

REP

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Dear Hill Country Family,

What an incredible year it's been! We've seen God move boldly in and through Hill Country Bible Church, reaching people and transforming hearts as we continue to live out our mission to saturate greater Austin-and beyond-with the love of Jesus. I, along with many of you, have been stretched, encouraged, and blessed in the process, growing in faith and commitment to live a purposeful life.

I want to take a moment to say thank you. Thank you for being an integral part of what God is doing. Whether through your time, talents, or treasures, your faithful support has been instrumental in the impact we've made together. It's through your generosity and dedication that we've been able to step into new opportunities and continue serving those right in our community, as well as around the world with love and grace.

As I reflect on my first year as your Lead Pastor, I'm humbled and honored. It's been a joy to walk alongside you as we've journeyed together in faith, seeking to glorify God in all we do.

One of the biggest highlights of the year for me is to have a front-row seat to see lives changed, whether through joining a Small Group, serving and leading in one of our ministries, or participating in a Bible Study. We also celebrated 419 individuals, who marked their decision to follow Jesus through baptism. I hope you're inspired by the information and stories in this annual report because they're a peek into all the ways that God moved this year.

Looking ahead, I'm excited and expectant for what God has in store. But for now, let's pause and give thanks—for His provision, for His leading, and for each other. It's truly a blessing to be a part of such a loving, generous, and mission-focused church family. Let's continue to be bold in our faith, trusting God will lead us into even greater things in the coming year.

With heartfelt gratitude to God and to each of you,



Pastor Tim Kuhl

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At Hill Country, you don't need to dress up or pretend to have it all together-our environment is casual, inviting, and authentic. We're real, ordinary people with real-and often messy-lives. But we believe in and follow a God who's extraordinary in His love and grace for us.

So, whether you've been in church your whole life, you're just exploring faith, or you're somewhere in between, we'll meet you where you are and help you take your next step to get connected, grow spiritually, and live purposefully.

Our Sunday morning services feature powerful worship, relevant teaching, and engaging children's programs aligned with our hope that you encounter God's love in a life-impacting way. Throughout the week, we have Small Groups, events, and classes for people of all ages and in all life stages.

We believe we're better together, living a life of purpose and saturating greater Austin with the love of Jesus. We're excited for you to join us in knowing, loving, and following Jesus in every aspect of your life.

Simply, but profoundly—we're a community marked by God's grace and committed to sharing the good news of the gospel with those around us. We'd love for you to be on this amazing journey with us.



average Sunday

in-person

attendance





15.000 Christmas attendance attendance



41st & 42nd churches launched through Association of Hill Country Churches



baptisms



249 Discover Hill Country attendees



# AN EASTER CELEBRATION TO REMEMBER

Easter at Hill Country is an all-out celebration of Jesus' resurrection, with uplifting music and an inspiring message. This year, we added baptisms to the celebration, making the day even more special. Baptism is an outward public expression of the personal decision to make Jesus the Lord of your life. And this Easter, **246 people** made this important declaration! Aidan Cruz

Aidan Cruz is a dedicated college sophomore who throws himself wholeheartedly into everything he cares about including academics, sports, and his walk with Jesus.

This Easter, he found himself wrestling deeply with a call from God, seeking clarity and direction as he approached the weekend. The journey began with a reflective Good Friday service, perfectly matching Aidan's introspective state of mind. For over a year and a half, he had been diligently working toward a significant goal. But just days before showcasing his hard work, he felt God urging him to let it go.

"In the days leading up to Easter, I spent time praying, reading Scripture, and fasting, trying to discern what God was asking of me," Aidan shared. "Even though I knew the answer, I struggled with obedience and continued pursuing my own path, which left me feeling broken."

# AN ACT OF OBEDIENCE

During the Good Friday service, Aidan was reminded of God's unshakeable love—a love that isn't dependent on any decisions he makes. This reassurance stirred something in him as he continued to wrestle with the choice ahead.

Then came Easter Sunday, and with it, a renewed call to obedience. Aidan felt prompted to publicly proclaim his faith through baptism, a step he had not yet taken in his five years of following Christ. Embracing this act of faith became the most significant step of obedience he had ever made, filling him with peace and assurance.

"This act of faith and obedience led to one of the most pivotal and special moments in my spiritual journey—an Easter baptism," Aidan reflected.

