

2019 ANNUAL REPORT

*Behold, I am
with you and
will keep you
wherever you go*

—Genesis 28:15



**CITY
CHURCH**
of Richmond

City Church of Richmond

A Brief History

FALL 2007

We were welcoming about 30 worshippers per week, and few local pastors began helping out with worship.

JULY 2008

Erik Bonkovsky was hired as church-planting pastor.

MARCH 2009

We changed our name to City Church of Richmond to better align our identity with our mission and vision.

We moved our worship space to Congregation Beth Ahabah, to better accommodate our growing church.

FEBRUARY 2011

We moved our worship (and office) space to Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church, 1627 Monument Avenue.

JUNE 2013

FALL 2006

City Church's first service (then called Franklin Street Community or FSC) was held at Harvest Renewal Church, led by Steve Constable, senior pastor at Stony Point Reformed Presbyterian Church.

WINTER 2007

FSC became an official PCA church plant and commissioned a search team to find a pastor.

SEPTEMBER 2008

We received our first members—23, to be exact.

City Church was particularized, meaning we had our own pastor and ordained elders who were elected by the church to shepherd its people.

JANUARY 2011

We ordained our first deacons who were elected by the church to care for its physical and tangible needs.

FEBRUARY 2012

A Letter to City Church

Hey, City Church.

We are so excited to present to you our first-ever City Church Annual Report. We hope it is both fun and encouraging to read. And we hope that whether you're new to City Church or have been around for awhile, you will feel more connected to the work that God is doing among us.

Last fall in our sermon series *The Church in the World*, I talked about "Transparency" as one of the core values of the church. After admitting that we haven't always done a good job at it, I emphasized that a healthy church fosters thorough-going transparency in its communication, its structures, and its people. To that end, our Communications Team (Leland Bonkovsky, Val Catrow, Phil Edwards, Jordan Greene, Rachel Lee, and Sabrina Porrata) has worked really hard to put together this inaugural annual report. We see it as a marker in the ground, helping us to look back at the past and to look forward in faith to what is to come.

Our hope is that the City Church Annual Report is a little bit different from other annual reports you've read. Sure, it is filled with hard facts and figures about the people and programs of City Church. But it also tells some lesser-known stories of how God is transforming our lives and growing us up into a people after His own heart.

As you take time to read this report, remember the joys of another Harvest Party, of our first ever Fancy Bingo, of baptisms and installations and other milestones. But also grieve again the losses and heartache of last year—the people who have moved away, the loved ones who have died, the jobs lost, the friendships fractured. And, finally, look forward in faith to what God will do in the months ahead, as we walk with Him, struggling at times, but holding fast to God's certain promise to be with us and never leave us.

Warmly,

ERIK

A Year at City Church

1. Promises, Promises: The Life of Isaac

(January and February)

- Our **women's Bible studies** dove into Psalms and Esther.
- Kim Greene served as the speaker of our annual **women's retreat** at Roslyn, speaking to 86 attendees on the theme of "Come. Draw Near. Abide."
- We shared **Cosmos to Chaos**, a devotional about the inherent value of human work.

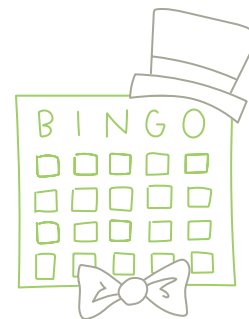
2. Habits of Life: Lent *(March and April)*

• City Church staff and members contributed to our **Habits of Life** lenten devotional, reflecting on personal habits that nudge us towards living with great Christlikeness.

• We celebrated **Easter** with an egg hunt and meal at Forest Hill Park.

• Our **men's retreat** at Chanco hosted more than 50 attendees.

• A great time was had by all at the inaugural **Fancy Bingo!**



3. Love to the Loveless: Hosea *(May-August)*

• **Harrison Ford** joined the City Church staff as our Assistant Pastor of Spiritual Formation, and **JB Burtch** came on as our Director of Mentoring.

• Our **Prague** team spent a week with City Church partners Phil and Shanna Davis—praying for them, learning about their day-to-day work, and providing branding and marketing support for Faith Community Church.

• **Summer Vespers** began in June, kicking off a summer spent talking about connecting with God, others, and City Church.

• More than 40 kids took part in **Creation Care Camp** at Forest Hill Park.

• We published **Backpack Devotionals** which gave kids (and parents) scripture-based guidance in working through back-to-school jitters.



4. The Church in the World *(September)*

- Our middle schoolers spent two fun-filled days at **Rockbridge**.
- We said goodbye to summer and hello to far-flung friends (and VCU students!) with our **Welcome Back Sunday** dinner.
- Our **women's Bible studies** began working through 1 John and Acts.
- Throughout the month, we heard from City Church ministry partners during worship, culminating in our first-ever **Partnership Sunday**.
- **Sunday Formation** began with a series on Jesus and Our Doubt.

