



Highland Park

COMMUNITY CHURCH

2022 Annual Report



Mike & Shani Fackler

Earlier this year, an unexpected gift arrived at our home. It came in a small manila envelope. We had no idea who sent it. As it turns out, a few days later, a friend called to ask if I had received a package he had sent. He said, “Mike, it’s one of the best books I’ve read this year.”

The book’s title is “A Non-Anxious Presence,” by Mark Sayers. The book’s premise focuses on the time lapse between the end of an era and the beginning of a new era. The term for the space between eras is called the “Gray Zone.” The “Gray Zone” is defined as life not as it was, and also not as it will be. It’s ever-changing, un-nerving, and causes anxiety. One of the major takeaways from the book is that while “Gray Zones,” are often marked by anxiousness, they are also fertile ground for new beginnings.

For many of us, 2022 feels a lot like the gray zone. In just a few short years time so much seems to have changed in the space between covid and where we are today. From loss of loved ones, to shut-downs to shuttering businesses, news of war, and now inflation. If you’ve felt anxious; it’s real. For all of our modern-day comforts, studies reveal how more people feel anxious about the uncertainty of the future.

Anxious times are nothing new under the sun. In this space, I’d like to remind you of our hope in Jesus. The Author of Hebrews writes in chapter thirteen, verse eight. “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.” Hebrews was written to a group of believers to remind them “Christ is greater than any angel, priest, or old covenant institution; thus each reader rather than leaving such a great salvation, is summoned to hold on by faith to the true rest found in Christ and to encourage others to persevere.”-(ESV) While the season, times, dates, and circumstances shift and change. Jesus is forever, and He is forever the same. He is holy, righteous, just, gracious, merciful, slow to anger, and best of all... He is love. And His love has overcome. We are to anchor our hope and trust in Christ alone. He is consistent even in anxious times. Possibly you would wish our times would change, but these times are ripe for opportunities for us to share Christ with others, as we walk with Christ together.

The way “Church” happens has not been unimpacted by the changes. Even things here at Highland have not been unaffected. Through it all, by the grace and goodness of God, we continue to have a strong “in-person” attendance. Our online presence continues to expand. People crave relationship and connections in groups with God and one another. Every month we celebrate baptisms in our worship service. Multiple Prayer groups have sprouted up around HPCC to intercede for the body. The church is still planting and watering seeds through Jesus conversations in, around, and beyond our community. The unsettledness of 2022, like the story in “A Non-Anxious Presence” is fertile ground for a movement of God to continue to draw people through His son Jesus. The following pages contain just some of the neat things God has done, is doing, and will continue to do. I am so glad you picked up this report and took the time to read it. My prayer is the Spirit will encourage you. He is faithful!

Mike Fackler
Lead Pastor Highland Park Community Church



Arleigh Nelson Cody Campus Pastor

God has been doing incredible things this past year at the Cody Campus. We officially launched on Christmas Eve of 2021, with just over 150 people in attendance. Our weekly gathering grew from 40 to just under 100 people a weekend, until Easter, when we had 234 people celebrate Christ's resurrection with us! Currently, roughly 150 adults and 30-40 children gather at our facility each Sunday at 10 AM, with nearly 100 people staying afterward for lunch and community together. Remarkably, over 80 volunteers are serving at the Cody Campus holding the door open for others to experience the love of Jesus. We are amazed at what God is doing!

While those numbers are exciting, what compels us even more, are the stories of how God is transforming people's lives through the ministry of HPCC. Each of those numbers represents individuals Jesus died to save who are now being disciplined through the ministry of HPCC.

While there are many stories, one stands out in particular. Terri Abell-Walling passed away on September 23rd, 2022, after a brief battle with pancreatic cancer. She joined our ranks in November of last year when she moved here to follow her son, Chuck, who had been involved with remodeling our facility that summer. While Terri spent her life in the church, she stated over and over again how she had never grown so much in the grace and love of Jesus as she had here at HPCC. On her deathbed, Terri told us how never before in her 80 years of life had she felt more truly loved and accepted as she did in her final chapter at HPCC. Our people spent hours caring for her, loving on her, and simply sitting with her from her diagnosis to her last moments on earth, all with one goal: to love her like Jesus. We celebrate that she is now in the arms of her Savior!

As we press towards our 1st anniversary, we are expectant and hopeful for all that God has in store for 2023 as we take risks to pursue God and love like Jesus!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Arleigh Nelson', written in a cursive style.

