



redeemer west side
**annual
report**

2023

- 1 Letter from David
- 2 Consolidated Financials
- 3 RWS and LSQ Financials
- 4 RCS and CFW Financials
- 5 Statement of Financial Position

18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27



letter from david

Dear Redeemer West Side,

The introductory letter to an annual report encourages stakeholders to do something counterintuitive in our cultural moment: slow down and reflect on the past. Yet this practice is core to the Christian imagination: remembering the past to faithfully live into the future. This past year we reflected on the heart of the Christian life: following Jesus' sacred call (Matthew 4:19). A pilgrimage that promises life as it was meant to be (John 10:10), realized through a counterintuitive lifestyle modeled on Jesus' humility, grace, compassion and sacrifice. Hence, Jesus' statement that when we see the elements of his sacrificial death we are to remember him (Luke 22:19). So in my final annual letter as your Senior Pastor I will reach back beyond 2023 to help the Redeemer West Side (RWS) stakeholders prepare for its new chapter.

In the first five years Redeemer grew from an idea on paper to a thriving church on the UES. As a 20-something hospital administrator plunged into this venture, I remember an extraordinary movement of the Holy Spirit in the lives of individuals (myself included) who were awakened to the transformative power of divine grace. New York City was emerging from a long season of cultural, economic, and political pessimism; in many ways, it was an ideal soil for the carefully thought-through blueprint Tim and Kathy Keller brought.

The second experience was 9/11, which occurred less than three years after I joined the staff. The attack and subsequent chaos required us to transform into a hybrid between a church and a social service organization. Funds poured in from around the country as individuals who spoke little or no English sat in our hallways in need of help. Individuals who hadn't attended church in decades flooded our worship services, stretching our capacity beyond our human ability to respond.

Finally, there was the disruption of the global pandemic and the associated political and racial reckonings that, unlike 9/11, emptied our city and pews and divided us instead of uniting us. Praying daily at noon with congregants and delivering sermons to a camera lens in an empty W83 became routine as we all adjusted to another cultural paradigm shift that is still evolving.

Why remember these seasons? Because they share a common thread that is essential to RWS's future. Prayerful and well-thought-through strategies rooted in biblical core values combined with a reliance

upon the Spirit. Tim and Kathy arrived in NYC armed with a carefully constructed blueprint for the kind of church they envisioned God had called them to plant. Their faithful adherence to that vision and values, frequently under duress, was essential to the fruit experienced in the first five years. But in human terms the blueprint was a fool's errand, relocating from the suburbs with three young sons to a turbulent NYC in 1988. The only possible explanation for what happened during those five years was the gracious power of the Holy Spirit.

Similarly, those same values blossomed into a holistic ministry infrastructure with a Diaconate led by a full-time social worker. The institutional habit of caring for congregants in crisis meant that when 9/11 occurred we were able to expand that ministry city-wide. But like a decade earlier, the material, emotional, and spiritual challenges of a city engulfed in smoke and fear were above our pay grade. Yes, we worked hard, but without the power and wisdom of God's Spirit we would have collapsed under the weight of the overwhelming circumstances we faced.

Finally, the resources available to us when the pandemic emerged allowed our staff to adjust to a model of remote ministry overnight. I will forever be in awe and grateful for our staff who, while dealing with the disruption in their own lives, rallied in a spirit of creativity, collaboration, compassion, and courage to serve our city and congregation while at the same time planning for a different future. And yet, like the previous two examples, it was a poignant example of God saying to us: "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness" (2 Corinthians 12:9).

So, as we look to the future, my encouragement is to remember your shared responsibility to prayerfully and thoughtfully plan, holding firmly to a strategy and values rooted in Jesus' sacred call to follow him in a way that tangibly reflects a cross-shaped love (Matthew 16:24). And to follow him in ways that require courage and hope, stretching you beyond your human imagination and capabilities. In those circumstances you will find that God is "able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us" (Ephesians 3:20).

With gratitude to the pilgrims who have preceded us, and hope for the future for those who have taken up Jesus' call to love our neighbors and heal our City.

In Christ,

Rev. David Bisgrove

Senior Pastor, Redeemer West Side

But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore, I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses so that Christ's power may rest on me. —2 Corinthians 12:9

All Funds

	2022	2023	YTY
Income			
General Contributions	\$10,686,876	\$10,774,040	1%
RCS Sponsor A Client	152,050	100,215	-34%
Building Fund	104,960	100,700	-4%
Mercy & Justice	137,815	122,929	-11%
Counseling Fees	2,580,382	2,756,825	7%
W83 Rental Income	332,327	457,007	38%
Gospel in Life	631,745	500,000	-21%
CFW	143,379	117,272	-18%
Other	52,859	543,718	929%
Total Income	\$14,822,393	\$15,472,706	4%
Expenses			
Personnel	\$7,661,957	\$8,349,474	9%
Operating	5,657,337	6,565,434	16%
Allocation	356,925	332,640	-7%
Total Expenses	\$13,676,219	\$15,247,548	11%
Net Proceeds	\$1,146,174	\$225,158	-80%

