



WOODDALE CHURCH

2023
ANNUAL REPORT



OUR MISSION

To honor God by making more
disciples for Jesus Christ.

SENIOR PASTOR MESSAGE



Dear Friends,

As I write this letter — my final annual message as your senior pastor — I find my sentiments echoing those of the Apostle Paul when he wrote to the Philippians: “Every time I think of you, I give thanks to my God. Whenever I pray, I make my requests for all of you with joy, for you have been my partners in spreading the Good News about Christ from the time you first heard it until now. And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns.”

Like Paul, I am filled with gratitude each time I reflect on our journey together. Your love, devotion and support have not only enriched my life, but have also made a significant impact here, near and far. This community’s commitment to the Word of God and your efforts in kindness, humility and community outreach have been truly inspiring.

Also akin to Paul’s experience, my prayers for you are always filled with joy. Your commitment to prayer, generosity and the deeper godly values of life brings me an immense sense of fulfillment. Your unwavering support and dedication have made our community what it is today: vibrant, loving and strongly rooted in its mission to honor God by making more disciples for Jesus.

Paul saw the Philippians as partners in spreading the gospel, and I share that same sentiment with you. We’ve been true partners in a journey to bring the transforming power of the gospel to our community and beyond. I believe with all my heart that God has and is using you to make the world a better place. By being like Jesus, each one of us has the opportunity to change the world around us!

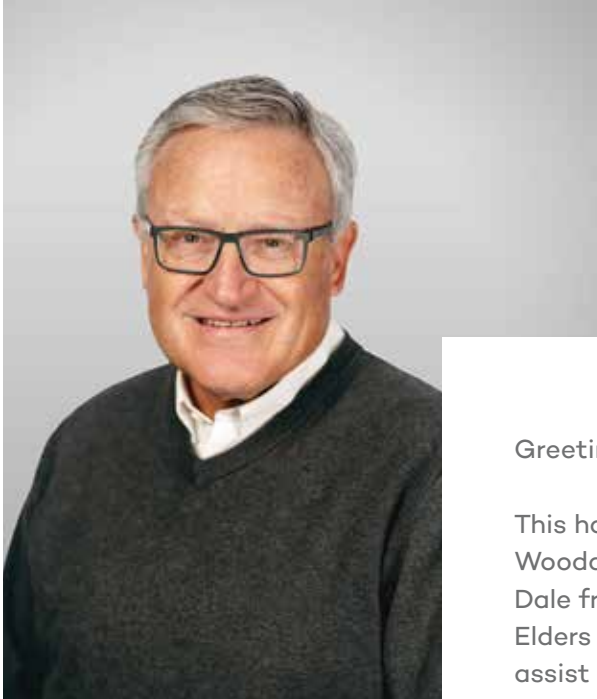
Looking to the future, I share Paul’s confidence that “God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished.” I have no doubt that Wooddale Church will continue to thrive, standing as a beacon of light and spiritual nourishment for all who come here or are touched by our many ministries.

Our legacy is not just in words but in action — in the hearts touched and the lives transformed. As you read through this year’s annual report, I hope you will feel a sense of accomplishment and inspiration to continue the journey we’ve embarked upon together.

Serving Wooddale Church has been one of the most significant and rewarding chapters of my life. Marcia and I consider ourselves immensely privileged to have been part of this extraordinary community.

With heartfelt gratitude,

Pastor Dale Hummel



ELDER BOARD MESSAGE

Greetings,

This has been an eventful and transitional year for Wooddale. With the expected retirement of Pastor Dale from the position of senior pastor, the Board of Elders formally engaged a consultant in April 2022 to assist in exploring transition models of senior pastor leadership. We agreed upon a model, developed a decision process calendar, approved a newly expanded role for Pastor Kyle Robinson at year's end and engaged a professional search firm this June to provide outside confirmation. All have led to our recommendation of Pastor Kyle to the Wooddale membership for a vote to call him as our next senior pastor.

