

ANNUAL REPORT

LOVE GOD.
LOVE PEOPLE.
SERVE OUR WORLD.

2023-2024

THIS YEAR AT BLACK ROCK

We are celebrating God's faithfulness over this last year and praising Him for the amazing ways He is working throughout our church family, community, and around the world. This report will look back and ahead, featuring highlights about the specific ways we have seen God moving through BRC.





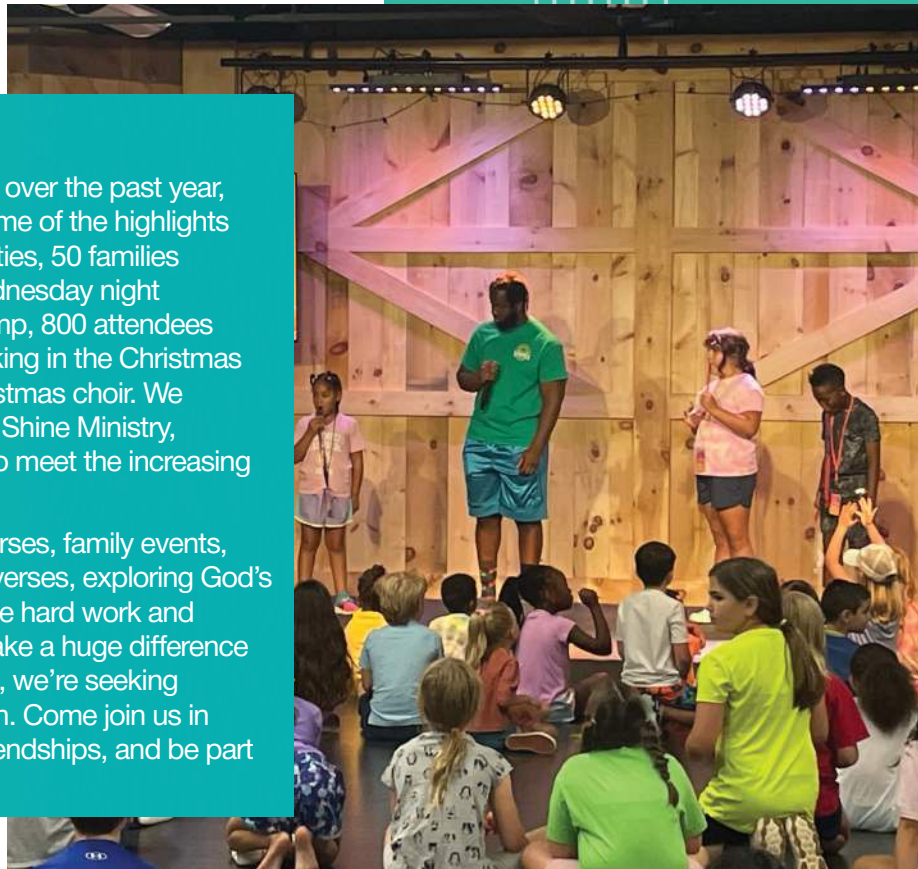
SHINE - Special Needs

The Shine ministry continues to thrive with God's blessing! Our 24 dedicated volunteers ensure that our participants can enjoy Sunday mornings, weeknights, and retreat activities for ages 2 through adulthood. Additionally, our 25+ families continue to take root throughout the church and ministries weekly. On Sunday mornings, we continue to attend to our Shine individuals, focusing on individualized teaching of Bible content utilizing accommodative techniques. We provided specialized expert training to our volunteers and families through innovative professional resources. We continue our partnership with St. Catherine Center for Special Needs. St. Catherine volunteers come to Black Rock each week and do simple odd jobs to help clean the church. Currently, we are trialing new ways to integrate our participants into their age-appropriate church activities when provided with buddy support. Soon, we will be offering related content in the bookstore! We thank the congregation and the church leaders for their unwavering support as we enter our 9th year as a ministry! Please stop by, say hello, and see first-hand what God is doing. Consider volunteering in this beautiful ministry!

BLACK ROCK KIDS

We are thrilled to share the success of our Kids Ministry over the past year, filled with engaging activities and impactful lessons. Some of the highlights include: 260 kids participating in Sunday morning activities, 50 families engaging in online programming, 85 kids attending Wednesday night sessions, 330 kids enjoying our Summer Adventure camp, 800 attendees at The Amazing Chemistry Show, 210 individuals partaking in the Christmas Gingerbread Bash, and 30 kids participating in the Christmas choir. We welcomed 370 new kids with a 60% retention rate! Our Shine Ministry, catering to children with varying abilities, is expanding to meet the increasing demand.

We continue to partner with families through parent courses, family events, and weekly resources. Our kids love memorizing Bible verses, exploring God's Word, and engaging in worship. We're so thankful for the hard work and influence of our 100+ adult and teen volunteers who make a huge difference in our children's lives every week. As our ministry grows, we're seeking additional volunteers to help shape the future generation. Come join us in giving more kids the chance to discover Jesus, build friendships, and be part of our Kids Ministry family!



