

Community UMC

ANNUAL REPORT

2023

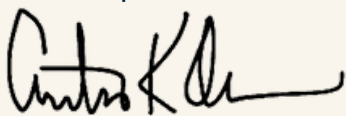
LETTER FROM OUR PASTOR

Three words to describe 2023 - inspired, collaborative and impactful. The Holy Spirit was moving in our midst pointing us towards needs in our community, and bringing people together to use our gifts, talents and resources to answer the call to love as we are led to serve.

There's a lot of grace contained within the pages of this Annual Report. In this report we celebrate evidence of God's movement among us, articulate who we are, provide ministry updates, highlight fun statistics, offer a brief financial recap, and share our prayerful focus for the next season of life and mission together. We believe it shows the heart of this grateful, faithful and hopeful church.

Lead us, Lord Jesus, we pray.

With Hope,

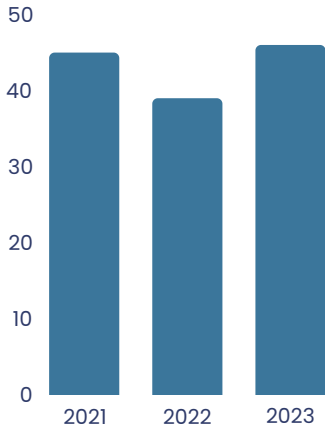


Pastor Curtis Olsen

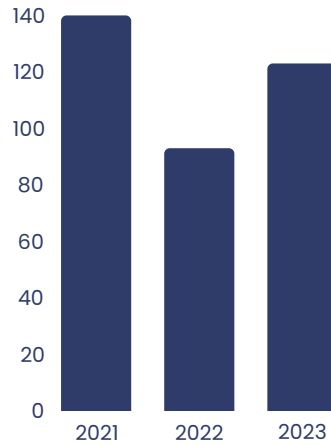


YEAR IN REVIEW

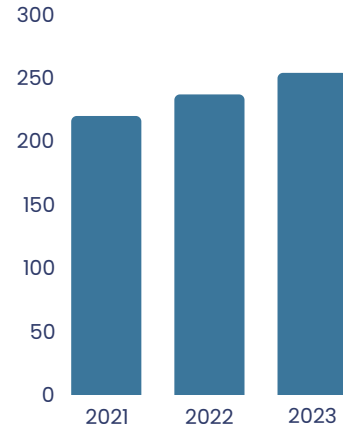
FIRST TIME REGISTERED GUESTS



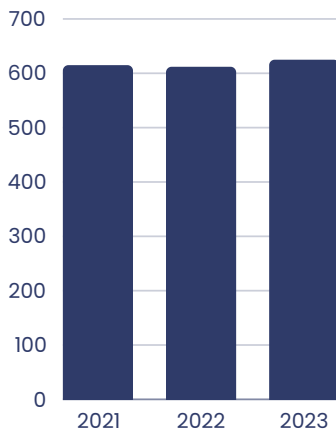
GROW GROUPS PARTICIPANTS



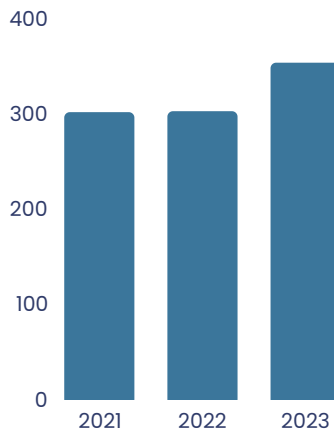
WEEKLY WORSHIP ATTENDANCE



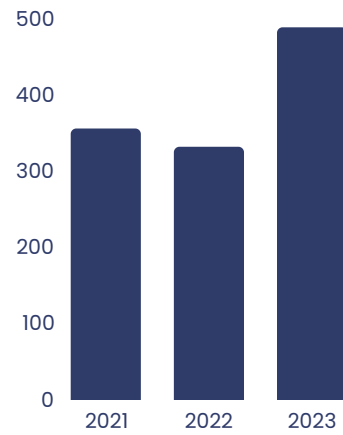
MEMBERSHIP



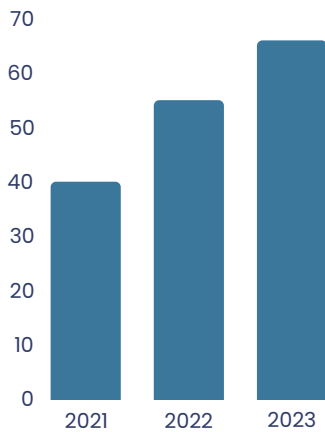
EASTER



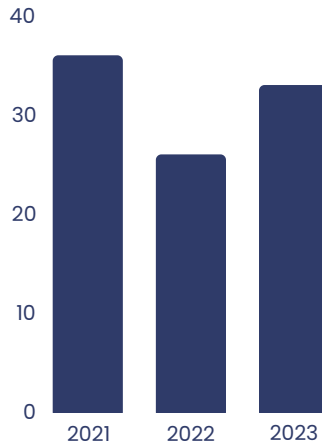
CHRISTMAS



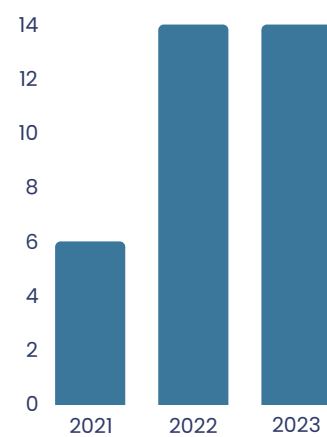
CHILDREN



YOUTH



NEW MEMBERS



MISSIONS UPDATE

In February 2023, CUMC hosted a panel regarding vulnerable and at-risk children and youth in our community. Following this event, three new initiatives arose and are gaining momentum.



Some of the School Party Volunteers

Food for Thought started to support the students and staff at West Boulevard Elementary School, a nearby school with a large percentage of students on free and reduced lunch and minimal parent volunteers. What began with a plea for snacks during testing has expanded to 30 church volunteers hosting school-wide parties to celebrate the 330 students and staff.

