

Celebrate 2016

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Luke 15:23-24 (TLB) - ²³ And kill the calf we have in the fattening pen. We must celebrate with a feast, ²⁴ for this son of mine was dead and has returned to life. He was lost and is found.' So the party began.

As a church family, we have a lot to celebrate:

- 3,640 people gave their lives to Christ
- 2,000 people joined a small group
- 1,700 people went through L.I.F.E
- 1,300 people attended the L.I.F.E retreat
- \$625,000 were donated to both local and international missions
- Successful progression in our 300 church initiative
 - A program focused on training and equipping other churches in the area
 - We hosted the Xchange conference in the spring and in the fall, to which over 100 churches attended
 - We organized monthly conference calls with other churches for continued training
 - Cornerstone, one of the churches involved with the initiative, grew to the point where they expanded from 2 services to 4

Luke 19:12-13 (KJV) – ¹² He said therefore, A certain nobleman went into a far country to receive for himself a kingdom, and to return.¹³ And he called his ten servants, and delivered them ten pounds [100 days wages], and said unto them, invest this money and occupy [rule as governor] till I come.

The Christian life is not only supposed to be played defensively, for you only survive by playing this way. We are called to win and to play offensively. How are we promoting that as a church?

Our next 4 week series, titled “Transformed”, will focus on growing up spiritually.

We are investing in the Next Generation. Our children’s and youth ministries are growing in numbers, and we are responding by adding space to expand these ministries. Our Full-Filled campaign will ensure we do this debt free. At this point, we have 476 pledges for a total of 1.9 million dollars. This means we only need and additional 1.6 million to pay cash for the project.

We will soon host Wednesday Family Grow Night. For married couples and parents, we will offer Parenting on Purpose classes, as well as Marriage Enrichment classes. For children in 1st grade – 12th grade, we will offer multiple small groups tailored specifically to their age range. Lastly, for children 2-years-old to Kindergarten, childcare will be provided at \$5 per child.

We will be growing in our understanding of the power of the Holy Spirit. We want to experience the fullness of the Holy Spirit in our services and daily lives. We want to hear His voice, receive His direction, and be empowered to be a witness for Jesus.

We will stay focused on winning people to Christ. Invite people to church and share Him in everyday life. At the end of each service, ask yourself 3 questions. What is God saying to me? What is my next step? Who can I be used of God to lead to Christ or to impact for Him?