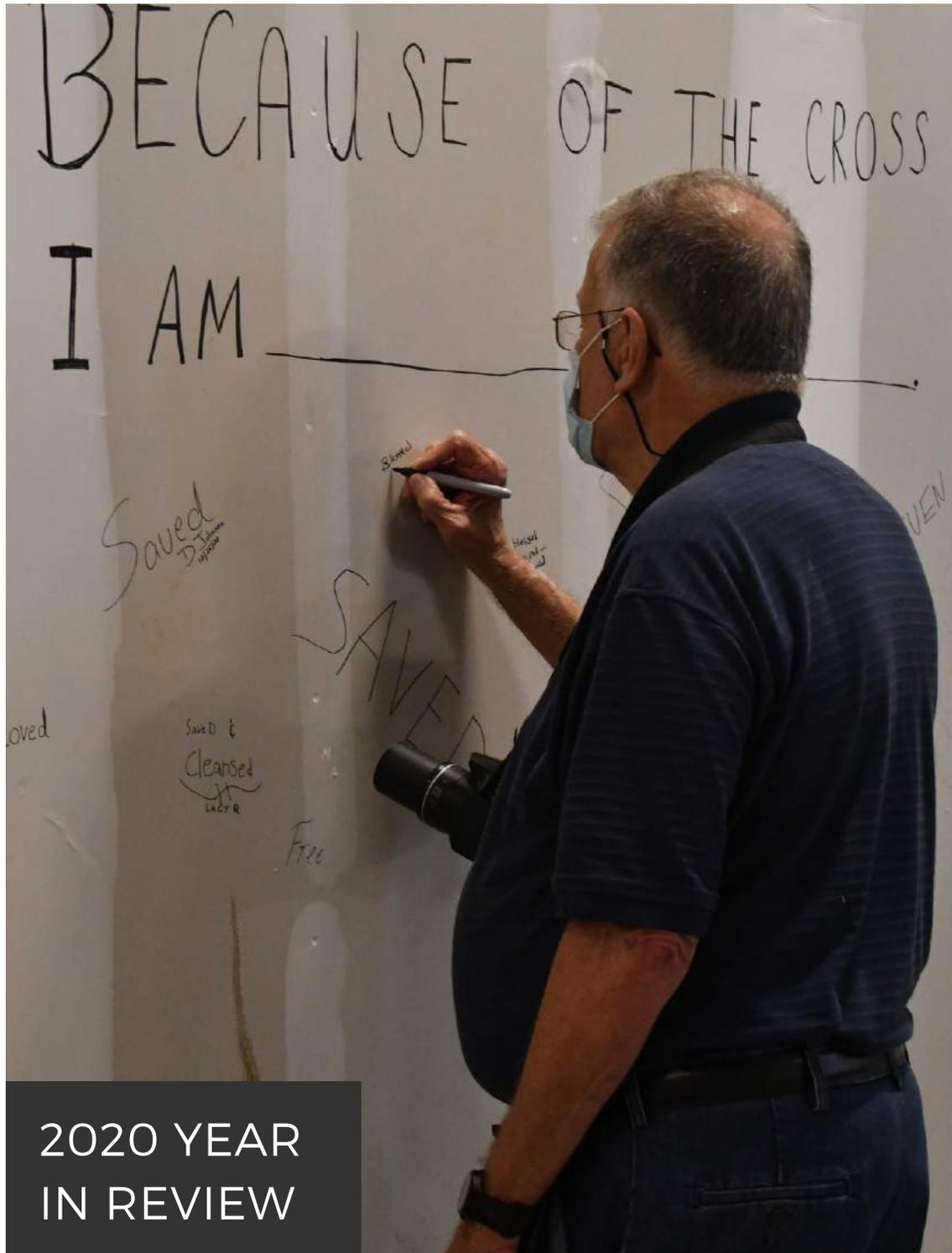


SouthPark Church's 2020 Impact Report



2020 YEAR
IN REVIEW

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Message From Pastor Kyle

A year like no other.