Your vote at the annual meeting on November 13 will be the initial step in the transition to a new senior pastor for Wooddale. If the membership votes to call Pastor Kyle as Wooddale's next senior pastor, in the coming year the Board of Elders will oversee and steward a God-honoring transition of Pastor Kyle from Senior Pastor-elect to Senior Pastor as Pastor Dale transitions to his new role as Pastor of Kingdom Initiatives.

This year, Wooddale took significant action to honor God by making more disciples for Jesus Christ when the membership unanimously approved the Board's recommendation to release and support the Loring Park campus as Wooddale's 10th daughter church. The Avenue, a third Wooddale campus, was also launched. Initial services for both occurred on September 10 with great excitement and attendance.

Finally, our Wooddale constitution provides for a maximum of ten consecutive years of service on the Board of Elders. After ten years of faithful service, a portion of that time as Vice-Chair of the Board, Shelly White's term will be ending. Her wisdom and challenge to firmly follow the Word will be missed. The Nominating Committee will propose Dan Weisman to be voted upon to serve as an elder.

God continues to bless when we follow His lead.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pat Mazorol".

Pat Mazorol
Chair, Board of Elders

CELEBRATING GOD'S WORK THROUGH WOODDALE

As Wooddale Church observes its 80th anniversary in 2023, we celebrate eight decades of God's impact in and through His people in our congregation. It's amazing to think that for 80 years, God has used us to share His love and expand Christ's kingdom locally and globally. Our gratitude to God for His goodness has motivated us to invest generously in new church plants, campuses and ministries here, near and far. So, with joy, we offer our time, talent and treasure as an act of worship so that we can share what our world needs most — the good news of Jesus Christ.

The 2023 Wooddale Church Annual Report is another chapter in the ongoing story of God's kingdom being built here, near and far. It is a story that celebrates our value of being outward-reaching people who introduce people to Jesus. And it reminds us why we resist our natural tendency to focus on ourselves and intentionally choose to make loving and serving others a priority. We could never tell all the stories of God's work in and through Wooddale and our people, but as you read through these stories, you'll see how His love has brought new life — in many ways, in many places, to many people — in 2023.



OUR VISION

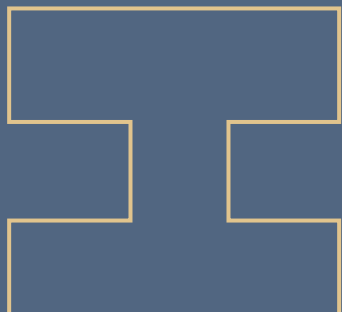
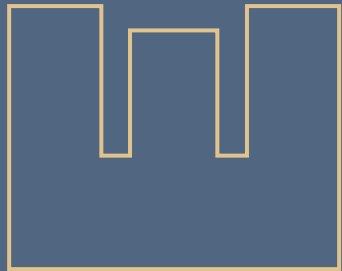
To bring the transformative power and hope of Jesus to 30,000 homes locally and 30,000 villages globally by 2032.

A LEGACY OF HOPE

Building upon our past and looking toward our future, we believe God is calling Wooddale Church to realize a vision of living and leaving a **Legacy of Hope**.

We're called to build a **resilient hope** in the next generation of believers. We're called to an **innovative hope** that finds new ways to share Christ with new people in new places.

And we're called to an **exponential hope** where disciples make disciple makers who expand the gospel here, near and far.



RESILIENT HOPE

For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: "Love your neighbor as yourself."

Galatians 5:14

RES

We are called to develop a spiritually resilient generation that trusts in God's divine love and promises and believes that no matter the challenges or hardships we face, His redemptive power brings inner peace, strength and the courage to persevere with the assurance of eternal life.

This starts **HERE**, among our friends, neighbors, coworkers and others in Eden Prairie, Edina, Minneapolis and the communities in which we live, work and play. So, we live out the gospel through relationships with those around us — relationships God will use to help bring resilient hope to those closest to us.

