



ORLANDO GRACE
CHURCH

2021

ANNUAL REPORT

VISION STATEMENT

“WE EXIST TO GROW IN CHRIST,
BLESS OUR CITY,
AND SEND TO THE WORLD.”



Dear Church Family,

In my 18 years of ministry, I have never experienced a year with the highs and lows of 2021. It was a year marked with sadness as dear brothers and sisters left our church. Some the result of normal life circumstances and, others, the casualties of living in an increasingly polarized nation. But, it has also been a year filled with encouragement and many new faces.

My hope each year in this report is to give an honest 30,000 foot update to this church. At my core, I know I am a small town mayor who just wants everyone to get along, but 2020 and 2021 have stretched every church's ability to work together and OGC is no different. I can see the Holy Spirit at work in my own life helping me to see that real peace often comes through very hard and direct conversations. Our best estimates are that about 30% of our membership, as it was in January of 2020, has left.

That's the sad news. The good news is that we have experienced a flood of new people and our membership is growing fast. Our average attendance is actually higher than it's ever been and, by God's grace and your incredible generosity, we are making it financially. The leadership of this church at every level is more aligned than anything I have ever experienced and we all sense the future is bright.

It's interesting because even though we are a 30 year old church with rich history, in many ways we share some of the challenges of a successful church plant. We have a great facility, clear direction, about 450 people regularly worshipping at OGC, multiplying community groups and formation groups, and a growing staff team. But, because we have so many new people, we all (whether we have been at OGC for 3 months or 30 years) find ourselves in a church with many people we do not know.

While new people expect this, I know it is difficult for many of you who have been here for years. Sunday used to be primarily a time of catching up and worshipping with old friends and now it is a time of meeting and getting to know new ones. There is much more of an 'all hands on deck' feel than before COVID. Again, this is part of the reason I've chosen the church plant comparison.

One of our highest priorities in 2022 is to foster as much community as we can to truly develop meaningful relationships for everyone. This will include first Sunday of the month lunches, a marriage event/outreach in April, a summer short-term mission trip, Jobs Partnership opportunities to serve our community here in Orlando, and other fun events like Deck The Halls. The church at its core is a missions outpost and the more united we are in our fellowship, the more fruitful we will be in our city.

So, my prayer and request to each of you is this: would you join me in embracing an 'all hands on deck' mentality for 2022? That isn't a sustainable pace for the long-term, but I think it is what is most needed at this point in the life of Orlando Grace Church and one that will bless both us and our city.

As you work through this report, I expect that you will be encouraged, even in these unusual times. I am so thankful and proud of our church officers, staff, and volunteers who have weathered a storm and embarked on what looks to be much smoother water ahead.

As always, if you have any questions about anything going on at OGC, please don't hesitate to ask! I am so thankful to be a pastor here and excited about the years ahead.

Jim Davis — Teaching Pastor

2021 Strategies Report

In many areas of life 2021 has brought about forced changes. We've worked hard as elders, deacons, and staff to bring back as much normalcy as is possible given our ongoing realities. We gradually brought Sunday mornings back to what they were with a tiered approach to common sense precautions appropriate for each successive wave.

We had a lot of ambitious goals for this year and were still able to meet many of them. However, like 2020, numerous goals were rendered difficult or impossible by the pandemic. We will try to carry over many of those impossible things into 2022-2023 if they are possible logically, financially, and operationally.

Because goals are often less measurable, we created strategies underneath each of those goals with which to make progress. In 2021 we had 90 strategies underneath 21 goals. We had to postpone 17 of those goals to 2022 or 2023 leaving 73 goals we sought to complete. We fully completed 43 of those 73 strategies, 16 are still in-process, and 11 have not started.

Some of the biggest things we accomplished this year were:

- Launch a pastoral residency program with two pastoral residents
- Launch Formation Groups ministry environment
- Bring back numerous Sunday morning ministries and rhythms
- Make numerous aesthetic improvements to our lobby and worship center
- Make improvements to landscaping, sidewalks, and outdoor spaces
- Put together an encouraging and impactful 30th Anniversary celebration

Michael Graham — Executive Pastor



Total Giving

\$773,812.5

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

\$24,160.65

ADDITIONAL INCOME

(Rental building, interest... etc.)

Total Expenses

\$747-752K

*APPROXIMATE

Total Remaining Debt

\$1.332M

Additional

\$199K

CASH IN BANK ON 1/1/21

\$284K

CASH IN BANK ON 12/31/21

New Members

We had 207 members at the beginning of the year and we finished the year with 209. We added 41 new members and we are sad to say goodbye to 39 members.

