ANNUAL
REPORT | 2022

CHELTEN
— a church of hope —

2022 Annual Report

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Pastoral Leadership Team

DR. BILL KREWSON
Discipleship
Shepherding Ministries

DR. JIN LEE
Preaching
Liturgy
Community Groups

JON SHEPHERD
Family Ministry
Outreach
Operations

Senior Pastor of Discipleship

God is at work!

During the past year Chelten experienced a gracious renewal of spiritual life. Our purpose statement summarizes Chelten's mission: we exist "to worship the triune God, to nurture his family and to share his gospel of hope." This is our function, and it is timeless. However, our form has been changing and will continue to change. It is vitally important to see the difference between what we do and how we do it. If a particular form disappears or changes, rather than get upset, we must look for the function underlying the new form. Keep in mind how God changed the form of divine worship from a temple in Jerusalem to hearts of believers who are now God's temples. That change came because the form of sacrifice moved from animals to the Lamb of God. Those changes in forms were made to deepen God's relationship with his people. In the same way, Chelten has resiliently adapted to change by being flexible in our forms while still holding tenaciously to the biblical functions of worship, nurture and outreach.

During these difficult years of the pandemic when the forms of our ministries drastically changed, our staff has been asking, "What is the function of each ministry?" The answer stays the same: to connect our people with the Triune God by worshiping together, by nurturing each other and by reaching out to those who need this message of eternal life through Christ.

How encouraging to see more and more people returning to our church campus, to welcome visitors, to praise God for the testimonies of those receiving baptism, to watch the membership grow as people call Chelten their home church, to walk with precious families who have lost loved ones and to hear stories of how our people pray together and love others.

I am grateful to serve alongside Pastors Jin and Shep as well as a dedicated staff who unselfishly serves the body of Christ at Chelten. This next year let's continue to pursue our gracious God whose mercy has brought us new life in Christ. "Who is a God like you, who pardons sin and forgives the transgression of the remnant of his inheritance? You do not stay angry forever but delight to show mercy" (Micah 7:18).

Sincerely, by Grace,

Dr. Bill Krewson | Senior Pastor of Discipleship and Shepherding Ministries

Senior Pastor of Worship

As I reflect on this past year, I realize that God has brought us through the storm as the last 12 months have been another difficult and challenging year, and yet look at us. Look at all that God has done among us.

- We have seen and heard the stories of how God has changed our lives.
- We have seen the people of God loving one another in such a divisive season in the world.
- We have seen the people of God rising to help one another in and out of the church.

God has done great things among us, and we give him thanks for all the momentum he has brought us despite all the challenges we have faced.

This past year, we as a church learned:

- the vision of our church, Chelten's DNA, in the summer of 2021. We are a group of people who worship our triune God (up), care and nurture one another (in), and share the good news of Jesus Christ (out)
- about how faith moves us. True biblical faith moves the people of God into action. We studied Hebrews 11 and were challenged to walk in obedience, sacrifice and courage through the examples of men and women of God who have come before us.
- that we are one church in Christ Jesus. We have studied the book of Ephesians in the fall of 2021. The church is not just for me, you or ourselves. Because God has given us a new life in Christ through his death and resurrection, we are called to humble ourselves and love one another.
- that Jesus is the end of our longing (Advent and Christmas). In our longing for hope, we are searching for Jesus. The desire underneath our longing for peace of mind is that we are seeking Jesus. Our longing for permanent and unchanging joy can ultimately be met through our satisfaction in Jesus. Jesus is our love, and he is the fulfillment of our faith.
- about the importance of basic Christian disciplines. As we embarked on the new year, we did an annual check-up sermon series, Chelten 2022. In our series, we studied the importance of prayer, Scripture and community (friendship).
- about what it means to walk humbly with hope. In our studies this spring in the book of Micah, we were challenged by the fact that our gracious God extended his justice and yet also hope to us. There is no one like our God who is compassionate and merciful, and therefore, we shall act justly and love mercy and walk humbly with our God.

The gospel shall continue to be proclaimed in all that we do. We praise him for all that he has done, and we are eagerly looking forward to what is to come!

