# LIFT CHURCH

Your Church on Campus





In the last year. Jesus' goodness was evidenced through...

LIFT Church is a multiplying discipleship movement, committed to raising up disciple-makers on university and college campuses in Canada and around the world.

We exist to see people discover the hope of Jesus by being the church on every campus. As people learn to follow Jesus and make disciples themselves, we will see entire campuses and cities transformed. We believe that the campuses of our world represent a tremendous need and opportunity for the Gospel. People everywhere are searching for hope like never before, desiring to know if Jesus is still good and lesus wants to use His church to reach them.

This is why we are currently present on six campuses in Ontario and why, by God's grace, we hope to reach many more campuses in

the years to come.



His Presence with Us

Jesus' love for people is so great that He chose to be present among us at great cost to Himself. Our desire to be present on campuses, with and among the people we are trying to reach, flows directly from God's desire to be present in our lives. It's only by being present that we can really serve people and point them towards the life-changing hope of Jesus.

For many of us, the campuses we serve are like a second home. We spend time on campus throughout the week: reading scripture, sharing meals, worshipping God and everything in between. By committing to presence, we are able to meet people we otherwise might not and invite them into a relationship with Jesus and His Church.

"Tabling" is one intentional way that we are present. Every week we set up LIFT Church tables in the student centres of the campuses we serve. Through interactive questions and games, students are able to meet us and learn that there is a church on their campus that loves them.

2074 CONNECTIONS MADE DURING WELCOME WEEK AND 569 WANTED TO HEAR MORE ABOUT LIFT CHURCH



### His Love for the Other

The heart of God beats for those who do not yet know Him. His greatest desire is to see every person rescued from their brokenness and reconciled back into a relationship with Him. Regardless of how distant someone is from Him, He is intentional and longsuffering in His pursuit of each of us.

### 123 PEOPLE LEARNING HOW TO BE A PART OF CHURCH FAMILY

As a church, we share God's heart to see every person know Him and be transformed by His love. We have experienced His goodness and passionately invite our friends, neighbours and strangers to know this hope we have in Jesus.

Simple Church Retreats are one of many opportunities for those on our campuses and in our lives to experience the hope of Jesus. At Simple Church Retreats, we share meals together, read scripture, spend time in worship and so much more.



# 60 STUDENTS CAME OUT TO WEEKLY SUMMER BBQs AT THE BROCK AND YORK CAMPUSES



### The Way He Serves Us

The God of the Universe did not see His status as something to cling to but instead gave up everything so that He could serve a desperate humanity. Through His life, death and resurrection, Jesus perfectly embodied the life of a servant and invites us to do the same every day.

Every week for the last seven years, LIFT Church McMaster has served hundreds of meals to vulnerable people in downtown Hamilton through the Westside and Pinky Lewis community dinner ministries. As we have learned to adopt the identity of servants, many vulnerable people in Hamilton have experienced God's love for the first time.

### 50,000 MEALS SERVED THROUGH COMMUNITY DINNERS

For the last two years, LIFT Church has committed to hosting weekly BBQs at York University and Brock University. Through these BBQs, we have been able to serve students' physical, emotional and spiritual needs through food, meaningful conversations and relationships.

# His Gift of Purpose & Identity

When we receive Jesus as Lord, we are washed clean of our sins and given a life of unimaginable beauty and purpose. Not only are we given the gift of a new identity in Christ but we also get the privilege of partnering with Him in His mission to heal and restore a broken world.

Each of our Simple Church leaders and Campus Missionaries has embraced a life of mission to reach the campus and see new people know Jesus. They give their time and resources knowing that their identity isn't in how much they have but in Christ.

IN AUGUST, WE COMMISSIONED THE 2ND COHORT OF CAMPUS MISSIONARIES TO SERVE, EVANGELIZE AND DISCIPLE STUDENTS

### IN SEPTEMBER, WE LAUNCHED 37 SIMPLE CHURCHES ON 6 CAMPUSES

"Simple Church leadership is challenging but deeply rewarding. My biggest challenge as a leader has been surrendering my desire to always have right answers. I've been blessed to have non-believers regularly attend huddles but I quickly realized huddle wasn't the only way to show these girls Jesus' love. I felt called to be more than just a "leader" to them, becoming a friend first and foremost. I discovered Jesus is most present in ordinary, everyday exchanges. When I receive challenging questions from them, I've been blessed with the wisdom of our campus missionaries who disciple me through tough discussions."



### The Next Generation Discipleship Centre

At the beginning of 2022, we purchased an old, run-down former church building located steps from McMaster University as the future home for the Next Generation Discipleship Centre. The Discipleship Center is a picture of the heart of LIFT Church. We look at hopeless situations and believe that our God is able to lift us out of the pit. God took that old run-down building and through us has completely overhauled it! We are almost ready to open the space.

As we prepare to open the space, we anticipate seeing a generation discover the hope of Jesus. We commit to discipling this generation to follow him and then lead others to do likewise on campuses all over Canada.

There will be communal space for students to use with their Simple Church, meeting up with peers and inviting their non-believing friends too. A community kitchen will support the countless meals that are prepared for the city, those visiting from other campuses and party presence outreach in the surrounding neighbourhood. The Discipleship Centre will include training space, an operations centre, studios to produce content and a presence that proclaims our God is able.