Arleigh Nelson
Cody Campus -Highland Park Community Church



James Hume Worship Arts Pastor

Worship Arts has had an action-packed year. We hired a new Tech Director, Jason Shope, who has been working hard to implement much-needed changes to our tech department. We've also added acoustic paneling treatments throughout the sanctuary to create a more comfortable worship environment for our weekend services. We've added 12 new team members to our worship family in the areas of tech, band, and vocal teams. Our team has also intentionally engaged in Jesus conversations, leading to over 115 of them taking place!

During James' sabbatical, the entire worship staff pulled together and worked exceptionally well to lead our team and our church worship services. We are excited about the year that lies ahead for our church and our team!

James Hume
Worship Arts Pastor





Harold Bradshaw Family Ministry Pastor

When families are strong, they are a blessing to themselves and their members, an encouragement to the church, and a witness of God's love to the world. Family Ministry is intently pursuing the vision and direction of the church with our mission of "Empowering families to thrive through God's love."

We have the privilege of supporting families in raising up the next generation of Christ followers. This past year we saw families' huge need for this support. We do this by providing a toolbelt of knowledge that they can pull from when life gets difficult. The resources and programs of Family Ministry aim to strengthen families as they seek to know God and to become more like Him in their personal walks with Jesus and within their homes. We support the families by these efforts:

- Pre-Marital Mentorship
- Workshops
- Marriage Retreats
- Raising Parents Podcast - Check out the podcast at hpcc.church/family
- Family Ministry Resource Center
- Large Group Experiences - Date Nights and Married People Fun Nights
- Jesus Conversations

Harold Bradshaw
Family and Marriage Pastor





Greg Smith Congregational Care Pastor

In April, the 55+Alive ministry revisited its mission and focus, and the name was changed to Legacy Builders to reflect our new mission: “Sharing Faith Across Generations.” Besides providing fellowship gatherings, we are working to provide opportunities for our Legacy Builders to develop intentional relationships with families, students, and children to share their wisdom and faith.

Each day as part of our hospital visitation team, HPCC members who are admitted to Wyoming Medical Center are visited by one of our six Visitation Team members. We are working on improving our notification system and utilizing the congregation’s help so that every HPCC member who is in the hospital has the opportunity to receive a visit. In addition, we are expanding our visitation into long-term care facilities.

Our team of 100+ ushers and greeters welcome and direct visitors and church families each month. Serving on Sunday mornings and at other special events, such as Christmas Eve Services, these men and women do an outstanding job of sharing the love of Jesus with each person who comes through our doors.

On the first Wednesday of each month, a group of 12 prayer warriors gathers to pray for HPCC, its vision, staff members and their families, our boards, and other leadership teams. In addition, another group meets with Pastor Mike at 6:30 am each Friday morning. The team’s vision is “to make prayer the driving force of everything we do” at HPCC.

From January 1 to September 30, I made 267 individual care contacts through the hospital and home visitation, phone conversations, texts, and e-mails. I’ve also had the joy of officiating a wedding and the honor of conducting multiple funeral services in 2022.

Greg Smith
Congregational Care Pastor





Casey Nester Group Life Director

The Group Life Ministry at Highland Park is designed to create groups of smaller communities within our church to help people grow in their relationships with each other and grow in their relationship with God. The Group Life team is the starting point for all new guests to get connected to all areas of our church. We get to be smiling faces and friendly phone calls to all our first-time guests. This past year, we connected with over 300 first-time guests through our online and texting connection tools and face-to-face on Sunday mornings. We get to know each person and invite them to take their next step to get connected. We believe that spiritual growth happens in the context of a healthy community and that connection happens in three ways; Sundays, Groups, and Serving. We want to help each person connect to grow in their faith in Jesus.

In 2022 we focused on two all-church studies, Acts - To the Ends of the Earth and The Chosen - A look at conversations Jesus had with the people in His life so we can be encouraged to have Jesus Conversations with others. Jesus Conversations happen when the Holy Spirit opens the door to pray with, care for, or share Jesus with someone in your life. Imagine if everyone living in Casper and the surrounding areas could hear and experience the love of Jesus. The Kingdom impact would be huge! To accomplish this, we must walk together and embrace the community that God has placed us in. Jesus chose to be in community, which is why we need to choose it for ourselves.

The heart of these studies is to bring our church closer together as we dive deeper into God's Word. We believe this is important, so we have launched a new way to provide our group lessons, by continually providing group guides that directly line up with the preached Sunday message at HPCC during the school year. In hope that these conversations will connect the people of our church in a more significant way.

