

2025

YEAR IN REVIEW

TOGETHER
RESCUING ^{THE} **LOST** &
EMPOWERING ^{THE} **RESCUED.**
RELEASING **GOD'S RIVER** &
CHANGING **THE WORLD.**



From Our Pastors

A YEAR TO REST AND REMEMBER

As we reflect on this past year, we find ourselves filled with gratitude for what God has been doing in and among us. 2025 was a year marked by growth, perseverance, and, perhaps most significantly, a renewed awareness of something both ancient and deeply needed in our lives today: Sabbath.

In a world that never seems to slow down, we felt the Lord gently calling us to rediscover His rhythm—a rhythm not driven by pressure, performance, or constant activity, but by trust, rest, and dependence on Him.

Why are we talking about Sabbath? It's important to realize that God never intended for us to burnout. Jesus never burned out. His disciples never burned out.

Sabbath is far more than simply taking a day off. It is a sacred invitation from God to cease striving and remember who He is—and who we are in Him. From the very beginning, Scripture shows us that Sabbath is woven into the fabric of creation. In Genesis 2:2–3, God Himself rested on the seventh day, not because He was weary, but because He was establishing a divine pattern for humanity.

Later, in Exodus 20:8–11, the command to “remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy” becomes part of God’s covenant with His people. Sabbath was not meant to be a burden, but a blessing—a weekly reminder that everything does not depend on us.

This year, we’ve already begun to see Sabbath not as restrictive but as restorative.

Sabbath is:

- » A gift of rest for weary souls.
- » A declaration of trust that God is in control.
- » A time to delight in His presence and His goodness.
- » A realignment of our priorities and our pace.

Isaiah 58:13–14 reminds us that when we honor the Sabbath, we will “find our joy in the Lord.” That promise has proven true. As many of us have intentionally slowed down, we’ve experienced renewed peace, deeper relationships, and a clearer awareness of God’s voice.



In the New Testament, Jesus re-centers Sabbath around its true purpose. In Mark 2:27 He declares, “The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath.” In other words, Sabbath is a gift, not a legalistic obligation.

Jesus consistently demonstrated that Sabbath is about life, healing, and restoration. He healed on the Sabbath (Luke 13:10–17), showing us that this day is meant to bring wholeness, not restriction. And in Matthew 11:28–29, He extends the ultimate invitation: “Come to Me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.”

This kind of rest goes beyond a single day—it becomes a way of living in Him.

Here’s what we’ve learned this year. We have been learning to:

- » Slow down without guilt.
- » Make space for God intentionally.
- » Value presence over productivity.
- » Trust God with what we leave undone.

And while we are still growing in this, it has already begun to shape us in beautiful ways.

Looking ahead, our desire is that healthy and sustainable life and ministry becomes the normal here at The River Church. As we move into the coming year, our prayer is that Sabbath would not fade into a passing emphasis but become a lasting rhythm in our lives. That we would be a people marked not by hurry, but we would be marked by peace. Not by exhaustion, but by joy. Not by striving, but by trust and reliance on God.

May we continue to embrace the blessing God has given us—a sacred pause each week to remember that He is God, and we are His.

Thank you for your continued generosity towards the work of the ministry here in Warren, across the globe, and into the next generation. Most importantly, thank you for walking this journey together with us. It is an honor to serve and grow alongside each of you.

With gratitude and expectation,

Pastors Mikel & Toni Lagaras

Highlights

JANUARY

- 6–10 Week of Fasting & Prayer
- 17 Sisterhood Girl's Night Out
- 18 Men's Breakfast
- 19 Youth Polar Blast
- 25 Forever Young Potluck
- 31 Youth Winter Jam

FEBRUARY

- 3 First Monday Worship
- 8 Sisterhood Cookie Decorating Class
- 15 Men's Breakfast
- 15 Forever Young Dinner & a Movie
- 18 Water Baptisms

MARCH

- 3 First Monday Worship
- 8 Marriage Conference
- 15 Men's Breakfast
- 15 Forever Young Games & Charcuterie

“Seek the Lord
while He may be found,
Call upon Him
while He is near.”
— ISAIAH 55:6

FASTING + PRAYER

JANUARY 6–10
9am + 6pm

Join us January 6–10 for a week of fasting and prayer as we spend the week corporately seeking God for revival in 2025. We will have two meeting times – 9:00am and 6:00pm. We will break our fast on January 10 as we partake of communion together.