We are excited to celebrate 16 baptisms this year as this is a big jump up from five last year and one the year before that. It was a real joy to be able to baptize a number of kids, young adults, and adults.



In-ear monitor implementation

You may have noticed the little headphones we all wear on stage. In 2021, we made the shift from typical “wedge” monitors (the large speakers on stage) to in-ear monitors. This not only helps us gel better as a band but goes a long way in de-cluttering the platform.

Broader repertoire

It's always been my goal to regularly introduce new (and old) worship songs to the congregation. In 2021, we introduced several new tunes including Only a Holy God and Not in Me, as well as original arrangements of mine, Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven and Come Ye Sinners.

My goal for 2022 and beyond is to not only keep exposing the church to biblically saturated music but also write original music for the church to sing (that's halfway decent, I hope).

Eventually, I would like to publish our church's repertoire into an OGC Songbook of sorts. But that's way down the road.

New volunteers

We've experienced quite a bit of turnover on our volunteer teams for various reasons, which has left me with the task of restaffing some of our critical A/V, lighting, and music responsibilities.

Thankfully, our church is one of cheerful givers, especially givers of their time and talents. In 2021, we added (or are currently in the process of adding) seven new volunteers to both our music and A/V teams.

Our existing volunteers have been continually improving their craft, whether it's practicing new harmony parts, expanding their responsibilities, or even learning new instruments.

I can honestly say that in all of the transition and added responsibility brought on by a two-service Sunday, I have not heard a single complaint from any of my volunteers.

Do me a favor: if you see a worship or A/V volunteer (especially someone in the booth), stop and just give them a high five, fist bump, or let them know you appreciate them. They're usually some of the first ones to show up and the last ones to leave on a Sunday. They do so much behind the scenes to make our worship gatherings excellent.

Heading into 2022

2021 hasn't quite been the cultural reset that 2020 was (although it's been pretty close). Looking back on my charter from last year's annual report, I realize not much has changed.

My main job, as I see it, is to facilitate the right worship of God by his people to the best of my ability. My aim is still to help our church “seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God” (Col. 3:1).

So long as I hold the title of Music & Liturgy Director at Orlando Grace Church, that commitment will remain.

Matt Kenyon — Director of Music and Liturgy

When I look back on 2021, I am so thankful for all the ways that God has used challenging circumstances to strengthen our children's ministry at Orlando Grace Church. At the beginning of the year we had only reopened our GraceKids class to serve families during the worship service. There were so many logistical questions to be answered about reopening all of the other classrooms in ways that were safe and loving to our children, their parents and our volunteers. Additionally, the shift to two morning services meant reinventing many of our systems of scheduling volunteers.

But what I saw as challenges, God saw as opportunities to show His hand at work. We successfully recruited and trained the seventy-five volunteers we needed to fully staff all of the children's ministry classrooms and thus reopen all of the classrooms at Easter. Our forced closure due to Covid resulted in us reopening with an awesome team of volunteers who were both equipped and energized to serve the children.

The Lord has also kept all of our classrooms healthy. As parents kept sick kids home and volunteers continued to wear masks, we managed to have no Covid outbreaks. Again, something that I thought seemed almost impossible can only be attributed to God's protection over our children.

Even through a challenging year, we have seen attendance continue to rise in children's ministry. We are currently serving an average of 48 children each week between the two worship services. To better accommodate our growing numbers, we upgrade the classroom furniture in the GraceKids classroom. It was also a great joy to restart the summer playgroup which allowed families and children to build more connections with one another.

While this year was certainly not without its challenges, it is always a joy to share the love of Christ with the children of OGC. Whether it is through holding a toddler in the nursery, singing a scripture memory song in GraceKids or teaching a lesson in Grace345, we can delight in all of the precious little ones that He has entrusted to our care and trust that He is drawing them to Himself day by day.

Amanda Walton – Children's Ministry Director



“I am so thankful to be at Orlando Grace Church.”

I say these words to someone involved in my life at least 5 times a week. I really mean it too. The saints at Orlando Grace Church are such a blessing to Allison and I and we are so thankful for the opportunity to serve here. At the beginning of this year, I started working with Skyler to make the transition as smooth as possible for the students and for both him and I. In June, I took over feeling totally ready for the task at hand. I am so thankful for the work that Skyler did in our Church and particularly in our Student Ministry. I really feel equipped by the Spirit and I am excited to keep building what has already been built here.

