ."

- Kiley Garver, OP Member

If you've visited our OP congregation on a Sunday morning, especially this past year, you may have noticed a gentle shift in worship—more structure, more repeated prayers, and more intentional rhythms. One of the convictions shaping this shift is a simple idea: our habits form our loves. Over time, the things we repeatedly say and do begin to shape not just what we believe, but what we desire, hope for, trust, and turn to when life is heavy or confusing. **We hope for corporate worship to be not something we consume or evaluate, but something that slowly forms us** as we tell the truth about ourselves, rehearse the good news of the gospel together, and carry that into the week.

This year at OP, we added 3 Elders, 1 Deacon, 4 Women's Shepherding Team members, and 2 staff positions, while expanding the role of other OP staff members, as well. **We're grateful to have been able to grow our leadership this year to help care for the people the Lord has brought over the past several years**, including the 375 OP folks in Community Groups and almost 120 women from OP who participated in Women's Bible Study.

We hope to continue using our OP building open-handedly and for the good of the community. Not only do we host church-wide Bible studies, leadership meetings, and other Hope events, but AA also uses our space three times a week. Young Life offices out of the back house and meets weekly in the Barn for their club meetings. Our space is regularly used for events in the community - public school sports banquets, HOA meetings of our neighbors, celebratory life events. South Charlotte Presbyterian worshiped here for the last year as they were without a building. We want to continue stewarding our property as a gift from the Lord that we can offer to others.

Please join us in praying for our OP congregation this year 1) that the Lord would use the Holy Spirit to make us kind, like Himself, as we enter deeply into relationships with one another, and 2) that we'd be less busy as a congregation, with more time to love, serve, and invest in our families, our neighbors, and our community. Thank you!



SOUTH END CONGREGATION



Our hope for each of our three congregations is to be **a church that exists for the good of our city and our neighbors**, and South End is especially poised for that given its location in the middle of a vibrant part of the city. This joy and energy is mirrored in our congregation at South End, and the mission focus here is to be **a community that's known for loving and serving our neighbors**. In fact, that was the theme of our annual Summer Study these past two months - as we looked at the book of Acts and talked about how we can live missionally together as a community. (We had a record average of 225 folks attend that study each week! We continue to be amazed at how the Lord uses that time each summer to bring new people to South End.) Our leaders' hope for our South End site is to truly be a congregation that experiences unity and community, and then goes out into our city together to serve - **not working towards our own comfort and success, but being an outward-facing community**.



Aaron Ingle,
South End Site Pastor

South End's Mercy Team helps us live this out by providing partnerships with different organizations in Charlotte. Beds for Kids, Ashley Park School, YoungLives, Roof Above, Moms Moving Forward, Brookdale SouthPark, Out of the Ashes, UrbanPromise - these are all organizations we're able to support and serve through the leadership of our Deacons and Mercy Team at our South End site.

In order to go out into the city together, **experiencing community at South End** is important. In addition to the Summer Study, we had almost 170 women and 55 men participating in Bible studies this past Spring and around 420 people in Community Groups.

"Since joining Hope, I've experienced the beauty of God's Church in such a tangible way. The genuine community, meaningful friendships, and opportunity to serve have strengthened my faith and reminded me that we aren't meant to do life alone. I'm grateful the Lord has invited me to be part of what He's doing in our church and beyond."

- Cierra Chamberlain, South End Member

One of our biggest prayer requests at South End right now is that the Lord would provide a new space for us to meet, as our current lease runs out in just under two years. Being able to stay in South End and find a space that fits our needs is challenging, but we have an amazing team exploring and actively pursuing options for us. **Would you pray that the Lord would give us wisdom and guidance, and provide the exact space where He wants us to continue doing ministry?**

We'd also love prayer for our leaders at South End - for the officers who were nominated this past May and will begin training in the Fall, as well as for potential new Community Group leaders - that the Lord would raise up men and women who would lead and serve in this way.



STAFF UPDATES



Our staff underwent a lot of reorganization this year to accommodate some of the growth we've experienced in recent years. We're anticipating a few more changes still to come, but we're grateful for how adding additional staff positions has already increased our capacity to serve this church. You can read about these changes in more detail on each ministry page, but here's a high level section where you could find **all of our staffing changes**. We're so thankful for this team!

WORSHIP

This year, **Miranda Reger** joined our staff as our South End Worship Director.

