



Dearest friend,

We could not be more thrilled to have you on our team and a part of our church family here at Freshwater. Our vision is to **"bring life wherever we go."** This phrase is **easy to remember**, unifies us, **and gives us clear direction**. Our vision isn't just written on our walls, but it's what **drives us to take action**. I think one of the worst messages a church can send to the community is an empty parking lot every day except for an hour on Sundays. At Freshwater, you will rarely see our lot empty, as both Freshwater people and others in our community use our space to gather on a regular basis.

This year, you truly brought life outside of just on Sundays, and we want to share some of the **highlights in 2023**:

- Two amazing outdoor services on our land-If you were there, you know how awesome they were.
- XO Marriage Conference – *we are hosting another one this year!*
- Local Hero Day – Honoring local first responders
- 98 people were baptized this year
 - 80 were baptized at the lake!
- Kids Kamp 2023 was our biggest and best run yet
 - 14 kids gave their lives to Christ!
- Installed 3 water tanks in Kenya.
 - We have provided water to over 100,000 people!
- We have a new sister church in Arkansas, "Lake Point City Church."
- Hosted over 100 local leaders for the Global Leadership Summit
- Sasha from our sister church in Ukraine visited
- Veterans Day dinner
- Nickle Dinkle Day community outreach
- Hosted 4 blood drives that in total saved 774 lives!
- Waconia Toy drive that provided toys for 360 kids in the area!
- Winter gear drive and distributions in the cities
- Our Recovery House, Learning Center, and Furniture Depot are helping people with tangible needs
- Several Griefshare sessions and seminars, helping those who have lost loved ones



XO Conference 2023



2023 Kids Kamp: Stellar



2023 Local Hero Day

- Celebrate Recovery is bursting at the seams!
- Christmas Eve attendance (including online) was up 29% this year. Over 2,000 people celebrated Christmas Eve at Freshwater!
- Good Friday experience
- Retreats/camps = men's, women's, along with both summer and winter FSM retreats
- Launched a podcast
- Fullness Weekend
- Launched an intercessory prayer room



2023 Christmas Eve

We don't share these moments and events as a point of pride, rather **we want you to know that we bring life!** Everything we do is an effort to help people experience a personal relationship with Jesus and grow closer to Christ.

I am personally grateful for the dozens of people that started giving this past year. **Tithing is a biblical principle that God wants every believer to embrace because it helps break the grip of materialism and reflects that God is our priority.** If you are one of those who started practicing biblical generosity, we celebrate with you just like we celebrate any other growth in your faith. What a great decision! I know you will be blessed for taking that step of faith.

As we head into a new year, we are trusting God to continue to give us wisdom as we seek to bring life by sharing Christ with our local communities and global initiatives.

P.S. You ask **when will we start building the new campus?** In a nutshell, **we do not plan on building this year** as the funds have not come in and the prices have increased along with interest rates. **Once we raise the 1.9 million, then we will announce a date to start.** If you have not pledged, you can still do so. If you still need to fulfill your pledge, we trust you will be faithful to do so.

When we all work together, God multiplies our giving, and we accomplish far more than we can alone. **Any gift of any amount will be used to bring life.**

Happy January!

Pastor John

DECEMBER FINANCIAL UPDATE

Tithe			Welcome Home Campaign	
December 12/1 - 12/31	YTD* 7/1 - 12/31/23	Annual Budget	Phase 3 Pledge/Donation**	Phase 3 Goal
\$166,677	\$693,537	\$1,259,222	\$370,349	\$1,900,000

*Our Fiscal Year is from July 1, 2023–June 30, 2024

**Phase 3 pledges end June 30, 2024