

AWC

CHURCH

ALIVE WESLEYAN

NIGHT

CORE

2022-2023



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TOM'S UPDATE



Peter Drucker said,

The greatest danger in times of turbulence is not the turbulence; it is to act with yesterday's logic."

The "what" of ALIVE does not change. Our beliefs, theology, and values as a church remain.

Biblical Authority
Excellent Environments
Gifted Service
Relational Intimacy with God
Relational Evangelism
Authentic Community

There is comfort in knowing who we are and this gives us the freedom to embrace change in turbulent times. I am coming to understand it is the "how" we do ministry that is always changing which results in turbulence. The pressures of a growing organization result in turbulence being normal. Every week poses challenges and opportunities, some anticipated and some not. Added to this is the public nature of what ALIVE does and the number of people the ministries of ALIVE impacts.

When we moved to this new building, over 10 years ago, we had around six staff and two services. The earliest staff and lay people served as pioneers, taking new territories and carving out what is now known as ALIVE. Today, we have close to 25 staff, multiple campuses, 6 services every weekend, and an online campus with worshippers from around the country and occasionally, around the world.

ALIVE has successful ministry models beyond what happens in the normal context of a local church. The Growing Place, The Exchange, and The Farm all express ALIVE in unique contexts and increase the reach of the Gospel in our communities, while requiring new models for ministry.

When I started out in ministry, we needed a music leader and a pastor to pull off a worship service. Today, worship requires dozens and dozens of staff and volunteers. When our weekend services serve several hundred people in many locations, when we reach people we do not have a personal relationship with, when our production quality is held up as a model for other churches, the turbulent demand on staff and volunteers is high. This is true in multiple areas of ministry at ALIVE from Next Gen ministries, to Connections, to our online services. The weekend has become more demanding for everybody and cannot be governed by yesterday's logic.

When ALIVE started, there were just a few of us serving and pioneering was our culture. Everything was a new idea. Today, ALIVE is a vibrant, healthy, well-resourced ministry. It would be easy to join our staff or volunteer and think our pioneering days are behind us. And yet that idea couldn't be further from the truth. Pioneering new ministries will always be part of ALIVE! Moving from an upstart ministry to one like ALIVE requires a change in logic.

- What does it mean to move from a family dynamic to a healthy team dynamic across the organization?
- How do we lead a team of people serving in high turbulence?
- How will we continue to pioneer as a thriving community?
- What unites us as a team when we are serving the same mission in areas that may not cross paths?
- What are the implications of ministering to people who are not part of our physical locations?
- What are the long-term effects of high turbulent weekends on staff and volunteers?

This is the "logic" conversation ALIVE is having. I wish I had more answers than I do but I can say we are working on it and I feel tremendously blessed to serve through this season with some very gifted people. I am incredibly grateful for this staff who give so much to ALIVE. The commitment these men and women offer ALIVE is unwavering and inspiring. Their influence makes our culture and new "logic" better.

I am especially grateful for the Executive Team walking alongside me in these discussions. Pastor Scott has stepped into his role as Central Campus pastor with sensitivity and excellence. Pastor Rob is relentless in pursuit of our next planters and his years of wisdom and understanding of church dynamics and growth dynamics are invaluable to me and the ALIVE organization. Pastor Paul is carrying more responsibility and doing so with grace and excellence. His friendship is a constant in my life and I am humbled to serve alongside him.

We are served by an incredibly gifted team who make sure things happen in our offices: Kimberly Tanner, Amber Garay, and Katelyn Ford. I can promise you, they know the answer to your question and where the bodies are buried!

What an honor to serve ALIVE. I am grateful to be part of what God is doing through His bride called ALIVE. The constant prayers and encouragement to this staff are such gifts. Thank you for being such an amazing church.

Tom Harding
Senior Pastor

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tom Harding', with a stylized, sweeping flourish at the end.

