



Serving at Jeffco Action Center



Servant Tour to Utah



Transformatonal Travel to Israel

Annual Report 2023



ABIDING
HOPE
CHURCH

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**MISSION: EQUIP ALL TO BE THE
HEART, HANDS, AND FEET OF
JESUS IN THE WORLD.**

Dear Abiding Hope family,

I've been blessed to serve as the MLST President this year. This year has been filled with a lot of change and growth for Abiding Hope. I am excited to share with you some of the highlights. We kicked off the year with Pastor Julie's installation as Lead Servant for Spiritual Life. Pastor Julie has hit the ground running fostering growth to our small group ministry bringing our total to 22 small groups. Please pray with me for continued development and progress of the relationships forged by this ministry.

We celebrated our 24th Servant Tour! 38 high school students, college students, and adults participated in Servant Tour this summer. They traveled to Salt Lake City to help in a variety of projects through Service Learning Camps. This ministry changes the lives of our youth as they experience being the heart, hands, and feet of Jesus in the world.

On June 29, we purchased the Nature School at 5707 S Simms Street. Leading up to that milestone, we had enormous contributions from the Abiding Hope Preschool & Kindergarten team as well as volunteers who helped, giving of their time and talents to get the facility and grounds in shape for opening up new classrooms one by one. 110 students are currently enrolled at the Nature School with 65 on the waitlist. Having a place in which children managing neurodiverse challenges such as autism, ADHD, and sensory issues is pivotal in their development. It brings me joy to be part of the generosity that has provided a place where these children can thrive.

We said goodbye to Kim Gnagey and welcomed our new Lead Servant for Worship Life, Doug Holzapfel. With his unique background, Doug will bring new energy and vision to our music and worship.

The Haitian Timoun Foundation (HTF), one of our many partners, creates generational change that transforms lives of those in Haiti. Together, we raised over \$102,000 for Haiti.

When we are invested our heart follows. "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." Matthew 6:21. Through the Planting Hope capital campaign and Ignite annual appeal, we have the opportunity to grow and serve well into the future. I believe to the core that we have a responsibility to model in our community what it means to be children of God.

With the great minds and hearts of this congregation, we can accomplish more than each of us could individually. We complement, encourage, and walk alongside one another. The result is unmistakably changing the world.

With love,



Amy Corneillie
MLST President

2023 ANNUAL GATHERING AGENDA

December 10, 11:30 AM

- Call to order
- Opening Prayer
- President's Report
- Outgoing MLST Recognition & Introduction of new MLST nominees
- Lead Pastor's Report
- Financial Report
- Constitutionally Mandated Action
 - Approval of 2022 Minutes
 - Approval of Annual Report & 2024 Spend Plan
 - Approval of MLST members
- Motion to Adjourn
- Closing Prayer

MISSION LEADERSHIP AND SUPPORT TEAM (MLST)

	MEMBER	TERM	YRS REMAINING
President	Chad Anderson	2nd	2
At large team member	Laura Wilson	2nd	2
At large team member	Jim Spornick	2nd	1
At large team member	Robert Wharton	1st	1
New team member	Randy Booton	1st	2
New team member	Kristin Heath	1st	2
New team member	Jack Major	1st	2