STUDENT MINISTRY

Our Student Ministry has aimed to produce students who are passionate and resilient followers of Jesus. Each week, we had the privilege of hosting about 135 high school and middle school students. This year, we gave Bibles to 30 students who committed to follow Jesus all the days of their lives and decided to be baptized. Throughout 2023, we saw students get excited to pray for one another during our two retreats and in their small groups. Several of our high schoolers have met together for a student-led Bible study on Ecclesiastes. Our middle schoolers have frequently shown up to do yard work for those in need in our community. Fifteen of our middle school students went on a mission trip with The Hartford Project while our high school students served in the Dominican Republic. On Sunday mornings, our students serve in many areas of the church including the cafe, parking team, Kids Ministry, and Shine Ministry. Join us as we pray for God to do even more in this next year!



SANCTUARY

We're so thankful for a wonderful ministry year at Sanctuary. Ignite (our college-aged ministry), led by Treadwell Lewis, has flourished in the past two years growing from six people in 2021 to an average attendance of 40 this past year! Statistics show that Gen Z is leaving the church in droves across the country, but God continues to pour out His goodness on us as we experience the opposite of the statistics in our community. God is moving powerfully on local university campuses, bringing spiritually hungry and expectant young people to our service and our events. This year continued the trend of breaking last year's previous record for the highest attended Sanctuary retreat yet (170 young adults)! Thank you for praying for the young adults in CT, and please continue to pray as we send our first team out to the mission field (Dominican Republic) since the pandemic.

SERVING

This year our Serving Teams have seen continued momentum with an average of 16 NEW volunteers onboarded each month. We currently have 729 adults and teens serving on a regular basis with 75 active teams. Our focus for the upcoming year will be the renovation of serving structures and systems to better equip these saints for the work of ministry and empower more volunteer leaders to fully shepherd their teams. Two key areas that we are intentionally developing this year are Next Steps and our new Translation Team as both are essential to facilitating the integration of more people into our discipleship process.

Not only are our teams meeting the tangible needs of our congregation, but they are deepening in their love and service of each other which benefits all of us. Serving on a team is a great way to enjoy fellowship and grow in your faith as you serve the body of Christ. If you're not yet on a team, we'd love to hear from you and help you make that connection!



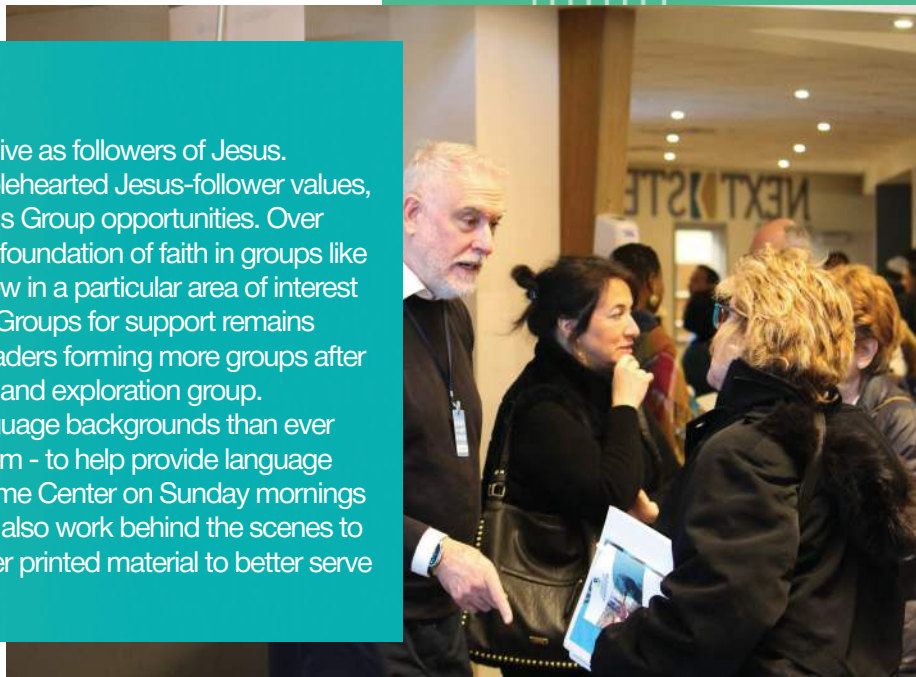


THANKSGIVING BLESSING BAGS

In October and November, our church family comes together to provide 100s of Thanksgiving Blessing Bags. Each bag gives a family everything they need to create a delicious holiday meal that lasts for several days. Black Rock members actively participate by picking up their bags and filling them with food from our packing list. Many of these meals are hand-delivered to Black Rock families in need, while others come back to the church for transport to our local partners. Last year, over 1200 Blessing Bags were collected and distributed to deserving people. It was a heartwarming family affair as our students prayed over and helped with the collection of bags. This year, our planning team is exploring new ways to increase this service to our church and community. It is a privilege to serve with Jesus followers, who are filled with generosity. Together, we are making a big difference in the lives of people who need to connect with God's love in a tangible way, and we are united in our compassion for others.