COMMUNITY GROUPS

Jen Guzi joined Sid Druen in leading our Community Groups/Leadership Community this year. **Laura Moore, Stephanie Ham, & Alex Whitaker** had previously been leading this ministry at their Hope site a few hours each week along with their Women's Ministry roles, but they have transitioned from their previous dual roles to be fully dedicated to this ministry. We increased **Eric Bernier**'s hours to lead OP Community Groups in addition to his Worship position, and **Andrew King** transitioned from Youth Ministry to lead Community Groups with Alex at South End.

MEN'S MINISTRY

In addition to Community Groups, **Andrew King** is also now directing our Men's Ministry at South End.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

With the shift of Laura and Stephanie's roles from Women's Ministry to Community Groups, we've added new part-time Women's Ministry staff - **Catie Eller** at Cotswold and **Allison Eckley** at OP. In addition to Community Groups, **Alex Whitaker** will continue leading Women's Ministry at South End, and **Isabelle Dean** has joined as our South End Women's Ministry Intern.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Amanda Kerr came on staff as our Cotswold Children's Ministry Director this year, and **Becca Hahn** was hired into a new role to assist Kiley Garver with our OP congregation.

YOUTH MINISTRY

With Andrew King's transition to South End Men's Ministry and Community Groups, **Jen Crisp and Mac Harris** are now co-leading our Youth Ministry.

MERCY

This year, we hired **Jill Hudson** to be our first Mercy Teams Coordinator.

ADMIN

Hannah Malaby transitioned from her role as Operations Coordinator and is now serving part-time as our Volunteer Scheduling Coordinator, a position previously held by **Kate Stewart**. Kate is now serving as a new Operations Coordinator, helping Kevin document and improve our systems and processes, different responsibilities from Hannah's old role. (We're currently hiring an Administrative Coordinator to fill Hannah's previous role.)



THE UPTONS

One of our most significant transitions this year will be **Mark and Holly Upton** moving to Birmingham in August. The Uptons planted Hope, and Mark became our Senior Pastor in 2002, but most recently has been leading our church as the Pastor of City Impact. It's because of their faithful obedience to the Lord that Hope even exists. We will miss them immensely and grieve their departure, while also feeling hopeful for what the Lord has for them in Alabama, as they'll be closer to family and able to serve their community there. It's not possible to express in words what the Uptons have meant to Hope! The Elders are currently working with a consulting firm to make sure we plan well for this transition.

HOPE OVERFLOWING & FACILITY UPDATES



In March of this year, we officially concluded our Hope Overflowing initiative, aimed at addressing facility needs (specifically at OP), so there would be **room for more people to hear the good news of the Gospel and experience gospel community**. You received an email at that time communicating our takeaways, lessons learned, and things to celebrate. (Please email us if you'd like a copy of this communication!) Generally, while disappointed we weren't able to move forward with the OP expansion, we remain confident that was the right decision given our financial realities and our **commitment to be wise stewards of Hope's resources**. We're both trusting and curious of what the Lord is up to in all of this. We still acutely feel the need to address the space issues at OP to make room to invite our neighbors to hear the gospel, and we want to continue to communicate our commitment to prayerfully asking the Lord for wisdom on how to do this and what next steps to take. In the meantime, there have been quite a few **facility developments at each of our three sites** that we wanted to share.

OP FACILITIES UPDATE

With Hope Overflowing, we spent over 2 years collaborating with staff, contractors, and architects to develop a master site plan for our OP property. If and when we decide to move forward with developing the OP property, this site plan captures our vision, values, and needs, and will still provide the basic blueprint for how we might move forward.

When we announced that we weren't moving forward with taking on the debt required to fund the OP expansion, the elders set aside the expanded giving toward Hope Overflowing we had received from the OP congregation. After the site work and preconstruction costs, **we designated the remaining amount for improvements at OP that had been considered within the master site plan**. So far, we've been able to upgrade our HVAC, replace LVT flooring in classrooms and replace carpet, paint the interior and exterior, install a new playground, create a new conference room/worship prep room, replace the dumpster enclosure, make electrical upgrades including lighting and safety upgrades in classrooms, and complete fire system upgrades including life safety. Improvements that are planned and upcoming with these funds include expanding the lobby outside the sanctuary, expanding the Children's Ministry check-in area, adding a sound booth in the sanctuary, audio/visual upgrades, renovating the restrooms, infrastructure updates, and several other smaller, but needed, projects. We realize that these improvements, while needed, do not resolve our space issues at OP. We are continuing to pray about how to resolve the challenges we still face.