Casey Nester
Group Life Director





Darren Adwalpalker Go Pastor

We are blessed to bless! This year, we had 159 families pledge a total of \$458,548 towards local and global missions. The impact of that money starts right here in Casper and stretches around the world.

With the war breaking out in Ukraine, we were able to provide support to 5 Ukrainian refugees, three of whom have stayed in Casper and are receiving ongoing support and encouragement as they settle in the United States.

This year, Love Your City became a city-wide event. Eight churches joined us as we had over 300 volunteers finishing 42 projects. The snowball continues to grow as other churches seek to get involved as we seek to show the love of Christ in tangible ways in our city.

The Unaccompanied Students' Initiative continues to thrive as they provide safe and secure housing for homeless students. Since we helped launch USI in 2020, over 75 homeless students have been provided a safe place to live, learn and grow.

The Wyoming Rescue Mission opened its doors to a brand new men's and women's discipleship recovery home. We continue to provide mentors to walk alongside people in their recovery journey. Last year, we gave an offering of \$100,000 to help with this project.

Big changes are happening in our work in Nicaragua. Due to the global shipping crisis and political pressure in Nicaragua, we are shifting our model from feeding Nicaraguans to empowering Nicaraguans to feed Nicaragua. Our friends in Nicaragua are creating a new organization called NicaChange to teach people skills in small-scale agriculture and entrepreneurship while sharing the Gospel simultaneously. We plan a Go trip to Nicaragua in February to see first-hand the community-impacting work our friends are doing there.

Heart for Lebanon was our global missions focus for the third year in a row. This year, we helped provide \$75,000 for that ministry to continue to expand its reach to Syrian refugees and impoverished Lebanese in the midst of the worst economic crisis in decades.

My hope and prayer is for you to find ways to use your God-given gifts in a way that impacts others and fills your heart. We are blessed to bless!

Darren Adwalpalker
Go Pastor





Brittney Valentine
Youth Pastor



Jason Pierantoni
Youth Pastor

At HP Youth, we are committed to joining Highland Park Community Church in our mission of taking risks to pursue God and love like Jesus. We aim to lead students to be risk-takers, God-chasers, and peacemakers.

Middle School and High School Youth Groups dove into conversations about our Identity in Christ, following Jesus in our current culture, how (not) to read the Bible, and honoring God in our relationships. In Devos & Donuts, we joined the church in their study on the book of Acts. We also dug into the book of Mark, looked into scripture for why we believe what we believe, and even looked into other religions. We look forward to continuing to build relationships, where students feel heard and valued, and challenged to share the love of Jesus in Casper and beyond.

Winter Escape: To kick off 2022, we piled 37 Middle School and High School Students on a bus and headed up to Table in the Wilderness camp for our Annual Winter Escape. This year we were blessed to have Pastor Ben Phillips from Dare 2 Share ministries as our camp speaker. Pastor Ben brought fun, practical and life changing lessons that served to fuel future Jesus Conversations. We are so excited to report that there were 7 students on this trip that chose to give their lives to Jesus.

GO.Denver: Summer of 2022 began with 12 high school students and 4 adult leaders heading down to Denver for five days of serving, Jesus conversations, teaching, and a lot of fun! Pastor Brittney, Pastor Jason, and Dr. Matt Jones from Colorado Christian University taught about serving the least of these (Matt 25:45). We then had opportunities to live that out as we prepared and served meals with the Denver Rescue Mission. In the evenings we walked up and down Colfax with volunteers from Mean Street Ministries, handing out food and having Jesus conversations with families and individuals living in motels on Colfax Avenue. It was an eye opening and kingdom building experience!

Generate Camp: Middle school youth headed down to Estes Park with 25 students and 5 adult leaders for a week of Generate Camp! Our students joined in with hundreds of other middle school students from all around the country for an amazing week of worship, teaching, fellowship, and so much fun! Our amazing leaders served and poured into our students all throughout the week and as a result, relationships were deepened. Six of our students gave their lives to Jesus for the first time, and many others grew closer to Christ!

Brittney Valentine
Jason Pierantoni
Youth Pastors





Chris Kinner
CR Pastor



Adam Doyle
CR Youth Pastor

2022 ushered in Celebrate Recoveries' 16th year of ministry at Highland Park. One of our ongoing strategies is to provide our community with the best meal they have had all week. This is the front line of the ministry because a hungry body has no ears to hear the Gospel. We are serving 150 people for dinner weekly. After dinner on Friday night, we head into the sanctuary which includes, diversity in praise and worship, powerful personal testimonies, and 12 Step lessons. Gender-specific Open Share groups, dessert, fellowship and a food bank cap the evening. Participation is steadily increasing this year as people become used to a new normal.