The impact of Aidan's decision rippled through his family, inspiring his younger brother, Liam, to also take the step of baptism.

"I'm grateful to have experienced such a powerful Easter weekend at Hill Country," Aidan said. "It deepened my understanding of just how profoundly God loves me and each of us."

# CHARLES CONTRACTOR OF CONTACTOR OF CONTRACTOR OF CONTRACTO



**2,321** children attended a Sunday morning class



**489** volunteers



287 children were baptized



**40** children were a part of Parent Child Dedication

Children's Ministry provides an opportunity every Sunday morning where children, birth - 5th grade, are excited to interact with other children and skilled leaders in a loving, engaging environment. We offer fun, Christ-centered activities that will help them grow in their faith, to know—and ultimately—to follow Jesus. At the same time, we strive to equip and walk alongside parents as the primary disciples of their children.



#### Karen Cruickshanks & Meredith Taylor

Karen Cruickshanks, a single mom to fiveyear-old triplets, truly understands the saying, "It takes a village" to navigate life. Her village includes volunteers from Hill Country Children's Ministry, with Meredith Taylor being one of those volunteers.

Meredith has been a part of the Hill Country church family since 2017 and has served in Children's Ministry for close to two years. Karen has attended Hill Country since she was young, but their paths didn't cross until last fall in Children's Ministry when Karen shared that just that week her son, Charlie, had experienced a life-threatening reaction to his epilepsy treatment.

As a single parent, Karen was overwhelmed and stressed, having to balance caring for one critically ill child in the hospital and her other two children, Lucy and James. During this difficult situation, several of the children's Sunday school teachers did something extraordinary—they showed up.

They arrived at the hospital with Charlie's favorite pasta, a special request after being on a liquid diet for days. Their kindness didn't stop there; they also went to Karen's house to help keep things



## THE HANDS & FEEDOF JESUS

running—from childcare to household chores—truly embodying the hands and feet of Jesus.

This summer, Karen and her children continued to feel grateful for Hill Country and the Children's Ministry. A few weeks ago, Lucy came home from Sunday school with a beaming smile, telling her mom how much she loves Jesus and wants to go to heaven. The next week, she was excited to participate in the Great Adventure's BackYard Bible Club, where Meredith's daughter was one of her teachers.

Being a part of the Children's Ministry has made a world of difference for Karen's family. "Due to Charlie's complex medical needs, I'd been attending church sporadically for a while," Karen said. "But my experience last fall gave me the reassurance I needed—Children's Ministry is fully equipped to support Charlie."

While her children learn about Jesus in a safe, engaging environment, Karen can attend a Single Parenting class where she's found an authentic, supportive community. Karen's journey with the Children's Ministry is a beautiful reminder that we're not meant to go through life alone.

Meredith is honored to walk alongside Karen and her family, in part because of Karen's willingness to graciously receive the help. "Seeing Karen humble herself has been both a blessing and lesson to me," Meredith shared. "I've enjoyed walking alongside someone so willing to receive the help of others—it's been a good lesson in being a gracious receiver."

# Preparing a Student's Future Through Faith, Family, & Friends



#### Schuyler Hummel

New York City-it's alive with energy, buzzing with people from every corner of the globe. With so much to do, see, and taste, it's no wonder nearly 60 million tourists flock here every year. But this summer, Schuyler Hummel visited not just to take in the sights, catch a game, or go to a show. He was a part of a Hill Country GO mission trip, focused on something bigger—sharing the love of Jesus by learning about the different cultures and religions represented in Queens, and then spending time engaging in conversations with people in the borough.

On the trip's final day, Schuyler and his team found themselves in Astoria Park in Queens. They were in the park to connect-starting conversations, sharing the gospel, and offering prayer.



**Parent Prayer Teams** 

launched and continued

across all locations

62 teens were baptized



13 interns led our students this summer



500+ parents and students attended Fall Kick-Off

50+

teens are now in

ongoing discipleship

with leaders and

other students



71 small group leaders launched in homes and at our locations

30+

teens are leading small

groups in schools and

homes outside of

GO activities

RISE

and more, launched in September 2023



teens have placed their faith in Jesus



56 teens went on Hill Country mission trips



# STUDENT ON MISSION

One moment stood out for Schuylera conversation with two friends from Thailand, both long-time Queens residents who'd never truly heard about Jesus.