YOUTH CAMP



JUNE

- 1 Graduation Recognition Sunday
- 2 First Monday Worship
- 4 Youth River Wars Kick-Off
- 9-12 Youth Camp
- 15 Father's Day
- 15 Martins 4 Africa Gift
- 21 Men's Breakfast
- 23-27 Vacation Bible School
- 28 Sisterhood Middlefield Day

APRIL

- 4 Sisterhood Game Night
- 4-5 Youth & Middle Spring Retreat
- 7 First Monday Worship
- 12 Spring Clean-Up Day
- 20 Easter Sunday

MAY

- 5 First Monday Worship
- 11 Mother's Day
- 17 Sisterhood Thrift Day
- 17 Men's Breakfast
- 21 Celebrate Summer Bonfire

JULY

13 Next Steps Class

20 PIGNic / Friends & Family Sunday

25 Sisterhood Lake Night @ Mosquito Lake

29 Youth Cedar Point Trip

AUGUST

4 First Monday Worship

20 Outreach Volunteer Rally

23 Community Giveaway Outreach

27 Kick-Off to Fall

SEPTEMBER

8 Second Monday Worship & Water Baptisms

11-13 Sisterhood Retreat @ Beulah Beach

17 Rooted and Grow Groups

20 Men's Breakfast





OCTOBER

- 5 Next Steps Class
- 6 First Monday Worship
- 10–11 Men's Retreat @ Stony Glen Camp
- 18 Sisterhood Bonfire
- 26 Pastor Appreciation Sunday

NOVEMBER

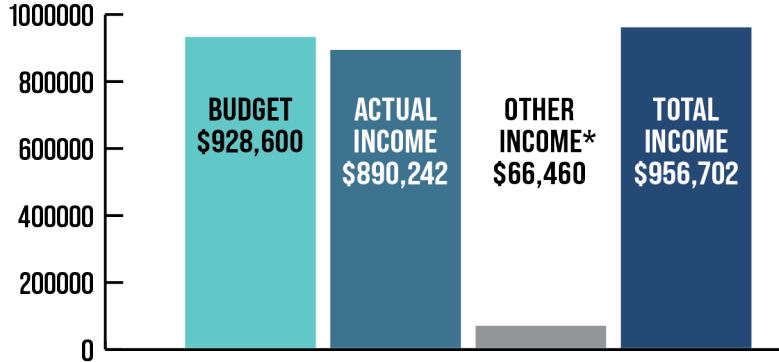
- 3 First Monday Worship
- 8 Sisterhood Night of Worship & Impartation with Anne Bosman
- 9 Dr. John Bosman, Guest Minister
- 12 Planted Class
- 20 Forever Young Ladies Amish Country Trip
- 21 Youth Laser Tag

DECEMBER

- 1 First Monday Worship
- 7 Sisterhood Christmas Party
- 13 Men's Breakfast & Christmas Party
- 13 Youth & Middle Pajama Party
- 24 Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Finances

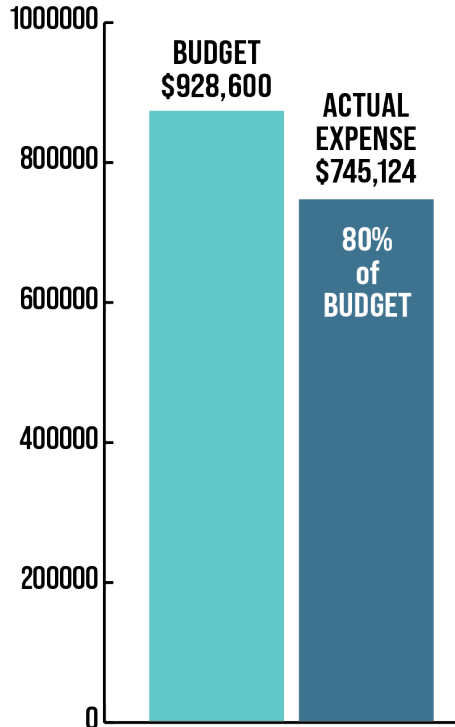
GENERAL FUND INCOME



* OTHER = Interest \$61,557; Fee \$3,212; Misc. \$1,691

GENERAL FUND EXPENSES

EXPENSE	BUDGET	ACTUAL
Training/Travel/Retreat	\$31,250	\$16,638
Capital	\$43,000	\$17,204
General Fund	\$41,000	\$25,369
Ministry	\$15,500	\$11,232
Offsetting	\$500	\$181
Marketing	\$800	\$533
Property	\$28,500	\$27,978
Repair/Maintenance	\$22,250	\$16,651
Service	\$39,220	\$34,302
Supply	\$9,400	\$8,047
Vehicle	\$17,590	\$17,540
Salaries & Benefits FOR ALL EMPLOYEES	\$537,578	\$509,699
Internal Transfers	\$142,012	\$59,750
TOTALS	\$928,600	*\$745,124