God has given us a bold vision in which every one of us has a role: By 2032, the people of Wooddale Church will reach 30,000 local households with the gospel of Jesus Christ. And when that happens, just imagine the greater impact a transformed community will have on the world.



Family Resource Initiative

The Family Resource Initiative, which launched in January 2023, brings hope to households in and around our communities — many of which would not otherwise connect with Wooddale Church. Whether you or someone you know is hurting or needs help learning how to navigate difficult circumstances, the Family Resource Initiative offers care and support and provides tools to keep moving forward.



Learn more at familyresource.info

The Family Resource Initiative helps local families and individuals with:



Relationships

Seminars, premarital preparation and referrals to marriage and family therapists



Parenting

Seminars and classes taught by parenting experts



Mental Health

Seminars, support groups and referrals to Christian counselors



Community Service

Service projects and field trips to build bridges between individuals, organizations and cultures



Finances

Seminars, classes, a job transition group and tax preparation help



Recovery

A weekly recovery group for life's hurts, habits and hang-ups



Grief

Seminars, classes and groups for those experiencing loss, and activities for the widowed



Lunch & Learn

A quick and easy way to gain wisdom on a variety of topics from experts in their fields

A change for the better

Christine Stiff is a certified relationship coach — exactly the kind of person you want to help lead a marriage ministry. So it was natural that she and her husband, Jeff, would be asked to serve as leaders in Wooddale's re|engage ministry, which helps spouses grow in their relationship with one another. But at the time, when she evaluated her marriage on a scale of 1-10, she gave it only a 5.

As she and Jeff went through the re|engage pilot program, they began to feel the quality of their marriage slowly climb the scale. "We had a lot of work to do," Christine said. "re|engage introduces basic relationship concepts that most people are never taught." As Jeff said, "This isn't a program where you go once a week and forget about it. Your marriage needs to be worked on 24/7, and re|engage helps you do that."

"Our marriage has significantly changed for the better," Jeff said. "re|engage has changed how I look at our marriage." Christine added, "The beautiful thing about this ministry is that it isn't just for Christians. Most people, Christian or not, are struggling in some way with their marriages or would like to have a more open, intimate relationship with their partner. re|engage is a great way to take initiative and say, 'I want something better.'"

Learn more at familyresource.info/re-engage

A Gateway to Deeper Conversations

For Wooddale member Jeff Nelson, the Family Resource Initiative's Lunch & Learn gatherings have been about more than an hour to share a meal and learn about something new. They have been about making a gospel impact on people's lives. "When I first learned about the Family Resource Initiative and the Lunch & Learn program, I was genuinely excited because it's an ideal platform to invite friends, family, colleagues, clients and anyone in Minneapolis," Jeff said.

One of Jeff's clients took him up on his invitation to join him at a Lunch & Learn. It became an open door to deeper conversations. "Prior to that Lunch & Learn, our conversations were always more high-level," Jeff said. "But they got more personal afterward. We don't get to talk often, but when we do have coffee, we talk business as we always have, but we also have great personal conversations. There has been a willingness to open up more about life, and that'll keep going in the future."

According to Jeff, Lunch & Learn's hour-long seminars on various topics provide an easy way to tear down walls and start gospel conversations. "Lunch & Learn provides a welcoming and non-threatening environment," he said. "It demonstrates that Wooddale cares about the greater Minneapolis-St. Paul metropolitan area and is committed to being a loving and concerned outreach ministry."

Learn more at familyresource.info/lunch-and-learn

INTERNSHIP

As a part of our call to develop a spiritually resilient generation, we are compelled to help develop the next generation of church leaders. To accomplish this, in 2023 we started the Church Leadership internship program. Through this experience, interns gain:

Ministry experience:

Hands-on experience in ministry events, project management, relationship building in a multi-generational community, team activities and more.

Leadership development:

Teaching and activities through various ministry leaders and experts, learn to lead strategically and practically.