"We shared Bible stories and even prayed with them," Schuyler recalls. "I was stunned to meet people living in America who hadn't heard the Good News of Jesus." This was just one of many powerful encounters that day, all sparked by students and adult leaders who chose to spend a part of their summer spreading the hope and love of Jesus.

"The trip was a huge growth experience for me," Schuyler said. "Stepping out of my comfort zone, I got to see God move in incredible ways right in front of me."

Hill Country Student Ministry's goal is to prepare a student's future through faith, family, and friends. We also believe that a student's primary spiritual journey happens in the home, so we want to partner with our parents to help their students connect, grow, and spread the love of Jesus.

# SPECIAL NEEDS MINISTRY A Special Place for All God's People







Anva recalled.

Anva added.



Terri Bemea



families have been served on Sunday mornings; regular attenders on Sunday have more than tripled

students were baptized

Special Needs Ministry is a place where all God's people, regardless of ability, experience the love of Jesus. That's because we believe every man, woman, and child should have the chance to encounter the life-changing reality of Jesus. We'll partner with you and your family to provide love and support and connect you with a community where the love of Jesus is shared in an authentic, impactful way.

#### **HE'S NOT DONE WITH ME YET**

Terri Bemea absolutely loves being a mom to a 22-year-old daughter and an 18-year-old son. As her kids grew up and started to need her less, she found herself struggling with that empty feeling—wondering where she fit in and how she could still make a difference. Determined to keep giving her love and energy, Terri began searching for a new purpose. That's when she felt a pull toward the Special Needs Ministry.

"I thought I'd be the one making an impact," Terri shared, "but

honestly, I'm the one who's been blessed and encouraged by these amazing kids."

Whether she's grabbing coffee with the teens and having conversations about God and faith, sitting in Children's service and learning about God through their perspective, or celebrating in decisions to follow Christ, Terri has a newfound purpose and drive.

One of Terri's favorite moments each Sunday is watching the kids worship. "Their love for the Lord is so pure and genuine it's brought me to tears," she said. "It's deepened my own relationship with Him in ways I never expected."

Terri credits the Special Needs Ministry with helping her climb out of a tough place. "I'm still a work-in-progress, but serving has grown my faith, shifted my outlook, and reminded me that God has a plan for me," she reflected. "He's definitely not done with me yet."

### A PLACE TO **BELONG** & THRIVE

The Special Needs Ministry has been a game-changer for Brad and Anya Hopp and their daughter, Vika.

"Vika absolutely loves coming to church because of this incredible ministry," Brad shared. "She'd live at the church if she could! She's embraced by the amazing staff and volunteers, and she's found a circle of sweet friends who make her feel at home."

Grateful for the impact on their own lives. Brad and Anya are passionate about sharing this community with others. They jump at every opportunity to invite families with special needs to Hill Country, knowing firsthand the difference it can make.

Anya did just that when she met Kevin James at an adaptive cooking class attended by Vika and Kevin's son, Isaac. Through their conversations, Anya discovered that Kevin's family had been unable to attend church for a long time because their previous church lacked accommodations for Isaac.

"It was clear that they were hurting and deeply longing to be a part of a community with other Christ-followers,"

After inviting them to Hill Country, the James family has now been attending regularly for the past year. "Like us, they've found a spiritual family that truly understands what it means to walk with Jesus and to make Him known through the unique gifts of our special children,"

The special needs community at Hill Country is profoundly supportive, offering resources, prayers, and a sense of camaraderie to families on this challenging journey. God's heart for the forgotten and marginalized shines brightly here.

"This ministry has been the hands, feet, and voice of Jesus to so many families, including our own," Brad said.

# GREAT CALLER CONTURE

"I now know that my worth is not in what others say about me, but in who Jesus has already said I am. He loves me, chooses me daily, saves me, and guides me. What else do I need?"

- 6th grade student



322 students attended Boot Camp



973 children at BackYard **Bible Clubs** 



413 students attended Xtreme Adventure



150 kids, siblings, and parents attended Special Needs Family Camp



Linsday Szejko

Great Adventure is a dynamic program that engages people of all ages—from young children at BackYard Bible Clubs, to students at Xtreme Adventure, to adults serving at Boot Camp. The Szejko family experienced the profound impact of Great Adventure firsthand.