Weekly Meetings

We have two weekly meetings currently. We meet every Sunday morning during the 9:15 service for a youth specific equipping hour and we have our Sunday afternoon gathering. During Equipping Hour our heart is to equip our students with the ability to personally study the Bible deeply and apply it to their lives. Over the Summer, we spent time praying Psalms. This was so encouraging for me, and I hope that the Students were blessed by it too, and equipped with ways to pray when they just aren't sure what they need to pray. Starting at the beginning of the Fall, we began working through the book of Joshua answering the same questions each week so that they can learn how to study and apply Scripture while they read in their personal devotional life.

Our Sunday night gathering is going strong! We meet at 4 on Sunday afternoons and it is a great time of fellowship and Bible Study. We have been working our way through the Gospel of Mark and have been learning about what it looks like to be disciples of Christ who know him and walk with him. The Gospel of Mark has so much for our students to gain from it and I hope it has been as much of an encouragement to them as it has been for me. We also spend time each Sunday playing some sort of game together (highlights this year have been Slip and Slide dodgeball or Capture the Flag in the Worship Center) or sharing a meal together.

Volunteer Spotlight

I would not be able to accomplish anything in this ministry if not for the faithful volunteers that we have. I believe that Youth Ministry is best done when Students are being discipled by people older than them and more down the road, and in personal relationships. To that note, I am incredibly thankful for the relationships that our leaders are building and stewarding with our students. Andrew and Tori Garrison are so dear to me and the Student Ministry. We are so excited for them as they welcomed their daughter into the world this year and I am so thankful that they will continue on serving with us! My wife, Allison, has been really fantastic in Tori and Andrew's absence and I am so thankful that she takes the time to serve.

I am also grateful to have Clark and Ragan Bartholomew joining our team! Clark and Ragan are coming to us by way of Oxford, Mississippi and Grace Bible Church with a year-long stop in Jacksonville on the way. They are newly married (the day before Allison and I) and Clark is working through his MDiv at RTS and Ragan is working at Third Millennium Ministries as a Project Manager. If you have not had the opportunity to get to know them, I encourage you to do that as they are really awesome people who will be involved in our Church for the next few years.

Next Year

One thing I am really looking forward to in our first full year together is doing camps and retreats. Camp ministry played a really important part in my spiritual formation and I am excited to be with students as they experience what a catalyst summer camp can be in their own spiritual formation. I also look forward to hosting a fall retreat of some sort and figuring out what that will look like. All in all, I am excited to see community and fellowship blossom in this next year of Student Ministry at OGC.

In 2022 I am excited about continuing what we have done since the Student Ministry started at OGC: seeing students grow in Christ so that they might glorify God by blessing their schools and the world they are sent to following High School. All we want is for students to glorify Christ and enjoy him. Will you pray for us as we labor that this might be true?

Ben Alderman – Student Ministries Director

The Past Year

In March of this year the elders reached a decision to resume Equipping Hour classes at OGC after a year-long hiatus. The priority of this ministry and the need to return to core aspects of church community after a year of radical social minimalism meant the turnaround time from decision to execution was very short. Therefore, we started with the basics and decided to build from there. From April to July, we ran two classes, one during each service, on Christian Discipleship and being Missional and Confessional. I would like to thank Michael Strawser especially for jumping in to plan and execute the former class on such short notice. At the conclusion of those classes a decision was made to change up the strategy from one to two rotations so that everyone in the church can attend both classes over the course of a semester. We have historically tried to include both a practical and a theologically focused course, and this new method helps to ensure everyone gets some of both. Due to the overwhelmingly positive feedback, we have received from both participants and teachers, this will be the model we continue with for the foreseeable future. Moving forward we will also begin offering recordings of classes to those who need to miss weeks periodically and would like to catch up.

The Developing Strategy

Now that we have settled on the two-rotation model, and with our continued commitment to providing both theologically and practically focused biblical education to all our members, we are beginning the process of laying out a 5 year curriculum plan similar to those we have had in the past. As we do that, we want to be as aware as possible of the needs of the congregation, so I would like to ask that you consider filling out our Equipping Hour survey to share your thoughts - whether you have attended a class before or not.