A spring special offering was collected and the mission team allocated \$2,500 from garage sale funds to help support these parties and to continue providing snacks for students in need. In addition, an anonymous, generous donor donated \$10,000 to support this initiative which will help ensure this partnership continues for multiple years. Huge thanks to Jim Hogan and Lynn Barnett-Sleper for leading this new initiative.

Tags of Hope continues to expand services for foster children and families in our community. The original Tags of Hope boutique has helped over 600 different children through 930+ encounters. May 2023, the CUMC congregation filled 40 iBelong baskets in support of Columbia Foster and Adopt Project. These are given to local foster children as they enter care to meet immediate needs and offer comfort items.

In 2023, CUMC connected with **Care Portal**, a nationwide, online network based out of Kansas City which connects agencies like Children's Division of Family Services with the faith community who can help with specific needs. In support of these efforts, Room 601 and nearby hallways were cleaned and painted for the expanded ministry. In addition to clothing, shoes, books, and stuffed animals, kid-friendly freezer meals are now given to families welcoming a new child into their home to help ease the transition.



CarePortal
Request

MISSIONS UPDATE



Bedding Donations

Sleep in Heavenly Peace - MO-Columbia has been chartered by Community UMC. This nationwide non-profit builds wooden beds and provides mattresses and bedding to local children to ensure “No kid sleeps on the floor in our town.” Four volunteers from CUMC attended training in Utah in August and the first official SHP-MO, Columbia bed build is scheduled for March 9, 2024 sponsored by our CUMC Youth. The CUMC Children’s Ministry collected bedding and a generous gift of \$10,000 from the Sechler Memorial Fund was designated to purchase the required tools needed for the bed build days. We are thankful for the leadership team consisting of Brandy Sanchez, Jen Chirillo, Andy Upham, and Kelley Upham.