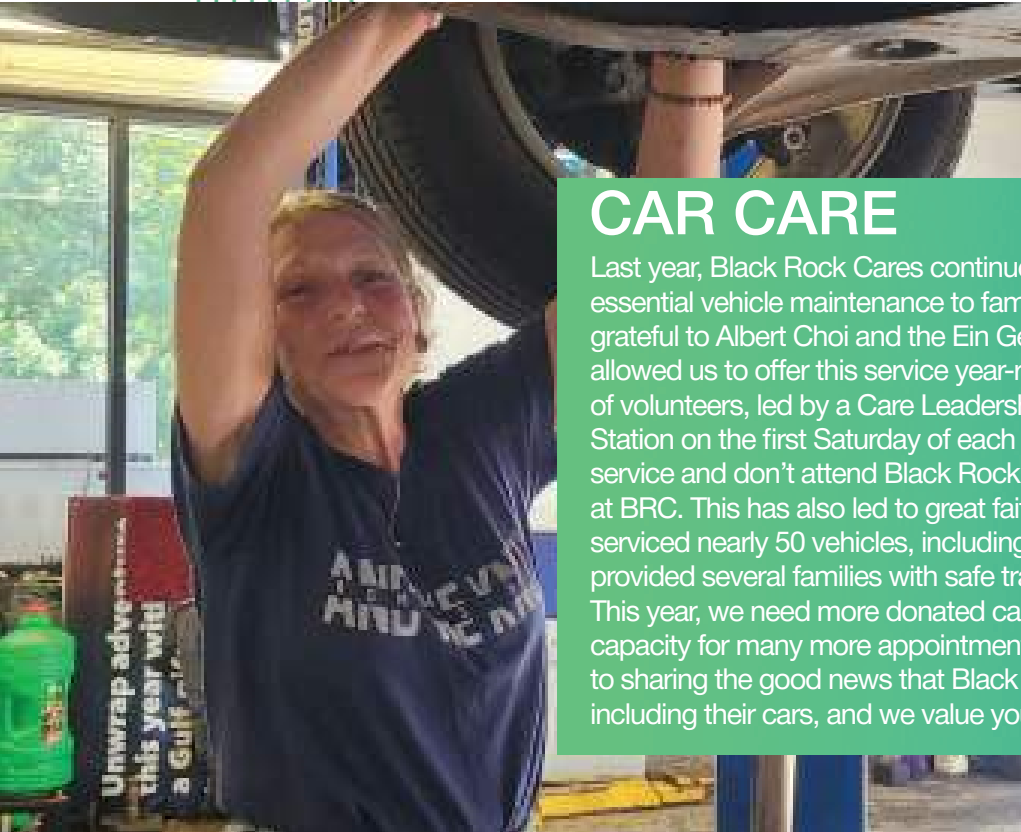
ADULT DISCIPLESHIP

Adult Discipleship is all about helping our church learn and live as followers of Jesus. *Connecting Intentionally with Others* is one of our core Wholehearted Jesus-follower values, and scores of Black Rockers live this out through our various Group opportunities. Over 300 adults participated in a Topic Group this year to build a foundation of faith in groups like Christianity Explored or What Is the Gospel while others grew in a particular area of interest such as the book of Revelation. Participation in Living Free Groups for support remains strong, and Community Groups are expanding with new leaders forming more groups after taking part in our Equipping for Biblical Community training and exploration group. As our church family has expanded and includes more language backgrounds than ever before, we formed a new serving team - the Translators Team - to help provide language assistance. These volunteers are strategic within the Welcome Center on Sunday mornings and at connecting opportunities like Open House. They will also work behind the scenes to translate brochures, Community Group resources, and other printed material to better serve our church family.



SPAIN MISSION TRIP

In October 2023, a short-term team traveled from Black Rock to Malaga, Spain, to support our Global Partners, Emil and Sarah. What began as a mission to love and encourage Emil + Sarah and their ministry partners resulted in something miraculous in so many ways. We never know what God has in store for us unless we first answer his call to "Go!" On this trip, God blessed us by sharing His heart for the migrants and refugees from other lands to reside among us. He uses the movement of people to accomplish His greater purpose, which is to expand His Kingdom. By loving and welcoming migrants and refugees, we, the church, not only carry out the Great Commandment to love our neighbors, but we also fulfill the Great Commission to proclaim the gospel to the nations. That God moved our hearts on this trip was evident upon our return. Several Malaga team members reached out to the missions staff at Black Rock to discuss long-term mission opportunities. We praise God for inviting us to participate in His mission to the world.



CAR CARE

Last year, Black Rock Cares continued to provide oil changes, safety checks, and essential vehicle maintenance to families in our church and community. We are grateful to Albert Choi and the Ein Gedi Spring Gulf Station. Our partnership has allowed us to offer this service year-round, regardless of the weather. A faithful team of volunteers, led by a Care Leadership Team member (deacon), meets at the Gulf Station on the first Saturday of each month. Those who take advantage of this service and don't attend Black Rock are given a Bible with a list of ways to connect at BRC. This has also led to great faith discussions. During 2023, our volunteer team serviced nearly 50 vehicles, including referrals from the Town of Fairfield. We also provided several families with safe transportation through our car donation program. This year, we need more donated cars, more people to help in the garage, and the capacity for many more appointments. Your involvement is crucial! We look forward to sharing the good news that Black Rock cares about the practical needs of people, including their cars, and we value your contribution to our community!



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Community Engagement has continued to grow and thrive in the last year! God is opening doors for us to build relationships with our neighbors, support those in need in our community, and share the good news with those we meet along the way. We have been able to complete service projects around Fairfield County with the team that shows up each Second Saturday. When we host a Fifth Sunday collection, our church has generously responded to stock our Local Partners with the supplies that they need. We have also increased our support for our Local Partners by providing training and investing more volunteer presence. We are so thankful for the growth we've seen since the launch of Community Engagement. As we look ahead, we are asking God for deep roots to support the work ahead.

