



MINISTRY IMPACT REPORT & STORIES

www.goodnewschurchga.com

April 2024 – July 2024

7-31-24

Good News Friends and Family,

As we turn the corner from summer and head into fall, we thought we'd give an update as to a few highlights and all that God is doing in and through Good News Church GA. It's all pretty unbelievable!

Summer Sunday Worship at Elixir Brew Co. (Buford, GA)

For starters, God led us to such a fantastic summer meeting space. We love our partnership with Monkey Wrench Brewing, but without air conditioning in the warehouse, we usually meet elsewhere during the summer. A few weeks ago, my friend, Craig Snyder, and I decided to go visit Elixir Brew Co. (a brand-new brewery in downtown Buford, GA). Check them out at www.elixirbrewco.com. We got to talking to the owners and quickly discovered that we share similar vision and values of connecting with people in community spaces, such that people can encounter the Good News of Jesus.



As we were leaving (and as I took one last glance at the overall layout), it dawned on me that their space would be perfect for us on Sunday mornings! I threw out the idea to the owners, and they lit up with excitement, *"Yes! Absolutely! We'd love to have you guys worship here on Sunday mornings. Consider it done!"* Additionally, God provided an amazing event space (www.theprimrosesocial.com) two doors down that we're able to rent and use for our children's ministry.

As a bonus, God also connected us with Jambos (www.jambosdonates.org), a Christ-centered, non-profit ministry that provides pajamas to children in foster care. Jambos has a huge warehouse right behind Elixir Brew Co., and the owner / founder told us that we are welcome to use their space



whenever we'd like. We're excited about the new possibility of serving with them, too. We're just blown away at how God has brought all of these new relationships and opportunities together and given us such favor in the downtown Buford community.

"Hillside" Property Update

In our March 18 update, we mentioned that we had made an offer on 24 acres of property, affectionately known as "Hillside," a stunningly beautiful, family-owned piece of property, in the sweet spot of Sugar Hill. Since our last report, our offer was

accepted, we signed a letter of intent contract, and we're moving towards hopeful rezoning and annexation into the City of Sugar Hill, followed by a closing date towards the end of this year. The engineers have started surveying and the architects have started drawing, so this train is leaving the station!

Our vision for "Hillside" is to build a for-profit event venue (i.e. weddings, banquets, large gatherings, etc.), a traditional chapel, a coffee / brewery-taproom gathering space, and an outdoor amphitheater. We're also hoping to include a few pickleball courts and a greenspace for outdoor games (i.e., cornhole, bocce, etc.). The event space would generate revenue for ministry, and the brewery-taproom would be a central gathering space for building relationships in the community. Good News Church GA would primarily meet in the brewery-taproom space, but could also meet in the event space, chapel, and/or outdoor amphitheater.



People have asked how in the world we're going to pay for all of this. We're asking the same question! :) Amazingly, God has provided abundantly every step along the way, and in this walk of faith, we believe He'll continue to be faithful. In addition to charitable contributions, this is also a fantastic business investment opportunity, with very favorable returns on investment projected. If you'd like more information about charitable giving and/or becoming an investing partner, let us know and we'll connect you with the right people.

Summer Student Gatherings – Wednesdays, June 26 and July 24

Teen schedules can be crazy with school, sports, and all the extras. We have a growing number of families with middle and high school students but have struggled to get them all together. Schedules during the school year are nearly impossible, so we were so excited when we found two dates this summer that worked for most of the students. The purpose of both gatherings was connection, fun,



hearing real life faith stories, and a simple discussion of faith and why it matters. Both nights were great!

We met at Hillside and had a fun scavenger hunt, launched water balloon, played frisbee golf, and had lots of food (including an ice cream bar with all the toppings).

The students also packed 100 care bags for the homeless! Drue's friend, Troy, shared his story of what it was like to grow up Jewish in the Mississippi Delta and how he came to know Christ in his journey. Our friend, Bonnie, shared her story of how God used a college friend to invest in her life and help bring her into a life-changing experience with the healing and hope of Jesus. The spillover effect from the two gatherings has been so encouraging. The students really connected,

and they're now beginning to congregate together before and after church on Sunday mornings to talk and play games. As school begins in a few weeks, we are looking to continue the student gatherings on a regular basis. If you're interested in the content from these gatherings (including the audio from Troy's faith story), you can access all of it on our church website under Resources - www.goodnewschurchga.com/podcasts/media.

