

with me  
the eventide  
ss deepens,  
me abide  
s fall and comforts  
ee

Abide with me  
ast falls the eventide  
the darkness deepens,  
Lord with me abide  
her helpers fall and comin  
flee



*annual report*

OH BE JOYFUL CHURCH



# annual report

OH BE JOYFUL CHURCH

Dear OBJC,

I can confidently say 2022 was a year in which we saw God at work here at Oh Be Joyful. From new small groups to new staff members to retreats and special services, the evidence of God's hand has been apparent and I'm excited to share with you some of the ways in which we've seen Him building His kingdom right here in Crested Butte. This report is in no way comprehensive but provides a snapshot of things for you to consider and pray through. If there is anything you have questions or comments about, feel free to reach out to me at [home@ohbejoyfulchurch.org](mailto:home@ohbejoyfulchurch.org).

Scott

## looking forward

Because the local church is the hands and feet of Christ it must be proactive by planning ahead to serve Him well, we must have foresight. God has given our church a unique mission: to work for gospel transformation here in Crested Butte and the surrounding valley. We are called to be a catalyst that boldly engages the people of this beautiful place with the light and truth of Jesus resulting in radically changed lives.

We will keep building on what He is already doing. And we need to make progress on fronts such as building on our mission as a church, supporting our leadership through a more robust HR system, and proactively engaging with a way to secure housing for future staff. We are invested in strengthening our youth, women's, and men's ministries through discipleship, outreach, and fellowship. In 2023 we are committed to seeing growth in depth and breadth of small group communities and their leaders. There is much to do and we want to be faithful in pursuing God's will for His church.

## foresight meeting

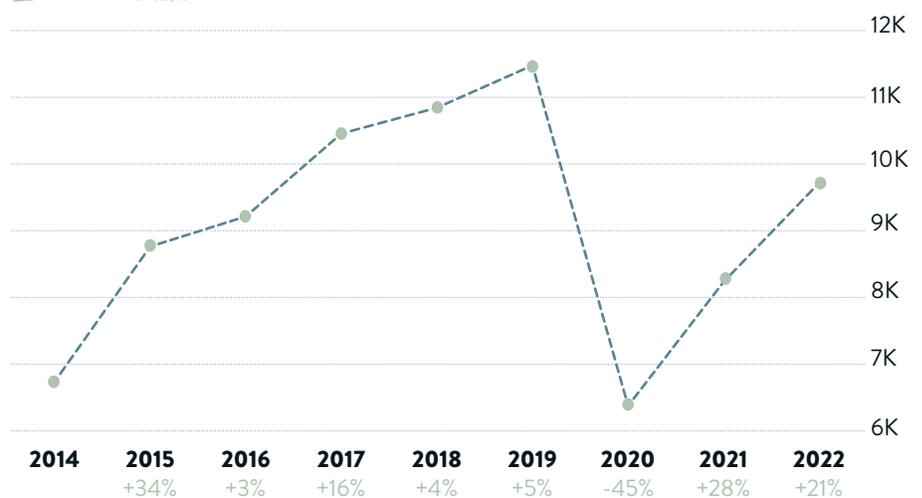
Every March the church is invited to our annual Foresight Meeting to touch base, get a snapshot of the past, cover important business, and look to the future. This year's will take place Sunday, March 19 from 10:30-Noon.

Documents for review may be found at [ohbejoyfulchurch.org/foresight](http://ohbejoyfulchurch.org/foresight)

At the meeting members will vote on:

- The 2023 Budget prepared and recommended by the Trustees.
- As recommended by the elder board, approval of two apprentice elders for full eldership, John Bever and Fray Webster.
- Approval of changes in the Bylaw documents for 2023, as recommended by the elder board.

## attendance



## leadership q & a

In the Spring of 2023 we will be hosting two Leadership Q & A Coffees after church on April 2nd and 30th for one hour to give time for our body and leadership to interact and communicate in a casual but meaningful space.

## missionary

Covid was devastating to mission work around the world. During that time we accelerated our contributions to missionaries and worked on building better relationships with them remotely. In 2023 we will be connecting with leaders in Ukraine to learn about engagement there and in February our youth and young adults were able to travel to Peru to visit a mission organization we support in Arequipa.