Black Rock Church began in 1849, so in January we declared 2024 a celebration of God's faithfulness to Black Rock over 175 years! To commemorate this in our worship services, Pastor Josh and I preached a sermon-series we called "Timeless Truths for Truthless Times."

In God's providence, it so happens that Black Rock's 175th anniversary coincides with my final year of ministry, after nearly 30 years as Senior Pastor and 40 years as a Black Rock staff member. For this, my last Senior Pastor report, I'd like to reference the 6 "Timeless Truths" in order to connect the great things happening now—to the even greater things ahead.

"God's Word Is the Final Word"

For 175 years, Black Rock has committed itself to Jesus' view of Scripture, and this is what sets Black Rock apart from the surrounding landscape of many dying churches. In contrast, this past year, our worship attendance grew by 25% as more and more people keep coming to know God through His authoritative Word.

"Jesus Is THE Way to Life"

Black Rock stands on the words of Jesus, "I am the way, the truth and the life; no one comes to the Father except through me." This year, our baptism services were once again at capacity with people testifying how through our ministries to kids, students, and adults, they found Jesus--the only way to life.

"It's All about Souls"

Jesus gave us a mission as a church—and our mission is to help people near and far receive eternal life for their eternal souls by believing and growing in Jesus. This passion animates our Local and Global Mission programs which continue to grow with impact and effectiveness.

"Made to Make a Difference"

Scripture calls Black Rock to "equip the saints for works of ministry." This year, we introduced the "6 Values of a Wholehearted Jesus Follower." The Values cover topics like worship, prayer, Bible study, and community—all designed to equip Black Rockers as mature servants of Jesus.

"Jesus Is THE Way to Joy"

Jesus is neither slavish legalism nor selfish consumerism—Jesus is the way to true JOY. There is true joy at Black Rock and it's contagious! Over this past year, we had over 600 guests register interest in connection at Black Rock. Over and over, our guests say how they were drawn in by the sense of joy and love among the people of our church.

"Black Rock 2199"

If Jesus has not yet returned, then 175 years from now Black Rock must be a faithful witness by continually passing a vibrant relationship with Jesus to the next generation. For this reason, I'm so thankful for this year's opening of the Black Rock Growth Center, which is dedicated to promoting Christ-following among our students by offering them much-needed counseling resources.

I'm happy to say that 175 years after its founding, Black Rock Church is strong, healthy, and fully committed to these 6 Timeless Truths. Black Rock Church is a bright light for Jesus in New England—and as we continue to be faithful, there's no doubt that Black Rock's future is even brighter! I'm so thankful that God called me to serve Black Rock Church. Most pastors don't get to spend their entire career at one church—but then again, most pastors wouldn't want to if they could! I wanted to spend my entire career at Black Rock because there are no better people to do life with—anywhere. And if I had to choose where to minister over again—every time—I'd ask God to send me to Black Rock Church.

Thank you for the honor of serving Jesus with you!

Pastor Steve Treash



EXECUTIVE PASTOR

Our vision at Black Rock Church is:

To Ignite Faith and Inspire Hope in everyone we meet by connecting to God through Jesus.

As Executive Pastor, I love planning and praying through how we accomplish this God-given vision. I love asking questions like, “How do we introduce more people to the loving salvation that comes through a relationship with Jesus Christ?” or “How do we help the thousands of people who attend Black Rock Church live out the joyful fullness that comes from wholeheartedly following Jesus with our entire lives?”

This year, we were able to dig deeply into these vision questions after nearly four years of being impacted by the pandemic. Much of our ministry during the pandemic focused on supporting and serving our congregation and community during a massive crisis. It was a privilege to be a stabilizing and uplifting force during those years of crisis, pointing people to the peace, hope, and joy of a relationship with Jesus. There are still ramifications to the pandemic, but we are seeing people hungry for greater growth and discipleship.

Our Sunday services are overflowing, causing great “problems” with no spare parking and limited seating. We had over 600 guests coming through our doors and experiencing the love of Christ. We often hear statements like, “The moment I walked in, I felt something different.” We know they are feeling the power of the Holy Spirit and the love of Christian community.

God brings people to a saving faith in Jesus almost every Sunday at Black Rock Church. People come from various religious, ethnic, racial, and socioeconomic backgrounds. This year, we defined six values of a Wholehearted Jesus-Follower that help us explain what it looks like to have a dynamic, growing relationship with God. Once someone puts their faith in Jesus, we get to spend the rest of

our lives building that relationship by:

- Worshiping in a Service
- Connecting Intentionally with Others
- Serving on a Team
- Dialoguing with God through Prayer
- Knowing God through Scripture
- Sharing our Resources & Faith Story

This year, our staff placed a major emphasis on equipping and shepherding volunteers. As Ephesians 4:12 says, the church should “equip the saints for the work of ministry.” We want to shepherd our church into a growing relationship with God and a healthy relationship with others. We want to equip them to be successful in their specific volunteer roles at church. As our church grows, we encourage attendees to step into their God-given role of serving God through serving others.

Our church and staff are strong as we head into an exciting year of transition at Black Rock. We are strongly rooted in God’s love, the foundational truth of Scripture, and Christ-like character through the Holy Spirit. I look forward to what God will do in and through Black Rock Church in the future.

Humbly submitted,

Pastor Josh Feay



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

I am not sure about you, but sometimes, reading these annual reports, we might just gloss over some of the great things that God has done. So, I wanted to give you my TOP TEN list for 2023-2024 within my role at Black Rock.