Thanks be to God for guiding us through one of the hardest years in history! Thanks be to you for your faithfulness in 2020! Displaying perseverance and adaptability, the SouthPark Church congregation, leadership, and staff rose to the occasion to step into God's vision of helping people live life to the full in the midst of an international pandemic. This is no small accomplishment!

2020 brought with it COVID-19, death, isolation, social distancing, political division, fear, civil unrest, violence, racism, loss of income, natural disasters, and remote work, school, and even church. On top of all this, after years of hard work we experienced the frustration of not being able to open our newly built campus to the public.

Despite these incredible challenges, the Holy Spirit guided us to be a light of hope to our local community and beyond. Going remote allowed us to expand our ministry reach. In this report you will see how our pursuit of the three core values of relationships, transformation, and generosity impacted people's lives for the better.



In Romans 8:28, Paul writes, "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose." Even in the midst of all that 2020 threw at us, God was able to bring goodness into the world! As you look through the following pages, allow yourself to envision the people impacted by our shared ministry. Take time to celebrate the great things God has done in, through, and among us.

Thanks for your faithfulness!

Pastor Kyle

OUR MISSION

We want to help those around us live life to the full through Jesus Christ.

2020 taught us that our church is not a building, but a movement of people spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Our three core values that guide everything we do are outlined below.



01 **TRANSFORMATION: GOD IS IN THE LIFE-CHANGING BUSINESS. GOD MEETS US WHERE WE ARE AND CONTINUALLY HELPS US TO BECOME SOMETHING MORE.**

This year, SouthPark Church not only experienced a huge transformation with the completion of our new campus but also with how we worship: completely online and digital. God continued to move in the hearts of church members

02 **RELATIONSHIPS: THEY ARE THE MOST IMPORTANT PART OF OUR LIFE. WE ARE CALLED TO LOVE GOD, SELF, AND NEIGHBOR. WE'RE IN THIS TOGETHER.**

As 2020 brought on social distancing, our community found new ways to stay connected. Online services allowed us to chat online. Small Groups met outdoors. Tuesday Prayer Group met together on phones. All leadership meetings went digital.

03 **GENEROSITY: WE DESIRE TO BE GOOD STEWARDS WITH ALL THAT GOD GIVES US BY BEING UNSELFISH WITH OUR TIME, OUR MONEY AND OUR WILL.**

The Love SouthPark Initiative Capital Campaign came to a powerful ending. Not only did we meet our financial goal, but we surpassed it considerably. Despite COVID-19 crashing the economy, so many gave faithfully and consistently throughout the year.

Focused Approach

SouthPark Church focuses in four key areas:

- *Hunger & Homelessness*
- *Children & Families*
- *Human Trafficking*
- *The People of Haiti*

When a global pandemic occurs, the church must respond. In 2020, 11,335 people were served by 46 different Outreach ministries and initiatives. 830 dinners were served at the Men's Shelter, 676 lunches were served at Urban Ministry, 36 men were served by Room In The Inn, 150 backpacks were filled with food for Pinewood Elementary students, and 20 Pinewood Elementary Students received Christmas gifts.

67 members of our congregation served as Outreach volunteers to make these things happen, with many serving at multiple events.



Highlights from Outreach

Our Outreach Ministry had to take a creative approach to meet the rising needs of so many who were impacted by a global pandemic.



To respond to those experiencing difficulty due to the Coronavirus, a Barnabas Team was formed. \$8,448 was given to help meet the needs of more than 100 people! The team provided groceries to those who were quarantined and out of work, diapers and baby supplies for a young mom who lost her job, and a Christmas tree and dinner for a single mom.



The entire Regal Cinema staff were laid off during the pandemic, leaving many without any source of income and had much difficulty receiving unemployment. To love on the staff that served us so well during our team meeting for services in the movie theater, employees received gift cards in May and October to buy whatever groceries they needed.