"This summer's Great Adventure was a transformative experience for our entire family," shared Lindsay Szejko, who served as a Boot Camp chaperone. During Boot Camp, students spend a week learning how to lead and teach younger kids at BackYard Bible Clubs.

"I was deeply moved watching students genuinely connect with one another and grow in their faith," Lindsay explained. "It



109 leaders and participants went on a **GO** Mission Trip



3,297 people attended SummerFest



643 adults served



7.455 people heard the Gospel



"BackYard Bible Club means having fun and learning about Jesus because that's what you do there. I can't wait to be a teen leading a club one day because then I'll be able to help kids accept Jesus into their hearts like I did when I said an "ABC" prayer at BackYard Bible Club."

- BackYard Bible Club attendee

was a blessing to witness their enthusiasm for Jesus and to grow alongside them in my own faith journey."

Great Adventure's model emphasizes mentorship, where older students pour into the younger generation—a concept Lindsay values deeply. "My kids benefit from adult role models, but there's something uniquely impactful about learning from their peers," she said.

Lindsay's 14-year-old daughter, Sydney, attended Boot Camp with a friend from school, and the experience was lifechanging for her. Sydney is now fully committed to her faith—eagerly attending church, actively serving, and beginning to take ownership of her relationship with God.

Meanwhile, Cameron, Lindsay's 12-yearold son, invited four of his school friends to join him at Xtreme Adventure, where they all had a great time learning about Jesus. Cameron is already excited about participating in Boot Camp next year.

The Szejko family is just one of many examples of how getting involved in Great Adventure can transform lives and inspire a deeper connection with Jesus.

"I can't thank Hill Country and the Student Ministry team enough for creating an atmosphere for God to move the way He did in my kids' lives. They are so excited for Jesus and can't wait to invite their friends to know Him, too!"

- High-school/Middle-school parent

Every summer, we hold Great Adventure—a series of events and activities for everyone of all ages to grow spiritually as we, as a church family, share the Good News of Jesus in our community and around the world. Through worship, games, activities, and lessons from the Bible, thousands of children, students, and adults experienced the love of Jesus.

# A Place for Every Stage of Life

### ATHEIST TURNED HILL COUNTRY MEMBER



#### **Nicole Williams**

Nicole grew up in a Christian household but became disillusioned with Christians and the faith at a young age. For two decades, she identified as an atheist, completely turning away from her beliefs.

Last December, Nicole's journey took an unexpected turn when an online personality challenged her to explore a "divine spark." Intrigued but unsure of what that meant, Nicole began exploring various faiths, but none resonated with her. "I didn't immediately decide to return to Christianity," Nicole recalled. "I explored other religions, but they either didn't make sense or felt too complicated."

One day, while out for a walk, Nicole realized that Hill Country Bible Church's Lakeline location was nearby. On a whim, she decided to attend a service, purely out of curiosity and without any expectations.

"To my surprise, I was greeted with such warmth," Nicole shared. "A Welcome Center host introduced me to some Young Adult Ministry leaders who took the time to engage with me and



men in Men's Bible Study



**560** women in Women's Bible Study

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**332** senior adults engaged in the church

From early to senior adulthood, we have a place for you at Hill Country. Whether you're single or married, man or woman, just starting a career or retired, there's opportunity for you to connect with others in your life stage. You'll be encouraged and challenged to live purposefully and thrive spiritually. answer my questions about faith. Their kindness and patience encouraged me to return the following Sunday, where I found myself asking even more questions."

Within weeks, Nicole connected with Paul and Kathy Barger, who helped her dive deeper into Christianity, addressing her doubts and guiding her spiritual journey. A few months later, Nicole made the life-changing decision to place her complete faith and trust in Jesus, celebrating her commitment through baptism.

Hill Country Bible Church soon became Nicole's church home. She completed the Discover Hill Country class, where she learned more about the church, found ways to connect, and discovered how she could use her gifts to serve others.

This journey led Nicole to the Special Needs Ministry, where her interactions with children have been profoundly impactful. Serving in this ministry not only gave her a renewed sense of purpose but also inspired a new direction for her life and career—she now wants to work with children.

