

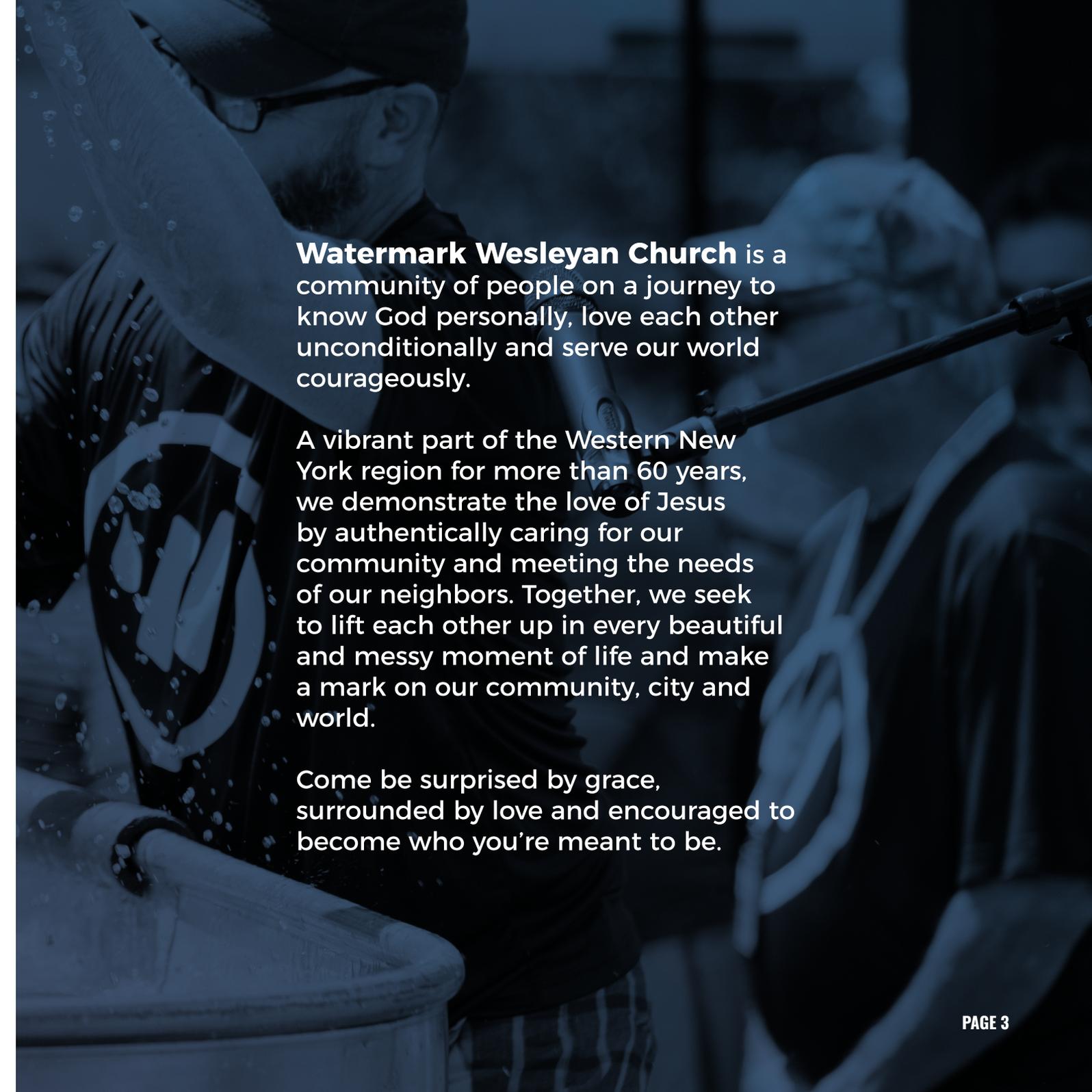
2020
VISION

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FIND WHOLENESS HERE





Watermark Wesleyan Church is a community of people on a journey to know God personally, love each other unconditionally and serve our world courageously.

A vibrant part of the Western New York region for more than 60 years, we demonstrate the love of Jesus by authentically caring for our community and meeting the needs of our neighbors. Together, we seek to lift each other up in every beautiful and messy moment of life and make a mark on our community, city and world.

Come be surprised by grace, surrounded by love and encouraged to become who you're meant to be.

A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR KEN

I'll never forget the day I was told that I needed glasses. It was a sad day. I was only in my early 30s, but it felt like the beginning of the end for me. Life as I knew it was falling apart at the seams. That was, until, I actually wore those glasses that restored my 20/20 vision. I couldn't believe the clarity and the lack of strain on my eyes. It felt like a whole new world had opened up to me. Similarly, what you hold in your hands will sharpen the focus of Watermark Wesleyan.



The journey with God leads toward clarity. Paul's first letter to the Corinthians talks about how God is a mystery to many, but those who seek Him find focus through receiving the mind of Christ. Our focus is wholeness: Watermark Wesleyan is pursuing wholeness in Christ. We believe that when Jesus died on the cross for our sins, he was offering us life in heaven and on earth. A relationship with Christ intersects with all aspects of our lives.

By the end of the year 2020, the initiatives presented in this book will produce passionate disciples. Don't skim these pages. Seriously. Read them with prayer and discernment. The success of this vision is dependent upon your active engagement for the next two years. Remember that each fact and figure represents a story – a person's life that will be transformed through the grace of Jesus Christ. We are not afraid of meeting people in the messes of life since that is where transformation happens, and transformation is the beginning of wholeness.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ken Nash'.

KEN NASH
LEAD PASTOR



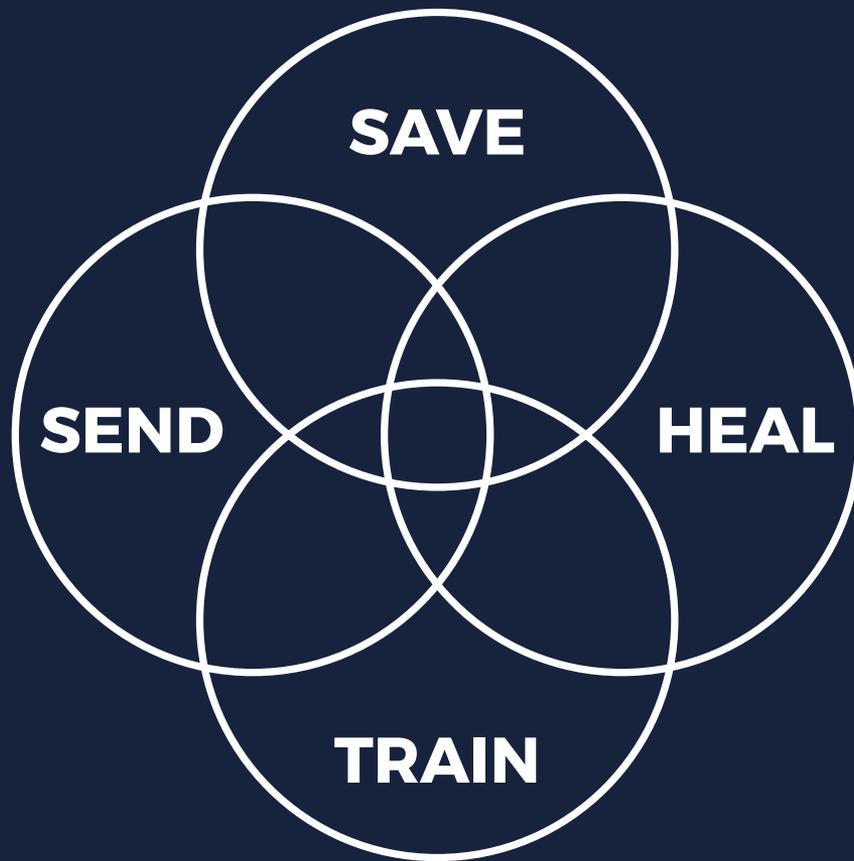
WATERMARK
WESLEYAN CHURCH

**IN THIS BOOKLET, YOU'LL GET MORE INSIGHT INTO WATERMARK'S
FOUR AREAS OF FOCUS: SAVE, HEAL, TRAIN, AND SEND.**

For each of those four, we've created a chapter devoted to the partners, plans, and vision that will help fulfill Watermark's mission in that area.

Each chapter begins with a story from a member of our Watermark family. Following that, you'll see our mission partners that support that area of focus as well as related projects here at home. Finally, we've provided a budget breakdown for each and more information on giving.

As we journey through 2020 and God guides our steps, please be praying about the hearts and opportunities represented in these pages. We are so glad you're a part of our Watermark family and look forward to finding wholeness together.



SAVE THE LOST HEAL THE SAVED TRAIN THE HEALED SEND THE TRAINED

Jesus' ministry was multifaceted. He was perfect in all things. As a church it would be nearly impossible to focus on every facet of His ministry and do it with excellence. That is why we have chosen to focus on four very specific things that we believe, if we do them well, will transform the way we make disciples.