SOUTH END FACILITIES UPDATE

With our South End lease ending in Spring 2028 and our current parking possibly being redeveloped before then, the need to secure a future meeting space is moving to the front burner for us. God has richly blessed our ministry and outreach in this part of our city, and we're committed to faithfully stewarding that part of our church's ministry. A part of our decision not to move forward with the OP expansion was concern over being financially overextended and unable to address this need. With the additional expanded giving from Hope Overflowing, we believe we are in a healthy position to secure a long-term facility and maintain our presence in the South End area. We have an amazing team that has already been exploring a few promising options and engaging in conversations with potential partners. **Would you please pray for wisdom and discernment as these decisions are being made, and would you pray that the Lord would provide us with a space to continue reaching our neighbors in South End with the Gospel?**

COTSWOLD FACILITIES UPDATE

For the last year, our Cotswold congregation has worshiped at Charlotte Christian School while the Seventh-Day Adventists renovated their church building. We are contributing \$150,000 to these renovations. The Adventists are incredibly grateful for the support and our ministry partnership, and although we moved back in August 2026, they have given us a 5-year lease starting January 2027 at our previous rate with 3% annual increases. **This secures a stable worship space for the next season of our Cotswold congregation with ample room for us to invite our neighbors and grow.**

In all of this, we look to Jesus, our Chief Shepherd, and trust Him to build His Church. We continue to be deeply grateful for His abundant faithfulness to Hope over many years, the kingdom work He has called us to, and the trust and grace you have shown to us as we lead our church and steward its many resources. Thank you once again for all your prayers!

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

32.9%

If you reference our "Hope by the Numbers" page, you'll see data that continues to surprise us, as the Lord brings people to Hope to hear the good news of the Gospel. Those are easy to view as impersonal stats, but the reality is that **each of those numbers represents a story God is writing, a person He knows and loves**. It is our great privilege and joy to get to join the Lord in caring for, discipling, and shepherding these people.

Out of 1,750 churches in our denomination, Hope is one of the 20 largest churches by number of members and one of the 15 largest based on Sunday morning attendance. As our congregations grow, our aim is to **introduce people to the real Jesus**, who changes us by the Holy Spirit and by His grace, **and to shepherd this growing group well**. From the beginning, we decided not to be a programatic church, and instead invest in one-on-one relationships. Our congregational care budget helps us do that. Discipling people over lunch, delivering meals to new families, caring for folks during difficult times, meeting for new member interviews - these are all ways we tangibly serve and care for the people of Hope. **All of our ministry areas across each of our three sites use this budget** for one-on-one care for people. Other ways this budget is utilized include paying for leadership retreats, meals for our Care Team meetings, hosting block parties, and purchasing supplies for Discovering Hope classes. Like our name implies, "community" is a core value for our church, and each of these interactions help us build community with the people in our congregation - to get to serve them personally, by name. Thank you for allowing us to do that! Sometimes hard and sometimes full of joy, it's a privilege to have front-row seats to the change that the Lord is doing in people's lives.

Would you join us in praying that we could continue to be a church of real people looking to the real Jesus for real change?

WORSHIP MINISTRY

14.2%

Sunday morning worship is a time each week for us to gather together and **reorient our hearts and lives** - towards God and away from ourselves. It's a time for us to remember, confess, and proclaim what's true together, in community. It's a time for us to worship God for who He is and what He's done. Our hope is that our real selves come into contact with the real Jesus every day, but we especially want that to be true on Sunday mornings. On Sunday, we invite people to come with their real feelings - real joy, real grief, real confusion - and hear about a God who is not only big enough to hold these emotions, but who loves us enough to enter into them. **Our worship teams help lead us into that posture every Sunday morning at each of our three congregations**, and these teams consist of everyone from adults to youth-aged kids. This year in worship, we've walked through sermon series on the books of Proverbs, Matthew, and Galatians, and the topics of Prayer, and Spiritually Healthy Emotions. We worship together corporately on Sunday, but we also love gathering at special services throughout the year - Advent, Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, and Good Friday.

