

CONNECTION

C H U R C H

annualreport



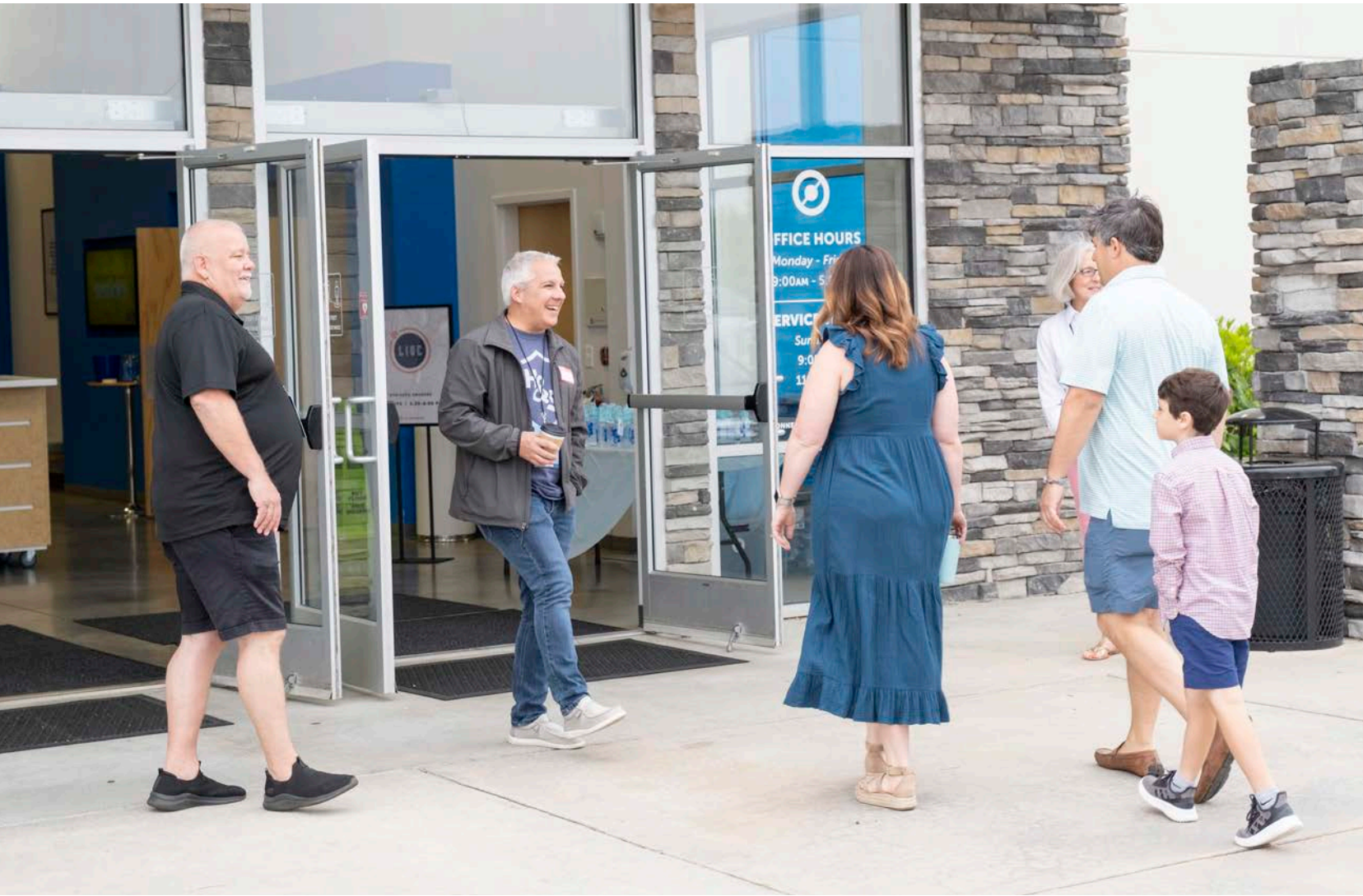
Well, another year is in the books! 2022 was full of miracles and challenges, celebrations and struggles, joy and sorrow, and the excitement of reaping the fruit of months and years of sowing God's Word into the hearts of men, women, teenagers, and children. Most of all, 2022 was full of God's faithfulness and grace as He continually and unrelentingly did for us what we could not do for ourselves. Through it all we've learned even more what it means to be Heart and Soul with other gritty, determined believers who won't stop until the earth is filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. (Habakkuk 2:14)