Rainbow Network - During 2023, the Community UMC family sponsored 63 Rainbow Network students. 7 students graduated, including 2 who graduated from university. Thanks to everyone who shops at The Global Market, sponsors, or prays for one of these Rainbow Network students. Together, these students and their families’ lives are changed as they work to escape poverty in rural Nicaragua. The community of Santa Carmela-Casa Blanca continues to send their thanks for the love CUMC has shown.



MISSIONS UPDATE



COMMUNITY 2023 YEAR OF SERVING

19 volunteers
3 work sites

ForColumbia

tags of hope

126 visits
clothing given since 2017
613 children
930 visits

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

West Boulevard Elementary
snacks 🍎 class parties 🍎 support

Loaves
&
Fishes

1000+
meals
served

40



iBelong Baskets

25

BEDDING SETS
DONATED

Bike to the Future
164 
distributed
1200+ total

VAC
holiday
gifts for


40

COLUMBIA
SQUARE 
340 LUNCHES
SERVED

RAINBOW NETWORK



63
students sponsored
🎓 7 graduates 🎓

20

UMCOR
FLOOD
BUCKETS

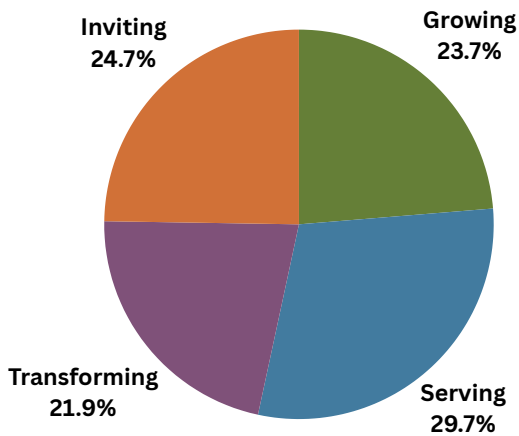
GARAGE SALE
\$7006
mission
donations

Craft Fair
\$4900
missions

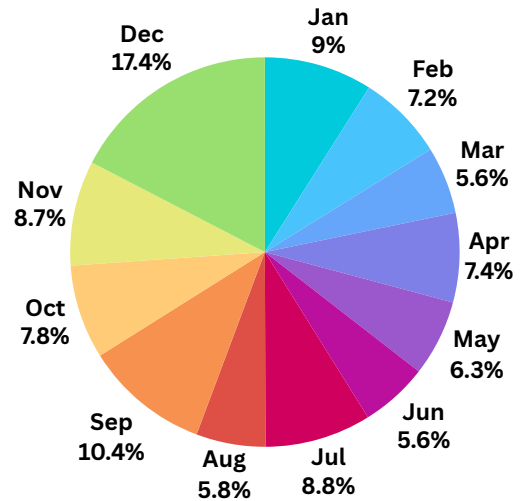
SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE
ESTABLISHED

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

BUDGET BREAKDOWN



MONTHLY GIVING



2023 FINAL RESULT: +\$13,484

2023 financials ended in the positive by \$13,484. This is the result of amazing generosity, especially at the end of the year. The graph to the right illustrates the significant generosity in December compared to the rest of the year. This year's giving in December is the highest December in the past five years.

One of the amazing statistics is the balance of our budget. The left graph shows how we are balanced in our priorities of inviting, growing, serving, and transforming. This balance has been an emphasis of church leadership for the past five years.

The giving in 2023 represents the generosity of 267 individuals and families, including 41 first-time givers. The total dollar amount received from all sources was \$863,486, which includes \$49,200 in missional giving. The missional giving was a 30% increase over the previous year.