Dr. Jin Lee | Senior Pastor of Preaching | Liturgy | Community Groups

Senior Pastor of Mission

Imagine riding down the street on a bicycle with oval tires—not round. Not exactly a smooth ride. Not the best design. Tires operate best when the spokes are of equal length and strength. Think of Chelten's mission statement as three spokes of a tire. Chelten "exists to worship the triune God, to nurture his family and to share his gospel of hope." Our desire is that we might be a church that is practicing and growing in all three of these areas simultaneously. These three facets of our mission are all dependent on and feed one another.

- Our worship is directly displayed in our love for those inside and outside of the family of God.
- Our love for one another is rooted in our love for God and fuels us to love our neighbor.
- Our love of those who are not Christians is in prayerful anticipation of them coming to receive God's love, making them family who we care for which leads to greater worship.

As one of the pastors here at Chelten, I have a front row seat of how our church is leaning into and growing in all three of these areas. Everything we do works toward accomplishing this threefold mission, from preaching to painting, from planning worship services to planning budgets. Here are a few ways the Chelten family lived out our mission:

- Completed our goal in December 2021 of reading through the Bible collectively in a year
- Participated in weekly prayer gatherings, Sunday morning worship services, worship nights, ministry events and much more!
- Celebrated new life in Christ through baptisms
- Welcomed many new members into the Chelten family
- Provided food and resources to local families who were impacted by the September tornado
- Individuals and ministries continued (as you will hear about in the following pages)
- Hosted backyard VBS in neighborhoods all over our region
- Staffing changes in hiring Christa Caruso (Childrens) and Charlie Natter (Facilities) and celebrated God's calling Jim Lovelady (Worship) away from Chelten and into missions
- Continued to make and plan for future improvements to our campus and facilities because of God's faithful provision through your giving, decreased spending during the pandemic and generous one-time gifts

As we look ahead to this next year, our desire is that we would, in any and every possible way, cultivate our love and worship of God. We are working to improve our care for Chelten members and attenders through our deacon care groups, community groups, ministries and simply living life together. At the same time, we want to see ourselves as those who have been placed by God in our neighborhoods, workplaces and communities to be his ambassadors. Please pray that the Lord would give us wisdom and strength for whatever the next year brings our way.

Jon Shepherd | Senior Pastor of Family Ministry | Outreach | Operations

Board of Elders

Graig Bantle

Jared Bryant

George Caruso

Dan George

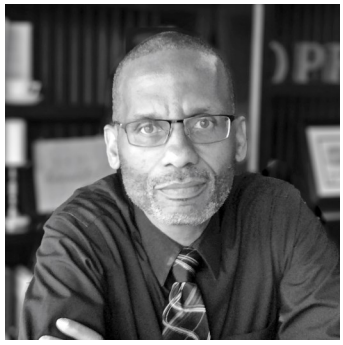
Bill Krewson

Jin Lee

Nahashon Mbugua

Jim Pitman

Jon Shepherd



Bob Shine

Mark Van Ooyen

Greetings from your board of elders!

"I will recount the steadfast love of the Lord, the praises of the Lord, according to all that the Lord has granted us…" Isaiah 63:7

What a God-dependent year this has been for the elder board. We needed his wisdom, guidance and leading each step of the way. Some of the topics that we needed to address were difficult and challenging and required times of prayer and thoughtful discussion. Some were easy and joyful. But through it all, by God's grace, we remained committed to God and to each other. This board truly has a heart for serving God and shepherding people. To God be the glory!

Below are some major highlights the board accomplished this ministry year:

- Granted Pastor Bill and Pastor Shep well deserved sabbaticals
- Resumed in-person adult Sunday school
- Taught a Sunday class on Divine Design: God's Plan for Men and Women which addressed gender and sexuality
- Authorized the formation of a committee to propose a church constitution change to update the statement on sexuality
- Led Tuesday night on-line prayer meetings
- Held an elder facilitated Town Hall to allow congregants to discuss various church topics
- Updated the job descriptions for the Pastoral Leadership Team (PLT)
- Modified the Elder Development Program
- Invited a different ministry staff director to the monthly leadership meeting to provide the elected leaders with an update and for prayer with the elder board
- Matched each elder with a ministry leader for the purpose of encouragement and prayer
- Partnered with the Board of Deacons to assist with the Diaconal Care Plan to care for and shepherd congregants
- Shepherding the church and individual congregants through the impact of COVID
- License Jake Fairfield to preach the gospel
- Ordained Jon Shepherd to be a minister of the gospel

As you can see, many things were accomplished. Thank you for your prayers and support.