Our worship budget increased this year due to our Cotswold move, requiring logistics, equipment, and manpower each week. **Would you pray that the Lord would continue forming us into a community of people whose worship is heartfelt?**

COMMUNITY GROUPS

6.8%

Community Groups are central to our ministry at Hope. It's where many people experience real community and faith *through* gospel community for the first time. It's also where much of the mercy care in our congregations happens, with groups regularly rallying around members in times of need and connecting those with tangible needs to our Deacons. **Our hope is that these groups aren't just social gatherings or Bible studies, but places where we can really practice applying the Gospel and God's Word - what we hear on Sunday mornings - to our lives together, in community.** We're praying that the Holy Spirit uses these spaces for people to experience real life, real care, and real transformation - *real change*. Living in gospel community is truly where our big church starts to feel a little smaller and more intimate.

"We've had a difficult last couple of years, and our Community Group was there for us. Praying with us, showing up with meals, taking our kids to the playground, sharing their own experiences of grief. They have been a blessing that the Lord has put before us. If we had to walk through this season alone, without our relationships at Hope, I don't know how we would handle it - where our marriage or our parenting would be. It is easier to trust God's sovereignty because of the care and support of our Community Group."

- Tommy O'Neil, South End Member & Community Group Leader

You've heard us say this more times than we can count: we want Hope to be a church **of** Community Groups, and not just a church **with** Community Groups. Because this is such a big focus for our life and ministry at Hope, this time last year we were writing about the need for staffing increases in this ministry area. At the time, Sid Druen was leading this ministry by himself, and he was being supported just a few hours each week by Laura Moore (Cotswold), Stephanie Ham (OP), and Alex Whitaker (South End), while they were also focused on our Women's Ministry. This past year, we had roughly **955 people in 58 Community Groups**. That's amazing! And when you account for the **34 Community Group Coaches that care for and support the 218 leaders** of those 58 groups, that's a *huge* ministry undertaking that we were simply understaffed for. For all of these people and families, their Community Group represents their primary source of shepherding and care at Hope. Outside of Sunday worship, integrating people into Community Groups has always been our top priority, and in order for that to be true, we needed to reallocate and reprioritize staff and resources to support that.



COMMUNITY GROUPS



As we sensed this growing need for staff to support a major priority for our church, we're grateful to have made staffing changes in this ministry area over the past year, and we thank God for providing the resources to do so. First, Jen Guzi transitioned to this team to use her gifts and ministry experience to co-labor alongside Sid as our **Director of Leadership Community** over all three Hope sites. We believe Sid and Jen co-laboring together as a team is also a practical way to further model our value of **generous complementarianism**: we believe the church flourishes when we empower and equip both men and women to use their Spirit-given gifts in partnership with one another. In addition to Jen's new role, we restructured this team to now have 5 staff members leading and directing Community Groups within their congregation under Sid and Jen's leadership: **Laura Moore** at Cotswold (along with Steven Chitty's pastoral involvement), **Eric Bernier & Stephanie Ham** at OP, and **Andrew King & Alex Whitaker** at South End. We're so thankful for how this team leads this ministry for our church.



We're grateful to the Lord for answering that prayer, but there's still plenty more to pray for! After working hard to get people off the waitlists for groups last fall, these waitlists have once again filled up over the past year. This is both something we're thankful for - we want people to experience the true gift of a Community Group! - and a real challenge. We simply need more leaders for new groups. **We've had almost 70 people go through Community Group Leader Training this past year, and we're praying that we'll be able to launch 20 new groups this fall. Will you join us in praying that we're able to start these new groups, and that the Lord would provide more leaders to serve - both new leaders, as well as seasoned leaders who are ready to reengage in Community Groups?** We're excited and hopeful to continue making space for the many new people at Hope!



MEN & WOMEN OF HOPE

13.6%

As we continue to prioritize Community Groups for men and women at Hope, part of our staff restructuring this year enabled us to have Men's and Women's Ministries complement and support our Community Group ministry. Our Men's and Women's Ministries continue to be places of connection - where people can experience fellowship and community. This year, our guys have had Saturday morning breakfasts and fire pit nights, while our ladies regularly gather for dinner in each other's homes. Our Cotswold site took around **40 guys** on their Men's Retreat this past Spring. Our South End men will head to Montreat in September, and our Cotswold & OP ladies will retreat in Greenville, SC, in February. (South End women and OP men - stay tuned for more info on your next retreat!)