As a church, we have never had more people who are hungry for God's presence and praying for God to move! We have never had more people equipped to do God's work in the world and willing to say, "Here I am, Lord! Send me!" Right now, we are positioned as a church to be used by God in 2023 and beyond to turn the world right side up. We are positioned to see more souls saved, more people baptized, more believers equipped, more marriages restored, and more families made whole than we've ever seen! That is exciting!

God is moving! And as we continue to listen to God and do what He says we have no doubt that God will continue to do greater things in our church. We will continue to take, occupy and transform areas of our community, state, and world until every person knows! We are Heart and Soul together and together we will see God do amazing things in 2023!

Love you all,

Brandon Williams



FIRST TIME
GUESTS

993

FIRST TIME
GIVERS

380

TOTAL
GIVERS

841

CONNECT >> EQUIP >> SEND



SALVATIONS

29

BAPTISMS

81



TOTAL LOCATIONS
7



HYGIENE ITEMS GIVEN
2,862



TOTAL SALVATIONS
182

BACKPACK BUDDIES ITEMS GIVEN
10,000+



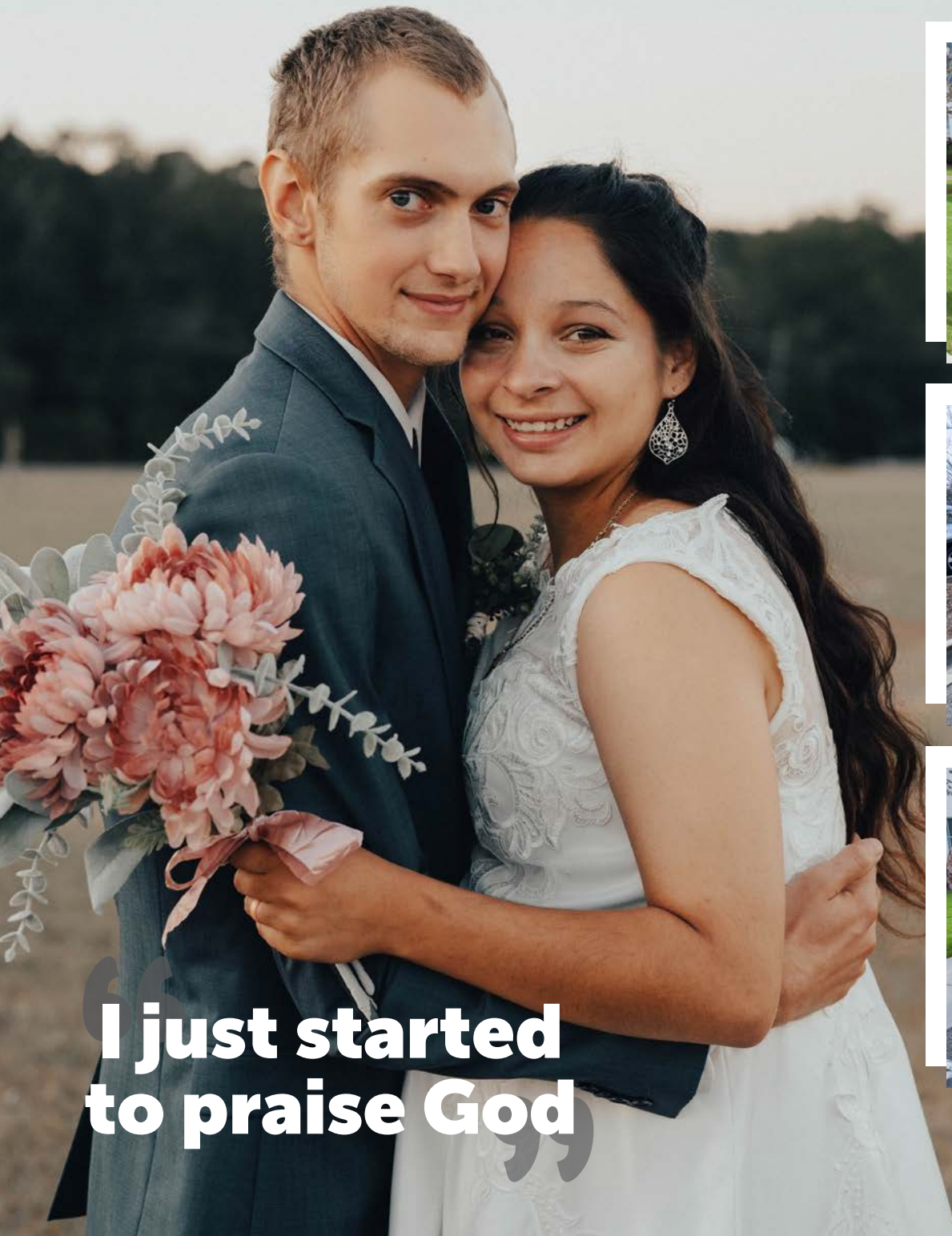
TOTAL BAPTISMS
210

TOTAL IN CONNECT GROUPS
1,001



GIVE CHRISTMAS GIFTS GIVEN
600+





**I just started
to praise God**



When my wife Bri and I began attending Connection, we were really struggling. We were homeless and truly didn't understand what a relationship with Christ was all about. However, we were quickly welcomed in, and became part of the family. We got married on October 8, and between that and changing jobs, money was still really tight and we were about to have