HIGHLIGHTS OF – WORSHIP

Our goal is that the worship environment we create pleases God, attracts people, and inspires faithfulness. From the tech booth to the platform, our teams use their gifts and talents to create a space where people are given the opportunity to bump into Jesus.

WHAT HAVE WE DONE?

- Hosted a training night with the worship teams from Central, Pleasant View, and Pelzer.
- Had Dr. Joanne Lyon join us as a guest speaker for our summer series.
- Celebrated our A-Team members with a summer lake day.
- Were invited to lead worship for a Clemson Greek Life meeting on Clemson's campus.
- Lead worship for SWU's Spiritual Emphasis Week.
- Hosted a come-and-go Ash Wednesday service in the Chapel for kids, students, and adults.
- Baptized 17 people on Easter during service.
- Had over 2,000 people worship with us at our Central campus on Easter.
- Continue to add more volunteers and create a tight-knit community within our team.



WORSHIP A-TEAM

"I love being a part of such a talented team, but more than that a community of people who care for each other, pray for one another, and celebrate one another. These teams are so talented and skilled and it's amazing to see all the hard work and preparation come together to create an amazing environment for worship."

– Jesse Godfrey



"I love being a part of the worship team because it allows me to serve God while also doing what I love. It gives me such a warm feeling to see the impact that we have on the ALIVE community! It's also an honor to serve alongside such talented and genuine people. The worship team is like another family to me."

– Abby Straw

"I enjoy serving on the worship team because the people are always going out of their way to lift each other up and make each other better. I've only served a short time but the intentionality that I have been shown has been exceptional. I am truly grateful that I get to work with each individual on the team to help further God's Kingdom."

– Ashleigh Wilbur

HIGHLIGHTS OF – DISCIPLESHIP

Creating healthy communities that
produce missional believers.

4Ds —

Discovery – 49

Deepen – 50

Define – 46

Decide – 52

197 people participated in the 4D's at our
Central Campus this year!

BAPTISM —

44 baptisms on our Central
Campus between adults,
teens, and kids!

MEMBERSHIP —

Central Campus added 59 new members this year!





GROUPS PARTICIPATION

485 FALL 2022 | **487** SPRING 2023

"This small group is the best thing that ever happened to me."

"I am proud to be a part of a small group that jumped in to help a family out as we could during a tragic event. Sometimes doing something as simple as bringing dinner to someone or sending an encouraging text goes a long way. Our group is designed to be a life group and we just enjoy doing life together. And doing life together is for the good times and bad."

– Matt Ellis

RE|ENGAGE PARTICIPATION

36 INDIVIDUALS | **12** COUPLES

SINCE 2019, OVER 85 COUPLES HAVE GONE THROUGH RE|ENGAGE!

"It's given me a greater understanding of God's design and purpose for our marriage with lots of tools to strengthen our relationship."

"It helps you work through issues in your marriage that you didn't realize were there. It's great to walk through it with other couples that may have the same struggles and know that you are not alone."



PERSONALIZED CARE NUMBERS

11 ACTIVE CAREGIVERS | **8** CARE RECEIVERS

"On Sunday morning, as I was planning to end my wasted life, a friend invited me to ALIVE. Almighty God, led me to a Stephen Minister who since then has become a close friend. He connected with me every week, praying with me and revealed to me God's promise of an abundant life. The Stephen Ministry, now known as Personalized Care, saved my life."

- CELEBRATE RECOVERY -

AVERAGE WEEKLY ATTENDANCE: 28

Have had guests almost every Monday evening, serving
52 meals throughout the year!

"Celebrate Recovery has radically changed my life!"

"I do not know where I would be today unless I had not walked through the doors and attended Celebrate Recovery. Celebrate Recovery has become a family to me."

OUTREACH

Sponsored multiple families at Christmas from our local schools, baskets for people who are homebound, hosted a baby shower for a refugee family, served at the Central Railroad festival in the fall, stockings for veterans in the hospital, volunteer work at the Potter's Place, raised money for missions, provided meals for grieving families, provided Christmas gifts for a family who had recently adopted.