MINISTRY

HIGHLIGHT



CHILDREN



Children's ministry has grown to an average of 20-30 kids per week. We have created an environment of acceptance for those with ASD and other disabilities, meeting the kids where they need us to, in order for them to learn all about the love and acceptance of God. We are thankful for the church's continued support, whether it be through a bedding drive for SHP or through candy donations for trunk or treat (200+ attended).



YOUTH



Youth had a busy and fun year participating in events like a retreat, helping with the children's egg hunt, serving at the Food Bank, serving at ForColumbia, painting a cart, and a mission trip to Wausau, WI. They also joined with First Presbyterian for a couple of fun youth group nights exploring the corn maze and celebrating Advent and Christmas together.



MINISTRY

HIGHLIGHT

Connect Team



The Connect Team works to invite and connect people to Jesus and others. Last year, this team organized events such as an ice cream social, pool party and more for fun and fellowship.

Change Team



The Change Team helps to organize worship and devotional experiences. Praise and spiritual practices bring us closer to God's heart.

Call Team



23 people have completed the 12-week Discipleship Coaching journey. They explored who they are, who God created them to be, and how they can live out their call from God. They are now ready to help others along the same path!

Grow Team



Faith and relationships grow in small groups. The Grow Team continues to start new small groups while training small group leaders.

VISION OF THE FUTURE

MISSION

To make disciples for the transformation of the world!

VISION

Called to Love; Led to Serve

You see, God did not give us a cowardly spirit but a powerful, loving, and disciplined spirit. - 2 Timothy 1:7 (The Voice)

In 2024, Community UMC will continue to be inspiring, collaborative, and impactful in the name of Jesus Christ! We are just beginning to live out our goal of ministering with at-risk children and youth. The next step is building relationships with families who are at-risk and helping them experience restoration through God's love and hope. In addition, we will continue to partner with leaders and organizations throughout Columbia to make a greater impact. We are seeing this happen through the collaboration of organizations and non-profits with Sleep in Heavenly Peace.

At Community, let us continue to build a welcoming and loving community so anyone walking through the doors will know they belong here and will find powerful ways to grow in their relationship with God. This happens in every aspect of ministry and is possible because every member desires to share love and hope with others. The children and youth continue to grow through the love of Christ and the presence of volunteers who make a difference in their lives. Our hope is that every participant of Community finds a place to serve to make a significant impact in our church and throughout our city.

Finally, we will continue to develop disciplined leaders through Discipleship Coaching. This process has already made a difference in our leadership here at Community and will continue to raise up new leaders for the church. The multiplying effect of this process will expand our ministry opportunities for the future.

2024 LEADERSHIP

CHURCH COUNCIL

(Responsible for governing, including mission, vision, values, and goals)

Andy Upham (Chair)

Marc Lammy (Lay Leader)

Sarah Aplin, Greg Batson, Steve Brietzke,
Joan Dyer, Kathy Farmer, Christy Fritschi,
LaRae Kostal, John Layman

LEADERSHIP TABLE

(Responsible for collaborative strategies to accomplish the mission, vision, values, and goals)

Pastor Angie Olsen, Pastor Curtis Olsen,
Christi Farmer, Sherri Helm, Carla Hunter,
Marc Lammy

STAFF

(Responsible for organization and carrying out ministries to fulfill the mission, vision, values, and goals)

Pastor Curtis Olsen (Lead Pastor)

Pastor Angie Olsen (Pastor of Connections)

Nancy Cooper (Youth Ministries)

Julie Gibson (Traditional Worship and Communications)

Cooper Green (Facilities)

Carla Hunter (Operations)

Tawnya Moroni (Hospitality)

Scotty Wall (Contemporary Worship)

Abigail Wimberly (Children's Ministries and Nursery)

IMPACT OF TECHNOLOGY IN 2023

4,669

2,381

Media Plays by Unique Viewers

285

App Downloads

26,587

App Impressions

New website design launched in 2023!



2023 Year in Review

Called to Love, Led to Serve

www.communityumc.net

Community UMC
3301 West Broadway
Columbia, MO 65203