Moving forward, the four areas of Jesus' ministry we'll be focusing on are Saving the Lost, Healing the Saved, Training the Healed, and Sending the Trained.

Jesus was masterful at carrying out each of these four functions, and we believe that disciples become more like Jesus when they too are

- Being saved themselves or helping to save lost people
- Healing from the deep hurts that life can bring
- Being trained on how to have a biblical worldview
- Being sent into the world to be the hands and feet of Jesus

Matthew 4:19 NLT

“COME, BE MY DISCIPLES AND I WILL SHOW YOU HOW TO FISH FOR MEN.”

SAVE

HEAL

TRAIN

SEND

SAVE THE LOST

**“FOR THE SON OF MAN CAME
TO SEEK AND TO SAVE THE LOST.”** *Luke 19:10*

It is a core belief of Watermark Wesleyan Church that making disciples begins long before a person ever makes a commitment to follow Jesus. The making of disciples begins when followers of Jesus begin intentional relationships with people who don't yet know Jesus with the desire to walk with them as they discover what it means to have a relationship with Him. There are thousands of children, students, and adults in the Southtowns who have not yet had the opportunity to make an informed decision about following Jesus. All followers of Christ are on a mission, assigned by Jesus himself, to reach the lost of this world, and we want those who attend Watermark to take their mission to heart and do their part in fulfilling the Great Commission (*Matthew 28:18-20*).





Kara's Story

SAVE | KARA ABRAMO

The intersection of South Creek Road and Route 20 could have only ever represented sadness and an end. It was at this intersection that Kara Abramo's 20-year-old cousin, Brett, was involved in a fatal car accident. After a two-week vigil in the ICU, Brett passed away two days before Kara's wedding. The entire family now faced a wake, a wedding, and then a funeral.

"That could have been an easy way for my heart to be hardened," Kara says, "but I felt this unexplainable grace the entire weekend of my wedding. I felt that somebody had me. I couldn't say who at the time, but somebody was carrying me."

For about a year, Kara and her husband, Al, were searching for a way to make sense of it. They were invited to Alpha at Watermark Wesleyan. The connections and support in their small group were incredible. At the end of Alpha, the group leaders announced a new campus: South Creek.



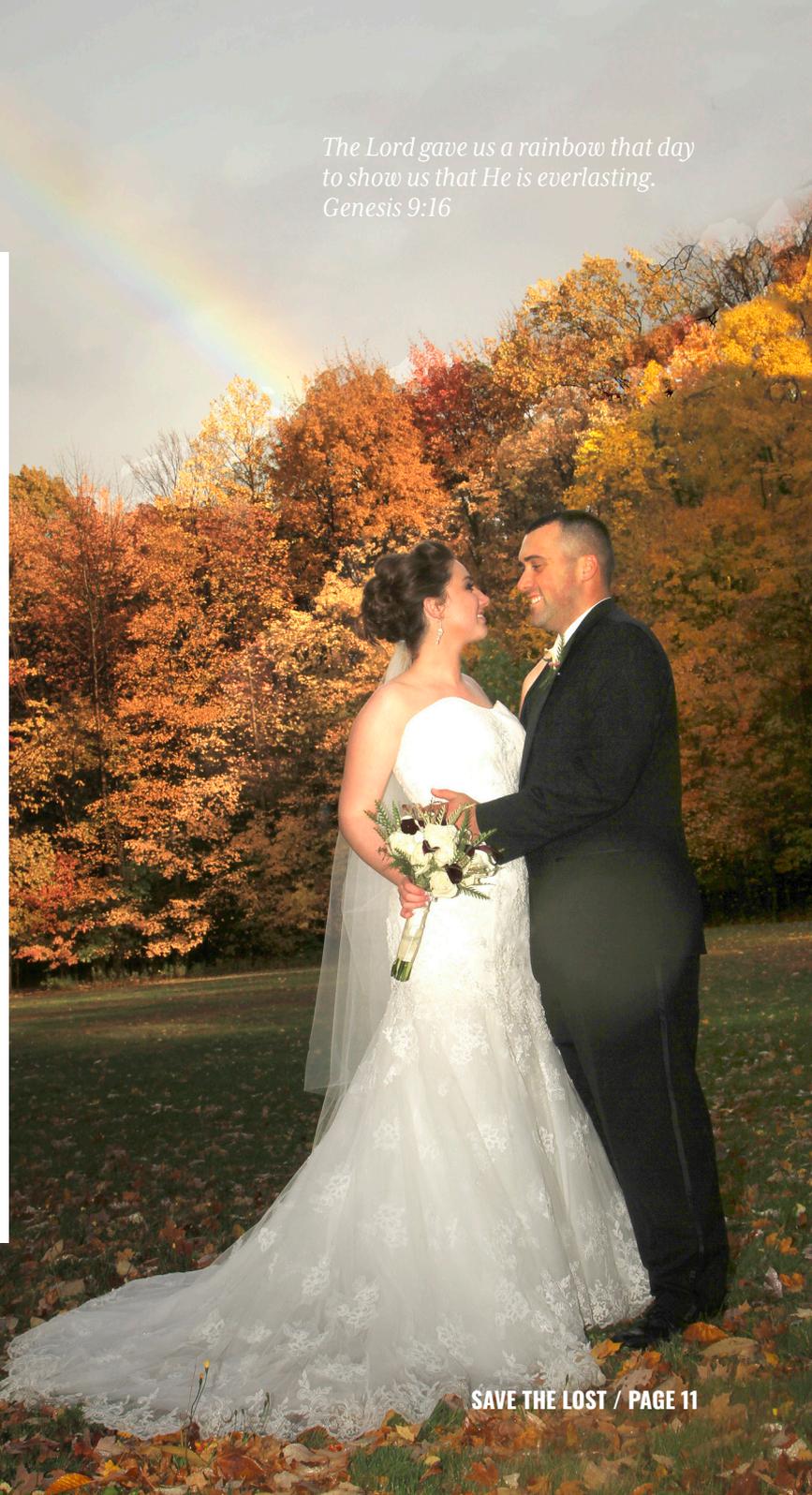
Kara pictured with her cousin Brett

*The Lord gave us a rainbow that day
to show us that He is everlasting.
Genesis 9:16*

The intersection where her life had crumbled suddenly represented a new beginning. She looked at her husband and said, “We have to go.” This building that was now named “South Creek” used to be St. Vincent’s Catholic Church, her home church. As a child, she had sat every week in the same pew with her parents, aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Now here she was, overwhelmed by the presence of the Holy Spirit in a completely new way. South Creek’s first service was Kara’s first Watermark service, and she said out loud, “I’m home.” Through her grief and faith journey, she found a relationship with Jesus Christ. God reached out and offered a way forward.

Now she’s on the worship team at South Creek, singing and looking out over her family members in the congregation who suffered so much and could easily have turned away. Instead, they are there together, pressing on, thanks to the amazing, saving grace offered by Jesus.



BUFFALO PEACE HOUSE

buffalopeacehouse.org

The Buffalo Peace House is a sanctuary of reconciliation and renewal, providing housing and facilitating access to legal counsel for refugees fleeing conflict around the globe.

With our commitment over the next two years, the Buffalo Peace House will be able to fund a part-time executive director to provide guidance and leadership as well as champion fundraising efforts.

Watermark will also continue to send volunteers to build relationships with refugees seeking asylum and welcome them into the community of our congregation. Our ultimate hope is that these refugees will come to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ.

“For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.... Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.” Matthew 25:35-40





YOUTH FOR CHRIST – LEBANON

yfclebanon.org

The desire of Youth for Christ is to see every young person in Lebanon enter into a relationship with Jesus Christ. Key to achieving this goal is building trusting relationships. Our commitment will help Youth for Christ continue relationship-building programs such as summer camps, after-school programs, and discipleship programs.

In a region overcome by fear and hatred between cultures and religions, these programs allow the young adults of Lebanon to build relationships with one another, and in turn, experience the love and hope of Jesus Christ.

“And all of this is a gift from God, who brought us back to himself through Christ. And God has given us this task of reconciling people to him. For God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself, no longer counting people’s sins against them. And he gave us this wonderful message of reconciliation. So we are Christ’s ambassadors; God is making his appeal through us. We speak for Christ when we plead, ‘Come back to God!’” 2 Corinthians 5:18-20



PROMISE VALLEY

promisevalley.org

Promise Valley has found a unique way to spread the Gospel and serve the community of South Buffalo: food education. Watermark will be supporting their BUG (Building Urban Growers) program, in which they plant the seeds of Gospel understanding and healthy living.

We will also help support their staff, facility, and community outreach efforts. Promise Valley has the unique opportunity to reach young people and their families in low-income neighborhoods through the work they are doing.