The Foundational Commitments

While the 5-year plan approaches finalization, there are some foundational commitments that are updated. As we move forward, we will continue to teach the bible and insist that the bible be taught. To that end exegetical classes will be present most if not all semesters. Secondly, we want to hold to both the gravity of the responsibility of teaching the Word and of developing teachers. OGC's relationship with local ministries like RTS and Cru means that we have an extraordinary number of persons who are gifted to teach in our midst. We want to shepherd this responsibility by including qualified persons whenever possible so long as the quality of the classes can be maintained, and the oversight of the teaching remains with the elders. Finally, we want to make sure that what is taught in Equipping Hour at OGC is not only true, but also helpful. That has a variety of implications including that not all topics, teachers, or classroom strategies will be engaged, but only those which are deemed by the elders and pastors to be of tangible benefit to the church.

Thank you for joining us again this year for Equipping Hour and for helping us to make it the best that it can be. I pray that Christ is glorified, and you are blessed by our efforts.

Robert Jackson — Director of Adult Christian Education



Community Groups

Community Groups are going great at Orlando Grace as we see members attend in cities like Altamonte, College Park, Maitland, Oviedo, Waterford Lakes, Casselberry, Longwood, and Wekiva. We have 10 community groups and that is 3 more than last year. We hear from participants that community groups have been places where members can come and experience both joy in gathering together as well as comfort in their grief and sorrow. Worship through prayerful fellowship has been a wonderful theme across our community groups this year.

Formation Groups

Formation groups have also been a joyful experience at OGC this past year. We currently have 11 formation groups since its official launch in 2021. We hear of wonderful testimonies of God's faithfulness expressed through vulnerable sharing in formation groups. Some groups have progressed rapidly through the material, getting into interesting conversations of how much we are shaped by our experiences both past and present. We look forward to seeing more community groups and formation groups launched and flourishing at OGC in 2022. For the sake of Christ's Kingdom, we long to be a church where more members are connected into deeper community with one another.

Ericson Joubert — Pastoral Resident and Director of Community Groups and Formation Groups



Deacon Report

We were able to conduct one church workday this year and were able to accomplish several outdoor improvements:

- Tidy up our Western wall
- Clean out Northern A/C cages
- Trees trimmed in the parking lot
- Clump near playground removed
- Improve our pest control
- Clean exterior windows of Fellowship Hall
- Pressure wash our sidewalk and parking lot
- Blow leaves off roof

In addition to these workday items our deacons helped to accomplish a number of other things:

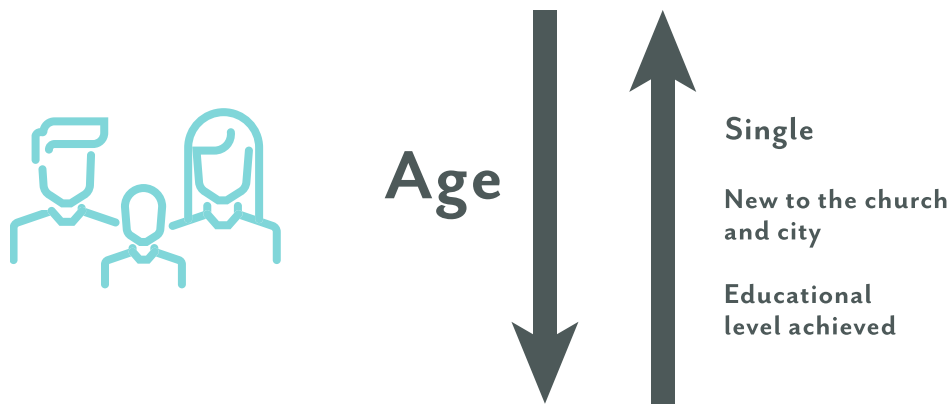
- Concrete walkway installed from patio to playground
- Bring coffee back for Sunday mornings
- Improve SEO and Google Ratings
- New handicapped parking signs installed
- Migrated to new accounting firm
- Fix various things on the facility like electrical, roofing, and other matters
- Conduct numerous baptisms using an easier to see method