For the 2022 – 2023 ministry year, our desire is "*to equip [God's] people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ" Eph 4:12-13.* With this as our goal, we ask if each attender to: remain committed to worshipping and praising God together on a regular basis each Sunday; attend prayer meetings, community groups, Tapestry, Men's group, Young Adult, Youth and/or Children's ministries, etc. during the week; volunteer and use your God-given gifts, talents and abilities within the church body; and live life together in community inside (church sponsored activities) and outside (non-church sponsored activities) the church on a regular basis.

Thank you for your devotion and faithfulness to God and having confidence in us. Continue to pray for us. *"The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective." James 5:16b*

"Devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert in it with an attitude of thanksgiving…" Colossians 4:2

Bob Shine, Chair

Board of Deacons

This year appears be a tale of two overarching scenarios. In spring 2021 we thought COVID was waning then came a time of setback with ongoing illness. But the last few months have shown what we hope to be light at the end of the tunnel as we've regathered and reconnected in-person. Regardless of the situation, God was at work through Chelten using the deacons as his instrument. We drew on lessons learned for remote support and outreach and looked for inventive new ways to serve the congregation.

Our emphasis this year was to really lean into the definition of deacon which comes from the Greek word *diakonos*, which translates to "servant." We are humbled by refocusing the call to the early church in Acts to call men into effective and proactive service of the congregation.

Deacon Care Plan

We continued this program where each deacon takes responsibility to care for a portion of our congregation (both members and regular attenders). Our goal is to ensure that all congregants know they have a specific church member who is there for them, can be the initial contact for prayer needs, financial support, transportation, moving assistance, house or yard care, etc. We have seen opportunities to be physical hands and feet to meet needs, to grow closer to our church family and to support the PLT and elders as they focus on shepherding Chelten.

Fellowship Fund

The board is tasked with providing oversight for a pool of funds to help individuals connected to Chelten who need special financial assistance. Needs are held in the strictest confidence. If you, or someone you know, have a potential need, please contact your deacon or the church office, and they can help you to complete an application. The main purpose of the fund is to help bridge unexpected needs, and the committee has discretion on proper distribution. Please don't hesitate to reach out (even informally) if you have or know of a potential need. God continues to bless this fund through generous donations from the congregation, and we relish the opportunity to pass it through to those in need.

Baptism

The deacons continue to partner with the deaconesses who are the main coordinators with folks being baptized. When a guy needs encouragement, advice, prayer or just a clean dry towel after coming out of the water, we are there. We are truly excited by how many baptisms we've had over the past year, and our opportunity to be a part of this event.

Communion

Deacons serve communion each month at both services. We have continued the COVID-safe plan to prepare and distribute the elements but continue to consider opportunities to return to a semblance of our previous pass-the-tray method. We love fulfilling the act of serving the elements to each of you whether by hand or by table.

Head Greeter

The board continues to have a member with the responsibility of head greeter for Sunday morning services. We maintain an easy-to-use online calendar for anyone willing to be a welcoming face and initial point of contact for everyone who comes through the church doors. We are looking for people willing to greet as it is not a deacon-specific role. It really just entails arriving 15 minutes early to your normal service and saying hello at the front door.

Please consider volunteering, and reach out to us for more details.

Seeds of Hope (Food Pantry)

The deacons assist Kay Negley with the pantry. Due to ongoing changes during COVID, we no longer provide weekly volunteers on Wednesday nights, but several deacons continue weekly roles for unloading, stocking, organizing and distributing in the modified drive-up distribution format.

Membership Responsibilities

The deacons are responsible for the accuracy of the membership rolls. We carefully and deliberately work to keep that information up to date. We also partner with the elders to individually meet with potential new members to answer any questions and make recommendations to the church for acceptance into membership.

Nominating Committee

Each year we have members of each board that must rotate off in accordance with our church constitution. The deacons administer the Nominating Committee that coordinates and presents potential new candidates for approval by the congregation.

Recruiting Moment

Many hands make light work. We are always looking to add qualified men to our number to aid with our responsibilities. We encourage anyone with an interest or a nomination for a good deacon candidate to please contact us at *deacon@chelten.org.* Your service would enable the board to continue with individualized support for all of our congregants.