STAFF STRUCTURE



CHURCH SNAPSHOT



374

Average Weekly Attendance



16

Funerals & 0 Weddings



14

Small Groups including 138 people



27

Families involved in Family Life Sundays



13

Students Affirmed



23

New families joined



22

Baptisms



37

Students & adults went on Servant Tour



26

Care Ministers



21

Families served by grief ministry



142

Abiding Hope Serves participants

COMMUNICATION TOUCHPOINTS

6,882
Video Views

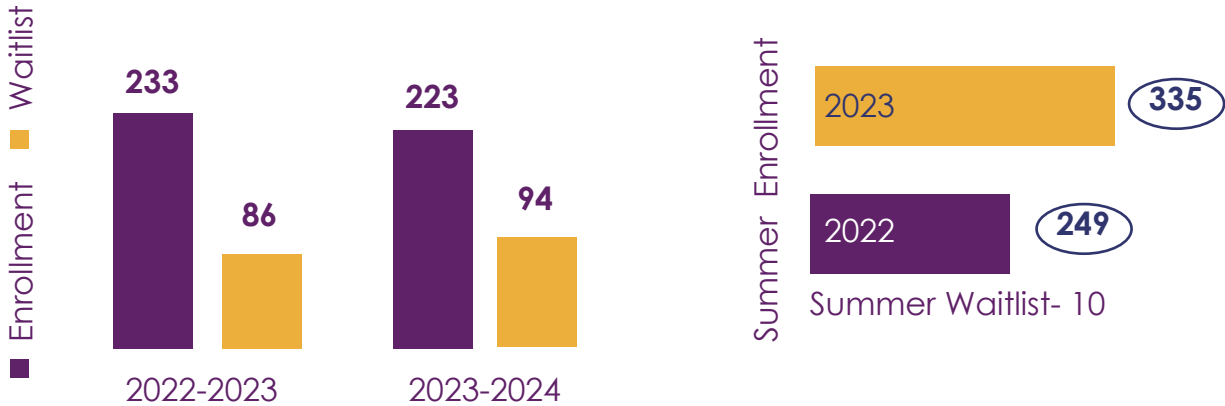
26,836
Podcast Plays

+108
New Social