“These all look to you, to give them their food in due season. When you give it to them, they gather it up; when you open your hand, they are filled with good things. When you hide your face, they are dismayed; when you take away their breath, they die and return to their dust. When you send forth your Spirit, they are created, and you renew the face of the ground.” Psalm 104:27-30



INDIA GOSPEL LEAGUE

iglworld.org

India Gospel League (IGL) has a “God-sized” goal of planting 340 churches in the Tapi district of Gujarat State, India, over the next five years. Only 6.6% of residents in this region are Christians. With our two-year contribution, IGL will be able to

- Support 20 church planters
- Hold monthly and quarterly training programs for pastors, women, and young adults
- Disciple more than 1,600 children

Through these efforts, IGL will continue reaching remote, un-churched regions of India with the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ!

He also said, “This is what the kingdom of God is like. A man scatters seed on the ground. Night and day, whether he sleeps or gets up, the seed sprouts and grows, though he does not know how. All by itself the soil produces grain—first the stalk, then the head, then the full kernel in the head. As soon as the grain is ripe, he puts the sickle to it, because the harvest has come.”

Mark 4:26-29



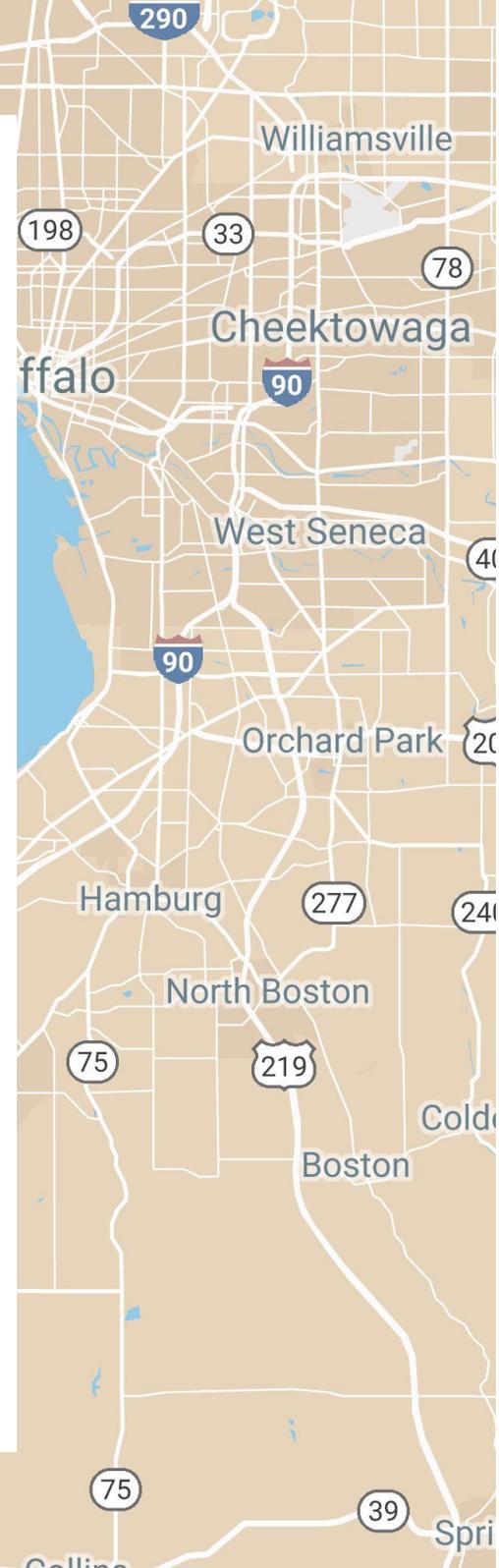
MULTI-SITE

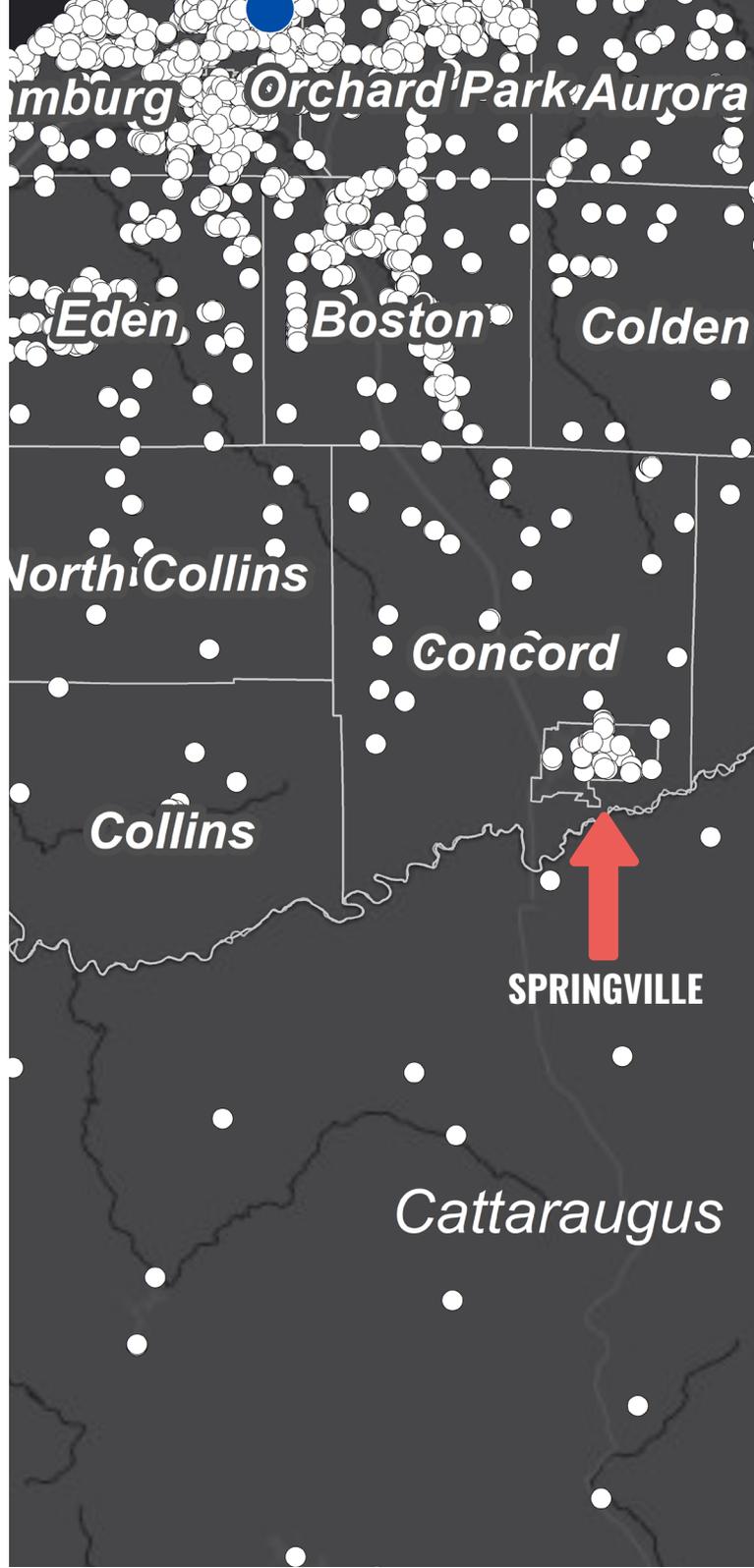
Over the past 60 years, our church has grown, moving from one site to another. In the early 1990s, we built what is now the Bayview Chapel at the corner of Bayview and McKinley. From there, we expanded the building several times to the facility we enjoy today.

Our church leadership recognized a shift in how healthy churches flourish, and that is multi-site growth. In March of 2014, we announced the final details for the birth of what is now our South Creek Campus. Since then, we've been on mission to be a multi-site church.

Think about how God has designed us to grow physically. Our lives begin with a period of significant, continuous growth. When we reach the point of maturity, we stop growing. Reproduction then becomes the means by which we move forward. The same is true of churches. A healthy church, rather than continuing to enlarge one footprint, instead reproduces itself in other locations. Watermark is blessed to be a healthy church that is ready to produce new sites! The connections we've fostered in our region have revealed two areas with potential for expansion: Springville and East Aurora.

We've focused on these areas based on the cluster maps you see on these pages. These maps represent the hometowns and villages of those of you who call Watermark Wesleyan your home church. You'll notice distinct areas of concentration on these maps in Springville and East Aurora, representing hundreds of people currently making the drive to Hamburg or South Creek. But what if you didn't have to make that drive?



