

EPIC CHURCH

IMPACT REPORT

2024



**LEADING PEOPLE TO BECOME ALL IN
FOLLOWERS OF JESUS**

Epic Church Family,

As I reflect on 2024, there's no doubt it was a big year for us as a church. God has entrusted us with growth in many areas. In fact, 2024 was our fastest growing year since we started in 2013.

We had the highest number of people make first-time decisions to follow Jesus and the highest number of people baptized. We had our highest number of people attending worship services each Sunday, as well as Epic Kids and Students. We had the highest amount of financial support given to our Christmas offering and to general giving as well.

2024 was a major year of growth and you are a part of that. I'm grateful for your commitment to the ministry of Epic Church. We are making a difference and I praise God for his faithfulness in building his Church.

At the same time, it's possible to have "high growth numbers" yet miss out on who Jesus has called us to be and what matters most in his Kingdom. As we start a new year, I feel so much passion toward the simple (yet not always easy) calling to learn from Jesus, become like Jesus and truly follow his way.

I'm excited for this year and the opportunity to grow as all in followers of Jesus.

The purpose of this 2024 Impact Report is to provide a ministry snapshot of Epic Church. There is much to celebrate, and it's important for you to know the information provided. If you have any questions related to this report, please feel free to reach out to me or Pastor Ray Hammond (Executive Pastor).

Thank you again for your generosity, faithfulness and commitment. It is truly an honor and joy to serve with you.

Pastor Mark Rouse

Jesus told him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life.
No one can come to the Father except through me."

- John 14:6



STORIES OF LIFE CHANGE



Jesus Christ has changed my life from top to bottom. I've realized the great meaning and purpose that my life does have, which is serving others and showing them the love Christ has shown us. And spreading the gospel to others even if it's just leading by example.
- Vance Van Dusen



My parents did not go to church or believe in Jesus. So, I did not really know how to pray to him. I started coming to Epic and met lot of people and the sayings of God's words helped me get closer to him. That's when my faith in Jesus grew even stronger.
- Sirisha Presingu

EPIC CHURCH GROWTH

*Every number has a name. Every name has a story.
Every story matters to God.*

| EPIC CHURCH | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 |
|---------------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|
| Average Sunday Attendance (in-person) | 317 | 417 | 508 |
| Average Sunday Attendance (online) | 121 | 117 | 160 |
| Epic Kids Average Attendance | 49 | 62 | 75 |
| New Believers | 40 | 67 | 113 |
| Baptisms | 24 | 29 | 44 |
| Dream Team | 196 | 241 | 276 |
| Average Weekly Giving | \$15,397 | \$16,635 | \$18,826 |