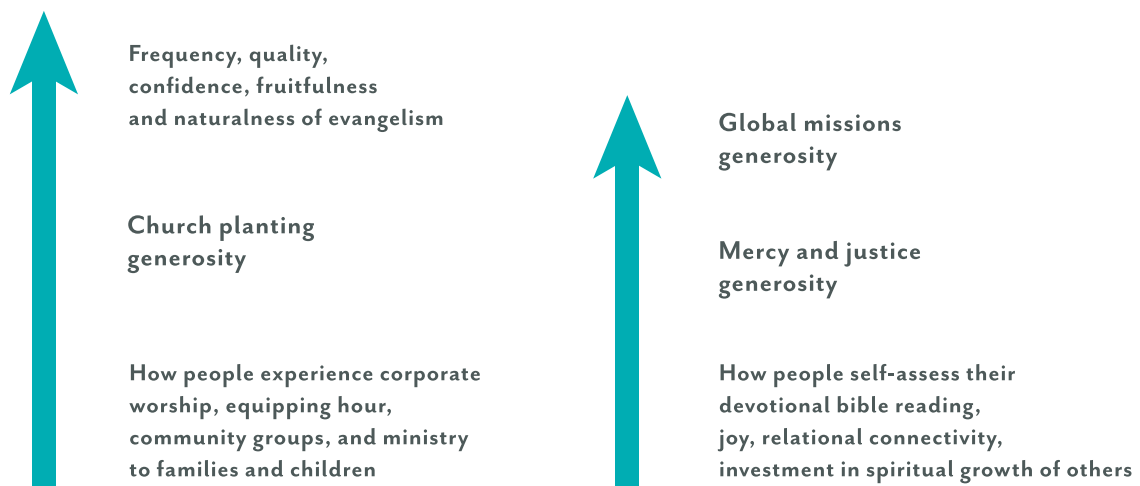
OGC MISSIONAL SURVEY

RESULTS

DEMOGRAPHIC SHIFTS



AREAS OF ENCOURAGEMENT



How people experience how we are doing organizationally regarding evangelism, discipleship, and mercy and justice ministries

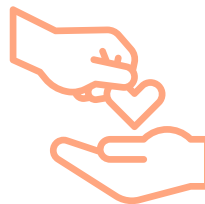
AREAS OF GROWTH



How people self-assess their marriages, close relationships with lost people, emotional health, and Sabbath/rest

Attendance of equipping hour and community groups

How people experience our mission to the city, corporate prayer, pastoral care, fellowship/welcoming, and peacemaking ethic



Mercy and Justice Initiatives

Per the results from our missional survey, our individuals in our church gave an estimated \$95-100k to ministries of mercy and justice and another \$120-125k to domestic and international church planting efforts.

Choices Women's Clinic

We had 17 households raise funds, a few dozen walkers, and numerous supporters for the annual Choices Women's Clinic Walk for Life event. We raised \$38,879 as a church (an all-time high for us and 119.3% more than last year). For the 6th time in OGC history (13, 14, 15, 16, 17, and 21) we were the top church for fundraising for Choices Women's Clinic Annual Walk for Life. These funds have helped their ministry expand their services, save lives, provide ongoing care for families, and as well as open their new UCF location.



GRACE LIFE CHURCH – LAUDERHILL, FL

Winston and Brenda-Lee Miller

In February of 2021, Grace Life Church of South Florida was officially launched! There were about 70 people in attendance at our first service, and we have settled into a weekly attendance of about 40 people. By God's grace we launched in the middle of the pandemic, but this has meant great inconsistency in every aspect of church planting life: from the time that we were able to gather, to which room we gathered in, to fluctuations in attendance due to Covid. Of course, these same issues were shared by churches and society around the world, and we are grateful that through it all, we remain encouraged and excited about the future of our church.

Winston's tenure as a Resident Pastor at Rio Vista Community Church ended in January, and he is now fully engaged in leading Grace Life Church. By God's grace, we continued to make improvements to our home that was once a blight to the community and is now a testimony of God's grace and a ray of hope. We've had multiple opportunities to engage our neighbors with the gospel, even as they have expressed gratitude for what the renovations of the home meant to them.

We have followed a close and faithful discipleship model by walking with individuals and couples through some very hard challenges. Although this model requires a great deal more patience and time, God has used Grace Life to bring a gospel centered witness to multiple marriages in crisis (with 2 marriages on much stronger foundation now), to continuing to serve two mothers who were homeless and are now transitioning to independent living, and to serving our city and neighborhood through Thanksgiving and Christmas give-away events, and serving on the Social and Community Context subcommittee for the Lauderhill Health and Prosperity Partnership, among other activities and opportunities.

Riverside Church in North Lauderdale has been a blessing to our church plant, and we currently meet in their Student Center. However, please pray that God would provide a space for weekly worship and offices that we could have available 24/7. We desire to use such a space to offer spiritual services to the community, such as marriage counseling, premarital counseling, mental health counseling, youth mentoring, community meeting space, and other ways in which we can impact the social, cultural, and spiritual needs of our community.