All 3 campuses went through the 21
Days of Prayer together and
celebrated with "Pancakes and Praise!"

Almost every small group came
together to go through "Holiness for
Ordinary People," in the Fall.

COOL STUFF

HIGHLIGHTS OF – ONLINE CAMPUS

Exists to strategically and creatively welcome people into healthy Christian community—to make them feel seen behind a screen.

- Averaged 450 weekly in attendance (around 250 households).
- Attendance went up 5% from 2021-22.
- Had almost 30 people attend Discovery Online.

DIGITAL MINISTRIES LAUNCHED:

- Online 4Ds
- Matthew 13 Project
- Renew
- Bible App for Churches

YOUTUBE:

- 24.7k+ views
- 113 NEW subscribers

PODCAST:

- 11.8k+ downloads
- 23 countries

FACEBOOK:

- 254 NEW page likes

INSTAGRAM:

- 244 NEW followers



HIGHLIGHTS OF – ALIVE KIDS

Exists to help kids Meet God,
Grow in Faith, Make a Difference,
and HAVE FUN!

20 BAPTISMS

60 SALVATIONS

275 KIDS AT
KIDS WEEK

289 GUESTS

5 DEDICATIONS

WE ADDED 36 NEW
VOLUNTEERS THIS YEAR!!



ALIVE KIDS A-TEAM

"My favorite part of serving at the ALIVE kids check-in desk is getting to know so many families! The thrill of a 10am rush of kids is like no other! Serving at the check-in desk also means I'm one of the first people new visitors meet. It's very important to me that they feel welcomed!"

– Erin Ellison

"Serving with kids is always interesting and never a dull moment! I'm super thankful for the teens that show up each week ready to love on kiddos alongside. I believe a strong Christian community builds Christ centered relationships when you start loving on the littlest. It's a joy, to pour Jesus into the youngest of hearts."

– Rena Gordon

"I would say that volunteering with ALIVE Kids is the highlight of my week! I love being in the treehouse with the preschoolers and getting to see how excited they are to learn about Jesus! I leave feeling filled up from their energy and excitement for Jesus and church!"

– Marie Schmidt



HIGHLIGHTS OF – AWSM

NEW MISSION STATEMENTS

BELIEVE -

We want to see the 96,000 believe in Jesus and start a relationship with Him. Any student who comes to an AWSM event has an opportunity to experience Jesus.

BELONG -

We strive for healthy Christian community. Every student who attends AWSM should feel like they have a place to belong.