2024 Financial Snapshot

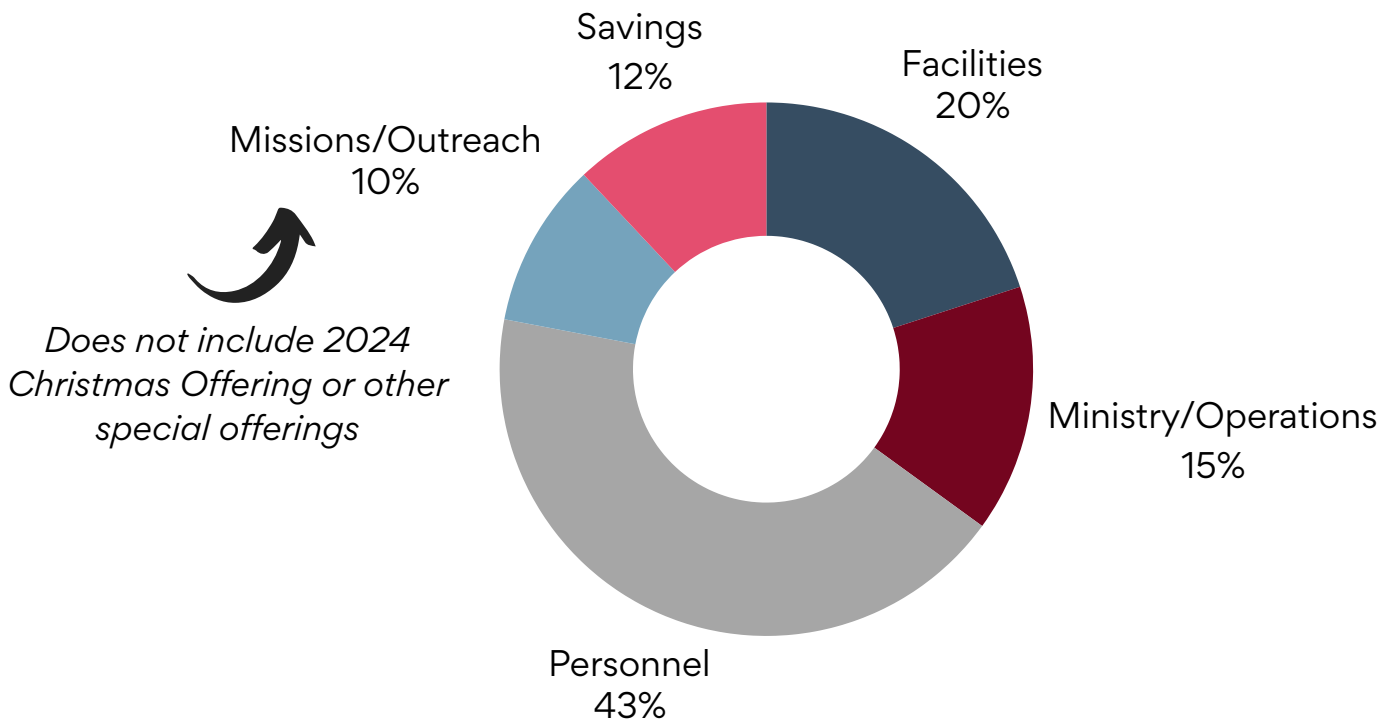
Weekly Budget Need: **\$16,500 per week**

Actual Weekly Giving: **\$18,826 per week**

Total General Giving for Year: **\$980,015.16**

2024 Christmas Offering: **\$59,025.72** (exceeded goal of \$40,000)

2024 Budget - Expenses Breakdown



FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY

- Our Trustees Team (Board of Administration) helps to create and approve the annual budget (among other responsibilities) and is made up of the following members of Epic Church: *Vicki Murphy, Darlene Anderson, Mark Leonard, Melanie French, Ray Hammond*. Our 2025 Budget will be based on weekly giving of \$17,850.
- In order to provide wise checks and balances, we continue to work with Belay Solutions for proper financial accounting.
- Our total giving as a church has grown each year since Epic Church started in 2013. Thank you for your faithfulness and generosity!

SERVE THE WORLD

Because of your generosity, we continued to show the love of Jesus through serving others in our communities, nation and world.



OUR CITY

Night to Shine, Thanksgiving Outreach and Serve Days with local partners were just a few ways we served our city this year. We also met several needs for food, shelter and clothing for people in our church and community.

OUR NATION

We continue to invest in new and healthy churches/pastors through the Free Methodist Church, Association of Related Churches (ARC) and the Next Level Relational Network. We also gave financially to different needs of crisis across our nation, including the flooding in North Carolina.



OUR WORLD

In August 2024, we sent another mission team to serve with Amigos for Christ in Nicaragua. The next trip is in August 2025! We also continued our partnerships with the Free Methodist Church, Children's Cup and other mission partners.

A WORD FOR 2025



COME, FOLLOW ME

When two of Jesus' disciples (Simon and Andrew) were out fishing one day, Jesus called out to them with an invitation: ***Come, follow me.***

I love the simple calling of Jesus to follow him. However, simple doesn't always mean easy.

Even within a church, it's easy to get distracted by things that take us away from Jesus' calling to follow and live for him.

The same is true in our personal lives. The way of Jesus is not always easy. It's not the way most people are following. It's a way that calls us to give up our own way and walk in obedience to him.

But I've learned it is the better way. It not only leads to eternal life, but also purpose, peace and protection in this life too. God's ways really do lead to our best.

I'm praying for you as you seek to grow as a follower of Jesus.

As we start a new year, our staff team is committed to this call to follow the way of Jesus. We love you and will do all we can to lead people in becoming all in followers of Jesus.

Pastor Mark

One day as Jesus was walking along the shore of the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew throwing a net into the water, for they fished for a living. Jesus called out to them, "Come, follow me, and I will show you how to fish for people!" And they left their nets at once and followed him.

- Mark 1:16-18