In Christ,

James Greco, Chair

Board of Deaconesses

The Board of Deaconesses is a group of women from the Chelten family who serve the Lord together through various ministry opportunities, coming alongside our Pastoral Leadership Team and church family. In worship, we serve through assisting the PLT and baptismal candidates. We uphold, support and encourage our church family through meals, funeral luncheons, visitation and card ministry. And, to those who are visiting our church, we provide a welcome and gift bag at the Welcome Center each week.

We assisted the pastoral staff and baptismal candidates through 21 baptisms. We are blessed to participate in this worship event which is especially meaningful to those being baptized. It is not only encouraging to the church family but to many family members and friends of the baptismal candidates as well.

Meals are an important part of our ministry to the church family when there is an illness, hospitalization or birth. We were blessed to share and arrange for approximately 175 meals this past year. These meals not only assist and encourage our church family, but often those who are outside the church.

This year we have had a number of our church family who have gone home to be with the Lord. As deaconesses, we have set up, served, and cleaned up funeral luncheons and provided desserts for each of these functions. This is a blessing to family and friends.

Our card ministry encourages our seniors who are celebrating milestone birthdays, and cards are also sent to those who are ill or those who have lost loved ones. In addition, we reached out to our homebound women at Christmas with a visit and a gift of a poinsettia and Christmas card from all of us. This lets our homebound women know that though they are apart from us, they are still valued.

Not to forget our own women on the board who serve so faithfully, we have a Social Committee that has provided fun, fellowship and encouragement to our group, and we show our appreciation to our Pastoral Leadership Team during the month of October with a fun thank you. This year we provided a plant and candy that corresponded with each individual's personality or special event in their life.

We also provide two representatives to the Nominating Committee and one representative to the Tapestry connection each year, and we maintain the mission apartment next door to the church to make it clean, comfortable and welcoming to all who enter.

It is our privilege and joy to serve the Lord by being available to our church body. Please pray for wisdom and guidance as we seek to serve to the glory of our God.

JoAnn Peacock, Chair

Board of Trustees

The Chelten Board of Trustees seeks to steward our physical and financial resources with wisdom. Believing that our finances and facility belong to the Lord, we desire for all that has been entrusted to Chelten to be used to honor Him.

The work completed by the board could not have happened without the support of the church leadership team and the excellent church staff. Most of all, the board is so thankful for the generosity and prayers from the congregation this past year. We entered the last fiscal year with great uncertainty in so many areas, trusting that the Lord would provide – and he did!

Facility Initiatives Last Year

The board, with significant assistance from the church's operations manager, completed many projects around the facility this year including;

- Repair of cement walls along the pantry entrance.
- Coordinating with CCDC over their grant projects.
- Researching and contracting for new windows in Fellowship Hall.
- Replacing the HVAC equipment in the Worship Center sound booth.
- Repairing the damaged pillar outside door A1
- Conducting a comprehensive and preventative extermination project.
- Assessing and replacing appliances as required.
- Renovating and repairing items in the Hospitality House.

Understanding that our building is aging, we've begun to take serious consideration of how to care well and plan for replacement of critical systems. This year we've taken a deep dive into the heating and air conditioning systems around the building. This multi-year initiative will replace aging equipment, some dating back to the 1970's, to ensure our systems can operate seamlessly, supporting the needs of the church.

Finance Initiatives Last Year

Chelten's Finance Committee, under the guidance of the Board of Trustees, has been working closely with the PLT and Board of Elders to ensure the generous gifts of our congregation are used with wisdom. We thank the Lord for his care and provision as giving has been above budget throughout the year. This has allowed our church to meet many of the facility needs listed above, care for our staff in generous ways, step out in faith in support of caring for others alongside the daily operating needs of the church.