Ministry continues within the Department of Corrections with CR sharing lessons and testimonies in the Wyoming Women's Center and soon will be back into the Therapeutic Community. CR is currently bringing a monthly meeting to Wyoming Recovery as well. The CR team is now actively ministering at the Link downtown every week with Youth For Christ, in the Youth Crisis Center, Juvenile Detention Center, Angel Tree, and the 12-24 Club. CR also is in the community supporting, Probation and Parole, Department of Family Services, Unaccompanied Student Initiative, the Casper Re-entry Center Board and Natrona County Detention Center.

Celebrate Recovery is also very active in the ministry of Highland Park including, Love Your City where we organized a lunch and served over 250 people. The Landing for teens has been seeing an average of 15 teens attending and took part in 2 USI food drives, as well as service projects within the ministry of CR serving meals and helping facilitate carnival night and game nights for the Celebration Place. The younger kids in Celebration Place are coming in numbers greater than 35 and are learning about Jesus in fun ways that keep them engaged, mixed with creative and sometimes very messy crafts.

CR's motorcycle ministry, Broken Chains, revved up the summer with a Chip Run to Thermopolis. The 3rd annual CR campout this year consisted of 150 people dining on a whole roasted pig at Alcova Lake, along with our regular Friday night worship service with testimonies. This year was a weekend long event, where a baptism and Sunday service with worship and teaching was enjoyed. 57 people attended Step Studies, 12 people were baptized, and 6 new leaders were commissioned into service. Weekly Bible studies continue in the school district at all 3 local High Schools in conjunction with HPCC Youth. Celebrate Recovery stands strong and battles in the trenches on the front lines of life, reaching out to the lost and broken, in Jesus' name.

Chris Kinner
Celebrate Recovery Pastor





Jen Chadderdon Children's Pastor

We are passionately pursuing the vision and direction of our church, helping kids become unified in community, growing in faith, and learning how to multiply themselves in others. Over the last 6 months our kids have had over 300 Jesus Conversations as we have challenged them to Take Risks, Pursue God and Love Like Jesus! We strive to partner with families to help parents find success in their efforts as spiritual leaders in their home.

We couldn't do what we do without all of our amazing small group leaders and volunteers. Our team's commitment to serving our kids and families every week is an example found in people who are passionate about the calling God has put on their lives. We are thankful to those who partner with us to serve and invest in the next generation!

VBS

We believe that even the smallest of people can have a huge impact on the world! All week long, we learned that what we do today can change the world around us. When you put your trust in Jesus, you can "make waves" because of His Spirit living inside you. The Holy Spirit was definitely speaking into the hearts of our kids this week. Throughout the week 37 kids made a commitment to follow Jesus, 47 were interested in learning more about baptism and 19 shared that during VBS was the first time they had heard about what it means to have a relationship with Jesus.

This year during VBS we partnered with the Unaccompanied Student Initiative. Our kids and leaders raised a total of \$2,876.75 to support USI's mission which is to provide safe, stable housing and to develop support systems for high school students, ages 16 to 20 experiencing homelessness.

We have the privilege of serving and discipling hundreds of kids and families every year. We couldn't do it without our amazing volunteers who faithfully serve, give of their time and talents and invest in the next generation by modeling their life, their thoughts, their words, their actions after the example and teaching Jesus has given us. We are excited to see where God will lead us in ministry in the coming year. Join us in prayer as we invest in our kids as they continue to grow in their faith journey.

Serving Him,

Jen Chadderdon
Children's Pastor





Barbara Flinn Special Needs Ministry Director

The Special Needs Ministry at Highland Park exists to glorify God by sharing the love of Jesus Christ and the truths of His Word with children and adults with Special Needs while supporting and encouraging their families through participation in the church body. Sunday mornings are the center of the Special Needs ministry. We offer classroom opportunities during both services to children from preschool to adults. We serve various students with a disability diagnoses, cognitive delays, behavioral disabilities, and more. We focus each month on the same program taught in Kids Ministry and bring it to a level that our participants can understand and participate in. 1 Corinthians 12: 27 says Now you are the body of Christ and each one of you is a part of it. It is wonderful to see how our participants have grown in their knowledge of Christ as we witnessed a child last spring lead prayer when only a few years earlier, he was nonverbal while attending the ministry.