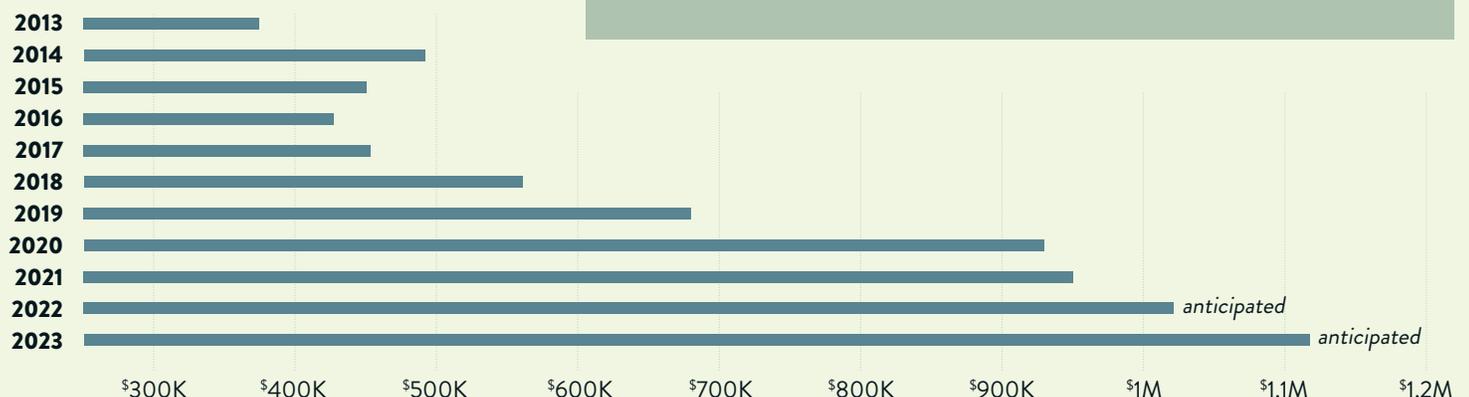
## spiritual life

In 2022 we studied the books of Acts and Exodus, dove more deeply into spiritual practices, learned from the Prayers of Jesus, and celebrated the Advent season. We added an Ash Wednesday service, Lenten season focus, a corporate fast, a Maundy Thursday service, and a variety of Taize services. The body continues to pray on Sundays, through the prayer email list, and through the Thursday evening prayer group. In addition to our young adults' and womens' retreats, this year also included a first ever silent retreat at Sky Ranch.

## good business processes

Strong and accountable business and facility operations must run smoothly in the background of the church to establish trust for the body and create a safe and useful space for ministry. In the last year we have worked hard to strengthen all aspects of our operations, especially regarding our vision to provide a strong framework from which our staff and leaders can grow and use their gifts effectively. Jessica, Peggy, and our Trustees have been working to build that support through rewarding pay, a retirement program, updated bylaws, pastoral licensing, and leadership covenants.

## fiscal year giving (April through March)



## financial snapshot

God works through His people so a basic philosophy regarding our budgeting is that we will use as much of our resources as possible to empower great leaders to engage our community for the gospel. The dollars we have been entrusted with fund our mission of gospel transformation in Crested Butte and is generally divided into the four components of our DNA: We Abide In Jesus, We Pass The Baton, We Go Together, and We Are Heat And Light. If you would like more information about our budget, reach out to one of our trustees (Tyler Harpel, Chad Oleson, Cari Freeman, Mark Ewing, and KayLynne Ezzell).

**Savings:** approximately \$970,000 (February 1, 2023)

**2022 Giving:** \$1,015,000 (estimated)

**2022 Budget:** \$952,000

**2023 Giving:** \$1,140,000 (estimated)

**2023 Budget:** \$1,075,000

**Staff Salary Expense:** \$767,000\*

**Business Expenses:** \$54,000

**Facility Expenses:** \$53,000

**Abide in Jesus:** \$14,000

**We Go Together:** \$22,000

**Heat and Light:** \$120,500

**Pass the Baton:** \$40,500

\*staff salaries play into all the DNA statements at varying levels

## staff development

OBJC has a wonderful staff team with a passion for Jesus, a love for this town, and a lot of special gifts to serve in our resort community. In 2022 we welcomed Amari Graber to the team in the role of Youth Pastor and her husband Tyler Smith as our Men's Ministry Coordinator as well as Facility Manager. Molly Holsteen rejoined our team and is our Women's Ministry Coordinator. Today we have a total of twelve staff members that are a mix of part time (7), 3/4 time (2), and full time (3). This was our first year to have a person on family leave (Jessica); and our Financial Manager Peggy became our first remote staff member. It is no secret that Crested Butte is a place with a lot of transition, but our staff has unusual staying power with over 100 years of combined commitment to OBJC! The shortest tenure is one year and the longest is 26. In 2022 we also added two Elder Apprentices, John Bever and Fray Webster, whom we look forward to becoming full elders in 2023.

## staff years at OBJC

Tyler H.	
Renee S.	
Whitney G.	
Scott W.	
Eric E.	
Luke L.	
Jessica T.	
Cari F.	
Peggy K.	
Amari G.	
Tyler S.	
Molly H.	

## special events

July is the time for being outdoors in CB and our Church in the Park events were a big hit again. We have been building out several other events for fellowship and worship such as the OBJC Concert Night, Carol Sing, gatherings tied to the liturgical calendar, Taize Services, and more.

## women's and men's ministry

Molly and Tyler S. are off to a great start in coordinating our women's and men's ministries. They bring humble hearts, vision, and structure to the good things that are already happening and we look forward to growth in discipleship, outreach, and engagement. Don't miss the monthly men's breakfast, women's retreat, or bible studies going on now!

## community care connections

There are essentially four major areas of focus in meeting the needs in our community: Counseling, Community Care, Food Bank, and Partnerships. We are fortunate to have trained counselors who serve by walking beside people in need, Community Care steps in when people are facing financial barriers, the Food Bank serves many families twice a month, and we have the privilege of sharing financial resources and our building with local non-profits that we support such as Gunnison Valley Health, Mountain Roots, CMBA, the Nordic Center, Sky Ranch, CB Devo, CB Music Festival, and others.

## youth and young adults

Good stuff is happening in the youth and young adult ministries under Amari and Whitney. In the last year our youth took their first hiking trip (25 miles), traveled to Peru, established a youth led worship team, and took part in multiple Bible study opportunities. Many of our youth serve in the Joyful Kids program on Sunday mornings. Our young adults are a big part of the culture at OBJC with strong attendance on Sunday mornings, Bible studies, missions, and a growing young couples community group. They are discipleship-minded, outreach-focused, and just plain fun.

## challenges we face

Looking ahead reveals challenges that we need to prayerfully and strategically address. A few of those challenges include the need to build our volunteer teams in almost every area of ministry, revitalize a passion for lost people with the result of conversions in our community, serve well the growing number of young couples and families in our body, and establish more opportunity to connect our leadership to the broader body.