Media
Followers

14,373
Social Media
Accounts
Reached

124,639
Emails Sent

PRESCHOOL & KINDERGARTEN



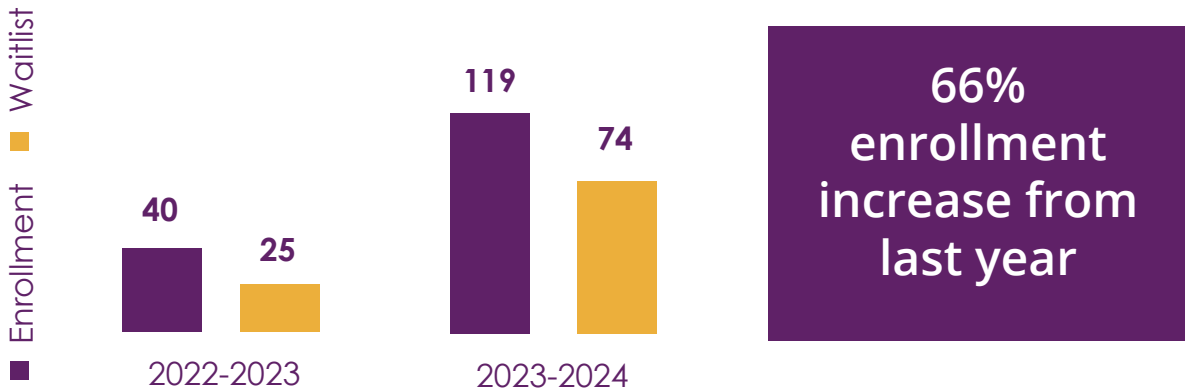
450
Hoe Down
Attendance

600+
Night of the
Arts
Attendance

400
Fall Festival
Attendance

NATURE SCHOOL

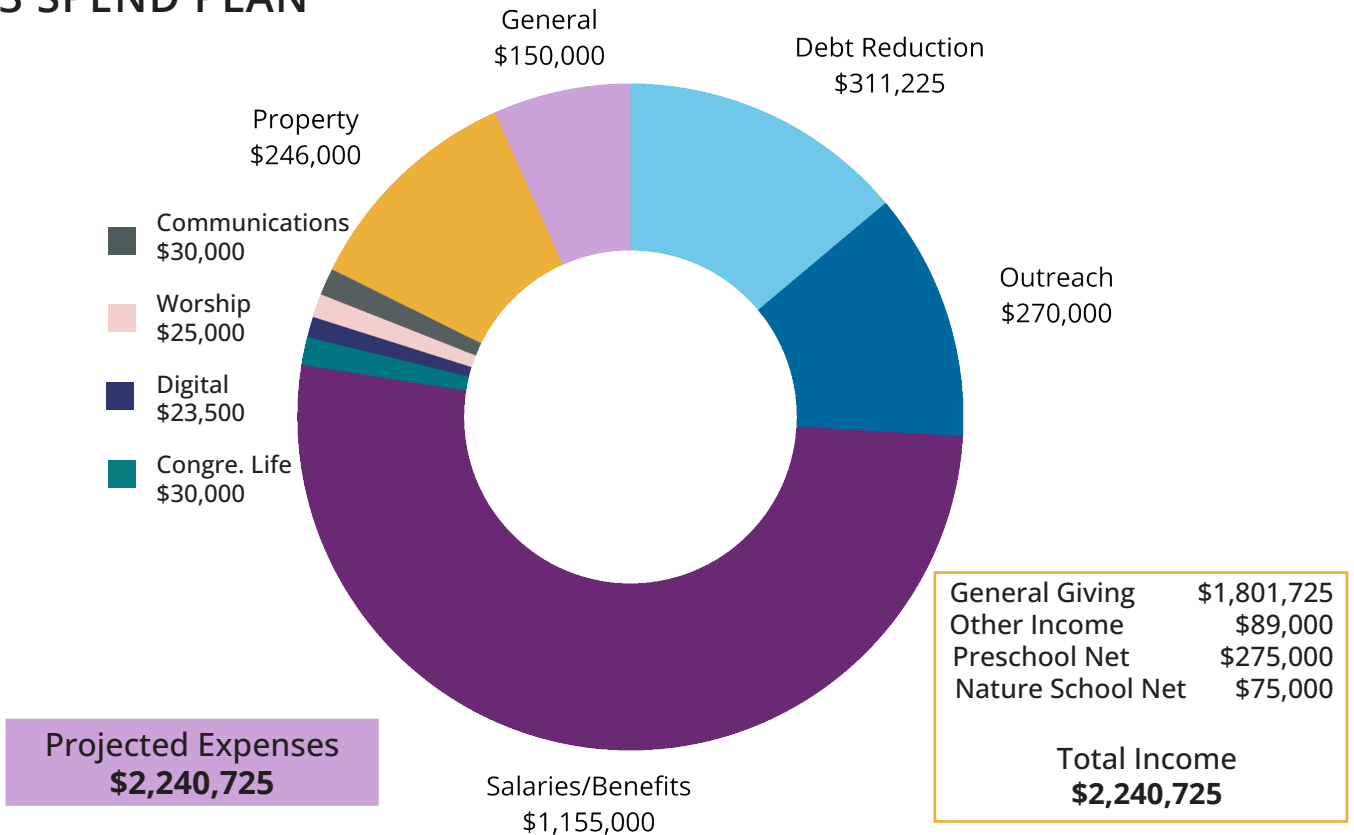
The Nature School has been open for over a year. We bought the property in June and are very excited about the future of this property!



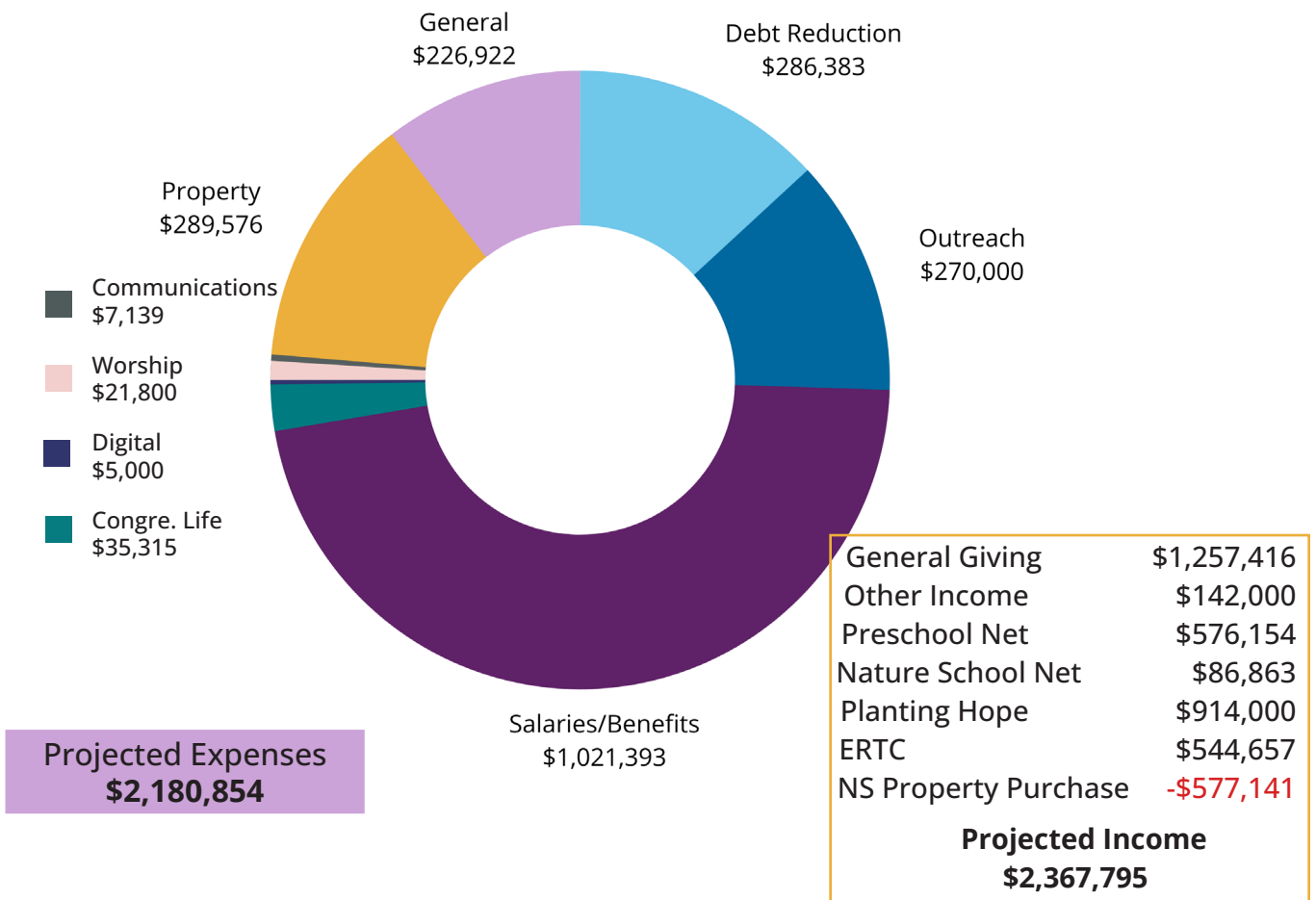
Over \$290,000 of grant funds received for both schools