Growth Center

This year, we completed the renovation of our Easton Campus. We gutted the education building there and transformed it into the Black Rock Growth Center. With three large rooms, this building is for Black Rock to provide biblical counseling and support groups for students and adults as they face the pressures of today's rapidly changing and often confusing society. We aim for all who come to the center to find joy, peace, and purpose in their lives. Learn more about the Growth Center at www.blackrock.org/growthcenter

10 Years in Our Church Building

Can you believe that 10 years ago, we were just moving into this church building after worshipping at Notre Dame High School for 18 months? I appreciate our Facility Team, who have worked tirelessly to make our building look like it was just opened.

Debt-Free Year

This year was our first year that was debt-free. Seeing all our giving go to building His Kingdom here and through all nations was great. Many thanks to our church for the journey to pay off the debt and make it so that 100% of gifts can go to the ministry to reach the lost.

Fully Staffed this Year

We were fully staffed this year, and it was great to see the impact of our staff leading all the different ministries and departments. We have a GREAT staff.

Worship Service Growth and Shuttle Service

This last year, our Sunday services grew by over 25%, and we have had to bring back the

shuttles to help with parking lot flow. God is bringing more and more people to find a relationship with Jesus.

Great Financial Audit

We had our CPA firm clean our annual audit. It showed accuracy, strength, and a great financial position. Review our audit at www.blackrock.org/give

Regular Givers

God continues to raise up the spiritual discipline of giving in our congregation. We are praying for more and more people to understand biblical stewardship.

ACH Giving

Our congregation has saved us thousands of dollars by giving through their ACH account instead of giving by credit card. We are grateful our bank fees are lower as more congregants give regularly online.

Building Use

Our church building is used every night of the week, with Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday being nights where EVERY room is used.

Grateful to God

We are grateful for God's hand in our church! God is good!! All the glory goes to Him!!

Pastor Jeremy Taylor



MISSIONS

FROM GENESIS TO REVELATION, SCRIPTURE REVEALS GOD'S HEART FOR THE NATIONS.
HE IS LORD OVER ALL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLE, AND HE IS WORKING TO REDEEM
PEOPLE FROM EVERY TRIBE AND LANGUAGE SO THAT ALL NATIONS WILL PRAISE HIM.
(REVELATION 7:9)

Black Rock is blessed to be part of God's Great Commission work throughout the world. We are grateful to be a church that is committed to **praying, giving, and going**. March 9-17, we hosted several of our global partners during our 67th Annual Missions Week, a highlight of the year at Black Rock. Throughout the week, you were encouraged to **pray, give, and go**. Currently, more than 1,000 Black Rock attendees are committed to **praying** for one or more of our global partners. This year, 175+ new prayer partners joined our force of BRC prayer partners. Thank you! Because of your faithful **giving** throughout the year, the Board of Missions is able to consider several end-of-year financial gifts that will help our partners with ministry and personal needs like computer updates, moving expenses, language school, car repairs, etc. You will hear more about year-end grants in upcoming Missions in Action posts and other reports. Praise God for His generosity.

This past year, the Lord called two of Black Rock's own to **go**. (1) Ben Tobben who grew up at Black Rock, is serving at the University of Maryland with Cru. Ben has a heart to walk with UMD students "through whatever circumstances they find themselves in and point them to Christ in everything." (2) Sue Perkins, in her words, had a "radical encounter with Jesus at Black Rock the summer of 2018." After going on several BRC mission trips, she felt called to serve the Lord in Nigeria. Her passion is to share the Good News and inspire hope among hurting and broken Nigerian women. In September of 2023, we were privileged to commission her. In November, she left for Nigeria because of your faithful praying and giving. Praise God for His goodness.

On Wednesday evening of our 2024 Missions Week, Lanre Williams-Ayedun joined us to celebrate our 20th anniversary of partnership with World Relief in Rwanda. World Relief was one of the first organizations to enter Rwanda following the end of the genocide

in 1994. With Black Rock's support, the focus region of Nyamasheke District has undergone remarkable transformation resulting from initiatives like Church Empowerment Zones (CEZ) which led to holistic development, empowerment of individuals, and significant reduction in extreme poverty. CEZs helped strengthen families, provide intervention for kids, and establish savings groups where members save money and borrow to finance their businesses. In 20 years' time, the Lord brought healing and restoration; World Relief no longer considers it necessary to maintain a presence there. Praise God for His love and care.

Over the past 20 years, close to 100 Black Rock attendees have **gone** to serve with BRC short term teams to Rwanda, made possible because you **prayed and gave**. This past year, we sent a middle school team to Hartford, a high school team and an adult team to the Dominican Republic, and adult teams to Kazakhstan, Nigeria, Florida, and Honduras, made possible because you **prayed and gave**. Praise God for His faithfulness.

May our loving heavenly Father find us faithful. May He continue to grow us in our obedience to **pray, give, and go**. We praise His mighty name for the work He is doing throughout the world. Black Rock is blessed to be part of God's Great Commission work.

