

**Mission Report 2022:
Restore, Confirm,
Strengthen, &
Establish**

*Our church family's
year in review*



1786 N. Fraser St / P.O. Box 250, Georgetown, SC 29442
843-546-4386 / hello@georgetownchurchofchrist.com
www.georgetownchurchofchrist.com

Restore, Confirm, Strengthen, & Establish 2022

“And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you.

-1 Peter 5:10 ESV

Christians throughout the world have been experiencing the same kinds of suffering since 2020 - not unlike the Christians in the Apostle Peter's day (cf. 1 Pet. 5:9). So, we were confident that as we shared in suffering, we would also share in what God promised would happen next: “**And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you**” (1 Pet. 5:10). We set out to make 2022 our year to experience this - and God did not disappoint!

Rejoicing in Heaven

Sharon Shirer. Stefanie Chastain. Luke Chastain. Mark Barber. May Drayton. Jordan Skipper. Rachel Hager. Becky Salgado. Kilee Vanderhorst. Nine times this year - as they each repented of their sins and put on Christ in baptism - the angels celebrated. So did we - and in at least a couple of cases, so did a bunch of vacationers at Litchfield Beach!

Join the Song(fest)

After much planning, preparation, and praying, God richly blessed our Praise and Harmony Songfest with Keith Lancaster in March 2022! After an impactful Friday evening of Worship Leader Training, our Saturday Songfest attracted a record 173 people to praise God with us. As Keith led us in practicing what we learned, we glimpsed heaven while worshipping our Holy God that Sunday. The blessings from this worthwhile investment have continued. We praise God with beautiful new songs. Our brothers huddle to pray before each service and ensure our worship seamlessly flows. Ashley Hager also glorified God at the latest Praise & Harmony recording in November.

Mission 1 Training

During the summer, we learned to follow Jesus daily at the kind of place He used to teach His disciples - the beach! Pitching tents on Litchfield Beach over three Saturday mornings, we were fully trained to Submit, Pray, Love, Encourage, Comfort, Forgive, Serve, Seek the Lost, Share the Good News, and Make Disciples like Jesus.



2022 at a glance

9
baptisms

173
joined the
Songfest

622 lbs
of food for
neighbors in
need

5,389
website visits

36,307
reached on
Facebook

\$60,000+
given to mission,
community, &
assistance

Grow in Grace and Knowledge

Each Sunday in 2022, God's word was proclaimed clearly and boldly. Whether it was our morning sermons, our evening Discovery Bible Studies, or our weekly articles, lessons coming from the Old and New Testament alike equipped us to be more like Jesus and to share Him with others. Designed to align with 1 Peter 5:10, our lesson series in 2022 included **Esther's Missing God: Seeing Him in Dark Times, Come to the Table, Praise and Harmony, This is Jesus, Rest and Restoration, Confirmed: Living by God's Word, Stronger, Firm Foundation, Jonah, Enter with Thanksgiving, and Be Thou My Vision.**

We didn't stop there. We continued publishing **Daily Devotionals** as videos on Facebook and podcasts on our church website every Monday through Friday. The **New Life Series** and **GROW** equipped us to live out our faith as Christians, while **Words of Life** improved our Bible study and **Worship with Reverence and Awe** deepened our worship. Our current series, **Knowing Jesus**, is taking us through the Gospel of Mark. Along with our Sunday sermons, Bible studies, and articles, this daily proclamation of God's Word helped drive **5,389 visits to our church website** and **reached over 36,307 Facebook users** here and around the world.

John Harrison, Jay McClary, and Gary McIntyre took turns leading the small group Bible study meeting in our Fellowship Hall through wide ranging topics such as **Esther, Amos, Death and Resurrection, Come Let Us Reason Together, and Angels.** At the same time, a small group met on Zoom and in the Teen Room for a Family Discovery Bible Study that brought children and adults together for an intergenerational time of study and prayer. Together they discovered **The Source, Courage and Conviction**, and how to pray from **Lord Teach Us to Pray, Praying like Jesus, Devoted to Prayer, and Making My Prayer.** On Thursday evenings at Georgetown Family Medicine, Luis Chastain led a growing group of men from our congregation and the community through **Titus** and then through a Discovery Bible Study of **The Gospel of Luke.** (Bookmarks for these Discovery Bible Studies are available for you to use, too.)