5. Witnesses to Wonder: Luke 1 & 2

(October and November)

- Hillary Bleckley facilitated our **Faith and Work Roundtable** on building a healthy relationship with work.
- We installed **Jim Pulizzi** as Associate Pastor.
- **Harvest Party 2019** was a fun time with good food and fantastic music, hosted by Shalom Farms.
- Val Kling joined us for **"Honor Your Father and Mother...Still,"** a Saturday Seminar on loving your parents as adult children.



6. A Man In Between: John the Baptist

(December)

- City Church members reflected on their favorite Advent songs for our devotional, **Songs for the In-Between**.
- More than 60 children took part in our annual **Christmas pageant**.

By The Numbers

Church Family

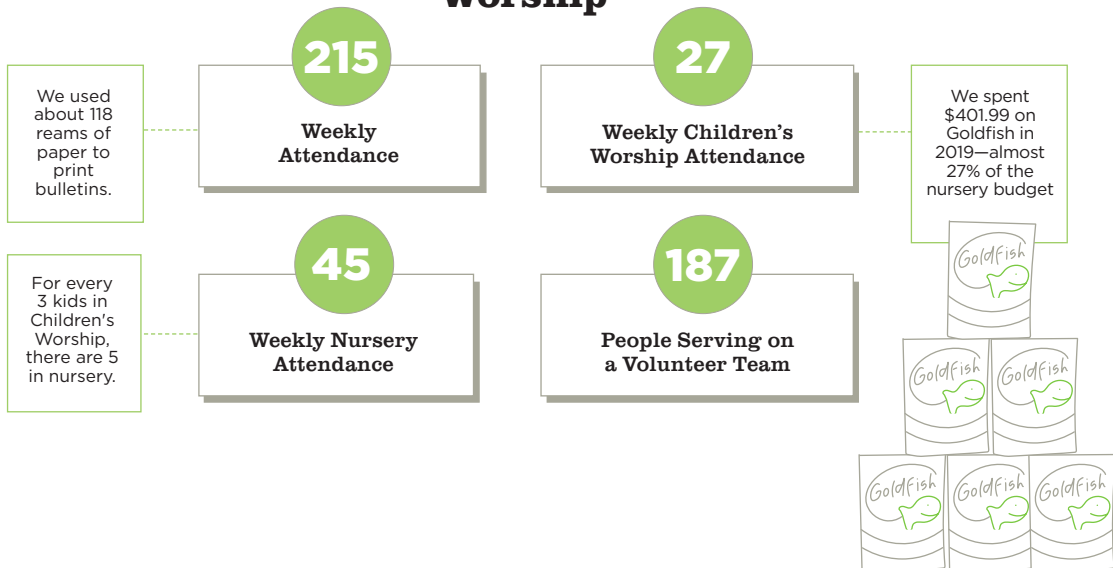
365

Total Communing and Non-Communing Members *As of December 31, 2019*

- 2 ADULT PROFESSIONS OF FAITH**
Adults who professed faith in Jesus, were baptized, and received as members of City Church
- 1 RESTORATION TO THE ROLL**
People returning to City Church
- 17 COVENANT CHILDREN BORN**
Children born to communing members
- 9 REAFFIRMATIONS OF FAITH**
Baptized adults who were not previously on the roster of another church
- 19 COVENANT CHILDREN BAPTIZED**
- 2 COVENANT CHILDREN PROFESSIONS OF FAITH**
Kids who completed Children's Worship graduation, professed faith in Jesus, and started taking communion
- 6 TRANSFERS FROM OTHER CHURCHES**
Baptized adults who were previously members of another church
- 21 MEMBERSHIP LOSSES**
Removals and transfers
- 20 TOTAL NEW COMMUNING MEMBERS**



Worship



Formation

25

First Sunday Formation (March-May)

average attendance per session

30

Sunday Formation (Fall)

average attendance per session

40

City Kids/Youth attendance

average per week

30

Women's Bible study attendance

about 10 on Monday evenings and
20 on Wednesday mornings

18

City Groups

with an average of 12
people per group

86

2019 Women's Retreat

51

2019 Men's Retreat

Money

2018-2019 Fiscal Year

GENERAL OFFERING

\$609,309.93

99.9% of what was budgeted

MERCY FUND CONTRIBUTIONS

\$9,002.55

Funds separate from regular budget to
provide financial support to those in need

HOUSEHOLDS GIVING TO GENERAL OFFERING

155

(members & attendees)

AVERAGE ANNUAL OFFERINGS PER MEMBER HOUSEHOLD

\$4,486.20

TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS SENT BACK OUT INTO RICHMOND AND BEYOND