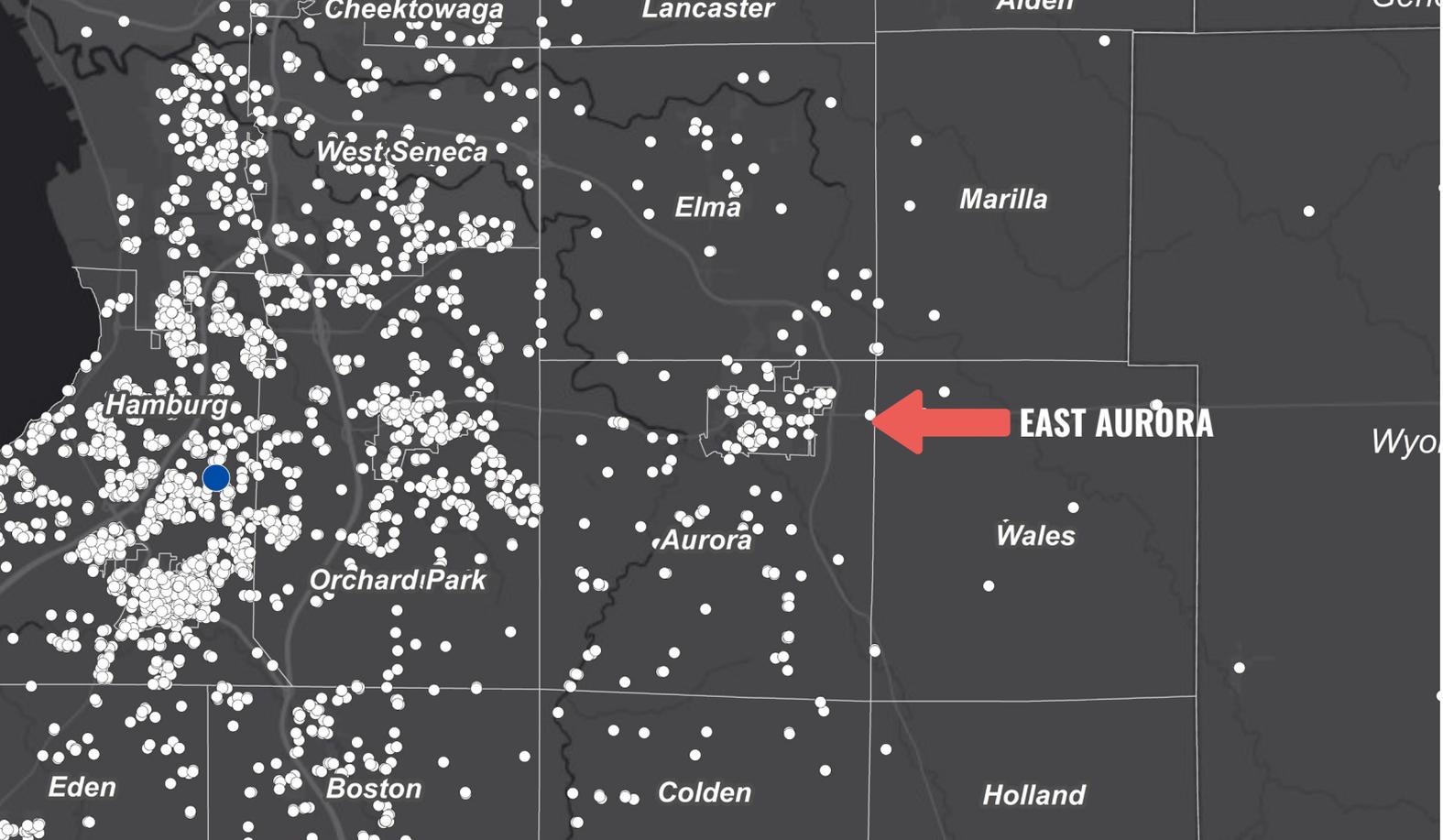


SPRINGVILLE

Over the past couple years, we've built a relationship with Pastor Keith Clark of Springville Crossing Church. From the beginning, it's been a natural fit. Pastor Keith has been part of our preaching team since early 2018 and has been teaching the same series at his services at Springville Crossing.

Simultaneous to the growth of this relationship, Watermark took over ownership and operations of the outreach ministry in Springville known as The Trading Post in January of 2018. This is a place where families are able to access a weekly food distribution program to supplement their nutritional needs. We assist an average of 250 families per month with food and other household needs.

Watermark is already having a profound impact for the Kingdom of God in Springville. The Elders of Springville Crossing have recognized the same, voting unanimously to become a future campus of Watermark Wesleyan Church. We are thrilled to be moving into the next phase of relaunching Springville Crossing as a part of Watermark in early 2019.



EAST AURORA

Reproducing the health and vitality of our ministry while allowing people to do life in their own communities is a primary goal for our church. We're already seeing the fruits of those efforts at South Creek and in Springville. Another cluster of people who call Watermark Wesleyan their home church can be found in and around East Aurora. In fact, there are nearly 400 current attendees as of late 2018. With the cooperation of the WNY Wesleyan District, we are looking at East Aurora as another potential

THE HUB

The idea of Save the Lost has redefined how and why we are doing different ministries at Watermark Wesleyan. One of those areas is Student Ministry. We are refocusing our weekly evening events for students, putting the emphasis back on reaching teenagers who don't (yet) have a relationship with Jesus.

The Hub was originally built with Save the Lost as its mission. To that end, we will be investing a portion of the resources raised from the 2020 Vision campaign to update this space, keeping both students and other community-driven functions in mind.



VIDEO PRODUCTION AND “IMAG”

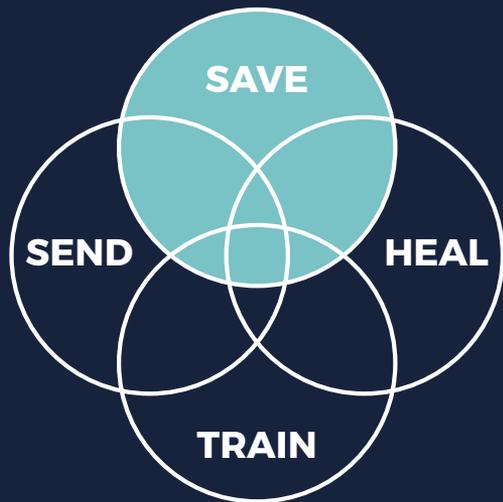
Have you ever gotten a text or an email and misinterpreted the meaning because you had no context? Have you been on a phone call where you wished you could see the other person's expressions so you could be sure you understood? Consider what a difference seeing facial expressions make when you're talking to someone. It changes your perspective.

Now put yourself at the back of Sheas or the last rows of a concert hall. There is a reason tickets at the front cost more: seeing the facial expressions of the person on stage is critical to the total impact of the message. A general rule in any large space is that if one-third of the people cannot make out facial expressions, image magnification (IMAG) is needed. This has been an issue for us at the McKinley Worship Center since the facility opened.

We put so much passion and work into offering excellent music, worship, and teaching each weekend, and we want those in the balcony and the back of the worship center to see as well as those sitting up front. We currently do not have the proper equipment to meet this need and will address this, along with other live video production needs, as a part of the 2020



SAVE THE LOST BUDGET BREAKDOWN



TOTAL MISSIONS **\$154,800**

BUFFALO PEACE HOUSE
YOUTH FOR CHRIST – LEBANON
PROMISE VALLEY
INDIA GOSPEL LEAGUE

FUTURE MULTI-SITE EXPANSION **\$380,200**

UPDATES TO THE HUB **\$40,000**

VIDEO PRODUCTION AND IMAG **\$400,000**

MISSIONAL NEW INITIATIVES **\$39,100**

SAVE THE LOST GOAL: **\$1,014,100**

HEAL THE SAVED

Simply because a person has become a new creation through beginning a relationship with Jesus doesn't mean all of the past hurts just disappear. The wounds still exist, and Watermark is putting significant resources in place to help people heal – to get beyond the pain that has possibly plagued them for years. We all have varying degrees of spiritual, emotional, and physical pain, and it is a core belief of Watermark that healing can be found through Jesus.

Jesus once said...

“Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out on religion? Come to me. Get away with me and you'll recover your life. I'll show you how to take a real rest. Walk with me and work with me – watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. I won't lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on you. Keep company with me and you'll learn to live freely and lightly.” Matthew 11: 28-30



A photograph of pink roses growing on a brick wall. The roses are in various stages of bloom, with some fully open and others as buds. The leaves are dark green and serrated. The brick wall is made of reddish-brown bricks with some mortar visible. The lighting is soft, creating a gentle and serene atmosphere.

We want everyone who
attends Watermark to
experience God's grace in
this way: We want to help
people live freely and lightly,
free from the hurts of life
and lighter because their old
burdens have been removed.

Kerry's Story

HEAL | KERRY HUGHES

In 2016, Kerry Hughes walked into Watermark Wesleyan Church believing she was there to plan her funeral. After a 23-year battle with a neuromuscular disease, she had been told that her fight was over. There was nothing more anyone could do.

Throughout her diagnosis, she had been living on her own strength, working tirelessly with a warrior mindset to figure this illness out, believing that self-reliance was the only way. And that strategy had run out. That's when her friend, Holly, invited her to Watermark Wesleyan.