"It's incredible that something I once thought wasn't for me turned out to be the best decision I've ever made," Nicole reflected.

# MARRIAGE & PARENTING MINISTRIES

**Christ-Centered Marriage & Parenting** 



Our Marriage Ministry helps begin, build, and restore strong Christ-centered marriages. Our marriages are a picture of Jesus' love for the church, and we want the marriages of Hill Country to reflect that love to greater Austin and beyond. Through simple date night ideas, to classes, to mentorships, we want you to feel equipped to grow and move toward greater oneness in your marriage.

If you're a parent or caregiver of a child, our Parenting Ministry will help you understand your responsibility as the primary disciple-maker of your child and to feel equipped to actively disciple them. We provide tools and resources, from classes, to groups, to simple idea cards to help you take one step at a time in leading your child. We're committed to helping you learn and grow both in your walk with Jesus and your role as disciplemaker because as you grow in your faith, you're better able to model and teach it to your children.



launched eight Courageous Parenting Groups with 84 people



500+ people attended our Father Son and Father Daughter Campouts



225 signed up to receive Milestone notifications on birthdays

#### Raising Children **Counter-Culturally**

Courageous Parenting, a program that equips a likeminded community of parents who are committed to raising kids who are disciples of Christ rather than products of the culture, has been transformative for my family. My wife and I are on the same page about raising our kids God's way, which can be difficult in today's world. This community has been helpful and supportive, underscoring the fact that we're facing similar challenges, but it's possible to stay the course. We're so grateful!

- Matt Jones







God created us for community. We all need authentic relationships built on Christ. At Hill Country, Small Groups come in different sizes and shapes, with most consisting of around 12 adults, who meet—usually weekly and usually in someone's home. Together, they connect relationally, open the Bible, figure out how to apply its teachings to our lives, and pray for each other and the people they want to impact with the love of Jesus. There are groups for different ages and stages in life, meeting on different days and times of the week year-round.

### FROM SMALL GROUP TO SEMINARY



Logan Bunn

Small Groups are a great way to find real community, grow spiritually, and live with purpose. Just ask Logan Bunn and Nick Smith—for them, being a part of a Small Group didn't just change their perspective; it completely transformed the direction of their lives.

Logan has been attending Hill Country since 2019. "Though I grew up in a Christian home, it wasn't until college that I took ownership of my faith, actively growing in my relationship with Jesus," Logan said.

Nick's story is similar, but with a twist. "I was raised in a Christian home like Logan, but I drifted away from my faith during college," Nick said. "It took a series of tough life challenges nearly four years ago for me to surrender my life to God and experience a renewed faith."

Logan and Nick crossed paths in a Hill Country Young Adult Small Group, which they eventually co-led. With guidance from mentors like Roger Ingram and Kurt Ritz, they not only grew spiritually but also sharpened their leadership skills. Eventually, they started leading their own small groups, pouring into others just like Roger and Kurt poured into them.

Knowing how essential it is to have a strong



**Nick Smith** 

circle of fellow believers, Logan and Nick joined an accountability group where they navigate the highs and lows of leadership and life together. This community helps them stay encouraged, focused, and aligned with God's calling.

Even though they're each on unique spiritual journeys, their paths have aligned in an exciting way—both are currently enrolled at Dallas Theological Seminary and share a vision for planting a church together in Georgetown, Texas.

"Small Groups have had a tremendous impact on both of our lives," Nick shared. "So, we're committed to starting new groups in Georgetown, especially for people who are new to faith or simply exploring it."

"That's right," Logan continued. "We plan to multiply these groups over time, creating a thriving community of groups that support each other and help spread the love of Jesus."

Looking ahead, Logan and Nick are deeply grateful for how Small Groups played a crucial role in deepening their faith, clarifying their calling, and refining their gifts. As they move forward, they're eager to help others experience the same kind of life-change.