Through our Ladies Fellowship, Debbie Jordan concluded **Sisters at Sea** before passing the torch to Ashley Hager to lead **Impossible**, a study of the Gospel of Luke. Debbie Justice also arranged for us to join the Seneca congregation's "**Be a Blessing**" Ladies Day virtually, during which we donated items to the Family Justice Center locally and our congregation's young men served lunch.

In 2022, we gave ourselves in prayer and fasting and through over \$60,000 in contributions to advance God's kingdom...



Here

- **Helping Hands of Georgetown: Food and basic needs for struggling neighbors**
- **Encouraging the residents and staff at Prince George Healthcare Center**
- **Donating needed items to the Family Justice Center**
- **Other local support and financial assistance**



Near

- **Loris Church of Christ in Loris, SC**
- **Palmetto Bible Camp in Marietta, SC**
- **Southeastern Children's Home in Duncan, SC**
- **Churches of Christ Disaster Relief Effort**



Far

- **Billy McVey: Gospel & Glasses mission trip to Guyana and Suriname, S. America**
- **Eastern European Mission: Bibles for the people of Eastern Europe and beyond**
- **India Missions: Songbooks in the Telugu language**
- **Oasis Outreach: Putrela Children's Home in India and medical assistance for an injured brother in the Middle East**

Let Your Light Shine

Not only did our **COVID Care Packages** get put to use again in early 2022, but they morphed into **Compassion Kits** produced by our Teen class for us to share essential items and a verse card with people in need. Likewise, our **Food Teams** - which always bless our members recovering from illness, mourning losses, or welcoming new children with delicious homecooked meals - shared the gospel as they fed Habitat for Humanity volunteers and the Georgetown High football team.

Our strong presence at Georgetown's observance of the **National Day of Prayer** was felt as we all wore the **new church t-shirts** Melody Skipper designed for us. The message on the back - "Go Make Disciples" from Matthew 28:18-20 - describes so many of our activities throughout the year. We gave two different Fellowship of Christian Athletes devotionals to the **Georgetown High School football team** to help start and end their season. We passed out candy, verse cards, and comic books with stories from Acts to **150 Trick-or-Treaters** in Kensington. We packed the pulpit with **622 lbs. of Thanksgiving groceries** for our neighbors in need, and then joyfully served, prayed, and even sang God's praise together in Helping Hands' warehouse the next day. We closed the year caroling and passing out treats and verse cards at **Prince George Healthcare Center**.

Let the Children Come

Our youth are a vital part of everything we do - and then there are the things we do just for them. Graciously hosted at the Molesworths' home, our **Dino Devo** in August was a creative, fun, and faith-building event. Great fellowship was shared through **Trunk or Treat** in October and the **Teen Progressive Dinner** in December. Whether it's our **Sunday evening classes**, **Primary Praise** for our K4 through 5th grade students to learn Bible and Music, the **teen girls devotionals** hosted by Nia Valentin and Mala Lee, or the **teen boys discipling** with Dan Hager, our young people have so many opportunities to joyfully grow.

Love One Another

It helps that we just genuinely love each other. We celebrated **Independence Day** and **Christmas** together, while also welcoming the return of the **Harvest Festival** at Folly Grove. We fellowshiped to celebrate the conclusion of our **Songfest weekend** and to express our **appreciation to our shepherds**. We rejoiced together over the births of **Brynn Seaton, Ace Justice, and Declan McClary** and over the graduation of **Kara Lee**. We wept together over the passing of **Malcolm Pope, Billy Hanna, and Kathy Todd**. We prayed together over major surgeries and serious health issues. We even sweated together, unpacking and assembling our **new chairs**. And if that weren't enough, we proved the genuineness of our love through our cheerful giving: our 2022 average weekly contribution of **\$4,326 beat our budget** and was fully utilized in worthwhile kingdom work.

God did what He promised in 2022: we were restored, confirmed, strengthened, and established. Now, we have every reason to look ahead to 2023 with **hope!**



Our 2022 Servant Leaders

Elders: John Harrison, Lance Justice, Jay McClary, & Larry Sheehan

Deacons: Jared Bardon (Security), Luis Chastain (Missions), Tony Jordan (Community), Timmy Lee (Benevolence), Nick McClary (Media, Praise, Youth), Jerry Mercer (Buildings & Grounds), Steven Skipper (Adults, Buildings & Grounds), & Brandon Valentin (Fellowship)

Minister: Dan Hager