These times of fellowship and connection allow for Gospel-centered friendships to form, facilitating meaningful relationships with each other and with Jesus. They also serve as ways to experience community until Community Groups are available, and our Bible studies, especially, are wonderful ways for men and women to develop leadership qualities that can translate into Community Group leadership in the future. Our men's and women's Bible studies each semester allow us to spend time in God's Word in community. This spring, we had about **110 men in total** in Bible studies at our OP and South End sites, studying the "I Am" statements in John, and the life of Jacob in Genesis, respectively. We also had **335 women** looking together at Jesus' Last Supper discourse in John 14-17, focusing on the theme of abiding in Jesus. With staff expansion and reorganization, we're excited to be coordinating the topics for our men's and women's studies this year! We'll all be studying the book of Exodus at the same time. Our Women's Bible Study has both daytime and nighttime options each semester, and we're so grateful for the countless women who serve as small group leaders and the different members of our Women's Shepherding Team who teach this study. It's a gift to hear from them!

Speaking of Women's Shepherding, this leadership team currently has **24 women** who care for, serve, and shepherd women across our three congregations. Those who serve in this role rotate off for sabbatical every 2-4 years, so we are always praying that the Lord will bring more women to lead in this capacity. We also have **23 Elders and 12 Deacons** actively serving our church body, and a number of other men were nominated for those positions in May. They'll go through training and examination in the coming months before being put before our members for election.

We've also had some exciting staffing changes in our Men's and Women's Ministries this past year! With Jen, Laura, and Stephanie shifting to focus on our Community Group ministry, we now have the privilege of having **Catie Eller (Cotswold), Allison Eckley (OP), and Alex Whitaker (South End)** leading our Women's Ministry at each site! **Ryan Stanley** serves as our OP Men's Ministry Coordinator, **Steven Chitty** is leading Men's Ministry at Cotswold, and along with Community Groups, **Andrew King** is also serving as our Pastor of Men's Ministry at South End.

Overall, we're grateful for how the Lord is forming men and women at Hope through fellowship, service (both in the church and in the community), and participating in studies and Community Groups. **Our prayer is that as we grow in relationship, we would point each other to Jesus and go out into our neighborhoods, communities, and workplaces together, welcoming and serving others.**



YOUTH & CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

32.5%



The goal of Children's and Youth Ministry at Hope is to **prepare our children to be gospel-dependent, spiritually healthy members of Christ's body who are equipped to live missionally within the culture.** We believe (1) Parent Modeling, (2) Gospel Teaching, and (3) Integration into the Body are central to accomplishing that. We currently have around **398 kids at Hope each Sunday, with over 600 in our Children's Ministry altogether.** We also have **over 360 Children's Ministry volunteers and leaders** on our roster across our congregations that serve in this ministry. We're so grateful for our volunteers, and we always need/are praying for more!

"Growing up at Hope, Children's Ministry was the first place I experienced Jesus in a community context. The volunteers who sang with us, read the Jesus Storybook Bible to us, and prayed over us shaped my idea of Christ-centered community, and now I get to do the same for THEIR kids! It's such a blessing."

- Alyssa Floyd, South End Member & Children's Ministry Volunteer

We welcomed two new Children's Ministry staff this year - Amanda Kerr at Cotswold and Becca Hahn at OP! With our move this year, Children's Ministry at Cotswold has been a huge lift, so we're immensely grateful for all of Amanda's hard work. Becca has also been a gift in helping Kiley Garver serve our many OP families, and Sara John does the same with our growing families at South End. All of these wonderful women come under the leadership of Anne Sorrells, our Children's Ministry Director!

One big Children's Ministry initiative this year has been **Room On Our Pew**, a cohort our Children's Ministry staff has been participating in to learn how to embrace, disciple, and enfold children and their families living with disability. It's been a real privilege to learn how to care for these families, and we hope this will really benefit many in our Hope community.

We've intentionally decreased programming in Children's Ministry over the years to keep calendars free for families to enjoy time together, with their neighbors, and in their communities. Would you **join us in praying that kids at Hope would come to know Jesus, and that our families would be missional members of their communities as they live out their day-to-day?**

This Fall, we'll have **49 kids** "graduating" from Children's Ministry and heading into our quickly-growing Youth Ministry! We have **150 students** actively involved in our Youth ministry, with an average attendance of about 80 on Sunday nights. There are **30 amazing volunteers & 2 staff members (Jen & Mac!)** who lead these students. Not only do they show up each Sunday night, but throughout the week they're leading small group Bible studies, grabbing lunch with kids, going to sporting events at their schools, and spending a weekend on our annual Fall Retreat, which 75 students attended this past year.