Camp Hillside – Saturday, July 13

Connection is a high value for Good News Church GA - and that value has trickled down to our elementary age kids! As summer was approaching, the kids began asking for some fun time together outside of Sunday morning. We were excited to pull together a one-day “Camp Hillside” on Saturday, July 13. We had a nature walk, scavenger hunt, made pinecone bird feeders, painted bird houses, made Vision Boards, and saw a couple of huge snakes (probably the highlight)!



Our lesson and focus for the day was on Legacy. We talked about people in the Bible, what they are known for now that they are gone, and how what we do today will impact our legacy. That topic has continued in our Sunday morning discussions in Proverbs and the importance of seeking “Gold from God” so that we can leave a lasting legacy. The highlight for the kids was probably the inflatable water slide at the end of the day. We were thrilled to have 15 elementary students attend, 5 of our teens serve as group leaders, and a great team of 7 adults making it all happen behind the scenes.

Good News at Noon Homeless Ministry – 3rd Saturday Monthly Serving

Good News at Noon (www.goodnewsatnoon.org) is a ministry that offers a multifaceted approach to the complex problem of homelessness in North Georgia. One of the ways they serve the homeless community is by providing meals. We partner with Phoenix Community of Atlanta (Coffee Roasters) on the 3rd Saturday of each month to serve lunch. Nothing new. Nothing flashy or extraordinary. We know there are addicts in the room, along with those that have made bad decisions, and some

struggling with mental illness, including some who would scam or steal and others who are likely, illegal. But there is beauty in the unfinished room with no A/C and weird lighting. It's a great family-friendly serving opportunity, and every month we leave feeling blessed and are always glad we went.

Saturday, August 17
NEW TIME! 11am – 1pm

community. As Alan shared his faith story with us, he related how he thought he knew and had done everything he needed to do to be walking with Christ, but he said that he realized one thing was still missing. He hadn't submitted / surrendered. Alan shared that once he fully submitted his life to

Christ, everything changed. Alan has become an invaluable ministry partner. He loves Jesus and is active in his local church, but he's also homeless and lives in the tent community with others who are homeless. Alan is an "on the ground" missionary / pastor. We asked how we could support him, and he told us that the greatest needs are: 1) flashlights 2) fly strips, and 3) large trash bags. So, we placed an order on Amazon, and delivered the goods to Alan, along with some Prayer Resource Guides and copies of "Our Daily Bread" devotional (www.odb.org). Serving with Good News at Noon is only a few hours each month, but God is using the time to grow our hearts for Him and those He loves!

Worship at Lanier High School – Sunday, August 11

We're looking forward to moving our Sunday worship service to Lanier High School on Sunday, August 11. We have a great relationship with Principal, Dr. Chris Martin, who has agreed to come join us, share his faith story and how we can serve and pray for the school. As a part of our worship service, we're going to include a prayer walk, splitting into groups, prayer walking all over the campus, and praying God's blessings over the students, families, teachers, staff, and administration.

Alpha Film Series – Tuesdays this Fall at Elixir Brew Co.

We're also super excited to be partnering with Riverstone Vineyard Church (Buford, GA) and Elixir Brew Co. to be showing the amazing Alpha Film Series as an opportunity for anyone with questions about faith. We kick off on September 10 and are hoping for 75 people to attend. If you're not familiar with Alpha, it's the best video resource we've come across as relates to exploring questions of faith. Check it out at www.alphausa.org. You can also access the videos on YouTube by searching, "Alpha Film Series." You can run Alpha in your home, at your church, or at your local brewery! :)

God Story – What's the Good News?

We'll wrap up with this fun God story. Sean Conroy, from Good News Church GA, spotted this guy at the Braves' game wearing a "Good News" t-shirt, so Sean sent me (Drue) this photo. I asked Sean, "Did you ask him what's the Good News?" Sean said, "No, but I told him!" I love it! If someone asked you, "What's the Good News?" and you're not sure what you'd say, we have some simple explanation answers that may help at www.goodnewschurchga.com/news/what-is-the-good-news.



There's a lot more going on and coming up that you can check out on our website (www.goodnewschurchga.com) or by subscribing to our weekly email newsletter. THANK YOU for your generosity, support, and prayers!

Grateful for you!

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