our first child, Elijah. We had been without a vehicle for some time and didn't know how we would ever be able to afford one. On November 6, I got a ride to church from Eric Gato. After the service I noticed a lot of people were outside gathered together like something was happening. I was confused but assumed it was something regarding the church. When I came outside, Jon began to speak, and he called me up to him and asked me how I got to church that day. I wasn't sure what to think but I answered. Then he asked me, "How would you like to drive yourself home?" and he handed me the keys to a car! At that moment I was shocked, I didn't really know how to react. My heart was racing, I was nervous, honestly how do you react to someone giving you a car? When I sat down, and was actually inside the car, behind the wheel, I was filled with emotions, I didn't really have the words to speak, it started to bring me to tears, I started to just praise God in my head. It meant so much to me that someone would go out of their way to help us. To take the time out of their lives to get involved in ours. We are so very grateful and honored to experience God's love, kindness and grace through each person at Connection. Since receiving that vehicle my faith in Christ has grown, I've learned to have faith even when things seem like they won't work out, to lean not on my own understanding but to put my full trust in Christ knowing he has a plan. God is good, words can not express how I feel.

Aaron Hicks



EVERY
PERSON
HAS A
PURPOSE

NEW H&S
MEMBERS

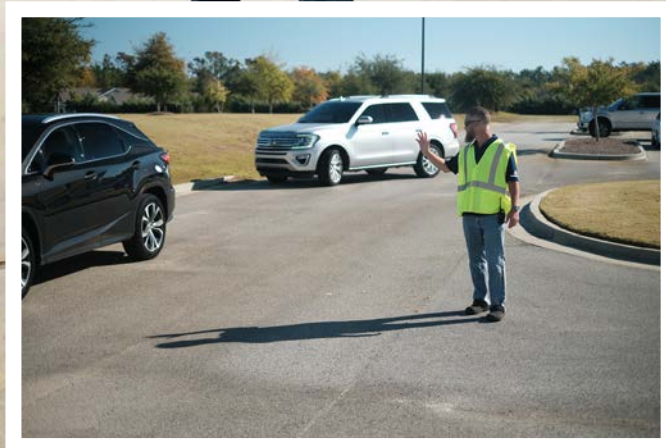
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NEW
CONNECTORS