FINANCIALS

2023 SPEND PLAN



2023 PROJECTED



2023 FINANCIAL REVIEW

Received **over \$500,000**
from the
ERTC in June

ERTC: The Employee Retention Tax Credit or ERTC – is a refundable tax credit for businesses and tax-exempt organizations that had employees and were affected during the COVID-19 pandemic.

General Giving is down
30%

Our projected giving for 2023 is down 30% from the 2023 Spend Plan.

Raised **\$914,000**
for Planting Hope

In last year's Annual Report, we announced our Planting Hope campaign seeking \$2.5 million to raise money for facility upgrades, to pay off the mortgage, and to buy the Nature School property.

Bought the Nature
School property for
\$2,250,000

This summer we officially bought the Nature School property for \$2,250,000. We put over \$500,000 down.

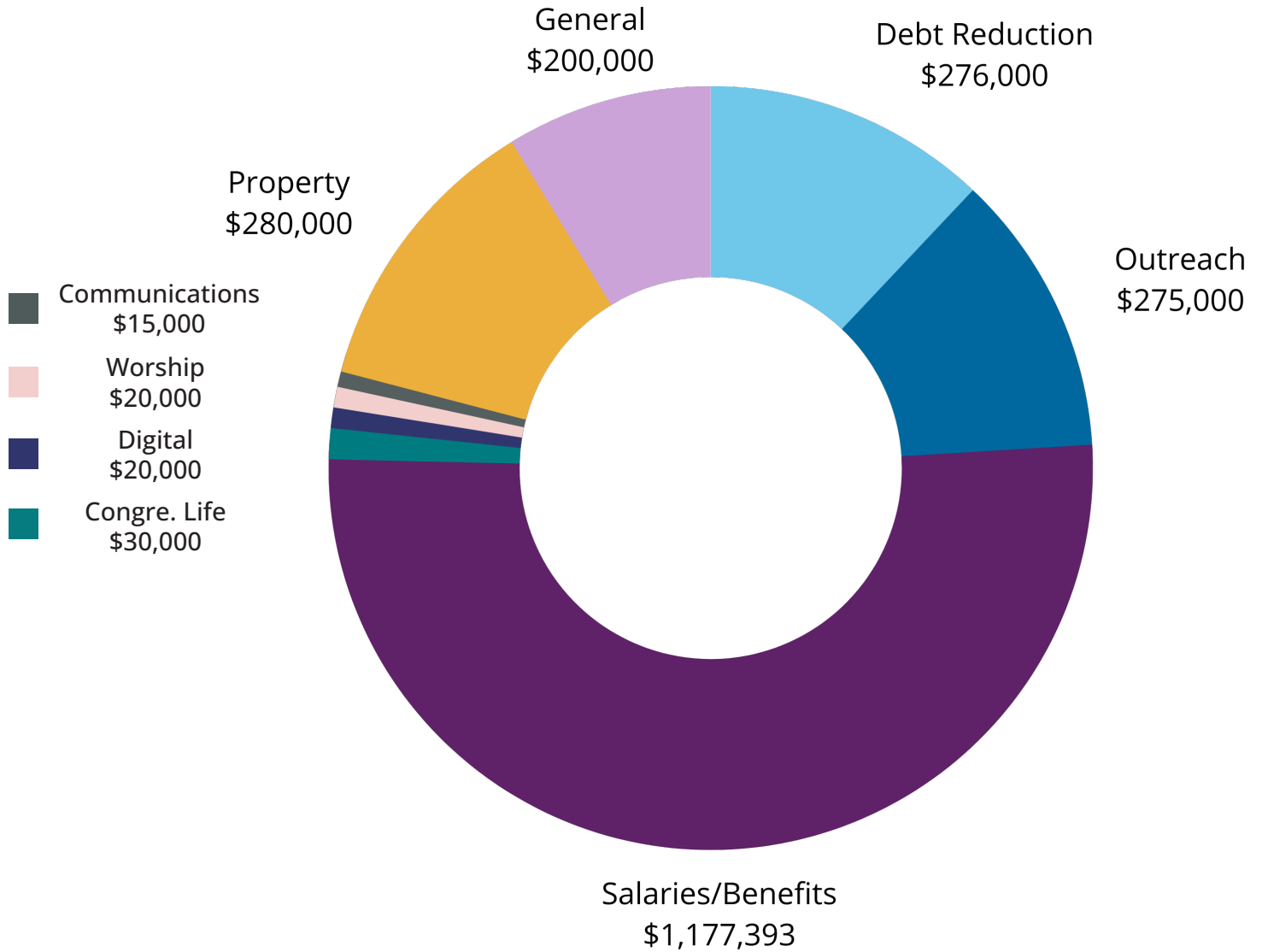
Over **\$290,000** in grants
received

Both schools received over \$290,000 in grant money to be used to finish the playground at Abiding Hope, and at the Nature School to add new child size bathrooms and flooring on lower level, to redo the concrete and drainage at the front entrance, to add fencing and turf to the toddler playground, for new classroom furniture and manipulatives. The remainder will be used for a therapy gym.

We give **\$270,000**
annually to Outreach

Have you ever wondered what the Outreach fund is? We give that money to Lutheran Family Services, the Haitian Timoun Foundation, Jeffco Action Center, Love Inc., Pine Ridge Reservation, St. Joseph's in Haiti, Second Wind Fund, Bett's Foundation, supporting our refugee families, Colorado Lutheran Campus Ministries, Sky Ranch Lutheran Camp, Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp, Rocky Mountain Synod, Trinity Seminary, Abiding Hope India, & Rejoice Lutheran.