Please pray for Winston and Brenda as they serve, and for our children, Alyssa, Alexander, and Andrew. This year, we celebrated 25 years as a married couple, and we desire to grow in our love for one another even as we partner together in church planting. Please pray that the group of people that call Grace Life their church home will cohere into a gospel-centered core group that loves one another well and works together fervently for the sake of our Lord in our city. Please pray that everyone in our core group will find an opportunity to serve faithfully, and that many will develop into leaders that lead others well. Please pray that Winston will grow as a leader so that leadership development and discipleship will be fruitful, and that many new people will be saved and follow Jesus because of what God is doing through Grace Life Church.

REDEEMER MANCHESTER – MANCHESTER, ENGLAND

Greg and Christina Willson

2021 has been a year of growing up for Redeemer. To be sure we have plenty of more growing up to do, but God has been working in us at Redeemer to mature us and conform us into His image. We've seen leaders step up in very difficult times, we've seen God provide ways through that could only be described as miraculous, we've seen new people in our missional communities and Sunday worship gatherings, and we've also had the joy of seeing people become believers.

Most recently, we put on Christmas events where more than 700 people in our area were served, loved well, and have some kind of idea of what a community of Jesus is about. Please pray for us to be able to meaningfully connect with some of these 700 people as the year goes on, and that we would see more people know Jesus through this.

Our numbers on Sundays and during the week have grown, and this is a blessing from the Lord. Please pray that newer people would grow through serving, knowledge of the gospel, and living on mission together. There have been some leaders who have grown considerably in their faith, please pray for this to be the year that Redeemer could ordain elders alongside me.

NUOVA VITA – SALERNO, ITALY

Justin and Abbey Valiquette, Virgilio, Nunzia, and Antonio

2021 has marked a historic moment in the life of Nuova Vita. After 13 years of service in Italy to plant Nuova Vita church, the Valiquette family have followed God's call to entrust the church to the faithful Italian leaders that God has raised up over the past few years. Nuova Vita has now been 100% autonomously led by Italians for the past 8 months, and by God's grace things are going great! They are looking to baptize 4 new Christians and are even expanding their reach 45 minutes south into a small neighboring town, by starting a new community in a home with the hope long-term that this group could eventually become an autonomous church. This year has certainly been marked by challenges, but the overarching sentiment is that God has been, and continues to be, faithful to his church in Salerno! Attached is a photo (from left to right) of Virgilio, Nunzia, and Antonio, our three full-time Italian staff members of Nuova Vita.

Other Church Planting Efforts

Jim and Mike have been able to provide one-on-one help or coaching time to 13 church planters in our city, as well as 12 others in other states or countries.



REDEEMER MANCHESTER



NUOVA VITA SALERNO

Giving

This year, by God's grace, we avoided budget cuts despite the pandemic and were able to designate an additional 2.5% more to missions this year. In total, we gave just over \$60k to missions. On behalf of our missionaries, many of whom specifically asked that I say this, thank you to the members and attenders of OGC who gave sacrificially to avoid us missing our regular financial commitments to those we support. One of the most difficult impacts of the pandemic on global missions was that almost every missionary we work with had unexpected costs related to repatriation, medical care, or compensation for logistical complications. It is especially hard for many missionaries to ask for additional funding to help cover these expenses when their capacity to work is reduced by lockdowns and social isolation. It is for these and similar reasons that we have gone to the lengths described below to keep our missionaries visible to you, the OGC members, that you would know our faithful support of them through this time is both essential and appreciated.