May all praise and glory be His,

Pastor Jeremy Taylor and Dawn Brehm

BRC Global Missions Staff

CARE MINISTRY

**“A GENEROUS PERSON WILL PROSPER; WHOEVER REFRESHES OTHERS
WILL BE REFRESHED.”
(PROVERBS 11:25, NIV)**

I am so grateful to serve a church filled with generous people! In 2023, Black Rock Cares was able to carry out its mission to help those in our church family with their practical needs because you gave sacrificially to the care/deacons fund (see our support breakdown on a separate page). You also mobilized to provide 1,200 full-meal Thanksgiving Blessing Bags for Black Rock families and our local partners. In December, your earnest generosity allowed us to give \$12,500 to deserving parents in our church, which helped them purchase Christmas gifts for their children. Through your wholehearted giving, Black Rock Cares assisted many individuals with car donations and maintenance, calls, cards, counseling, financial coaching, food assistance, funeral services, visits, and other essential services.

I am so grateful for our care leadership team (deacons/deaconesses), which manages the care/deacons fund and supports Black Rock Cares in many other ways. The team members are Kelly Campbell, Kristen Caron, John Congdon, Lou Cubelli, Michael Fujii, Gary Gulemi, Janet Jobst, Pete Schirmann, and Mondel Teka. Kelly and Michael have also served as our secretary and treasurer. Kelly, Kristen, John, and Michael end their terms in May and will be greatly missed.

I am so grateful that our support team, Judy Nesbitt and Sharon Lemke, our care assistants, made a big difference in the lives of hurting people last year. Sarah Harwood was highly effective as our executive assistant and served with great dedication during my 9-week sabbatical. Team leaders Linda Atkinson (cards), Albert Choi, Lou Cubelli, and Bruce Tummyol (car donations and maintenance), Dave Coles (transportation), Sharon Lemke (life celebration receptions and meals), Charl Malan (financial coaching), Judy Nesbitt (case workers, contacts and shepherds) and

Dolores Shoop (encouragement) led scores of volunteers who are the real Black Rock Cares heroes. We will miss Dolores, who retired to Florida earlier this year.

With the uncertainty of life in this broken world, I'm grateful that those who call Black Rock Church their home have a place to go when life turns upside down. With all my heart, I thank you for faithfully supporting this ministry.

Praising God for you and your generosity!

Pastor Gaylord
BLACK ROCK CARES

Pastor Gaylord Lenke



GIVING

	ACTUAL GIVING 2022-2023	PROJECTED GIVING 2023-2024
GENERAL FUND & INCOME	\$4,231,000	\$4,350,000
MISSIONS FUND	\$1,004,000	\$1,325,000
BUILDING FUND	\$737,000	\$90,000
DEACONS FUND	\$133,000	\$114,000
TOTAL GIVING	\$6,105,000	\$5,879,000

BUDGET

JUNE 1, 2024 - MAY 31, 2025

REVENUE	2023-24	2024-25	\$ Change	% Change
GENERAL FUND OFFERINGS	\$4,338,000	\$4,338,000	\$--	0%
OTHER INCOME	\$62,000	\$62,000	\$--	0%
TOTAL REVENUE	\$4,400,000	\$4,400,000	\$--	0%
EXPENSES	2023-24	2024-25	\$ Change	% Change
TOTAL SALARIES & BENEFITS	\$3,103,000	\$3,234,000	\$131,000	4%
TOTAL SALARIES & BENEFITS	\$3,103,000	\$3,234,000	\$131,000	4%

MINISTRIES	2023-24	2024-25	\$ Change	% Change
MUSIC MINISTRY	\$87,000	\$87,000	\$-	0%
ADULT DISCIPLESHIP	\$95,000	\$95,000	\$-	0%
CHILDREN'S MINISTRY	\$69,000	\$69,000	\$-	0%
STUDENT MINISTRIES	\$88,000	\$88,000	\$-	0%
SPECIAL NEEDS MINISTRY	\$13,000	\$13,000	\$-	0%
COMMUNICATIONS	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$-	0%
SANCTUARY MINISTRY	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$-	0%
CARE MINISTRY	\$5,600	\$2,500	-\$3,100	-55%
TECH MINISTRY	\$6,000	\$4,000	-\$2,000	-33%
VIDEO MINISTRY	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$-	0%
SECURITY	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$-	0%
STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY	\$4,400	\$5,000	\$600	14%
CHURCH PARTNERSHIPS FUND	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$-	0%
GENERAL MINISTRY FUND	\$5,000	\$9,500	\$4,500	90%
TOTAL MINISTRY	\$460,000	\$460,000	\$-	0%

OPERATIONS	2023-24	2024-25	\$ Change	% Change
OFFICE EXPENSE	\$85,000	\$75,000	-\$10,000	-12%
ADMIN EXPENSE	\$90,000	\$94,000	\$4,000	4%
BUILDING EXPENSES	\$205,500	\$177,500	-\$28,000	-14%
PROPERTIES EXPENSE	\$37,000	\$33,800	-\$3,200	-9%
UTILITIES EXPENSE	\$134,200	\$133,500	-\$700	-1%
INSURANCE & PAYROLL	\$162,000	\$111,000	-\$51,000	-31%
MISC EXPENSE	\$55,500	\$58,000	\$2,500	5%
STAMFORD CAMPUS	\$0	\$13,200	\$13,200	100%
TOTAL OPERATIONS	\$782,000	\$696,000	-\$86,000	-11%