2024 SPEND PLAN



Projected Expenses
\$2,293,393

General Giving	\$1,408,393
Other Income	\$90,000
Preschool Net	\$380,000
Nature School Net	\$80,000
Grants	\$135,000
ERTC Allocation	\$200,000
Projected Income	\$2,293,393

2022 Abiding Hope Annual Gathering Meeting Notes

December 4, 2022 11:55 am (approximately 85 people in attendance)

1. Welcome and Call to Order (In coming President Amy Corneille in for Chris Holgard)
2. Opening Prayer (Pastor Jay)
3. President's Report (Pastor Doug)
4. Recognition of MLST member Chris Holgard leaving. Introduction of incoming member Robert Wharton.
5. Lead Pastor's Report (Pastor Doug)
 - A. Introduction and recognition of Staff
 - B. Nature School status
 - C. Anchor Church
6. Financial Report (Pastor Doug)
 - A. Spend Plan vs. Projected
 - B. Flat spend plan for 2023
 - C. Capital Appeal- Planting Hope for 2.5 million; 1 million for NS
7. Constitutionally Mandated Actions
 - A. Approval of 2021 Annual Meeting Notes
 - B. Approval of 2022 Annual Report including the 2023 Plan
 - C. Approval of MLST member nominee.

Stacia Rumer moved that the three items be approved. Richard Wallower seconded the motion. Attendees approved the motion.

8. Approval for Pastor Emeritus Rev. Dr. Rick Barger.

John Carpenter moved to approve Pastor Emeritus. Steve Smith seconded the motion. Attendees approved the motion.

9. Call to bring Pastor Julie McNitt in as lead Servant for Spiritual life.
 - A. Recognition of Call Team
 - B. Both Call Team and MLST motioned and seconded the motion. Bob Steger approved the motion and Nicole Manutes seconded the motion.



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abidinghope.org