Because serving in person became unsafe, a sum of \$14,700 was given to local ministries in Charlotte impacting an estimated ten thousand people. Organizations include Men's Shelter, Urban Ministry, Refugee Support Services, Project 658, Rise Against Hunger, Justice Ministries, and to the people of Haiti.

Physically Distancing

2020 began another Frontier: Digital Online-Only Worship with Sunday services streamed online.

We averaged 222 attend in-person weekly in the theater prior to taking our services online-only in March. Using the UMC's conversion rate for people per device, we had 380 weekly worshippers per week online! This is an amazing testimony to continued ministry during a global pandemic.

Due to the virus and local government recommendations, we had an abrupt shift to online worship. Staff and leadership worked tirelessly to perfect the craft of online-only worship. We started with Facebook Live, then staff-led Zoom calls, to finally creating a pre-recorded worship service including Traditional music, Modern worship with a full band, and powerful messages from the living rooms of our Pastors. We ended the year streaming live from our new campus with new worship times.

To better connect with those near and far, we launched a new YouTube Channel. This provided a platform for Church to be watched live on TVs in living rooms. The Channel quickly grew to over 100 subscribers.

Another first for our community were daily, then weekly, Fireside Chats. These devotions led by staff happened at 1:09 pm, a time to pause and pray. As a Church, we learned that even though we are physically distanced, we can still connect together.



Highlights from Sundays

It was a year of worship unlike any other. In the midst of being physically distant, the church found creative ways to connect and share the Good News.



Our highest-attended Sunday was on May 17. 438 devices connected with us online as Pastor Kyle continued our "Unafraid" series with a message on the Fear of Missing Out. Pastor Lindsay led the service and prayer, Jennifer Baxley shared her testimony of faith, Ryan Rich led, "It Is Well" in the Traditional Service and the band led, "Stand In Your Love."



Over the course of our Turning Pages series, SouthPark Church welcomed three guest Pastors to lead from the pulpit: Pastor Pam Blackstock, Pastor Otto Harris, and Pastor Alexis Anthony. We were so blessed to hear from these black leaders from our Charlotte community and learn new truths about social justice.



We offered three Christmas Eve Services streamed live from our new campus at 3:00, 5:00, and 7:00 pm. Between those who attended one of the three services live and those who watched later that evening, 415 devices tuned in for the good news that Jesus is Among Us! A powerful ending to the year!

Family Ministries

While our student and children's ministries normally rely heavily on in-person relationships, digital transformation helped the next generation in new ways.



In our Explorers Ministry, a "Parents Group" was launched with a study entitled, "Parenting Beyond Your Capacity." 12 parents met with our Director of Children's Ministry, Jenni McKeown, to create a community of adults supporting one another in raising children in the church.