# COMMUNITY MPAC

Sharing the Love of Jesus

92 Hill Country attendees lead or direct an affiliated ministry in our community, focused in the areas of poverty, education, civic engagement, and work



#### Backpack Attack 3,044 backpacks filled with school supplies given to LISD students in need, with 100+ people involved in planning, unpacking, assembling, and distributing backpacks



#### Feed My Starving Children Partnered with another local church for a total of 1,458 volunteers to assemble 318,600 packs of food, feeding 871 22 children globally for the year



\$117,913 given to Agape Women's Clinic, Breath of Life, Reveal Resource Center, Feed My Starving Children, and Hill Country Community Ministries through a special Christmas offering

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**Reveal Resource Center** 

Assisted 500+ families weekly with

food, diapers, and/or clothes, with

116 people serving

**Bags of Grace** 

Hosted 12 assembly

events to assemble bags

of nonperishable food

items for our homeless

populations, with 350

people serving



#### Education Connection 180 literacy partners read each week, with 422 students in over 58 schools in our

community



\$250,000+ given to 35 affiliated ministries



1,079

salvations

through the

ministries we

support

#### Fall Food Drive

500 families in our community given Thanksgiving meals along with donations to five ministries, with the help of 150+ people



#### **Tree of Lights** 250 families and children given Christmas gifts; donated 150 gifts to the Christian Resource Center annual Christmas Store; and 50 gifts to children at Mission Possible

### FAITH & FELLOWSHIP



Nestled among the rolling hills and meticulously kept greens of Great Hills Country Club, the story of faith and fellowship initiated by Scott Maki, the Golf Course Superintendent, adds a unique layer to its reputation. Scott's leadership has cultivated a vibrant workplace faith group that impacts not only its members and staff, but also the wider community.

With over 25 years in the golf industry, Scott does more than just oversee the lush fairways of the club. He has nurtured a space where faith and work intersect gracefully.

"Through my own spiritual journey and commitment to Christian values, I noticed a spiritual void within the workplace and saw an opportunity for fellowship and growth," Scott said. Despite the club's initial reluctance to allow faith-based gatherings on its premises, the group's persistent prayer and advocacy eventually led to permission to meet on site. This early challenge demonstrated the group's steadfastness and reliance on God to work out His purpose.

Since its inception, the faith group at Great Hills has become a place for spiritual growth for

MY CIT

Community Impact equips and sends Hill Country's church body to bless our community and saturate the greater Austin area by sharing the love of Jesus. We believe God is leading us to invest Hill Country's resources—human and financial—in four primary areas of highest impact for Jesus: Education, Poverty, Civic Engagement, and LifeWork.

As individuals grow in their walk with God and discover their gifts, talents, and passions, we'll develop and empower them to help lead our movement of changed lives that impacts greater Austin for Christ.

its members. "The group's mission is to foster a deeper understanding of Scripture, enhance prayer life, and support one another through fellowship," Scott explained. Members meet weekly, engaging in Bible studies and discussions that apply biblical principles to daily life. Guest speakers also provide additional insight and create an opportunity to join with the Women's Bible Study during these occasions.

Despite the ongoing challenges of maintaining consistency with busy schedules, the group has celebrated numerous successes. "Most recently, the group has decided to pray and recommend a portion of initiation fees to be allocated toward local ministries, reflecting our commitment to make a tangible impact in the community," Scott said.

The presence of the faith group has gained attention from fellow members and staff inquiring about the meetings. Some have asked if they can be a part of it and some of the staff notice amidst the busyness that Scott has emphasized "what is important over what is urgent." The group's activities have also provided spiritual support and been a conduit for hope and transformation within the workplace. Scott recalls a particularly moving instance where a conversation about his faith and the group helped a colleague to embrace their own faith, showcasing the profound influence of these gatherings.

As Scott reflects on his tenure, he considers not just the legacy of beautiful golf courses he's maintained but more so the community he's helped build. His efforts at Great Hills Country Club show that faith can thrive in any setting, bringing individuals together in meaningful ways, and leaving a lasting impact on everyone involved.

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## ₹₹

mission trips

219

people participated in mission trips



supported

r



new missionary families



new local partners—More Than Welcome and World Relief

**\$568,431** given to support global effort, including the monthly support to missionary families and one-time support gifts to both our missionaries and global initiatives



Global Outreach primarily seeks to make disciples and plant churches among the unreached. In addition to partnering with many missionaries and organizations around the world, we also send short-term GO trips for people of all ages to various places around the world. Locally, we seek to build relationships and share the gospel with the international community in the greater Austin area through ministry to refugees and asylum seekers, international students, and multi-ethnic churches.

