

LIFT

QUARTERLY UPDATE

Q3 | 2023



54

Cheeseburgers, 28 sausages and 28 bratwurst

were grilled for the inaugural **Men's Third Thursday Eats** in September—living up to its hype. More than **70 men** gathered to watch football, play games and hear stories from other men in the congregation.

1,400

ounces of coffee are brewed every Tuesday between the morning and evening sessions of **Women of Hope**. Each week more than **400 women** are walking together through the Book of Acts.

6 STUFFED ANIMAL FRIENDS were hidden throughout the Butterfield campus as part of a scavenger hunt for the **Back to School Bash** September 10. About **400 children and students** and **50 volunteers** helped kick off the school year with bubbles, candy and bounce houses.



GO TEAM Malawi, Africa

In the most remote area, Villages in Partnership (VIP) celebrated the opening of the beautiful, state-of-the-art Khanda Health Center. **5,000 people** came from far and wide to witness the opening.

This is something no one—not American nor Malawian—could have imagined. In the subsequent life-saving treatments offered by the clinic, we saw the love and power of God alive in the world.

Our team recognized that an isolated blessing such as the opening of one clinic is not the complete answer—VIP aims to seek God's Kingdom by providing flourishing in all aspects of life not just health care. The many projects of VIP address food security, access to clean water, health care, education, infrastructure and economic development. These projects work together to truly LIFT people from extreme poverty to sustainable living.

JORDAN HEINZEL-NELSON | Associate Director of Global Relationships



MEET KELLY NEWTON | Preschool Director



Favorite Food | Mexican

Favorite Pastime | Spending time with my family and friends, sports (especially football!), crocheting and gardening

Favorite Christian resource | I begin each day writing in my *Prayer Journal for Women, A 52-Week Scripture, Devotional & Guided Prayer Journal* by Shannon Roberts and reading my daily devotional in *He Whispers Your Name* by Cherie Hill.

I did not grow up with a home church, but found a Lutheran church home when my children were born. That is where I began my teaching career. My degree in Early Childhood Education has provided me the opportunity to serve as a director, a teacher, mentor coach and supervisor with Head Start. I genuinely believe each of these roles have led me to where I am today!

What are you most looking forward to at Christ Church?

I am looking forward to meeting new people, becoming an active participant in the life of the Church (within and beyond the preschool ministry), and moving the preschool forward while honoring its meaningful history.

What are some ways you hope to LIFT others in your new role?

I hope to LIFT each and every child and family that becomes involved in the preschool by preparing the little ones for kindergarten and walking with them as they grow in their faith and learn about the life-changing love of Jesus Christ.

PLAN YOUR LEGACY | November 9 | 6:30 p.m. | Oak Brook

Christ Church partners with PhilanthroCorp to provide estate planning with a biblical approach at no charge. To find out more, register at ChristChurch.us/PlanYourLegacy.

"We attempted to begin the estate planning process with an attorney but it did not go well. We were handed an overwhelming packet of paperwork and we felt as if we were solely a means of a commission. When PhilanthroCorp started leading us through everything, David and I knew we were respected and appreciated as individuals—not just clients! We are eternally grateful God led us to PhilanthroCorp because their services were exemplary, and we have since recommended them to cherished friends."

DAVID C. AND LINDA STEEB JR. | Christ Church members

LIFT | 2-Year Goal Giving to Date

\$30.5M

Commitments & expected gifts

LIFT

\$11.6M

January 1–
September 30, 2023

\$8.6M

January 1–
June 30, 2023

\$4.4 M

January 1–
March 31, 2023

HERE ARE JUST A FEW WAYS TO LIFT YOUR FAITH AND DISCIPLESHIP.

WORSHIP WEEKLY

Mark your calendars for Christmas Eve services.

Saturday, December 23

Contemporary Worship
Oak Brook | 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 24

Contemporary Worship
Oak Brook | 3:00 & 5:00 p.m.
Butterfield | 4:00 p.m.

Classic Candlelight Worship
Oak Brook | 7:00 & 9:00 p.m.

SERVE GENEROUSLY

FOR CHRISTMAS | At Christ Church, we respond to the gift of Jesus by being generous to our neighbors both near and far.

Learn more about how to come alongside our mission partners by giving a present, supporting a project or donating candy for stockings by picking up a **FOR Christmas gift catalog** or visiting Christchurch.us/ForChristmas.

To learn more, download the Christ Church Connect App from Google Play or the App store, or visit ChristChurch.us.

Dear Church Family,

When we embarked many months ago on our LIFT Initiative, I shared that our **#1 Goal was to raise the faith and discipleship of everyone at Christ Church**. I hope I'm not alone in seeing how this is truly happening. From energetic children and student gatherings...to so many adult ministries brimming with participation...to myriad circles of care and mission...Christ Church is helping so many people to know the Lord, build relationships with one another and move toward their God-given potential. You will see just a glimpse of that impact in this LIFT update.

We hope to ride this wave of engagement as we wrap up our *WILD* series at the close of November and then head into an exciting Advent series called, *MAGICAL: Searching for the Deep Meaning of Christmas*. In January, we'll kick off the first two weeks of the New Year with two of the nation's most thoughtful speakers and leaders helping teach us how to build spiritually and relationally thriving families. Later in the month of January, we'll start a series that will encourage even more of our church family to come *TOGETHER* to LIFT others. What a season we have ahead!

As we move into a time of the year where we send and receive invitations to holiday dinners, parties and gatherings of many kinds, would you consider inviting someone you know or meet to join you at one of Christ Church's many groups, gatherings, or worship services? You can LIFT someone toward their God-given potential by helping them enter a circle where God meets them and moves through their life in extraordinary ways.

Together in Christ,

Rev. Dr. Daniel Meyer, Lead Pastor

LIFT your eyes to the LORD from whom comes our help. PSALM 121:1–2

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