

ANNUAL REPORT 2023



**The W
Church**



PASTOR BRIAN DARROW

In 2023, we saw God continue to move at The W Church. We enjoyed the blessings of new marriages, growing families, and blossoming friendships. We went through the second most impactful event since our church launch- moving to Newport Heights Elementary School. People have come to know Jesus, publicly declaring their love for Him through baptism! But I am most grateful for the spiritual growth I have seen in our W members as we have executed a discipleship path for spiritual growth.

As we strive to be Gospel-Driven, our missions pastor, Steve Woodson, traveled to Zambia to disciple others and equip pastors. We have partnered with Love Newport and seen our congregation be the church rather than simply attend a gathering. As a result, The W Church is becoming increasingly



PASTOR BRIAN DARROW

known in Newport Beach for its spiritual community and loving atmosphere. A testament to the Holy Spirit's work as we pursue Christ and hold the Word of God as our ultimate and final truth in all decision-making.

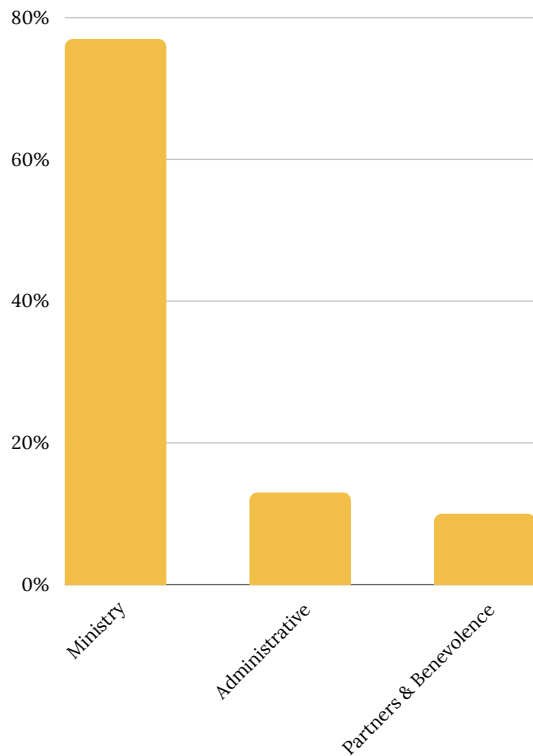
God has done amazing things this last year and has answered many prayers in powerful ways; in more ways than we have room to share in this document!

In 2024, our prayer is we won't just know God's Word but live it out in our daily lives, allowing God to change our hearts where necessary so that we can better love those around us. We look to the day God provides us with a permanent home if that is in His will. But until then, we plan to live the Word and love the world.

Brian Darrow

LEAD PASTOR

FINANCIAL SUMMARY



2023 DONATIONS

\$560,345

BUDGETED

\$680,619

When you give to The W Church, you are participating in God's Kingdom work within our local community. Giving allows you to tangibly express God's heart for the broken and lost world around us. Part of your contribution ensures we have the leadership and resources needed to accomplish all that God has set before us. Whether we are hiring a ministry director, planning a community event or Sunday gathering, or sending a team to visit one of our ministry partners, your giving makes it all possible.

YEAR IN REVIEW

BAPTISMS

9

VOLUNTEERS

61

PEOPLE IN A GROUP

68

**STUDENTS IN
A LIFEGROUP**

12

**SERMON MEDIA
PLAYS**

3107

**APP
DOWNLOADS**

285

YEAR HIGHLIGHTS

EASTER BAPTISMS

Annual Easter baptisms have become a beloved tradition, and they always prove to be one of the most cherished events of the year. This year's celebration was truly special, as our church family gathered to publicly profess their love for God.

ALL CHURCH VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION NIGHT

This year, we decided to throw a party for our fantastic volunteers - the real MVPs! We know that pastors have a duty to get the saints ready for ministry, but our volunteers go above and beyond! Watching their dedication and selflessness every week is a total inspiration. So, we gathered all the confetti, cupcakes, and balloons, and had an absolute blast showing them some love!

WE MOVED TO NEWPORT HEIGHTS ELEMENTARY

In 2023, The W Church experienced a banner year as we relocated to a new facility and started holding morning services for the first time. If you've attended our recent gatherings, you've seen firsthand how these changes have invigorated our church community. Many new faces have already joined us and become part of our family! We're thrilled to see how God will enable us to reach even more people in our new location.

LOVE OUR SCHOOLS DAY

Last October, we had the honor of collaborating with our new location to enhance the Newport Heights campus. It was a memorable opportunity to support our community and share God's boundless love with them.

LIFE CHANGE

THE SCHMIDT FAMILY

In 2023, we were blessed with the birth of our first son and it was nothing short of a miracle. However, it was not the journey we expected. Early on in the pregnancy, all indications pointed to a high probability of life-altering or fatal outcomes for our son. We were devastated and we wouldn't have clear answers until after he was in our arms. We leaned into God more than we ever have before and the community showed us how to. We felt the community surround us in prayer for things that seemed impossible at the time. The only option we had was to rest in God and know that he would carry us through, and that he did. Ezra is now 6 months old, happy, and healthy as can be. The community held us through the hardest days of our lives and celebrated with us through the best.

JEN CROWELL

In this journey of life, we often encounter unexpected challenges that test and strengthen our faith. My name is Jen Crowell and my family includes my husband Scott and our two sons James (age 21) and Robby (age 19). On May 4, 2022, I was diagnosed with smoldering multiple myeloma, news that really turned our family's world upside down... temporarily. I'll never forget the words of my son, James, during a family hike and discussion soon after my diagnosis, "why should we be worried, God already has your story written, and He knows the ending". Wise words from my child and I knew he was right. Fortunately, I am a part of many strong prayer communities, including The W Church, my workplace and my family and friends. Every three months before my bloodwork, I send prayer requests and put my full trust and faith in The Lord for good results. My last appointment showed improvement, in a condition that does not improve. My doctor was confused and

LIFE CHANGE

tried to tie it into something else. I explained to her that it was due to all the people I have praying for me. She told me to keep doing whatever it is that I am doing, and that's exactly what we do! Trust God completely, give Him all the Glory and use my story to honor Him, bring people close to Him and expand His Kingdom. As Philippians 4:4-7 encourages us, "Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

DOUG & NANCIE MATTHEWS

I am so happy that I suggested to Doug that we visit the W church after receiving a postcard in the mail announcing their new location at Newport Heights Elementary.

I have been a Christian for many years so sound doctrine is the most important thing to me in a church. Before Covid, we had been going to a very large church, the messages were good but even though I loved the music and worship, I started to feel that they were putting too much emphasis on it and it was like going to a concert... very loud music, flashing lights, and fog machines included. A friend suggested another church with sound teaching which also was closer to our home. We attended that church until we came to the W.

My heart's desire was to find a local community of believers where being a Christian is not just coming to church as part of their weekly schedule but as a gathering of

LIFE CHANGE

If fellow believers who love the LORD first in their lives and want to experience life together as a family of believers; I have found this between Sunday service, midweek small group, and women's Bible study.

When I come to the “W” I feel that we celebrate who Christ is, what he has done in the past, what he is doing in the present and looking forward to our eternal future with Him. I am filled with joy that the LORD knows my deep desires and has blessed me in finding the “W”.