Spiritual formation:

Become spiritually nourished with offsite retreats to rest and refuel in God's presence.

FROM PAPERWORK TO FRIENDSHIP



Claire Gardner

Senior High Ministry Intern

When the Senior High ministry began preparations to go to Alaska, I was in charge of making sure the paperwork was ordered and ready to take with us. I knew almost every student's first and last name without ever knowing their faces. During our time in

Alaska, I was finally able to put a name with each face and create relationships with students.

One student, Emily, quickly started talking with me and stuck by my side. She was kind, quiet and joyful. Many times throughout the week, Emily and I would find each other in the community room and play a game or have a conversation, or she would find me while I was doing a task and just sit with me. As I invested in getting to know her, she also invested in knowing me. A friendship was quickly sparked, but I didn't think much of it at the time.

During the week, we also had

paper bags with our names on them where others could leave us encouraging notes. At the end of the week, I read a note that Emily had left me. She explained how she was nervous to go on the trip because a lot of her friends would not be there, but she was glad we became close so she had someone to talk to and hang out with.

I didn't know at the time the impact I was making by hanging out with Emily, and it turns out it meant a lot more than I ever could have known. I am confident the Lord placed Emily and me on that trip for many reasons—but friendship was definitely one.



Learn more at
wooddale.org/careers

HERE

GOD MOVING IN OUR COMMUNITY

The Lord is not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

2 Peter 3:9

Every person we meet — whether in a church building or out in the community — matters. God created and deeply loves them no matter their background, where they are from or what they've done. Everyone deserves the opportunity to know and follow Jesus. And so we continue to strive to bring His love and hope to 30,000 homes locally by 2032.

Every person represented in the numbers you see in this section represents a changed life, fresh hope for each day, a unique part of our community and a story that may change someone else's life.

God at work **HERE:**



4,806

households that have been impacted



186

people who said Yes to Jesus for the first time



133

people who recommitted their life to Jesus



71

people who were baptized

B

A

E

Z

INNOVATIVE HOPE

There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work.

1 Corinthians 12:6

Wooddale works with more than 30 local partners and organizations who reach people **NEAR** to us in Minneapolis and surrounding cities with the hope of Jesus. Sharing God's love with new people in new places plays a significant role in our 80-year history. The Wooddale family includes 10 daughter churches — and several granddaughter churches — plus multiple Wooddale campuses.

Our legacy of church planting will continue. As God asks us to be prepared for future expansion opportunities, we will be ready to respond.

But ministry doesn't just happen inside our buildings. Every day, we have opportunities to share hope with those in need. Whether it's feeding the hungry, donating school supplies, providing winter boots or Christmas gifts, we want our neighbors to know we're here for them. Through your effort, thousands have been shown the hope and love of Jesus.



KINGDOM EXPANSION

Kingdom-Building: We are serious about the expansion of Christ's Kingdom. Motivated by gratitude to God for his goodness, we invest generously in ministries here, near and far.

As we follow our command to expand God's kingdom, much of that work happens near us. We want everyone across the Twin Cities to not only hear and respond to the gospel of Jesus Christ, but to feel His love and compassion through Wooddale's people.

One of the best ways to reach people with God's love is by starting new churches — because even in communities that have churches, no one church can reach everyone on its own. This is why Wooddale launched one new church and one new campus this year.

But we are also meeting a growing desire for microchurches in our region by training, developing and encouraging microchurch leaders who lead small gatherings across the Twin Cities.