100

TOTAL
CONNECTORS

354



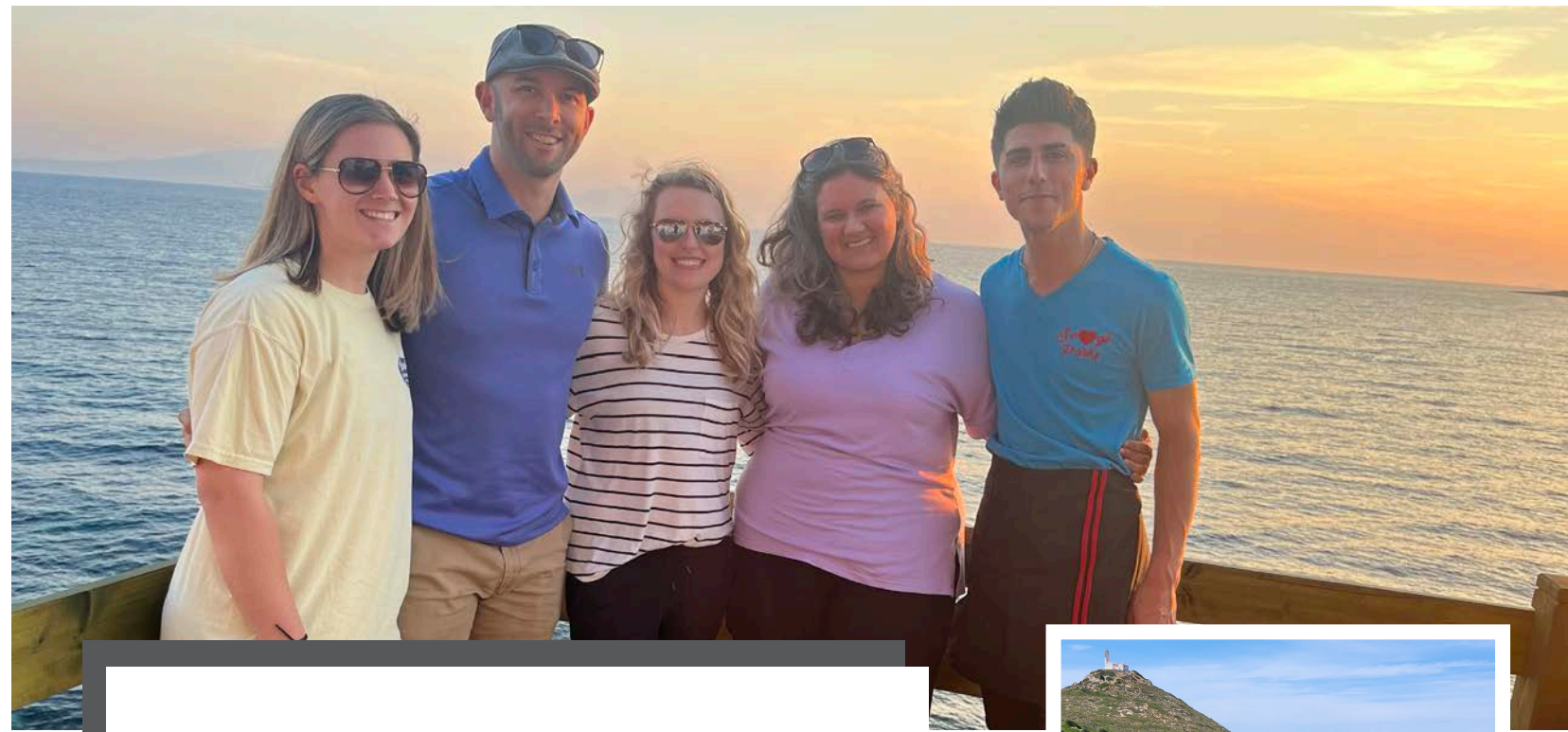
**REAL LIFE
CHANGE
HAPPENS IN
COMMUNITY**