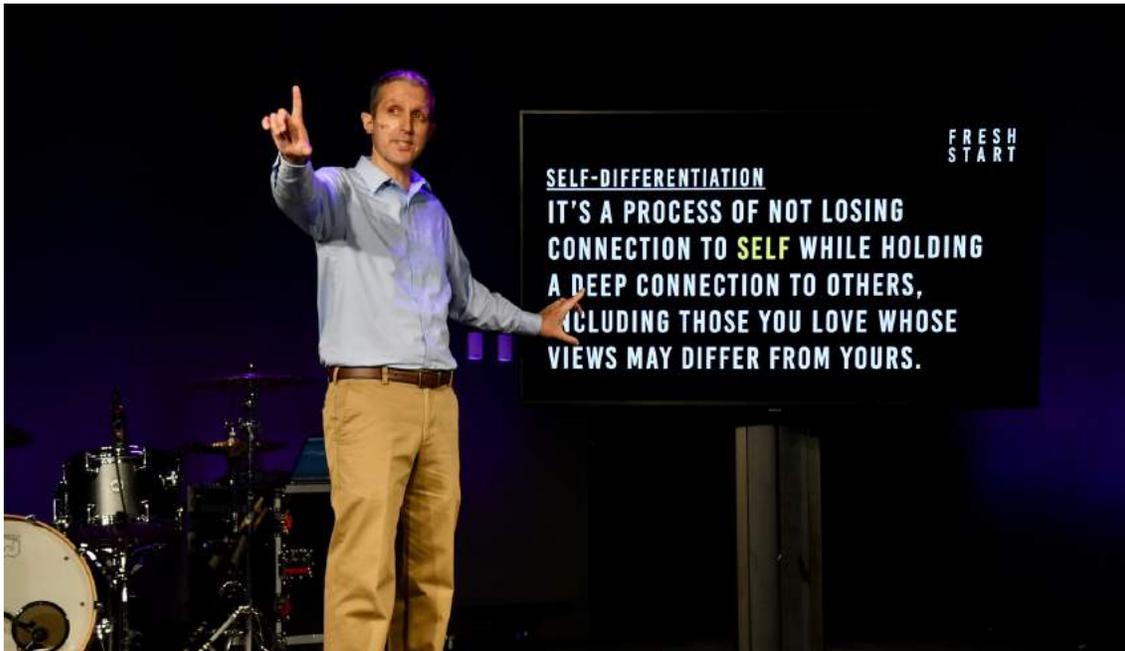
The Student Ministry connected with middle and high school students both digitally and safely in-person. In the fall, students gathered in a backyard to carve pumpkins around a bonfire. They devoured treats and carved pumpkins on spread-out tarps, and had a blast with making the carving a friendly competition!



While Sunday services were forced online, our Children's Ministry had 58 participants and leaders (ages 0-11). Our Student Ministry (ages 12-18) had 35 participants and leaders. Each ministry provided opportunities for families to connect in safe, virtual settings throughout the year. We're thankful for the next generation of leaders growing up at SouthPark!

Worship in the new Campus

Services were streamed live from the campus for the first time on December 13, 2020. Traditional began at 9:00 am, Modern worship began at 11:00 am.





380

*average attendance in
weekly digital worship*

10,000

*people were helped and served
through our Outreach Ministry*

\$27,390

*was given to Christmas Eve Offering
benefitting United Negro College Fund*

\$1,932,714

*was given in total to the Love
SouthPark Initiative over 2 years*



Defining Stewardship

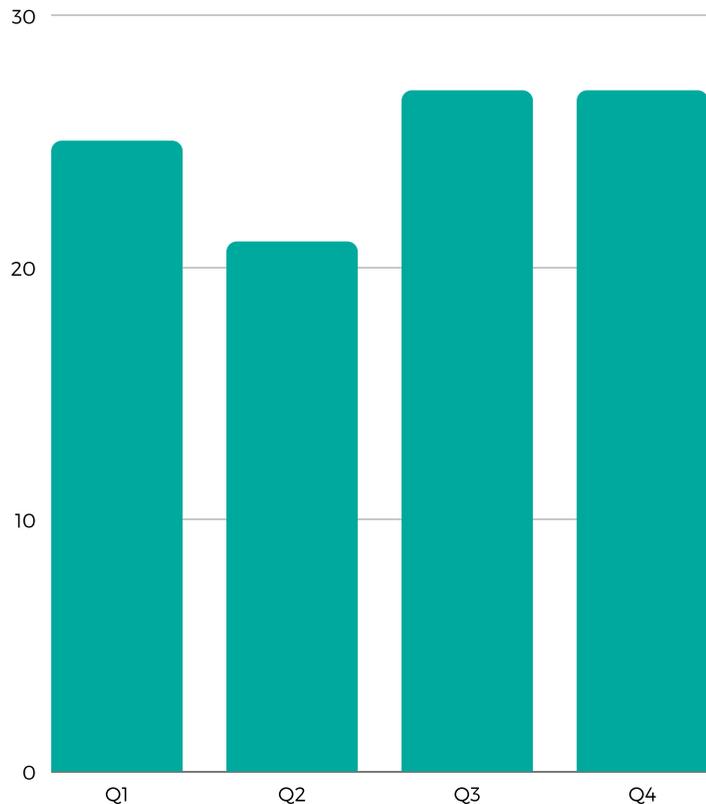
Although you can plan as best you could, uncertainty was inevitable during the COVID-19 global pandemic. The economy crashed, many lost jobs and faced health concerns, and yet, God continued to move in the heart of SouthPark Church. \$751,486 was given to the operating budget and restricted accounts in 2020. At our Christmas Eve offering, \$27,390.60 was given to the United Negro College Fund!