Kerry had been raised Catholic and knew there was a God but didn't realize until that first service that she'd never had a true relationship with Him.



“The day I went to church, I just said, ‘Okay God, it’s all yours.’ The band began with *Broken Vessels*, and I fell apart. In that moment, I felt God’s eyes upon me for the first time. I knew something changed that day,” she says.

THE DAY I WENT TO CHURCH, I JUST SAID, ‘OKAY GOD, IT’S ALL YOURS.’

She continued to go back week after week, and she was spiritually impacted by each message. Her faith grew exponentially and her appetite for scripture became ferocious. Shortly after her baptism in April 2017, Kerry became so ill that her son Noah literally carried her into service each week. Yet their faith continued to grow. Painful episodes and hospitalizations could no longer shake their trust.

“Every day, I leaned into God. When I stopped praying for God to change my circumstances but to change me instead, healing began. The spiritual healing is what I needed, and as I surrendered the physical to God, I became free. I feel God’s embrace, and I know He has a greater plan for me, far bigger than I can even possibly dream. I now know the true meaning of Heal.”



Kerry pictured with her son Noah



JERICHO ROAD WELLNESS CLINIC – CONGO

jrhc.org

The Jericho Road Wellness Clinic is currently serving the most vulnerable and marginalized people in Goma, Democratic Republic of Congo. The clinic offers free medical care and life-saving treatment, including C-sections, surgery, and feeding clinics for malnourished children. Jericho Road engages the community, provides holistic care, and brings about transformation through the healing power and love of Jesus Christ. Not only are patients being healed physically, but they are also experiencing emotional and spiritual healing. Our commitment will help them continue this care.

“Instead, I want to see a mighty flood of justice, an endless river of righteous living.” Amos 5:24





WORLD RELIEF – CONGO

worldrelief.org

Due to years of warfare and weak national leadership in the Democratic Republic of Congo, there is no rule of law. Tribal conflicts and militias run rampant. Over the past several years, Watermark has helped World Relief initiate peace building activities in Rutshuru Territory that empowered churches and restored relationships between divided pastors. Out of those efforts, the Kako Church Empowerment Zone (CEZ) was formed. With this two-year commitment, Watermark will help continue the work of a newly launched, second CEZ in Rutshuru Territory, called Kiwanja. Through the Kiwanja CEZ, significant healing will take place as they harness the power of local churches, allowing them to shine the light of Christ into the turmoil that people in Kiwanja are facing.

“No, this is the kind of fasting I want: Free those who are wrongly imprisoned; lighten the burden of those who work for you. Let the oppressed go free, and remove the chains that bind people. Share your food with the hungry, and give shelter to the homeless. Give clothes to those who need them, and do not hide from relatives who need your help.” Isaiah 58:6-7



PEOPLE AGAINST TRAFFICKING HUMANS (PATH)

pathofwny.org

PATH offers a variety of programming, services, and resources in their Enrichment Center to help heal women and youth who have been victims of local sex and labor trafficking. Watermark's commitment over the next two years will allow PATH to continue reaching these victims in our very own communities.



These funds will support staffing, professional counselors and therapists, and free meals that are provided weekly to clients who attend the center. Emotional and spiritual healing take place in powerful ways through the programming at PATH and often lead to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ.

*"The Lord works righteousness and justice
for all the oppressed."* Psalm 103:6



SOUTHTOWNS PREGNANCY CENTER

southtownspregnancycenter.org

Southtowns Pregnancy Center (formerly the Southtowns Care Center) offers life-affirming ministry by reaching those in our community who are considering abortion with a message of truth and grace. Watermark's gift covers the cost of paid search ads at the top of Google results pages when anyone in our local area searches for abortion. Without that ad placement, local women searching the topic may never be aware of alternatives to abortion providers. This contribution means the Southtowns Pregnancy Center can be the first point of contact for hundreds of scared and hurt women.

"The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly." John 10:10



HEALING CENTER

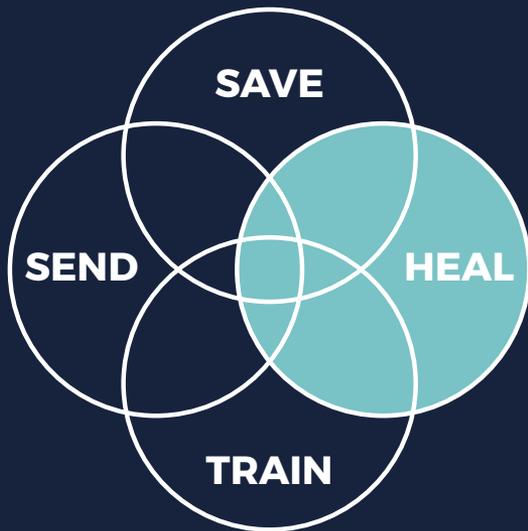
God created each of us to find our whole identity in Him – spirit, soul, and body. However, because of sin, we are all broken. Every one of us. Whether it's through what we've experienced, what we've done, or what others have done to us, we are all searching for wholeness.

We believe the path to wholeness is a process involving the whole church as a healing community.

Our mission is to empower and equip one another to take responsibility for our own choices and decisions and to become integrated into an ongoing and healing community. A portion of the funds raised through the 2020 Vision campaign will be dedicated to building a comprehensive system of care at Watermark and supporting efforts in our community.

Jesus came to bring freedom, recovery, and release (Luke 4:18-19). He came to rebuild our broken identities, restore our relationships, and renew our thinking. Because of Jesus, healing is possible, and because of Jesus, miracles still happen today!

HEAL THE SAVED BUDGET BREAKDOWN



TOTAL MISSIONS **\$229,000**

JERICO ROAD WELLNESS CLINIC
WORLD RELIEF – CONGO
PATH
SOUTHTOWNS PREGNANCY CENTER

HEALING CENTER **\$20,000**

MISSIONAL NEW INITIATIVES **\$39,100**

HEAL THE SAVED GOAL: **\$288,100**

TRAIN THE HEALED

Many followers of Jesus have not been properly exposed to the beauty of the Bible and, as a result, have an incomplete biblical worldview. These gaps in knowledge allow them to fall prey to the tide of culture, and they unknowingly stray from the teachings of Jesus. At Watermark, we want to train people in such a way that they can stand firm under the pressure of an often hostile world. Watermark also desires to train people not just so they can have more knowledge, but so they can use what they have learned to impact the lives of others.



A man with a beard and dark hair is shown in profile, looking down at an open book. He is wearing a dark green shirt. In the background, another man is partially visible, and the setting appears to be a classroom or a study area with a whiteboard and framed pictures on the wall.

The Apostle Paul once penned these words...

But you must remain faithful to the things you have been taught. You know they are true, for you know you can trust those who taught you. You have been taught the holy Scriptures from childhood, and they have given you the wisdom to receive the salvation that comes by trusting in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work.

2 Timothy 3:14-17

Watermark desires to train our church so we are equipped to know “what is true,” “realize what is wrong,” and “to do every good work.”

Bill's Story

TRAIN | BILL KUREK

"I grew up in a Christian home, went to Catholic School." Bill Kurek was a good kid. He did what he thought was right: what he thought was good for him. "Truthfully, I only had a very vague belief in God, but it didn't really mean anything."

After accepting Jesus as his Savior at the age of 20, things changed, but only for a while. "I was confident in my faith for the first five or six years after that. But then it began to waver. I started wondering if I was really saved. I can complicate the simplest of things, and this was a great example of that."

Bill called his doubt "stressful." He wondered if his friends and family would go to heaven and wanted to be sure they would. "How do I know someone is saved? Then I started to wonder, how do I really know if I am?"

He then found himself invited to a community group with a dozen other men in different stages of their walk with God. He credits spending time in the bible and this weekly time together, at 6:30 a.m. on Wednesdays, with restoring the confidence of who he is in Christ. "We shouldn't be alone trying to figure things out."



Bill hadn't really spent any time reading the Bible or praying prior to this. Making a commitment to Wednesday mornings changed that, along with an evening bible study with friends. "I'm trying to be more like Jesus. I have a saying: *Sundays aren't enough*. Sundays are important, but they're not everything. I almost never prayed, but now I do. It's been an emphasis in my life lately. The past 18 months with these guys...I know that I would not have experienced this change in my life without them."

Bill credits their time together—asking questions, discussing real life issues, finding answers by diving into the Bible as a group—with giving him a fresh confidence in his faith. "It's worth losing 2 hours of sleep every week," he quipped. "Totally worth it."



"Our community group of great guys (pictured here) stepped up and helped get some work done for my aunt."

716 MINISTRIES' WORK READINESS PROGRAM

716ministries.org

The mission of 716 Ministries' Work Readiness Program is to see men and women find meaningful employment and experience God's love and transformation through Christ. Watermark's commitment over two years will support Work Readiness staff positions, operating and program costs, and continued development of ministries. Work Readiness has already led to the Construction Core Program, which is a 6-week course with a curriculum from The National Center for Construction Education and Research. The goal is to see these graduates find jobs and apprenticeships in the construction field while developing relationships and sharing Christ with them.