\$127,683.26

Almost 24% of our total expenses

Year in Photos



2



1



3



4



5



6



7



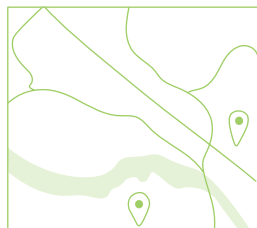
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1 Leaders and members pray for Harrison at his installation as Assistant Pastor. 2 Alycia, Rita, Leah, Anne Stewart, and Emily spend time together at the 2019 Women's Retreat. 3 Jeannie counts her Fancy Bingo winnings. 4 Shalom Farms proves, once again, to be great hosts for our Harvest Party. 5 Leaders and members (and kids!) praying for Jim at his installation as Associate Pastor. 6 Hillary leads our Faith & Work Roundtable discussion on what it looks like to have a healthy relationship with work. 7 Faces of relief as Jennifer and Sabrina finally make it on a connecting flight to Prague to begin their mission trip in June. 8 Anne Selby—like all of our pageant participants—looks about ready to partake in some chicken nuggets and Christmas carols.

2020 Goals

As we look back on how God was faithful to City Church in 2019, it's important to also look forward and establish goals for how we will steward all we've been given. This year we're hoping to...

- Welcome at least 30 new communing members (including 5 professions of faith) to our roll by January 2021.
- See three additional nursery volunteers serving each Sunday.
- Have 75% of our members involved in service each semester, including two church-wide service opportunities (e.g. A Night to Shine RVA).
- Increase participation in Christian Formation (Sunday Formation, City Groups, and Bible studies).



- Establish two new City Groups: one in Church Hill and one south of the river.
 - Explore community-friendly (i.e. outward-facing) class offerings.
 - Continue parental involvement in City Kids-related activities.
- Bring in \$652,824.00 in offerings for the 2019-2020 fiscal year.
 - Encourage 100% giving participation from all members and regular attenders.
 - Send out \$137,093.00 to our ministry partners during the 2019-2020 fiscal year.

2020 Prayer

Of course, nothing is possible at City Church without your participation and prayers. Will you join us in praying?

- For God's continued faithfulness in providing City Church with the people, space, and funds to do the work of sharing the Gospel.
- For wisdom and stamina for City Church's leadership and staff.
- For deepened friendships within the City Church community.
- For strengthened—and new!—connections with other churches and organizations in Richmond and beyond.
- For City Church to be a place where those who don't know Jesus meet him, love him, and give their hearts to him.
- For the hearts of those who will walk through the doors of City Church for the first time this year. May they be seen, welcomed, loved, and pointed towards Jesus.
- For the hearts of all of us at City Church—that this year each of us grows to know and love Jesus more than ever.

Partners

ACTS	Jessica Forbes, Serge
Arrabon	Micah Initiative
Ben and Kim Church, MTW	Night to Shine RVA
CHAT	Patty's Hope
CrossOver Healthcare	Peter Lyon, RUF
Crown & Joy Presbyterian Church	Phil and Shanna Davis, Serge
CRU	Presbyterian Church in America
East End Pregnancy Center	RUF at VCU
Elijah House Academy	RCLI
FOCUS	RJI
Frank Matthews, MNA	Shalom Farms
Hannah Carroll, RUF	The Barnabas Center
Intervarsity	Training Evangelistic Leadership
Jacob Hotinger, RUF	West End Presbyterian Church
James River Presbytery	Young Life
Jenna Opedun, Serge	Youth Life Foundation

Staff & Leadership

Staff

Erik Bonkovsky, Pastor	<i>erik@citychurchrva.com</i>
Jim Pulizzi, Pastor of Children & Families	<i>jim@citychurchrva.com</i>
Harrison Ford, Pastor of Spiritual Formation	<i>harrison@citychurchrva.com</i>
Valerie Catrow, Administrator	<i>val@citychurchrva.com</i>
Meg Haden, Director of Women's Ministry	<i>meg@citychurchrva.com</i>
Jennifer Murphy, Director of Preschool Ministry	<i>jennifer@citychurchrva.com</i>
Adam Bailey, Director of Music and Sound	<i>adam@citychurchrva.com</i>
JB Burtch, Director of Mentoring	<i>jb@citychurchrva.com</i>

Ruling Elders

Frank Allen
Andrew Bleckley*
George Davis
Mack Hendrix
Stefan Kling
James Murphy
Hatch Reppard (Clerk)

Trustees

Barrett Clark
Mark Kronenthal

**Currently on sabbatical*

Deacons

David Boyce (Chair)
Alex Brito
Barrett Clark*
Eric Morgan
Carter Neal
David Perks*

Diaconal Assistants

Stan Austin
Susie Austin
Stephen Day
Sarah Johnson
Julie Pence