### **NEXT GENERATION DISCIPLESHIP CENTRE**

| Income       |           |  |
|--------------|-----------|--|
| Fundraised   | 1,545,974 |  |
| Financing    | 1,200,000 |  |
| Total Income | 2,745,974 |  |

| Expense                  |           |  |
|--------------------------|-----------|--|
| Design & Engineering     | 95,000    |  |
| Building Systems         | 377,000   |  |
| Interior Redevelopment   | 536,000   |  |
| Exterior Redevelopment   | 492,000   |  |
| Total Redevelopment Cost | 1,500,000 |  |

| Project Summary             |           |     |
|-----------------------------|-----------|-----|
| Building Purchase & Closing | 1,780,000 |     |
| Redevelopment Costs         | 1,500,000 |     |
| Total Remaining             | 534,026   | ar. |
| ET CHURCH                   |           |     |

# Gathering Space

Imagine a space for friendship, community, family, food, scripture study, worship and prayer!



Imagine a space where students learn to serve their city and are loved by church family.

Imagine the impact of hundreds of people hearing the good news of Jesus as we equip disciples to proclaim the Gospel through training, teaching and preaching.



### IN 2023, LIFT CHURCH PRAYERFULLY EXPECTS TO ...

• Complete the Next Generation Discipleship Centre and open the doors to the student neighborhood

• Train and deploy 10 new missionaries to make disciples on campus

• Send 11 new Simple Churches

Invite 26 new Simple Church Apprentices

Explore out of province campuses for future church plants



## Finances

| Revenue and Expenditures | 2021    | 2022      |  |  |
|--------------------------|---------|-----------|--|--|
| Revenue                  |         |           |  |  |
| Fundraising              | 491,355 | 1,712,117 |  |  |
| Offering                 | 260,592 | 283,361   |  |  |
| Evangelism               | 49,878  | 46,110    |  |  |
| Misc & Sales             | 4,284   | 16,166    |  |  |
| Government Grants        | 10,000  | 46,803    |  |  |
| Total                    | 816,109 | 2,057,754 |  |  |
| Expenditures             |         |           |  |  |
| Staffing                 | 326,057 | 411,176   |  |  |
| Discipleship             | 216,009 | 169,980   |  |  |
| Operations               | 134,725 | 202,481   |  |  |
| Building Expenses        |         | 699,028   |  |  |
| Evangelism               | 60,272  | 38,307    |  |  |
| Gatherings               | 29,684  | 37,382    |  |  |
| Amortization             | 25,314  | 24,735    |  |  |
| Fundraising              | 13,452  | 14,722    |  |  |
| Total                    | 805,513 | 1,644,614 |  |  |

| Statement of Financial Position | 2021    | 2022      |
|---------------------------------|---------|-----------|
| Cash                            | 288,869 | 161,398   |
| Accounts Receivable             | 32,633  | 61,784    |
| Current Assets                  | 70,547  | 58,902    |
| Land Assets                     |         | 1,729.059 |
| Total Assets                    | 392,049 | 2,011,143 |
| Accounts Payable                | 70,054  | 7,402     |
| Long-term Liability             | 40,000  | 1,239,722 |
| Total Liabilities               | 110,054 | 1,247,124 |
| Total Equity                    | 281,995 | 764,019   |
| Total Liabilities &<br>Equity   | 392,049 | 2,011,143 |

"The LIFT Church board is so encouraged by the radical generosity of people who believe in the urgency of seeing students transformed by the hope of Jesus. Our Board aims to ensure your contribution has the greatest impact on campuses across the nation. We fully support the financial statements representative of the fiscal year ending August 31, 2022 in this Impact Report that were audited by KPMG."

LIFT Church

**LIFT Church Board of Directors** 

Jesus is good.

His goodness has been shown to us at LIFT Church this last year. His goodness has been shown in our ability to be present on all our campuses this fall and in the incredible stories of transformation in the many baptisms. His goodness has been shown in the tremendous provision for the Next Generation Discipleship Centre and the leaders that put up their hands to make disciples amongst students. His goodness has been shown as hundreds of people have been served in some of the most vulnerable situations. His goodness has been shown as hundreds of international students have learned about Him for the very first time.

Jesus' goodness has been a particularly powerful message. In our years of ministry on campuses, we have never witnessed the kind of spiritual hunger that we have seen this last year. Historically, we have worked very hard to communicate to students that Jesus is true. However, while that remains, in the face of increasing uncertainty and instability in our world, the dominant question we are now answering is, "is Jesus Good?"

It is with great joy that we have announced to thousands of students in this generation from all over the world that, *yes, Jesus is good!* 

Not only is He good in the abstract sense, but each person can also personally know and experience His goodness by being reconciled to God, set free from sin and invited to a life of belonging and purpose. This is the heart of what it means to be, as we often say, "fully alive."

There is so much more to say but for now, thank you! Thank you for helping us see people encounter Jesus' goodness. God willing and with your help, many more campuses and students will have that same opportunity.

In Christ,

Robin and Laura Wallar Lead Pastors, LIFT Church

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## Thank you for generously supporting LIFT Church













To see people made fully alive in the hope of Jesus