Fall Missions Emphasis

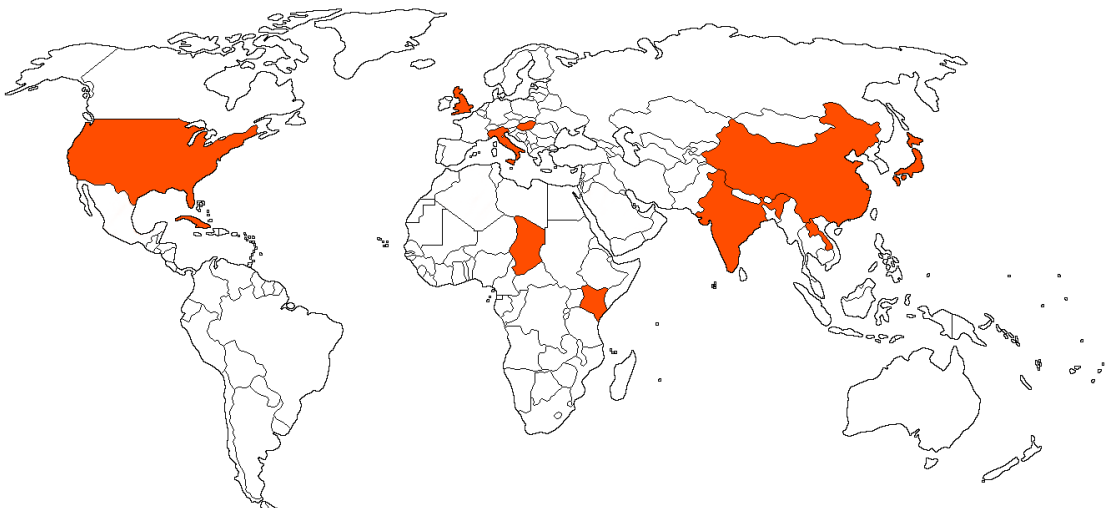
In light of the increased need mentioned above, those of us on the missions committee wanted to work to expand the reach of our seasonal mission's emphasis even further. Last year, in the earlier stages of the pandemic, we produced webisodes with each missionary family that could be viewed online. However, these received much lower viewership than we had hoped, and it told us that the medium was not meeting the need. This year, we wanted to preserve the focus on each missionary but find a way to ensure the viewership increased. As a result, the pastors and the committee devised a solution of producing shorter 5–6-minute clips of each missionary sharing what they wanted to and transitioning into reading the sermon text for the week throughout the duration of our series on the book of Acts. Our hope is that this not only ensured everyone at service would be able to hear from our missionaries, but that their participation in our church body would be felt in a tangible way by the connection to the sermon series and the liturgy.

Regaining Lost Ground

The events of the past couple years have impacted our ability to pursue a number of goals the committee had related to short term mission trips, fundraising events, and mission's classes at OGC. It is my hope that we are finally entering a season where we can begin to regain some of that lost momentum in old areas as well as press on to gain new ground. Towards that end, I am delighted to announce that Jonathan Prudhomme has graciously agreed to take over for me as Missions Committee Facilitator. Jonathan's full time pastor status, his years of full-time foreign mission's experience, and his weekly proximity to staff and elders will afford him many opportunities to better represent the needs of our missionaries to our church leaders and members. Between his new leadership, the return of missionaries to the field post-pandemic, recent additions to committee membership, and some new strategies we are seeking to employ on the website and in community groups in the coming months, I am looking forward to the next year with great expectations for what the Lord will accomplish through our missionaries and our team for the sake of His Kingdom in the world.

Robert Jackson — Missions Committee Facilitator

PEOPLE GROUPS ACTIVELY ENGAGED



While my time at Orlando Grace Church has been short, I have had the opportunity to experience the church under two hats: new to the church, and new to the staff. As a person new to the church, my wife and I have experienced warm reception and an outpouring of intentionality. The welcome from OGC members that we have received is one of the greatest blessings from having moved to Orlando. I have been able to visit off and on from out of town since late 2019, and now that we are here, we feel as though we belong. As someone new to staff, the existing cast has done a wonderful job of ushering me into this pastoral intern position. They have poured into me and made sure that I am equipped for the tasks that they have given me, even in the short time I am here. I look forward to growing in my abilities under the staff and growing in the body of Christ with the church.

Clark Bartholomew — Pastoral Intern

The prior two years of my internship have largely been focused on ministry in extraordinary circumstances. So in many ways, the blessings of my third and final year as a pastoral intern have been opportunities to consider ministry that is increasingly free from the context of a global pandemic, a new pastoral transition, or a volatile election cycle. This year I have gotten to watch as pastors, elders, deacons, missionaries, and volunteers have returned to their areas of ministry after a reset period with the opportunity to reevaluate what is worth returning to, what changes should be made, and what losses should be seen as benefits. Increased intentionality has been the universal result as everyone seems to have come to the conviction that anything worth doing is worth doing well and a mere history of doing does not equate to a reason for doing. Between that and the opportunities this internship has afforded me to participate in virtually every part of local church ministry, I have become convinced that I, like most, am called to pursue a few important things with excellence rather than many things with mere adequacy. This conclusion was especially easy to arrive at in the context of such a gifted staff team full of people who are called and equipped to serve with excellence in the myriad of areas I am not.