As our children grow into adolescents, our hope is to **"encourage, assist, and partner with parents in the discipleship of their children into lifelong relationship with Jesus and faithful membership in the body of Christ,"** so a main focus for us is to teach students how to plug into the local church and other Christian ministries so they can serve, but can also be in relationship with church members of all ages. There are close to 25 youth serving in Children's Ministry or on the Worship Team, and we took two teams of students on mission trips this past year to serve our ministry partners in the Dominican Republic and Washington state. We teach Intro to Worship classes once a year at each site to help students transitioning from Children's Ministry learn how to be an active member of the church body. We also want to foster youth relationships with other parents, where church integration is modeled with our annual Father-Son & Mother-Daughter events.

In addition to becoming fully integrated members of the church, we also want our youth to experience gospel community with one another. Every parent of a teenager knows how expensive this phase of life can be! :) Our budget is higher than some because it accounts for transportation to retreat weekends and mission trips, summer activities, and most importantly, feeding 80+ teenagers dinner every Sunday night, which is a feat in and of itself. Our hope is that in these times together, students are learning to be good friends who can encourage one another as they follow Jesus together.

We're especially thankful for our Parent Committee, made up of parents from each Hope site, and for the many families, Community Groups, and others who serve our Youth dinner each Sunday. **We'd love to specifically ask for prayer for more leaders to serve this growing number of students, and that we could live out our mission statement from Children's Ministry all the way to adulthood - helping disciple kids into lifelong relationships with Jesus.**

BENEVOLENCE PARTNERS

Benevolence is an important part of giving at Hope. It's a way that we can give back, be open-handed and outward-facing, and partner with organizations by using the gifts and resources the Lord has so generously provided to us. We're able to take a percentage of giving to Hope and use it to support the spread of the Gospel through these ministries. The Lord is doing great work, not just in Charlotte, and it's a privilege to get to be a part of it.

This year, your generosity has given us the ability to give away \$1,049,000 in support of ministries in our city, our country, and around the world!

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**INDIVIDUAL PARTNERS
WE SUPPORT**

MERCY MINISTRIES - \$493K

Ashley Park School
The Barnabas Center
Beds for Kids
Brookdale SouthPark
Brookstone Schools
Charlotte Eagles (Missionary Athletes International)
Christ Centered Community Counseling
Congregations for Kids
Freedom Communities (Moms Moving Forward)
Home Front Ministries
Hope Community Clinic
IAM 24/7
Out of the Ashes Foundation
PCA Unity Fund
Project 658
Resound Future Bilingual Educators Network
Roof Above
UrbanPromise
YoungLives
YWCA
Individual Mercy Assistance in Hope & around the city

COUNSELING SCHOLARSHIPS - \$116K

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**ORGANIZATIONS WE
SUPPORT**

OUTREACH PARTNERS - \$155K

Camp Lurecrest
CEDE Sports
Charlotte Eagles (Urban Eagles)
Charlotte Fellows
Charlotte Institute for Faith & Work
Christian Study Center (NCSU, UNC, & WFU)
CRU (Athletes in Action & FamilyLife)
Navigators
Rooted Ministry
RUF (Clemson, Davidson, Johnson & Wales, New Mexico, Old Dominion, Queens, SCSU, UNC, UNCC, & WFU)
WyldLife
Young Life

MISSIONS - \$144K

Community House Damaris
Mission to North America
Mission to the World
Serge
South America Mission
Vida Joven Santo Domingo
World Team

Missionaries in:

Belgium	India	Peru
Czech Republic	Iran	Russia
Dominican Republic	Ireland	Spain
England	Japan	Uganda
Germany	Jordan	Zambia
Greece	Nepal	

\$569

**AVERAGE MONTHLY
SUPPORT WE PROVIDE EACH
PARTNER**

CHURCH PLANTING - \$141K

alongside.u
Christ Church - Sanford, NC
Christ Hills - Monroe, NC
Christ Our King - Charlotte, NC
Church of the Apostles - Charlotte, NC
Immanuel High Point - High Point, NC
Indian Land Presbyterian Church - Indian Land, SC
Kindred Hope Church - South Fulton, GA
Lumberton Mission Church - Lumberton, NC
Parakeleo
Vive Charlotte - Charlotte, NC
West Charlotte Church - Charlotte, NC



THANK YOU, **HOPE COMMUNITY!**

We're filled with gratitude and
hopeful for what's next.

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