BECOME -

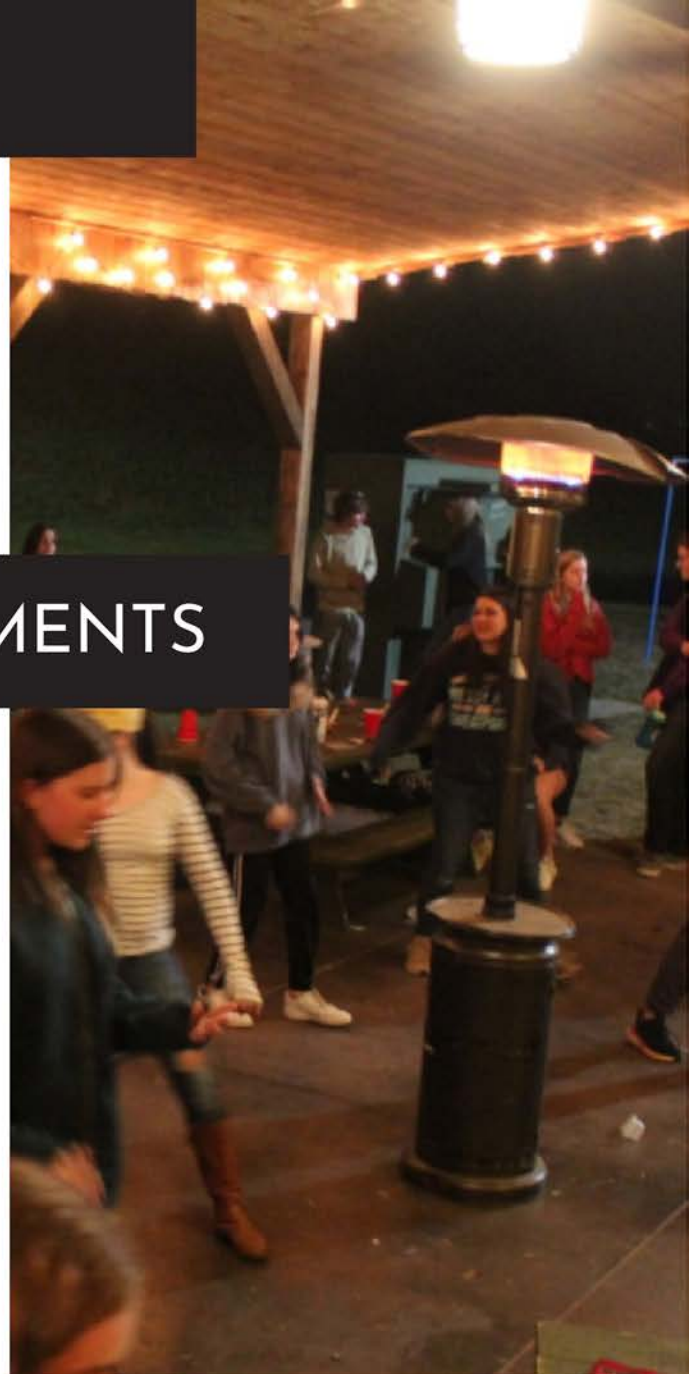
We equip middle and high school students to become difference makers in their context.

BAPTISMS – 6

SALVATIONS – 3

SMALL GROUP NUMBERS – 68

NTS CAMP – 70 in attendance





STUDENT LEADERSHIP TEAM

AWSM launched a new Student Leadership Team this year with 12 students participating. These students drive the culture of AWSM, making it a place that always brings the fun and where anyone can belong.

"Helping students interact with scripture, become involved in worship, and integrate into Christ-Centered Community is one of the coolest opportunities in the church."

– Jay Drury

"I love getting to know students a little more one week at a time! AWSM is a great space to connect with students and it helps facilitate conversations about Jesus!"

– Hannah Willis

"It has been an amazing opportunity to plug in, not only with the students of our church, but with some amazing volunteers. I have found community while getting to serve the next generation, helping them believe, belong, and become."

– Kaylin Stanley

HIGHLIGHTS OF – LOVE A SCHOOL

This year, Love a School had two weeks where we went into schools and had the opportunity to love on local teachers and students!



WEEK ONE –

Went into three high schools and two middle schools:

- Brought Snack Packs along with AWSM invites for sports teams.
- Provided a treat cart for teachers.
- Passed out popsicles for students.

Went into four elementary schools and one primary school:

- Provided a treat cart for teachers.
- Gave away shoes to children.

Jingle Jam:

- 2,700 kids reached between online and in-person.
- Hosted in four schools.
- Every child received a gift from ALIVE
 - Over 2,000 boxes made with candy, pop-its, and a QR-Code with an invite to church were handed out.





WEEK TWO –



- Provided duty-free lunch at all elementary schools.
- Sponsored Bounce House Day at Liberty Primary.
- Handed out Teacher Appreciation gifts.
- Hosted carnival games with prizes for students.

PLUS-

- Provided first-day breakfast for teachers at Liberty Primary.
- AWSM had the opportunity to lead and feed FCA at four schools over 18 meetings this year.
- Hosted Data Days at ALIVE Central Campus for Liberty Elementary.
- Provided t-shirts for Six Mile Elementary's children's choir and for staff at Edwards Middle School.