"Each of you has been blessed with one of God's many wonderful gifts to be used in the service of others. So use your gift well." 1 Peter 4:10



A man in a blue shirt and red pants is speaking into a microphone to a large group of children sitting on the ground outdoors. In the background, there is a building with a green roof and a man in a green shirt and blue cap. The scene is bright and sunny.

POETICE INTERNATIONAL – ZAMBIA

poetice.org

Poetice International is called to empower the church to fight for justice. Through property and facilities that Watermark helped to fund, Poetice is on the brink of launching a training ground for leaders throughout the world. Our commitment will contribute to a large portion of Poetice’s Build the Future campaign, which will further their effectiveness and ability to train indigenous leaders in the community of Choma, Zambia and beyond. This funding will help build greenhouses where locals can learn self-sustaining farming skills and provide meeting spaces to train several hundred leaders simultaneously. These facilities will play a pivotal role in bringing restoration and transformation to the lost and the least.

“No, O people, the Lord has told you what is good, and this is what he requires of you: to do what is right, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God.” Micah 6:8

BUFFALO URBAN MISSION PARTNERSHIP (BUMP)

bumpbuffalo.com

Buffalo Urban Mission Partnership (BUMP) invites young adults to come to Buffalo for a year, live in community with others, train in ministry, and use their strengths and passions to serve a local community development organization or church. Our commitment will fund half the salaries for four interns over the next two years; the churches and ministries they serve will fund the other half. This partnership allows us to continue to build long-lasting relationships with churches on the East Side of Buffalo as well as train young adults to be effective ministers of the Gospel in this city and wherever God may take them next.

“You then, my child, be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus, and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also.” Timothy 2:2





GLOBAL BRIDGE IMPACT

globalbridgeimpact.org

Global Bridge Impact assists the growing Buffalo community of people from Central and Western Africa with integration into American life. It was started by Yoshua Bashizi, a Congolese community leader. Yoshua studied community mental health at the University of Buffalo and felt called to start this ministry to meet needs not covered by resettlement agencies in Buffalo. Our commitment will support Yoshua in his church ministry and outreach efforts. Yoshua meets refugees in their homes, encouraging them in their faith, and helping to translate mail, develop job resumes, and fill out applications. Tasks we might take for granted are next to impossible for refugees who speak or read little to no English. This simple yet effective ministry empowers refugees to become self-sustaining and self-reliant in a foreign culture.

“For I was hungry, and you fed me. I was thirsty, and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger, and you invited me into your home.” Matthew 25:35

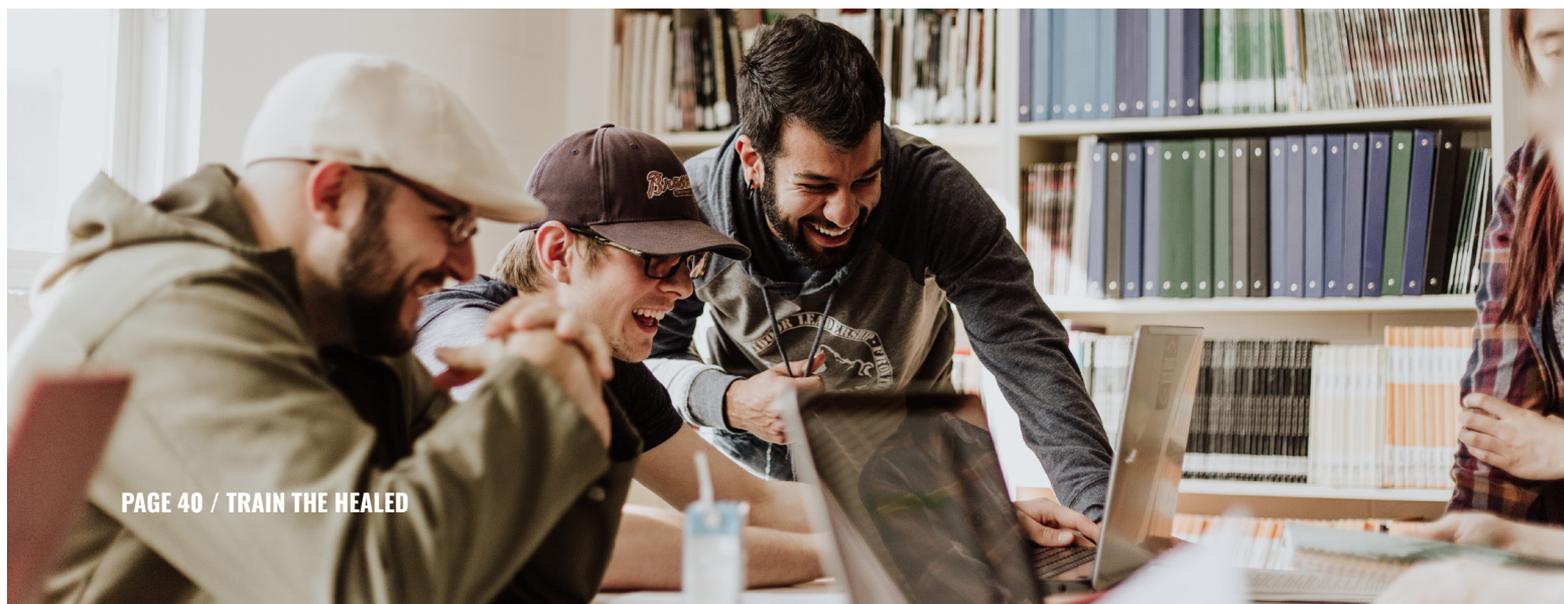
WATERMARK U

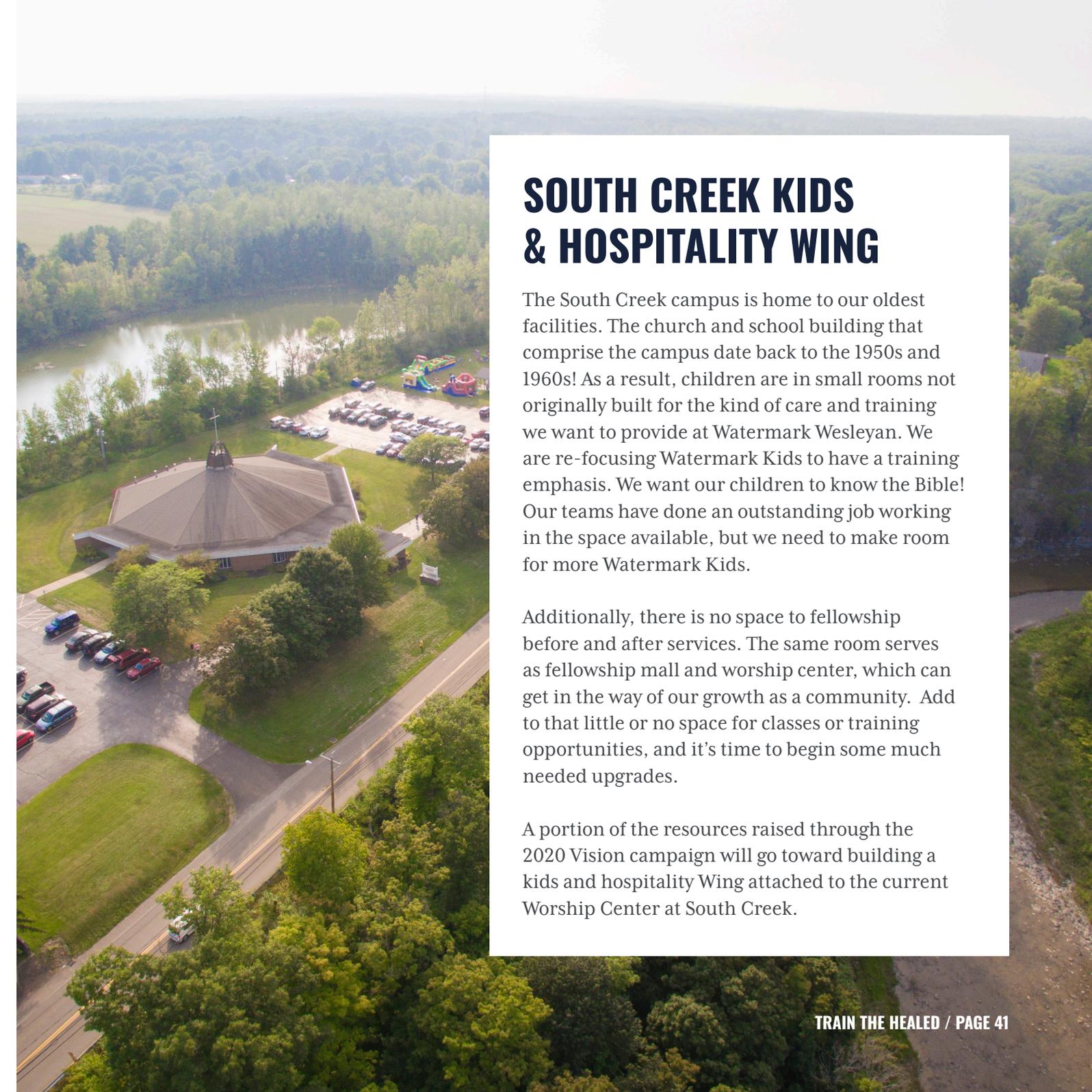
One of the primary reasons people don't share their faith with others is a lack of confidence in their own knowledge. We want to eliminate that barrier by promoting deeper, academic study in our congregation. The goal is not simply to gain knowledge, but to build God's Kingdom by making disciples who can make disciples.