PEOPLE JOINED
CONNECT GROUPS

48

PEOPLE IN
CONNECT GROUPS

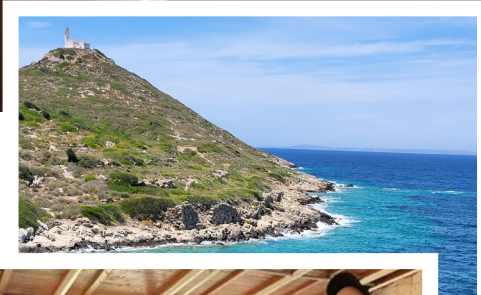
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MISSIONS

"The people of Turkey were surrounded by the early church's history and yet had no awareness of Jesus. I was astounded at how receptive they were to the Gospel as we heard countless times, "This is what I've been looking for! I knew there was something missing, but I didn't know the truth until you just told it to me." I'll never forget how easy it was to share the hope and life that Jesus brings."

Sydney Chapman



MISSIONARIES
SENT SHORT-TERM

8

CONNECTION
MUSIC



COUNTRIES
REACHED

122

PLAYS ON
APPLE MUSIC

26K

PLAYS ON
SPOTIFY

58K

OWN YOUR FAITH

"I love coming to Connection Students because the small group leaders are supportive and it is encouraging to have a community of peers that are involved and are navigating the same situations in life that you are. It challenges me weekly to invest in my faith."

Ryan Kicklighter

TOTAL STUDENTS
ATTENDED
182



HOME AWAY FROM HOME

"I love Connection College because it's a welcoming environment to all students in different walks of life and really does encourage me to think on a deeper level. I've met some of my best friends through College Nights. It helps make the Bible more relatable to things I or my peers might be going through specifically being in college."

Kate Rentz

COLLEGE
BAPTISMS

51





TOTAL KIDS
ATTENDED

994

FIRST TIME
KIDS IN KK

372



VOLUNTEERS
AT VBS

140

KIDS
AT VBS

363



KONNECTION KIDS



For a long time Andrew and I looked and looked for a church to call home. We have had bad experiences in the past and we had such a desire to grow and serve but could never find our place. After almost giving up, a good friend of mine messaged me about Connection Church so we decided to give it a try. The message that day was on the great commission and God's purpose for us. The sermon made it evident that our walks are not just about us, it's about others and how important fulfilling God's work was with God's people. I remember right then, Andrew and I both knew the Lord was speaking to us and Connection is where we needed to be. From then on we immediately got plugged in and started serving. We had never felt so welcomed by a church before. A genuine kindness and love of people being so happy that we were there. We felt so at peace at Connection.

Fast forward to October 26th 2022. It was just like any other day, however Andrew was not feeling like himself. He hadn't felt like himself for a few days actually and I finally said we were going to the ER. On the way to the hospital and even waiting in the hospital room I thought everything would be fine. After several scans and hours of waiting, the doctor finally comes in, sits down, looks at Andrew and says "I am sorry but we found a mass on your brain."

“He had always been with us”

Everything went black for me. I felt like I was in a bad dream. I kept saying no I am going to wake up this isn't real. I was all over the place, I was crying, I was shaking and I looked over and Andrew is fine. I said how are you ok???? Did you hear what he said??? He looked at me and said God immediately in that moment gave him peace that he was going to be okay. Andrews faith stayed constant and strong but I just kept asking God, where are you? If you love me, why are you allowing this? Where are you? And as I sat and prayed night after night, I realized He had always been with us.

He was there when we were anointed with oil and the pastor, staff, and elders prayed over us. He was there every time someone from church calls, texts, or visits us to say they are praying for us. He was there when meal trains were set up for us. He was there every time someone stops what they are doing to care for us, listen to us, and encourage us. He was there when Mr. Gary told me he would cut off all his beautiful hair in support of Andrew having to do chemo.

I could name so many more instances but God is here. We would not be able to go through this journey without Connection Church and its community. We are not just another number. God's love is so evident and it is exemplified by the people here. We could not get through this without God and the love Connection Church has shown us. The people here fight with us and for us every step of the way. This church has changed our lives forever and we are honored to be a part of it.

Sara Cammack

*Andrew is currently recovering from his second brain surgery and has recently started a radiation and chemo treatment.



**UNTIL
EVERY
PERSON
KNOWS**



CONNECTION
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connection.church