“Love a School is a tangible way we as an ALIVE community put hands and feet to the mission of the gospel to spread the good news of Jesus to the students and staff in Pickens County School District.”

– Michelle Confer

HIGHLIGHTS OF – PELZER CAMPUS

NEW MEMBERS – 2
4D PARTICIPATION – 4
BAPTISMS – 2
DEDICATIONS – 1

We hosted our Kids Week at the Pelzer Campus for the first time and saw over 100 total people on campus with new guests every single night!

We hosted “Trunk-or-Treat,” and “Cookies and Crafts with Santa,” and saw a steady stream of families from the community who had a blast with our awesome A-Team members.

We hit 100 in worship attendance on a Sunday without any special events!

8 NEW A-TEAM MEMBERS

5 SMALL GROUPS WITH 44 IN
AVERAGE ATTENDANCE



PELZER A-TEAM

"The deeper relationships and connections I've made as a small group leader have encouraged and challenged my own personal spiritual growth. I believe it has encouraged and challenged spiritual growth for those within the small groups I've had the privilege to lead."

– Dave Tolan



"There's no place I'd rather be making a joyful noise to the Lord than with our ALIVE worship team at Pelzer because they are like family to me."

– Dawn Holland



"Serving on the connections team has been a blessing because my relationship with my team members has given me comfort and community when I have needed it and because it has given me a chance to serve my church in a small way."

Pam Campbell

HIGHLIGHTS OF – PLEASANT VIEW CAMPUS

NEW MEMBERS – 8

4D PARTICIPATION – 12

BAPTISMS – 8

Prayer ministry has been rolling for about nine months where we lift the burdens of our brothers and sisters. We've seen miracles happen! Healing, deliverance from addiction, meeting impossible financial needs, breakthroughs in family life, and encouragement in the hearts of people who have been beaten down for so long.

Youth small group has a new life infused with volunteers and new students!

Women's group has led the charge on connecting with people in need in Belton and were the driving force behind our Love A School initiative through a clothing drive for Cedar Grove Elementary School.

6 COWS IN OUR NEW PASTURE

5 SMALL GROUPS



PLEASANT VIEW A-TEAM

"ALIVE PV has become my home. A little over a year ago, I was lost, hurt, and not sure of my purpose in life. ALIVE lifted me & showed me what my purpose in life is. To love, serve, and help others find the peace that only comes from the Lord. For that, I am so blessed & grateful!"

– Charles



"I was so blessed to be led to ALIVE. My life has so much more meaning now and I have a home in the Lord. I live with peace, contentment, and joy and hope to lead others to that life!"

– Shirley

PROJECT 20

TWENTY CHRIST-CENTERED COMMUNITIES IN
THE NEXT TEN YEARS.

ALIVE is changing everything to allow us to plant 20 Christ-Centered Communities wherever God opens the door.



WEST CITY CHURCH - PLANT

West City just celebrated their first year! Pastor Jason and his wife Morgan have led new believers to Christ, started active discipleship opportunities for men and women, provided accessible worship experiences - but most importantly, preached the Gospel to those in West Greenville!

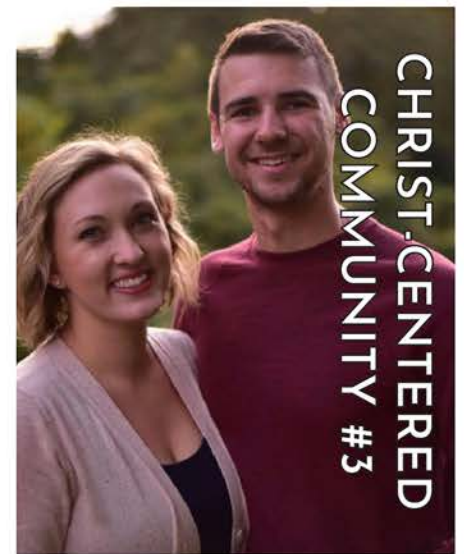
CHRIST-CENTERED COMMUNITY #2

MOUNT MORIAH - STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

ALIVE has been in a strategic partnership with Mount Moriah for the past several months, meaning we have partnered with them to help them reach the spiritually hungry people in their communities. Whether it be through streaming our Sunday morning message, helping them recruit a new pastor, or providing coaching to their team, we are thankful to partner with this incredible church!