Miracle City_{church}

As the Loring Park campus continued to grow and mature in its ministry to its local neighborhood, it became clear there was an increased need for ministry contextualization. Wooddale's Elders, leaders and membership were unified in their decision to launch the Loring Park campus as an official daughter church. In September 2023, it officially launched as Miracle City Church, Wooddale's 10th daughter church. Former campus pastor Trent Palmberg is the lead pastor of Miracle City Church.



miraclecitympls.com

THE AVENUE



On September 10, 2023, Wooddale launched a new campus at the University of Minnesota called The Avenue. Partnering with the Anselm House, a Christian ministry based at Melrose Station, The Avenue is a gathering of college students who are building friendships, growing in their faith and sharing life experiences, and is the only church meeting on UofM's campus. Jon Odom is the campus pastor at The Avenue.



the-avenue.church

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EXPONENTIAL HOPE

*And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached
in the whole world as a testimony to all nations,
and then the end will come.*

Matthew 24:14

The call to follow Jesus is a call to be a disciple-maker. When disciples make *more* disciple-makers, the gospel message grows exponentially as more people follow Jesus, are changed by Jesus and then live committed to a disciple-making mission of Jesus. And when that happens, the hope of our Savior grows far beyond anything we could imagine.

We are committed to taking that disciple-making mission **FAR**. We send global partners worldwide, focusing on reaching those who have never heard the name of Jesus or don't have a local church in which to belong and serve.



WOODDALE WORLDWIDE



As a part of Wooddale Church, you are helping take the gospel to the ends of the earth. Wooddale Worldwide helps support global partners in Asia, Africa, Europe, the Middle East, Latin America and North America. Some are based in large metropolitan areas. Others are located in much smaller, rural communities. But they all share God's love with people who know nothing of the hope in Jesus Christ.

Along with supporting global partners and sending short-term missions teams onto the missions field, Wooddale Worldwide works hand-in-hand with The Timothy Initiative (TTI) in partnering with local leaders in some of the least reached areas of the world to make disciples, plant churches and train leaders in areas where less than 5% of the people are evangelical Christians.



WORLDWIDE IMPACT



80

Global Partners



38

Countries



5

Continents



3,306

churches planted

2,041

were planted through
our TTI partnership

1,265

via other global
partners



1,379

widows and
orphans cared for



5,936

Bible studies
started



507,392

people exposed
to the hope
of the gospel



96,297

people have come to
faith in Jesus

60,000

in Indonesia via
our long-term
ministry there

23,290

through TTI



18,714

people have
been baptized



22,530

leaders developed

11,625

came through
our TTI partnership

Note: For calendar year 2022. Results from our global partners and partnership with The Timothy Initiative (TTI).

Discovering the light of the world

Wendy is an ophthalmologist, and Eric runs Bongolo Hospital's business office. More than 30,000 people—including patients, families and friends—hear the gospel annually through their ministry. But physical sight is only part of the mission; many find *spiritual* sight and discover Jesus. Yacinth, a 55-year-old man who heard the hospital chaplain's message at the eye clinic about how the Lord died on the cross for all of humanity, said, "The message touched the depths of my heart, so I gave my life to the Lord." Yacinth is also equipped with the Word, because everyone who receives Christ at the eye clinic also receives a Bible. Is there someone in your life that needs to hear the message of Jesus?



From witch doctor to Jesus follower

As the village witch doctor, David* tried to heal people in the name of false gods. Yet, deep inside, he had an emptiness in his soul. Jim* is a Timothy Church Planter who is part of our church planting partnership with The Timothy Initiative (TTI), who became a leader and disciple-maker through TTI's training process. Jim cared deeply for David, his uncle. As Jim shared the story of God's love, his words struck a chord inside David's heart. A vision of truth and redemption took hold. David repented from his life of idolatry and false gods and wholeheartedly embraced Jesus as his personal Savior and Lord. David then began sharing the joy and peace that Jesus brought him with his neighbors and other villagers. Praise God for church planters like Jim, who are being raised up to lead the church in their villages so that all can hear the hope of Jesus.

**Names changed for security purposes*

LOOKING FORWARD

FISCAL YEAR 2024

CHURCH-WIDE OBJECTIVES

Here (Resilient Hope):

Bless 2,000 households/ individuals in the Twin Cities by bringing them the hope of the gospel and connecting them with the help they need. By God's grace, connect 100 people from the Family Resource Initiative and Wooddale Academy into the ministry life of Wooddale Church. Successfully transition the role of senior pastor, honoring the legacy of Wooddale Church while looking towards the future for where God is calling us next.