#### LOVING A JESUS WE CANNOT SEE A Hill Country Church Planter in Thailand

Arm (most people in Thailand go by nicknames) had participated in various religious beliefs and cults in the past, seeking peace and happiness, which eluded him.

"After searching on YouTube one day, he came across a video I had made some years ago about Mormonism," the church planter said. "Jesus was at work in Arm, and he reached out to me."

Through conversations, he came to see that what he had previously heard and believed about Jesus was not correct. He started attending the church's Sunday morning services, and he came to embrace Jesus and what His death on the cross means for us.

Eventually, he was the first person to be baptized in the church, which was a beautiful celebration. Arm frequently says: "I've never seen this man [Jesus], but I love Him."

#### CLEAN & LIVING WATER Training Tomorrow's Leaders

In 2023, Hill Country began a vital partnership with Training Tomorrow's Leaders, an organization dedicated to equipping church planters among predominantly Islamic and Animistic communities in Northern Ghana, Togo, and Burkina Faso. Their mission is to transform West Africa into the image of Christ, sharing the gospel through both words and actions.

To support this vision, Hill Country raised \$20,000 last year to dig four water wells in villages where clean water was a scarce and precious resource. These wells have done more than provide fresh water—they have become a gateway for local church planters to serve their communities in a deeper way. By providing clean water, they have the opportunity to share about Jesus the true living water.









### CONGREGATIONAL CARE

Care & Support in Your Trials



We all face trials, but we don't have to go through them alone. If you're needing a hand to navigate life's challenges, we want to come alongside you and help you experience the relief, comfort, and hope offered in Jesus. Whatever prayer, care, or assistance you need, Congregational Care will partner with you.

We also have a team of professional counselors committed to journeying with individuals, couples, and families looking for growth and healing through compassionate, Christ-centered, and low-cost counseling. Through high quality counseling, our hope is that each person's personal transformation positively impacts every component of their life.



275 people/families assisted



**\$514,206** distributed



**1,000+** people attended support group ministries



**4,500** counseling appointments



hosted groups for those who have LGBTQ loved ones

# FAITHFUL & GENEROUS GIVING

#### INCOME

Total Income: \$17,491,000

#### **EXPENSES**

Our church family's faithful and consistent generosity allows us to share the love of Jesus throughout greater Austin and beyond, while continuing to operate debt-free.

We're dedicated to being wise stewards of the resources God has entrusted to us. Our finances are overseen by a board of elders who uphold rigorous standards of fiscal responsibility. Each year, we voluntarily submit our budget for an independent audit to ensure accountability and transparency. Total Expenses: \$14,365,000

Total Giving (90%) | \$15,735,000
Program Revenue (3%) | \$571,000
Building Use Revenue (4%) | \$676,000
Interest & Dividend Income (3%) | \$509,000

#### **Total Giving**

General Fund Giving (88%)\$13,786,000Benevolence Giving (3%)\$501,000Global Outreach Giving (2%)\$316,000Additional Designated Giving (7%)\$1,132,000

Missional Impact (61%) | \$8,689,000
Facilities (18%) | \$2,523,000
Technology (8%) | \$1,199,000
Administration (7%) | \$1,042,000
Communications (6%) | \$912,000

#### **Missional Impact**

Sunday Morning (22%) Children & Students (16%) Community Impact (16%) Global Outreach (14%) Adults (11%) Care & Counseling (9%) Benevolence (7%) Church Planting (5%) \$1,942,000 \$1,395,000 \$1,407,000 \$1,210,000 \$957,000 \$817,000 \$563,000 \$398,000

# WHAT'S YOUR NEXT STEP?

Life isn't linear, but rather a series of twists and turns. So, we want to meet you where you are because we each have a next step in our faith journey. Whether it's a first step or the next of many, we've made it easy for you to discover and take yours.

Maybe you're new here or you've been here for years, but haven't plugged in. One great first step is to fill out a digital Connect Card.



hcbc.com/connect-card

## DISCOVER HILL COUNTRY

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We want to help you connect at Hill Country, grow spiritually, understand your giftings, and live a purposeful life. One of the best ways to do that is to attend Discover Hill Country. Whether you've attended Hill Country for years or your brand new, this experience is designed to help you move forward in your relationship with Jesus, while having fun and connecting with others along the way.



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