Watermark U is an exciting new endeavor designed to meet this goal. We are strategically partnering with Asbury Theological Seminary, one of the premiere Christian graduate institutions in the world, to provide engaging, on-site training at Watermark Wesleyan.

Release your traditional idea of school when thinking about Watermark U. No big tests, boring lectures, or long papers here. Asbury-trained instructors will be coming to our campus to engage us in discussion, personal reflection, and life application. Videos will be made specifically for Watermark U by Asbury faculty, facilitated by leaders from our own congregation.

This will be offered to anyone at Watermark Wesleyan, including middle and high school students who are spiritually mature enough to handle the time commitment and content. The goal of Watermark U is not a transfer of information. It's *transformation*. Watermark U will better equip you to make disciples who make disciples.



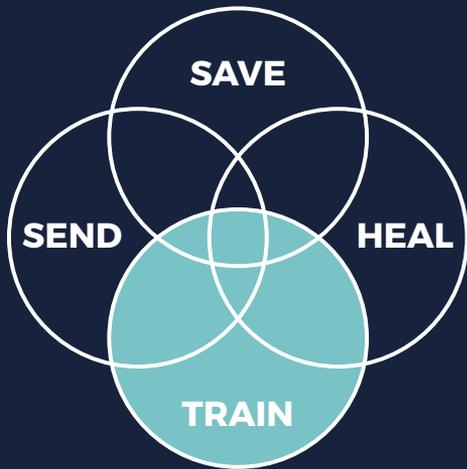


SOUTH CREEK KIDS & HOSPITALITY WING

The South Creek campus is home to our oldest facilities. The church and school building that comprise the campus date back to the 1950s and 1960s! As a result, children are in small rooms not originally built for the kind of care and training we want to provide at Watermark Wesleyan. We are re-focusing Watermark Kids to have a training emphasis. We want our children to know the Bible! Our teams have done an outstanding job working in the space available, but we need to make room for more Watermark Kids.

Additionally, there is no space to fellowship before and after services. The same room serves as fellowship mall and worship center, which can get in the way of our growth as a community. Add to that little or no space for classes or training opportunities, and it's time to begin some much needed upgrades.

A portion of the resources raised through the 2020 Vision campaign will go toward building a kids and hospitality Wing attached to the current Worship Center at South Creek.



TRAIN THE HEALED BUDGET BREAKDOWN

TOTAL MISSIONS **\$150,000**

WORK READINESS
POETICE INTERNATIONAL – ZAMBIA
BUMP
GLOBAL BRIDGE IMPACT

WATERMARK U **\$35,000**

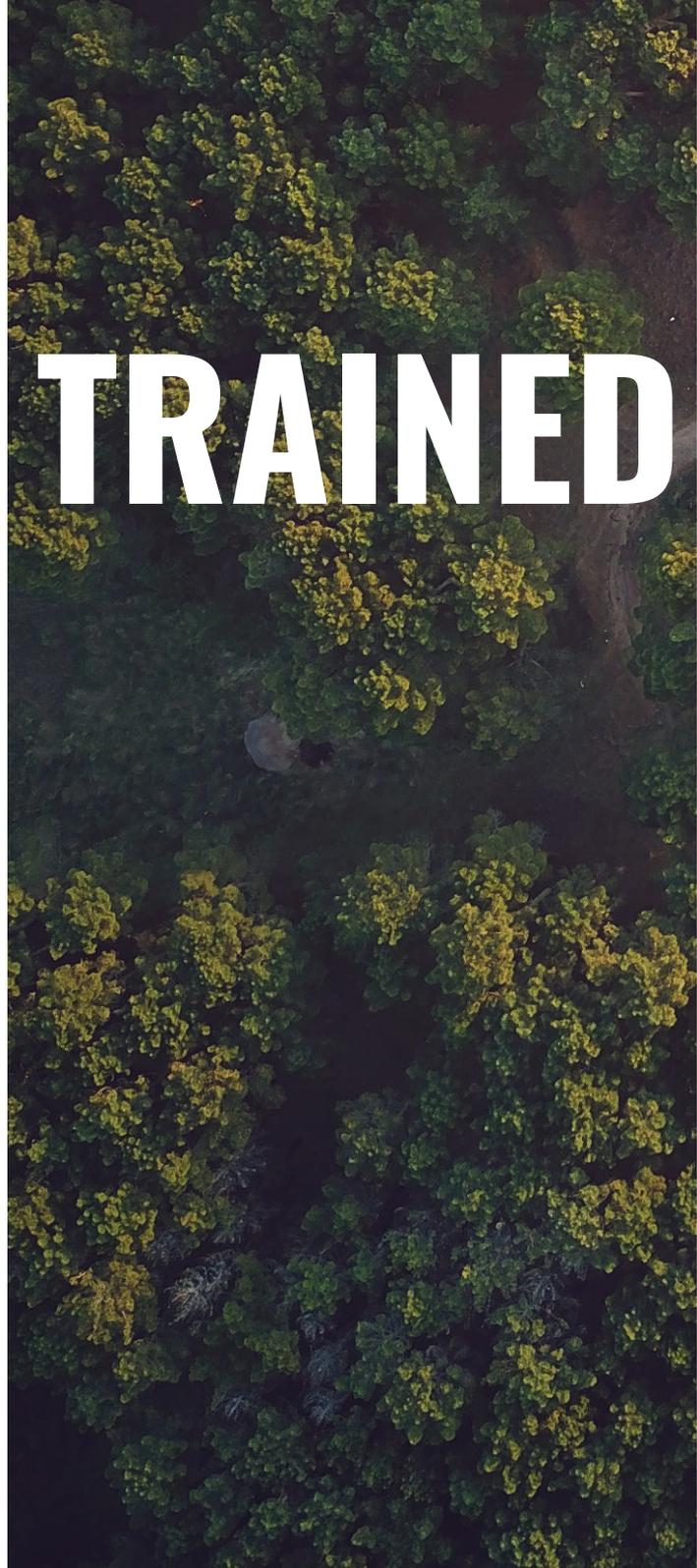
SOUTH CREEK KIDS / HOSPITALITY WING **\$500,000**

MISSIONAL NEW INITIATIVES **\$39,100**

TRAIN THE HEALED GOAL: **\$724,100**

SEND THE TRAINED

Watermark has an incredible track record of sending people and financial resources to the city of Buffalo and around the world, following Jesus' command in Acts 1:8 to reach Judea, Samaria, and the ends of the earth. One could argue that we haven't spent enough attention on our Jerusalem: the Southtowns of Buffalo. We will continue to send people and financial resources to the city and the world, but we are also going to increase our efforts to reach the communities that many of us live in. We want to send people into the ministries of Watermark in a very intentional way, serving our children, students, and adults. We also want to send people to be encouraging coaches, caring neighbors, helpful classmates, and loving consumers. We want to flood our schools, local businesses, neighborhoods, and places of employment with the love of Christ.



An aerial photograph of a two-lane asphalt road winding through a dense forest. The trees are mostly green, with some showing yellow and orange autumn colors. A white car is parked on the left shoulder of the road. The road has white dashed lines in the center and solid lines on the edges. The lighting suggests late afternoon or early morning, with long shadows and warm tones.

“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” Acts 1:8

Dillon's Story

SEND | DILLON KUPSKI

Dillon Kupski has experienced the dark side of life first hand. Heavy drug addiction, alcoholism, serious thoughts of suicide, and a couple of arrests. It's a long, difficult story still to be fully told. Fast forward to early 2017, shortly after Dillon stepped out and proclaimed his faith in Jesus through baptism at Watermark Wesleyan. You might be thinking it was easy for him after that. Not so. Fear quickly crept back into his mind.

"I'd never been more alone in my life," Dillon said of the time immediately following his declaration of faith. "I didn't want to go back with my old friends, who were headed down the wrong road, and I didn't know anyone at church..." He paused, and then added, "yet."

It didn't take long for the people of Watermark to fully embrace Dillon. He connected with leaders, gained a mentor, and a short time later was asked to share his story at a student night at The Hub. He hesitated, thinking, "How am I going to lead people to Christ when I'm still learning what that means?" He stepped out of his fear and into a new life of being "sent."