TOTAL EXPENSES	2023-24	2024-25	\$ Change	% Change
TOTAL SALARIES & BENEFITS	\$3,103,000	\$3,234,000	\$131,000	4%
TOTAL MINISTRY EXPENSES	\$460,000	\$460,000	\$-	0%
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	\$782,000	\$696,000	-\$86,000	0%
TOTAL CAPITAL RESERVE	\$55,000	\$10,000	-\$45,000	-82%
DIFFERENCE	\$4,400,000	\$4,400,000	\$-	0%

REVENUE OF LOCAL BUDGET	\$4,400,000
EXPENSES OF LOCAL BUDGET	\$4,400,000
DIFFERENCE	\$-

Here are the ways that the Care Deacons Fund assisted those in the Black Rock Church Family last year:

How we helped those in need this last year	2023-24
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS GENERAL	\$53,006
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR COUNSELING	\$21,075
FOOD ASSISTANCE (GIFT CARDS)	\$64,530
FUNERAL/LIFE CELEBRATION ASSISTANCE	\$10,006
SEASONAL GIFTS	\$16,060
CARDS, MEALS & VISITS	\$8,718
MISCELLANEOUS SUPPORT	\$9,867

TOTAL	\$183,262
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GLOBAL MISSIONS BUDGET

PROPOSED JUNE 1, 2024 - MAY 31, 2025

CATEGORIES	2023-24	2024-25
LEAST ACCESS & INT'L STUDENT MINISTRY	\$608,600	\$635,800
U.S. BASED SUPPORT OF LEAST ACCESS	\$40,000	\$39,000
OVERSEAS MINISTRY NOT IN LEAST ACCESS	\$166,000	\$156,000
DEVELOPMENT AND EQUIPPING FOR MISSIONS	\$237,000	\$245,800
RETIREMENT CONTRIBUTION	\$27,400	\$24,400
US PARTNERS	\$55,000	\$55,000
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT	\$126,000	\$144,000
TOTAL	\$1,260,000	\$1,300,000

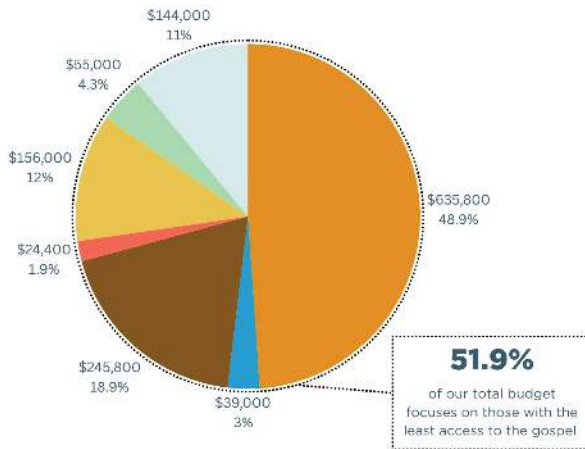
GLOBAL MISSIONS

LEAST ACCESS TO THE GOSPEL & INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

\$635,800

48.9% OF THE BUDGET

Supports 45 Global Partners & Partner Grants who are directly involved in bringing the gospel to those who have never heard the Good News.



U.S.-BASED SUPPORT OF LEAST ACCESS TO THE GOSPEL

\$39,000

3% OF THE BUDGET

Supports 4 Global Partners based in the U.S. who are involved in supporting global outreach to those who have never heard the gospel.



RETIREMENT CONTRIBUTIONS

\$24,400

1.9% OF THE BUDGET

Supports BRC partners retired from vocational missions.

DEVELOPMENT & EQUIPPING FOR MISSIONS

\$245,800

18.9% OF THE BUDGET

Supports discretionary spending for special needs as well as travel for staff as we invest in the personal and ministry development of various partners around the world.

OVERSEAS MINISTRY | NOT LEAST ACCESS

\$156,000

12% OF THE BUDGET

Supports 12 additional Global Partners serving in various ministries around the world.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

\$144,000

11% OF THE BUDGET

Supports our Local Partners like Hopeline, Urban Impact, Pivot, and Bridgeport Rescue Mission, as well as local serving opportunities like Second Saturdays and Love Works Day.

US PARTNERS

\$55,000

4.3% OF THE BUDGET

Supports student-focused ministry, coaching, and outreach.



FEATURED PARTNER

MISSION INDIA

Mission India's vision is to see India transformed by the love of Christ. A cooperative effort between USA staff and partner ministries in India is carried out by local Christians who know the language, customs, and dangers in their region. Their three core ministries include year-long Children's Bible Clubs, Church Planting Training, and Adult Literacy Classes.



FEATURED PARTNER

DAN SCRIBNER

Dan Scribner leads the Joshua Project, a missions research and mobilization initiative aimed at furthering Great Commission work by spotlighting unreached people groups around the world. Because data for ministry purposes is most valuable when it turns into action, Joshua Project's core vision involves gathering, integrating, and distributing strategic information about unreached peoples to help organizations catalyze prayer, outreach, and church-planting for Kingdom advancement.



FEATURED PARTNER

ERIN DUERR

Erin Duerr, with her degree in horticulture, serves City Ministries in Nigeria to establish farms at their teenage girl and boy centers. She wants to teach arid farming practices to north-bound national missionaries so they can have a stable food source. Erin also enjoys teaching Bible-based farming techniques, aiming to instill the kids with pride in their work by emphasizing the importance of farming. Special Saturdays with the girls involve lessons, hiking, and games to foster connection.



