



MINISTRY IMPACT REPORT & STORIES

goodnewschurchga.com

May 2024 to July 2025

Good News Friends and Family,

We hope you're doing well! As we transition from summer fun to "Back to School" and all of the fall activities, we thought now would be a great time to give you an update as to all that's been going on with Good News Church since our last report in April, just before Easter.

Since I mentioned Easter, I'll start there. Wow! We had an AMAZING outdoor Easter service at the beautiful Hillside property that we're in the process of purchasing (God-willing). We estimated 160 in attendance with approximately 40 first time visitors (many of whom found us by our online Event Brite announcements). We also had a "Lazy Man's 8am Sunrise Service" in our neighborhood and had about 15 people in attendance. We were greatly encouraged by the entire morning!



HILLSIDE PROPERTY

We are continuing to pursue the hopeful purchase of the Hillside property, but we're now working with Gwinnett County (which is where the property is located) for approval as relates to overall plans and re-zoning. We're currently in a holding pattern until October, which is the earliest we could get on their docket. We do believe this is where God is leading us. We're working hard to cover all the bases on our end, but ultimately, God will have to open the doors. We greatly appreciate your prayers and will keep you posted.

COMPASSION FUND

One of the things we're most excited about this year is the establishment of a Compassion fund, which greater enables us to meet the needs of people in crisis in our church and in our surrounding community. So far, we've been able to meet a variety of needs (i.e., HVAC replacement, medical bills, utilities, etc.) totaling nearly \$10,000. Your generosity to us enables us to be generous to those in greatest need. Thank you!



SPONTANEOUS SUMMER SOCIALS

We had a lot of fun with a few spontaneous social opportunities for people in our church to connect and get to know one another, and to invite friends to come join in on the fun.

Summer Socials included an evening out at the New Suwanee Town Center Park (June 6), Happy Hour at Hacienda Mexican Restaurant (July 2), and a Dessert & Coffee Social at Hansel & Gretel Bakery Café (July 30).

SUMMER SERVING

We've had a full summer of serving and ministry. We've continued to serve on the 3rd Saturday each month at the Good News at Noon Homeless Ministry (Gainesville, GA). We had a crescendo of serving on Saturday, July 19, of which Laura provided this recap... *"Good News folks were busy serving today! We had a great turn out for serving lunch to the homeless in Gainesville at Good News at Noon. Thank you John, Lori, Alan & Sara Luchuk, Mike, Maria, and Zivah Brock, Cravens Doggett, and David Fearon! Special thanks to Alan for offering to clean the bathrooms - in 3 years of serving here, I have never stepped foot in the bathroom."*



Meanwhile, in Sugar Hill, Dave & Kay Lee, along with Grace Warner were busy serving with the North Gwinnett Cooperative's Book Bag Bash, handing out backpacks, school supplies and shoes for kids in our community! Thank you to Greg Miller (and co-workers from Reeves and Young) for helping with all the prep on Friday!

Personally, I (Laura) met two new ladies, Tiffany and Charisse, at Good News at Noon. Tiffany has been living in her car, and her kids (ages 15, 13, 12, and 11) staying with friends and family. She was just approved for an apartment, is looking forward to moving in July 30 and surprising her kids by gathering them all back together. Charisse is living in an extended stay hotel with her 3 kids (ages 30, weeks, and 18) all on the autism spectrum (2 are non-verbal). Please join me in praying for Tiffany and Charisse as they both navigate difficult situations."

STUDENT MINISTRIES

We're so proud of and thankful for Grace Warner for developing a plan and giving leadership to our middle and high school student ministries this summer. Grace will be a junior at Berry College (Rome, GA), and as a part of her desire to work in the ministry / non-profit sector, she submitted an application for a Berry College internship scholarship. Grace was one of a few chosen and awarded \$1,250.00 to be used for ministry, and she fundraised an additional \$1,840.00 to make sure that she had enough resources to implement everything she envisioned.



Our middle and high school students have had a bit of a challenge connecting and building relationships, mostly because they're all too busy during the school year to be able to schedule any consistent ministry opportunities.

So, this summer, Grace (and a team of 5 adult volunteers) led 12 students on a 7-week *"Summer Student Ministries"* gathering that included dinner, fun games, connection, and a 20-minute Alpha Youth video (an outstanding and highly recommended resource. More info available at www.alphausa.org).

We also sprinkled in an afternoon of *"Pizza & Putt-Putt,"* as well as an *"End of Summer Pool Party"* with, of course... pizza. :)

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Our women's ministry also had a great summer of several dinner socials, a paint night, and a weekly dinner and Bible study going through the book of 1 John. In addition to lots of growth in relationships, several new women got connected to the church through these events. A huge win all around!

MEN'S MINISTRY

The guys took the summer off and did nothing. :) However, they are preparing a kickoff dinner on September 10th followed by a 10-week study on Alister Begg's book, *"Made for His Pleasure."*

SOFTBALL SPONSORSHIP

On Sunday, August 3rd, it was a special treat to host, recognize, and pray for the Lanier High School Softball Team. We sponsor their team, so we thought this could be a great way for our congregation to connect with the coaches, players, and their families, and for the team to connect with our church. It was so much fun to have them with us. We even started our worship service by having their pitcher throw out the first pitch! We're hoping to maintain relationship with the team by cheering them on at a few games, serving dinner, and being available to encourage and pray for whatever situations of need might arise.



GROWTH

Good News Church continues to grow through relational investments, community outreach, and procreation. :) We continue to have numbers of visitors from week to week and are excited that about 20 of those visitors have become regular attenders who are plugging in, serving, and getting connected. We've had a bunch of babies born these last few months, too, and on Mother's Day, we baptized 4 of them – Lucas Souza, Paul Felker (see photo), Evangeline Welch, and Vernon Andrew (Four) Welch.

QUOTES

In closing, I thought I'd share a couple of quotes that recently caught my ear at church and encouraged my heart. I thought they might encourage you, too.

- *"I'm gonna be honest. I never invited a single person to church ever, until Good News Church. Now, I invite everybody!"*
- *"I was pretty much done with church. Honestly, I'm surprised at how much I love this church. I'd say I'm 90% there to committing myself fully to Good News Church. I definitely didn't see that coming, but the love, acceptance, and grace I've experienced here have paved the way back for me to God."*

VISION

- We're so encouraged as to how God is drawing people to Himself through the vision of Good News Church *"to experience and express LOVE from God and to others,"* and the undergirding verse from Galatians 5:6b, *"The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love."*



We're blessed by your friendship, partnership, and prayers. If you'd like to support Good News Church, you can text-to-give (855-363-5096), donate online (goodnewschurchga.com/give), or mail a check to "Good News Church GA" (5602 Thistledown Terrace, Sugar Hill, GA 30518), or click the QR Code.

Head to our website and subscribe to our weekly email newsletter to keep in the loop of all that's happening. Please pray for us as we continue in God's great adventure for Good News Church GA and the Kingdom work He has for us in our surrounding community.



We love you and hope you have a great fall season!

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A FEW EXTRA PHOTOS