From Dillon's 2018 trip to Lebanon (fourth from right)

In April 2017 Dillon celebrated his baptism at our McKinley Campus

Dillon smiled when he referenced the many stories he's learned in the Bible about being sent. "If you look through the entire Bible, God is constantly using people who don't seem prepared. Abraham, Moses, Peter, Matthew...they all seemed so unlikely to do such great things. I'm a great example that God can use anyone. I was just supposed to share my story at that student night. Now, I'm a leader there. Thanks to so many amazing people coming alongside me, I'm helping lead a basketball ministry. I'm composing music. I've been on a missions trip to Lebanon, and I'm planning two more trips in the next year."

What drives Dillon now? "I always want to be pursuing God. I've learned to do that well. I'll go wherever he sends me."



LEGACY PARTNERS

Each year, Watermark Wesleyan works in partnership with organizations and missionaries both locally and across the globe. Many of our Legacy Partners are members of our church whom we as a body have sent out in ministry to bring the Good News of Jesus to the world.

Our Vision 2020 commitments over two years will equal \$190,000.

A list of our partners and all funding is available for public viewing by visiting our website at watermarkwesleyan.com/2020vision

MISSION TRIPS

watermarkwesleyan.com/missiontrips

Several times a year, Watermark Wesleyan sends teams on mission trips all around the world. We partner with ministries in Lebanon, India, and on the continent of Africa, specifically in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Zambia. We come alongside existing local ministries in these regions by sending teams of trained volunteers. With this two-year commitment, we can subsidize the costs of individual team members traveling overseas.

It is truly remarkable to watch God continuously provide for our congregants as they are called across the globe. The transformations in the lives of both our volunteers and those they minister to are incredible.





MCKINLEY CAMPUS & CENTRAL SERVICES UPGRADES

“...you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth.” Acts 1:8

Let’s look at this verse through the lens of our life. Jesus is saying, “*You will be my witnesses, in your Jerusalem (your family or city), your Judea and Samaria (your state and country), and the ends of the earth (globally).*”

As shown in this booklet, the Acts 1:8 impact of Watermark hits each of these areas. This is nothing new for us as a church. You have given millions of dollars over the years to ministries globally. Truly remarkable.

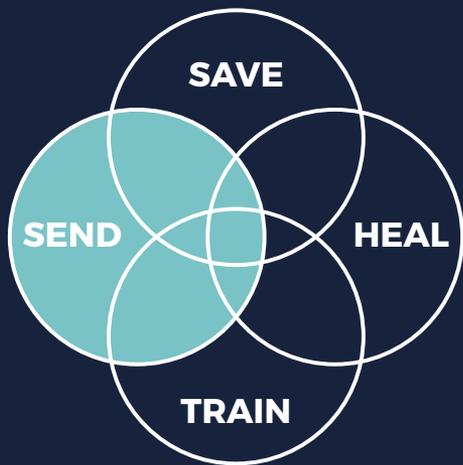
For us to continue this level of missional impact, we must also take care of “our Jerusalem” at Watermark Wesleyan. Think of that as the 179,000 square feet of facilities that make up our current campuses. We’ve had a “honeymoon” period over the past couple of decades, being blessed with fairly new facilities in good shape and with no debt. This is just another testament to your generosity.

Raising funds for maintenance and improvement of what we currently have surely isn’t the fun part of any campaign. Truth be told, as it relates to our facilities, the honeymoon is over. We have some very real repair and upkeep needs. We have now included these expenses in our early budgeting, but to get us caught up with overdue repairs and upgrades, we will be using roughly a quarter of the funds raised through 2020 Vision to meet this need.

As the flight attendant tells us before takeoff, you must secure your own oxygen mask before helping others. Think of this portion of the campaign as the oxygen mask, better equipping us to reach people with the saving power of Jesus. To maximize the impact our church can have, we have to care for the place where the Saved, Healed, and Trained are Sent from.







SEND THE TRAINED BUDGET BREAKDOWN

TOTAL MISSIONS **\$264,600**

**LEGACY PARTNERS
MISSION TRIPS**

CENTRAL MINISTRIES & MCKINLEY CAMPUS UPGRADES **\$1,670,000**

MISSIONAL NEW INITIATIVES **\$39,100**

HEAL THE SAVED GOAL: **\$1,973,700**

A MESSAGE FROM KRISTEN FARRELL

When I moved back to Hamburg twenty years ago as an eager twenty-one-year-old, degree fresh in hand from Messiah College, pleased to be coming back to the community that invested in me as child, I found my spiritual home at “the big church on McKinley.” Cognitively I knew why people called it that, but from the first time I walked in, it never felt too big for me. I was exactly where I needed to be.



As we fervently pursue our 2020 Vision, we as a board are confident that this vision is exactly where we need to be. After much discussion and prayer, pursuing wholeness both as the church and as individuals is our holy Christ-centered vision. Being faithful stewards with the resources we currently have so that we can continue our legacy of generosity to the Southtowns, the city of Buffalo, and our ministry partners around the world is our desire as we love people well, sharing the Gospel with our lives as testimonies to the fullness and peace that Jesus has to offer.

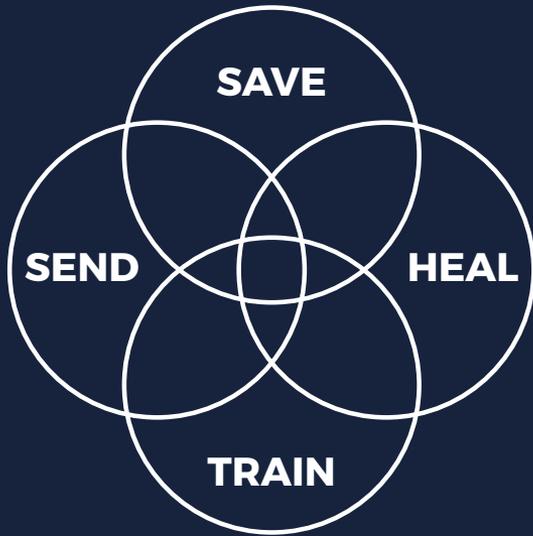
Because this vision isn't static, you may have noticed the phrasing “missional new initiatives” throughout. We take these opportunities seriously with both prayer and discernment. We want to be a church that allows for culturally relevant ways to give and do ministry as needs arise. Additionally, as we become more whole, we wait with great expectancy to hear from you about your holy disturbance: the specific calling on your life that will allow us to reach people whom we wouldn't have otherwise if not for your

Paul started his letter to the Philippians, “I thank my God every time I remember you,” because he knew that ministry was not done in a vacuum. Jesus’ ministry was indeed His ministry, but he didn’t do it alone, and neither do we. Supporting one another, empowering staff and lay people alike, honoring those who have come before us, and waiting with anticipation to meet those who have yet to walk through our door is dependent on the work of the faithful family that we have become. Thank you for making Watermark your home and being part of our family. As a board, we are grateful for your support as we write the next chapter of Watermark Wesleyan’s story together.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kristen Farrell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of each word being capitalized and prominent.

KRISTEN FARRELL
BOARD VICE-CHAIR





2020 VISION
TOTAL TWO YEAR GOAL:
\$4,000,000

2020 VISION GIVING CHART

**TOTAL NUMBER OF
PLEDGES @ AMOUNT**

**PER PERSON
2 YEAR TOTAL**

**ALL PLEDGES
2 YEAR TOTAL**

100 @ \$1

\$104

\$10,400

77 @ \$5

\$500

\$38,500

76 @ \$10

\$1,000

\$76,000

65 @ \$12

\$1,200

\$78,000

61 @ \$14

\$1,500

\$91,500

52 @ \$17

\$1,800

\$93,600

50 @ \$19

\$2,000

\$100,000

45 @ \$23

\$2,400

\$108,000

40 @ \$31

\$3,200

\$128,000

34 @ \$38

\$4,000

\$136,000

35 @ \$50

\$5,200

\$182,000

25 @ \$58

\$6,000

\$150,000

22 @ \$77

\$8,000

\$176,000

20 @ \$96

\$10,000

\$200,000

TOTAL NUMBER OF PLEDGES @ AMOUNT	PER PERSON 2 YEAR TOTAL	ALL PLEDGES 2 YEAR TOTAL
16 @ \$115	\$12,000	\$192,000
13 @ \$154	\$16,000	\$208,000
9 @ \$192	\$20,000	\$180,000
8 @ \$231	\$24,000	\$192,000
5 @ \$308	\$32,000	\$160,000
5 @ \$385	\$40,000	\$200,000
6 @ \$481	\$50,000	\$300,000
3 @ \$962	\$100,000	\$300,000
2 @ \$1,923	\$200,000	\$400,000
1 @ \$2,885	\$300,000	\$300,000

750 TOTAL PLEDGES

\$4,000,000 PLEDGED