Near (Innovative Hope):

Support new daughter church **Miracle City Church** in Loring Park. Relaunch the campus at the University of Minnesota, **The Avenue**. Expand ministry offerings at the Edina campus in the areas of children and students.

Far (Exponential Hope):

Through our various global partners, help plant 3,500 churches and see 55,000 people come to faith in Jesus Christ. Successfully transition leadership of Wooddale Worldwide to a new pastor of Wooddale Worldwide with a vision for the next season of global missions.

GUIDING VERSE & PRAYER

VERSE

You will keep in perfect peace all who trust in you, all whose thoughts are fixed on you! Trust in the Lord always, for the Lord God is the eternal Rock.

Isaiah 26:3-4 (NLT)

PRAYER

Dear Lord, we're reminded of how You promise peace for those who trust in You. Help us keep our focus on You, our unshakeable foundation, through all the challenges and opportunities that face us. Give us the strength and grace to be a unified community of faith that shines Your love and goodness here, near and far. We ask this in Jesus' name, Amen.

FISCAL YEAR 2024

PROPOSED BUDGET SUMMARY



We strive to be a profoundly generous church because we recognize that all our resources come from God. ***So, we generously give our talent, time and treasure to build His church.***

The total amount to ministries outside the walls of the church includes missions, compassion offerings and Christmas Eve offerings. These three together meet or exceed the 20% target for worldwide missions.

**FY23 financials are unaudited. The final audit will be completed in November 2023. **FY24 budget excludes Loring Park campus.*

If you would like to review the full financial statements after audit completion, please email Florian Girthofer, CFO, at florian.girthofer@wooddale.org.

	FY2023 BUDGET	FY2023 ACTUAL*	FY2024 BUDGET**
CONTRIBUTIONS			
Ministry/Missions	\$ 9,090,000	\$ 8,747,976	\$ 8,681,000
Other Income		\$ 164,928	\$ 442,633
Total Contributions	\$ 9,090,000	\$ 8,912,904	\$ 9,123,633
EXPENDITURES			
Staff & Benefits	\$ 4,874,993	\$ 4,402,451	\$ 5,240,802
General Facility	\$ 680,572	\$ 597,691	\$ 647,087
Corporate	\$ 311,000	\$ 304,433	\$ 307,886
Multisite (Edina, Loring Park)	\$ 861,378	\$ 784,822	\$ 617,838
Ministry	\$1,022,057	\$ 967,614	\$ 1,040,020
Worldwide Missions	\$ 1,340,000	\$ 1,280,772	\$ 1,270,000
Net Other Income & Expenses	\$ -	\$ 410,828	\$ -
Total Expenditures	\$ 9,090,000	\$ 8,748,611	\$ 9,123,633

FISCAL YEAR 2023

BOARD OF ELDERS

Chuck Martel
chuck.martel@wooddale.org

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Sharon Rask
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Shelly White
shelly.white@wooddale.org

WHAT THEY DO

The Board of Elders at Wooddale Church serves three functional roles: legal, cultural and relational. The legal role is to govern Wooddale Church in accordance with its mission, constitution, strategy, policies and objectives. The cultural role is to maintain Biblical integrity, spiritual accountability and excellence in serving as Christ’s church. The relational role is to represent the congregation in leadership and to support the congregation and staff in prayer.

The Board meets monthly to pray and review measures of spiritual, financial and leadership health. It shares perspectives and supports Wooddale’s plans for future ministry.

Elders are elected by the congregation for a term of two years and may stand for ratification for additional terms, with a limit of ten consecutive years. Elder qualifications include Biblical directives, belief in Wooddale’s Statement of Faith, spiritual maturity and commitment to Wooddale. Elder candidates must have demonstrated ministry leadership.