*80% of budget

BALANCE SHEET

DECEMBER 31, 2025

ASSETS

Current Assets	2,102,861.36
Fixed Assets	
Capital Assets	812,130.00
Fixed Assets	812,130.00
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>2,914,991.36</u>

LIABILITIES AND FUNDS

LIABILITIES	
Current Liability	2,123.49
TOTAL LIABILITIES	<u>2,123.49</u>

FUND BALANCES

Unrestricted Funds	1,214,776.38
Restricted Ministry Funds	668,848.25
Restricted KB Funds	217,113.24
Fixed Equity Funds	812,130.00
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>2,912,867.87</u>

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUNDS	<u>2,914,991.36</u>
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Difference	0.00
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By the Numbers



AVG. SUNDAY
ATTENDANCE

245



AVG. ONLINE
ATTENDANCE

75



SALVATIONS

107



WATER
BAPTISMS

25



HOLY SPIRIT
BAPTISMS

46

Kingdom Builders

2023 TOTAL KB GIVING

\$137,218

2024 TOTAL KB GIVING

\$236,869



2025 TOTAL
KB GIVING

\$255,686

2025 MINISTRIES SUPPORTED THROUGH KINGDOM BUILDERS

These are ministries we either regularly supported throughout the year globally, nationally, and locally. Some were one-time gifts.

GLOBAL

- » Wonder Kids (the Wibergs)
- » Jose Garcia (Mexico)
- » Hearts in Action/Followers of Christ (Paul & Alida Bowers)
- » Compassion's Call (Tim & Pam Beebe)
- » Eagle's Wings (SE Asia)
- » Eagle's Wings (Abraham's Bread)
- » The Isaiah Projects (Israel)
- » Uttermost Ministries (Pacific Nations)
- » Russ Adams Ministries (International Bible Schools)
- » Dynamis Ministries (Christopher Alam)
- » Message of Hope (Scotland, Mike & Sheri Johngrass)
- » Spirit Wind International (Dr. John & Anne Bosman)
- » Harvest Ministries (Rich Meredith)
- » Global Impact Ministries (Mark & Victoria Bowling)
- » Martins 4 Africa (Guinea Africa, Joe & Cyndi Martin)
- » Cameneti Ministries
- » Operation Christmas Child

For God is the one who provides seed for the farmer and then bread to eat. In the same way, he will provide and increase your resources and then produce a great harvest of generosity in you.

2 CORINTHIANS 9:10 NLT

NATIONAL

- » Teen Challenge Wisconsin (Milwaukee, WI)
- » Heartland Camp (Columbus, OH)
- » Christian Healthcare Ministries (prayer page support)
- » Alaska Student Partnership (Carrie Travis)
- » Convoy of Hope (US disaster relief, CA fires, TX flooding, hurricane relief)
- » Assemblies of God (Next Generation, Heartland Camps)
- » Assemblies of God (US Missionary Christmas)
- » The Church Network (educational scholarship)
- » Gerald Brooks Ministries
- » The Ramp Ministries
- » Kenneth Hagin Ministries
- » Turning Point USA

LOCAL

- » Bella Women's Center
- » Emerge Ministries
- » Hannah's House
- » Warren Family Mission
- » Chi-Alpha (the Wesers/YSU)
- » Second Harvest Food Bank
- » Warren Township Police Dept.
- » Warren Township Fire Dept.
- » HeartReach Neighborhood Ministries
- » River Gate High School
- » Warren City Schools
- » Blessings of Hope (church community outreach)

- » VBS
- » Kids Camp
- » Middle/Youth Camp
- » Middle/Youth Prayer Retreat
- » Summer Community Outreach & Evangelism
- » Fall Community Outreach & Evangelism
- » McGuffey School pantry & quarterly freezer stock
- » River Gate High School quarterly freezer stock
- » Operation Christmas Child



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