*Other - Investment Income, Program Income, Other Contributions

All Funds	Redeemer West Side			Redeemer Lincoln Square		
	2022	2023	YTY	2022	2023	YTY
Revenue						
Operating Giving	\$7,033,210	\$6,811,401	-3%	\$2,973,734	\$3,184,664	7%
Mercy and Justice Giving	82,907	74,465	-10%	54,908	48,464	-12%
Building Fund Giving	104,960	100,700	-4%	-	-	-
Gospel In Life (Allocation)	442,488	350,000	-21%	189,257	150,000	-21%
Other	316,094	316,094	0%	49,375	143,490	191%
License Fee Income	332,327	457,007	38%	-	-	-
Total Revenue	\$8,311,986	\$8,109,667	-2%	\$3,267,274	\$3,526,618	8%
Expenses by Department						
Exec and Admin	\$629,986	\$677,967	8%	\$1,769,352	\$1,936,247	9%
Worship	535,104	565,584	6%	543,554	595,502	10%
Community	110,634	120,759	9%	260,686	271,656	4%
Children's Ministry	359,335	510,484	42%	176,595	127,713	-28%
Youth	196,321	306,210	56%	47,027	31,348	-33%
Relationships	5,833	9,417	61%	-	-	-
Discipleship	1,059,454	1,067,051	1%	-	-	-
Mission	331,970	375,432	13%	167,189	176,215	5%
W83 Ministry Center	3,501,275	4,018,362	15%	-	-	-
Network Allocation	302,966	315,108	4%	128,320	161,892	26%
Total Expenses	\$7,032,878	\$7,966,374	13%	\$3,092,723	\$3,300,573	7%
Net Proceeds	\$1,279,108	\$143,293		\$174,551	\$226,045	

redeemer counseling services

	2022	2023	YTY
Revenue			
General Contribution	\$596,247	\$768,520	16%
Sponsor A Client	152,050	100,215	
Fees Income	2,526,947	2,593,025	3%
Renewal Group	53,584	83,292	55%
Other	-149	80,508	-
Total Revenue	\$3,328,679	\$3,625,560	9%
Expenses			
Personnel	\$2,525,715	\$2,770,920	10%
Operating	805,062	766,443	-5%
Network Allocation	114,720	114,720	-
Total Expenses	\$3,445,497	\$3,652,083	6%
Net Proceeds	-\$116,818	-\$26,523	-77%

center for faith and work

	2022	2023	YTY
Revenue			
CFW Contributions	\$65,593	\$9,455	-86%
Gotham Scholarship	6,450	117,272	1718%
Program Income	143,379	-	-18%
Other Income	250	1,844	638%
Total Revenue	\$215,672	\$128,571	-40%
Expenses			
Personnel	\$114,937	\$287,919	151%
Operating	260,497	217,388	-17%
Network Allocation	-189,743	-259,080	37%
Total Expenses	\$185,691	\$246,227	33%
Net Proceeds	\$29,981	-\$117,656	-492%

statement of financial position

By location – as of December 31, 2023

	RWS	LSQ	RCS	All Departments
Assets				
Current Assets				
Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$7,504,528	\$3,723,180	\$1,763,600	\$12,991,308
Accounts Receivable, Net	443,975	175,638	143,976	763,589
Grants Receivable	215,841	-	-	215,841
Other Current Assets	553,653	209,877	375,649	1,139,179
Total Current Assets	\$8,717,997	\$4,108,695	\$2,283,225	\$15,109,917
Long-term Assets				
Property & Equipment	44,622,682	23,000	68,000	44,713,682
Total Long-term Assets	\$44,622,682	\$23,000	\$68,000	\$44,713,682
Intangible Assets, Net	-73,716	1,879,398	2,580,253	4,385,935
Total Assets	\$53,266,963	\$6,011,093	\$4,931,478	\$64,209,534
Liabilities and Net Assets				
Liabilities				
Short-term Liabilities	\$1,611,513	\$2,282,896	\$3,109,825	\$7,004,234
Long Term Liabilities	16,280,258	-	-	16,280,258
Total Liabilities	\$17,891,771	\$2,282,896	\$3,109,825	\$23,284,492
Net Assets				
With Donor Restrictions	910,567	244,012	72,231	1,226,810
Without Donor Restrictions	34,464,625	3,484,185	1,749,422	39,698,232
Total Net Assets	\$35,375,192	\$3,728,197	\$1,821,653	\$40,925,042
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$53,266,963	\$6,011,093	\$4,931,478	\$64,209,534

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