Robert Jackson — Pastoral Intern

It has been such an honor and joy to serve as a pastoral intern for a second year. Though it has been another strange Covid year, I have loved serving through running the livestream, preaching, teaching Equipping Hour classes, and serving on the Missions Committee. It has also been such a blessing to sit under the leadership of the elders and staff and observe all the ways they wonderfully serve this church. I look forward to continuing to serve in these capacities in the year ahead. It has been an immense blessing to be at OGC, and I am so thankful for the many ways I have been welcomed into the community. I am honored to continue to serve alongside the saints of Orlando Grace Church.

Evan S. McCarthy — Pastoral Intern



We had quite a few things published this year:

Angela Davis

- Nightbirde, How Can it Be OK? (TGC)

Jim Davis

- Why Our Church Will Unplug from Live Streaming by Jim Davis and Skyler Flowers (TGC)
- Does the Book of Proverbs Over-Promise? (TGC)
- What Was Martin Luther's Breakthrough? (TGC)
- What Should I Do If I See Moral Failings in My Pastor? (TGC)
- The Brutal Privilege of Pastoring Today (Acts 29)
- Pursuing the Dechurched (Man in the Mirror)
- A Biblical Theology of Race and Justice: Live at TGC21 (TGC)
- What Is Unity? (RTS)

Skyler Flowers

- Teaching our Students the Promises of God (Rooted)
- Teenagers Want You to Teach with Depth (Rooted)
- Professional Skills Every Youth Minister Needs by Skyler Flowers (Rooted)
- Rooted 2021 Devotions for Students: Jesus Brings the Good News that He's the Good News (Rooted)
- Why Our Church Will Unplug from Live Streaming by Jim Davis and Skyler Flowers (TGC)
- The Six Way Fracturing of Evangelicalism by Mike Graham with Skyler Flowers (Mere Orthodoxy)

Michael Graham

- The Six Way Fracturing of Evangelicalism by Mike Graham with Skyler Flowers (Mere Orthodoxy)

Kelly Simpson

- Simpson, K. (2021, November). Trauma Stewardship: An Occupational Perspective on Vicarious Trauma. FOTA Annual Conference, Orlando, FL.
- Simpson, K. (2021, November). The Science of Tiny Snuggles: Foundations of Neonatal Therapy. FOTA Annual Conference, Orlando, FL.
- Helping the Traumatized (TGC)
- Simpson, K. (2021). "Psalm 145" Wisdom for the Way: Devotional Reflections on The Psalms. Reformed Theological Seminary Publications, Orlando, FL.

Laura Way

- 4 Ways to Stop Toxic Thoughts During the Holidays (Family Life)
- Anger Issues: How I'm Helping My Kids... and Myself (Family Life)
- Sharing the Load for Back to School (Family Life)
- What Do I Say to a Friend Who Had a Miscarriage (Family Life)
- Spouse or Children: Who Comes First (Family Life)
- 5 Ways My Husband Supports My Mental Health (Family Life)

We utilize our Instagram account, twitter account, and our public Facebook fan page to share helpful resources, highlight positive things going on in our church body life and to honor the many ways that people serve our church family and our city. Our Instagram account grew from 185 followers to 308 followers this year. Our Twitter account grew from 41 followers to 69 followers this year. Our public Facebook fan page grew from 444 to 656 followers this year. We made a concerted effort to encourage gathering physically for those able and you can see this in less...

We made some improvements to the aesthetics, navigability, and readability of our website

Website

- 18,798 session - (up 30% from 2020)
- 40,084 pageviews - (up 29% from 2020)
- 50 States
- 151 Countries (up from 115 from 2020)

How did people find our website (SE/Social/TGC/Inbound links)?

- Organic search - 43%
- Direct – 34%
- Referral – 15.4% (up from 9%)
 - The Gospel Coalition – 22%
 - Acts 29 – 10%
 - Jim's Blog – 1%
 - Mike's Blog – 2%
- Social Media – 4%
- Google AdWords Grant – 4%

Vimeo – 1,491 views (down from 2,090 in 2020)

YouTube – 4,597 views (down from 7,397 in 2020)

219 subscriber (up from 159 subscribers in 2020)

Podcast:

- 159,712 downloads
- 50 states
- 168 countries