The Special Needs ministry also hosts Highland Park's Fall Festival. Last year's festival welcomed over 3,000 attendees to the church. Thank you to Celebrate Recovery and Family Ministries for their helping us with the festival. It was an event for the entire family offering something for everyone, including a large trunk or treat, bouncy houses, hay rides, face painting, petting zoo, family photo booth, farmers market, food, door prizes, a life-sized game of Candy Land and the high school band performed. The entire event was free and ADA accessible so everyone could participate in all activities. It was a wonderful way to welcome so many to the church and love them like Jesus.

In December, the Special Needs ministry hosted a free community respite day for Special Needs families within the Casper community. We provided enough Buddies so that each participant could have a friend for the afternoon while we celebrated the Christmas season with games, crafts and an opportunity to share the love of Christ with our Special Needs participants while their parents or caregivers could enjoy an afternoon off for rest, Christmas Shopping or just an opportunity to get a few things done. Providing a free community respite day is the greatest gift that we can offer for families as it helps to relieve stress and restore their energy and promote a healthy balance in their lives.

February brought the annual Night to Shine. The Tim Tebow Foundation would not approve a live event so we delivered another great Shine Thru. This year's event was held in the Kitchen Connections warehouse in downtown Casper where Brenda and Pat Christensen went all out to build a spectacular marquee for Night to Shine all in lights. Over 100 volunteers assembled to shower love on our Honored guests as they drove through the warehouse in cars while the volunteers waved fluorescent lights, pom poms, cheered and held up signs for them. Our guests received a flower bouquet, swag bag, a car magnet and were crowned Queen and King. The event was a lot of fun and all volunteers were treated to a wonderful catered dinner from Silver Fox. We are looking forward to Night to Shine in 2023 where we will once again be able to hold a live prom back at the church. Plans are already underway with a comedy show provided by Kyle Yamada as a fund raiser and prom exchange on November 12 as we prepare for the event that will be held February 10, 2023. If you have not volunteered at a Night to Shine yet then you are missing out. Make plans to attend Night to Shine, February 10, 2023 as it is truly a night you will never forget!

Barbara Flinn
Special Needs Director





The Healing Place

As I ponder the last year, I am reminded that change is the certain constant. Only God remains unchanging! So, I will launch into all of the changes with the Healing Place. Nancy Farrar retired last spring. We were sad to see her go, but so grateful that Courtney Stevens was able to slide into the billing/office manager position. We are happy to have found Brianna Reaves to fill the scheduler/receptionist job vacated by Courtney. We are able to have Brianna job share between us and Family Ministry.

We have also had changes in our counseling staff as well. Anna O'Malley left us to move to Boise last spring. As usual, God provided a new counselor. Stephanie Harrison joined us from the Natrona County School District. We also added Audrey Steinle to our staff. Audrey is originally from Casper and moved back with her family from Texas. Stephanie and Audrey have been great additions to our bunch. We still have Jason Poot, Cari Roethenhoefer, Ginger Terry, Harold Bradshaw and myself. We have a great team of very solid counselors who are very passionate about Jesus and people who are hurting.

In the past year we have had 322 new intakes. We have provided 8,122 hours of direct counseling; 47% of our new clients report no church involvement or are unchurched. We are thankful to be under the umbrella of the church during these incredibly uncertain times. As always, we are continually grateful and humbled to partner with Jesus in caring for His sheep.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie L. Fox
Clinical Director





Leslie Bromley,
Business Manager & Treasurer

"Bring the whole tithe
into the storehouse,
that there may be
food in my house."
Malachi 3:10

WHAT IS A TITHE?

A tithe is a contribution of 10%
of your household income
used to run the church and its
ministries.

As of the end of September, 26.6% of families were tithing in 2022. This is based on a median (1/2 make more, 1/2 make less) household income in Casper in 2020 (latest stats available) of \$59,412.

**WE WANT TO THANK EVERY ONE OF YOU WHO FAITHFULLY TITHE ON A
REGULAR BASIS TO SUPPORT ALL OF OUR OUTSTANDING MINISTRIES AT HPCC!**

WHO SHOULD TITHE?

Everyone who believes in
sharing the Good News that
Jesus is the only way to God
should tithe to their home
church.

"Each of you must bring
a gift in proportion to
the way the LORD your
God has blessed you."
Deuteronomy 16:17