Because of the generosity of so many, \$87,921 was spent in our Outreach efforts, which was 12% of all spending. Despite times being difficult, the ministry moved forward in Charlotte and beyond.

2020 GIVING

Financial giving was steady throughout the year.

Q1 and Q3 giving were up compared to 2019, with 54% of all giving occurring in Q3 and Q4.



Finishing Strong

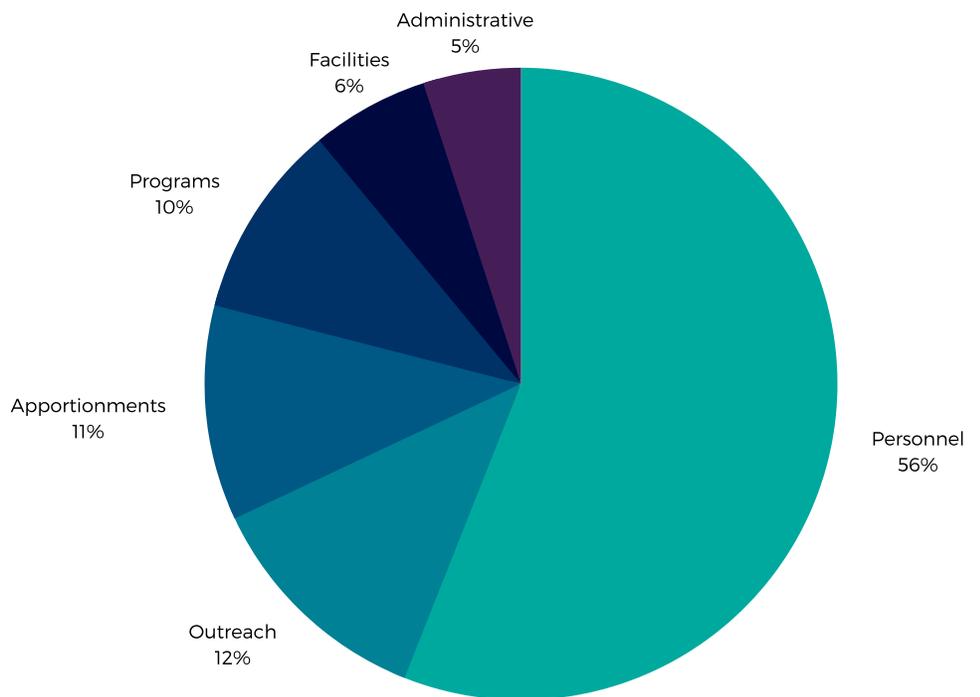
On top of tithes and offerings, \$924,652 was given to the Love SouthPark capital campaign for our new campus! Our two-year goal was \$1.65 million, and a total of \$1,932,714 was given as of December 31, 2020.

This is an amazing testimony to how God is using the generous people of SouthPark Church. In addition to those who pledged in the two-year commitment, \$23,972 was given from those who did not pledge.



2020 SPENDING

2020 income understandably was down. Staff and leadership stewarded funds carefully in all areas. Remote-only ministry resulted in a savings on program expenses and on rent at Regal Cinemas.





Thank You

for your partnership, faithfulness, and
generosity in 2020