UPSTATE COMMUNITY CHURCH - PLANT

Pastor Connor is nearly complete with building renovations in Spartanburg and is ready for interest group meetings at Upstate Community Church! Connor and his family are becoming part of the Spartanburg/Boiling Springs community and are very ready to reach the people in this rapidly growing region.



FORT MILL, SC - PLANT

We are so excited that we just got to announce the newest Christ-Centered Community in Fort Mill, SC with Pastor Zach Dillard! Fort Mill is celebrating 150 years as an incorporated community and is exploding with growth. Welcome Dillard family!



Through Project 20, ALIVE continues to leverage our reach to expand opportunities for more people to experience healthy Christian community. Thank you for your faithfulness that makes this possible.

Continue to pray for leaders, locations, and God's favor as we move forward in year 2!

HIGHLIGHTS OF – THE GROWING PLACE

- Numbers this year averaged 130 students representing about 100 families!
- Hosted our second year of Camp ALIVE.
- Implemented new curriculum.
- Gave all teachers a pay raise, and bonus.
- Lots of community engagement events throughout the year.



HIGHLIGHTS OF – LOCAL OUTREACH

- Food drive at Christmas for Clemson Community Care
- Sponsored a display in Liberty Primary's new Discovery Den
- Partnered with Central Police Department in support of their Drug Education, Drug Awareness, and Drug Prevention Magnet Project
- Collaborated with Pickens County Sheriff's Office for Shop With a Cop
- Supported the Go Tell Crusade that happened in Liberty
- Launched Matthew 13 Project and Renew Ministry
- Sponsored Six Mile Recreation Department
- Sponsored Southern Wesleyan University's Fine Arts Department
- Sponsored FCA
- Supported SWU Athletics
- Sponsored Night to Shine for the eighth year.



HIGHLIGHTS OF – GLOBAL OUTREACH

- Sent a team of three to Mozambique
- Two of our staff members went to India to visit our missions partner, Rupak, and support him during the 1-year celebration of his wife's passing.
- Raised over \$125,000 for Rupak and his ministry.
 - With this money, Rupak has already been able to help complete unfinished churches, provide new transportation for his pastors, baptize new believers, break ground for two new churches, and so much more!
- Bought brand new mattresses for the Children's Village in Haiti.



HIGHLIGHTS OF – THE EXCHANGE

- Total profit for 22-23 year: \$61,250
- Transferred \$60,000 to Project 20!
- Sold almost 50,000 items this year!

CURRENT MINISTRIES

- Volunteer Bible Study
- Opportunities to help refugees resettling in our area from The Middle East, Central America, and South America.
- Opportunities to help individuals who do not have permanent housing.
- Being an environment where people can tell their stories of loss, abuse, and pain, and connect to hope and healing in Jesus and healthy Christian Community.
- The opportunity to financially support church planting.



EXCHANGE A-TEAM

"Whether you work there or shop there, your life can change for the better in one conversation."

– Barb Gawlas

"Serving at The Exchange has taught me that it's okay if your gifts and strengths don't look like anyone else's."

– Melanie Prichard

"I love serving at The Exchange because I love helping our church raise money and meet the community of those less fortunate, who need help and items at a great price... and a spiritual community to grow in God's love."