FEATURED PARTNER

KEVIN AND CAMI ZWART

Kevin and Cami Zwart serve with Africa Inland Mission (AIM) as country directors for Namibia and Angola. They encourage the mobilization of local mission efforts by networking with indigenous churches. As Editor-in-Chief for AfriGO magazine in English, Swahili, and Portuguese, Cami oversees African staff all over the continent. AfriGO serves to encourage the African church to send, support, and pray for African missionaries.

FEATURED PARTNER

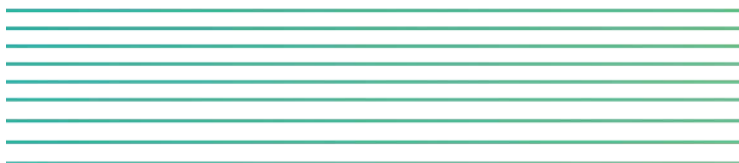
HOME BRIDGE

HEALING • HIRING • HOPE

HOME BRIDGE VENTURES

REACHING FORMERLY
INCARCERATED
INDIVIDUALS IN
BRIDGEPORT

HomeBridge Ventures is one of our newest Local Partners. They put their core values of healing, hiring, and hope into action with the justice-involved population in Bridgeport. Their aim is to reduce recidivism in our community and surround our formerly incarcerated neighbors as they re-enter into society. They provide opportunities for spiritual, emotional, and social support as well as more help with needs like job placement, housing assistance, etc. All of this and more is happening at The Hub in downtown Bridgeport.



OUR GLOBAL PARTNERS 2024-2025

LEAST ACCESS/UNREACHED

Barnabas and Ruth
Sukhwant and Vinita Bhatia
Dan and Krista Brown
Daniella Brown
Jon and Valerie Brown
Brad and Kristen
Michelle
Chikondi
Chosen People Ministries
Nathan and Nicole
Erin Duerr
Peter and Miriam Fretheim
Zell and Susan
Go Pioneers
Harvest Training Center
Emil and Sarah
Steve and Kitty
Matt and Mali Hunt
Anneli Johnson
Zach and Chiara
Fayek and Nancy
Jeff and Chris
Justin and Sarah
MedSend
Aaron and Esra
Mission India
Eric and Kristi
Karl and Kristen
Yuko
Mario and Dejana
Hamza and Fehriye
Sue Perkins
PALM
Lee and Anne
Chris and Kelly
Lynne
Craig and Kris Slater
Clint and Vivienne
Narcis and Anca Vlasin

U.S.-BASED SUPPORT OF LEAST ACCESS

Dave and Crissie Rask
Dan and Mary Scribner
Richard and Richard Snyder

RETIREMENT CONTRIBUTIONS

Don and Barb Borgman
Alan and Malinda Brown
Ben and Jane Draper
Norma Galyon
John and Gail Morris
Jay Orvis

OVERSEAS OUTSIDE LEAST ACCESS

Chris Camarro
City of Refuge Ministries
International Justice Mission
Mission of Hope
Johnbull and Stacy Omorefe
Randy and Pam Schmidt
Bill and Cathy Sparks
Mark and Janet
Rich and Debbie Tracy
World Relief
Kevin and Cami Zwart

U.S. PARTNERS

Jeanie Ganssle
Terry and Donna Jeanne Schneider
Ben Tobben

NOMINATIONS 2024-2025

BOARD OF ELDERS

Continuing:

Shew Wah Lee (1)
Jack Zimmermann (1)
Matt Divine (1)
Rich Caporaso (2)
Robert Niedermeier (3)
Christopher Cross (3)

Proposed Candidate:

Steve Thorne (4)

BOARD OF MISSIONS

Continuing:

Maria Feay (1)
William Moore (1)
Michael Schneider (1)
Dionne Cross (1)
Manami Tsutsumi (2)
David Bailey (2)
David Lemonnier (2)
Keith Winger (3)
Abbi Yap (3)
Laura Zuccarini (3)

Proposed Candidate:

Karin Williams (3)

BOARD OF DEACONS/CARE

Continuing:

Lou Cubelli (1)
Gary Gulemi (1)
Janet Jobst (1)
Mondel Teka (1)
Pete Schirmann (3)

Proposed Candidates:

Joe DeMarco (3)
Tracey DuRivage (3)
Michael Rao (3)
Amparo Ulloa (3)

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Proposed Candidates:

Matt Caron (1)
Jim McKinney (1)
Sue Deblock (1)
Wayne Hayes (1)
Chris Bruno (1)

MODERATOR

Nominee:

Chris Poisella (1)

VICE MODERATOR

Nominee:

Peter Kim (1)

CHURCH TREASURER

Nominee:

Mark Kydes (1)

DEACON TREASURER

Nominee:

Dawn Kerr (1)

MISSIONS TREASURER

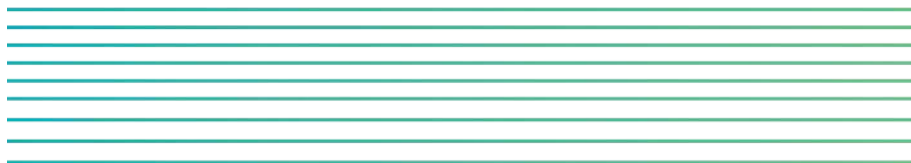
Nominee:

Bill Nesbitt (1)

CHURCH CLERK

Nominee:

Sarah Harwood (1)



LOVE GOD

LOVE PEOPLE

SERVE OUR WORLD