– Mary Beth Peurifoy

Over the past 16 months, our customers have become not only friends and people we minister to but also who minister to us. The Exchange has become a community. This year one of our volunteers was able to begin visiting a customer who had been placed in a home hospice. Our volunteers hear stories of addiction, abuse, and loss and can point people to their source of hope. We have celebrated with customers who found the new job they needed and as they welcomed a new baby into their home. We have seen God answer prayers for the rent money required for that month. Customers routinely tell us The Exchange is their "happy place" where they come when life is hard, and we get to say that what they feel at The Exchange is Jesus.

– Beth Petersen



ALIVE Wesleyan Church
2022 - 2023 Budget

	2023-2024 Budget	2022-2023 Budget
INCOME		
Tithes and Offerings	3,030,850	2,699,700
Interest Income	10,000	10,000
The Growing Place	97,000	102,500
Other	5,725	18,675
INCOME TOTAL	3,143,575	2,830,875
EXPENSE		
Salaries and Benefits	1,630,770	1,406,750
Ministries		
Worship	72,140	71,855
Outreach	211,275	179,590
Fellowship	18,150	15,575
Service	25,610	11,125
Discipleship	55,970	42,710
96,000 Reach	161,500	162,515
Ministries Total	544,645	483,370
Operations	155,210	152,520
Facilities and Equipment		
Building Payment	320,000	320,000
Depreciation/Capital	175,000	100,000
Improvements/Repairs	50,400	45,750
Equipment/Technology	34,300	38,155
Utilities	88,250	84,330
Facilities and Equipment Total	667,950	588,235
General and District Budget	145,000	200,000
EXPENSE TOTAL	3,143,575	2,830,875

ALIVE Wesleyan Church
General Operating Fund
May 1, 2022 - April 30, 2023

TOTAL 2022-2023			
	Actual	Budget	% Budget
INCOME			
Tithes & Offerings	\$ 3,022,614	2,699,700	112.0%
Interest Income	19,426	10,000	194.3%
Other Income	13,225	18,675	70.8%
The Growing Place Revenue	184,912	102,500	180.4%
INCOME TOTALS	\$ 3,240,177	2,830,875	114.5%
EXPENDITURES			
Salaries and Benefits	\$ 1,323,021	1,406,750	94.0%
Ministries			
Worship	75,833	71,855	105.5%
Outreach	176,707	179,590	98.4%
Fellowship	20,032	15,575	128.6%
Service	19,410	11,125	174.5%
Discipleship	34,708	42,710	81.3%
96,000 Reach	181,190	162,515	111.5%
Ministries Totals	808,565	483,370	167.3%
Operations	147,603	152,520	96.8%
Improvement/Repairs	69,531	45,750	152.0%
Depreciation/Capital Fund	100,000	100,000	100.0%
Equipment	36,446	38,155	95.5%
Utilities	85,254	84,330	101.1%
Building Payment	508,596	320,000	158.9%
General and District Budget	130,000	200,000	65.0%
Facilities and Grounds Total	929,827	788,235	118.0%
EXPENSE TOTALS	\$ 3,209,016	\$ 2,830,875	113.4%
Over / (Under)	\$ 31,161	\$ -	



HIGHLIGHTS OF – 2022-2023 FISCAL YEAR

ALIVE GIVING

- Tithes and Offerings grew year over year by 13.5%.
- Tithes and Offerings exceeded 3 million dollars for the first time in ALIVE's history.

ALIVE DEBT

- Paid an additional \$200,000 directly to the mortgage principal.
- 6 years ago, the highest point of debt was 4.4 million; today 2.4 million.

ALIVE GENEROSITY

- Invested \$100,000 in Project 20 this year.
- Invested over \$40,000 in local community support.
- Sent over \$60,000 to overseas missions.
- Raised an additional \$125,000 to help build churches in India.

EXCHANGE

- Processed over \$145,000 in sales.
- Transferred \$60,000 to Project 20 to help fund church planting.

THE GROWING PLACE

- Contributed \$185,000 to ALIVE ministries.



ALIVE WESLEYAN CHURCH



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