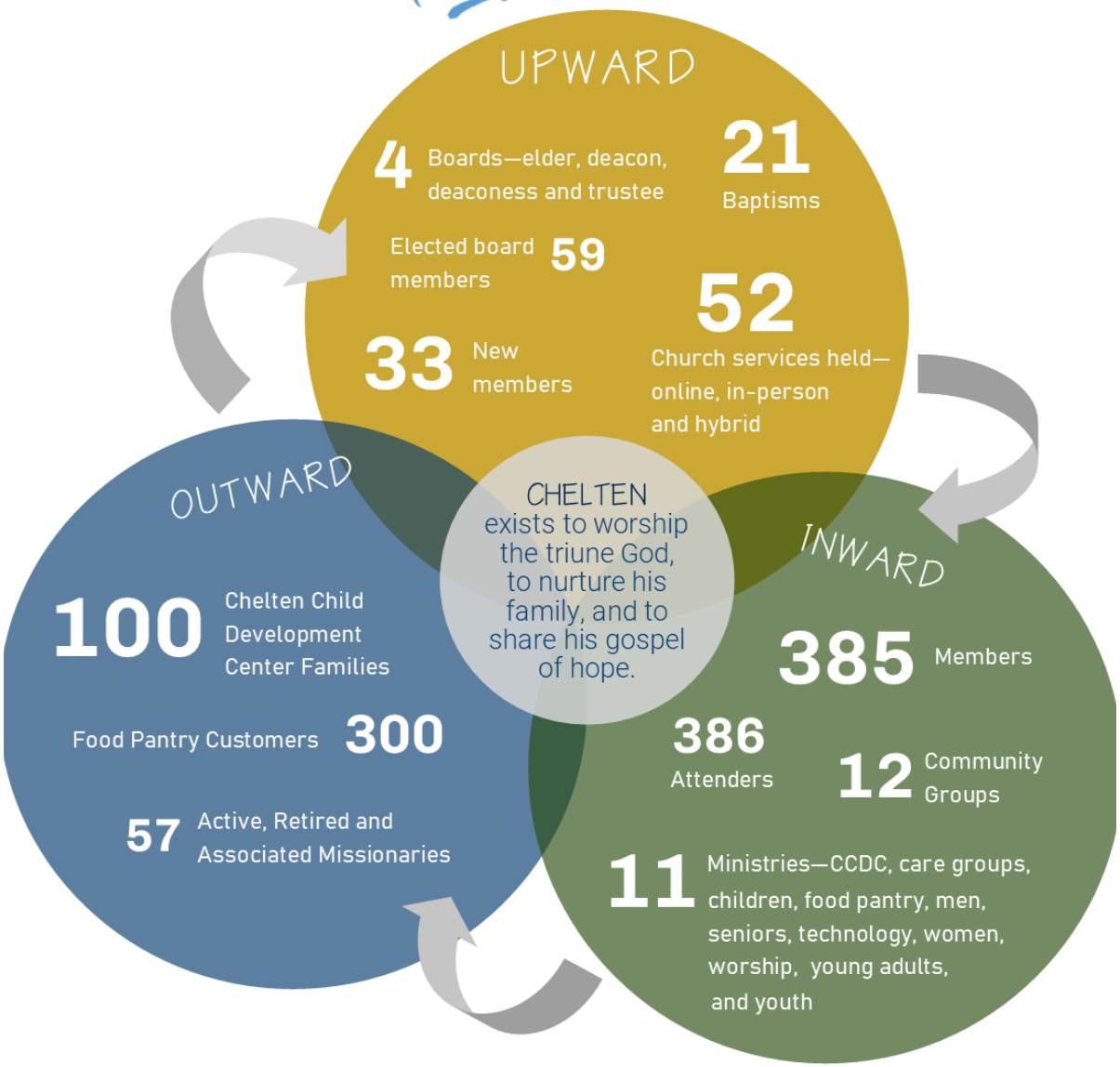
In stewarding resources well, it is our goal to look at not only the current needs of our church, but also to be seeking the Lord's wisdom of how to plan well for the future. The Board and the Finance Committee seek your prayers for wisdom and guidance in this coming year. It is our great joy to see the ways our building and our finances are used daily to point people toward the Lord.

On behalf of the Trustee Board,

Andelyn Robb, Chair

CHELTEN
— a church of hope —

at a glance



WHAT WE STUDIED ON SUNDAYS

Chelten's DNA | Faith That Moves | Ephesians: One Church | Chelten 2022 | Micah: Walk Humbly With Hope | Blank Check: A Generous Life

Worship at Chelten

Worship Arts

Preparation for my departure from Chelten into my new ministry calling at Serge causes me to think about this annual report as a time to reminisce about the last six years of ministry as Chelten's Worship and Arts Director. There are some distinct highlights that come to mind immediately as my ministry life flashes before my eyes. I see things like: the Christmas Eve and Easter services with their choirs and orchestras and hand bells; the numerous concerts Chelten hosted where we packed the worship center to the brim. I recall: building worship services from my roof top, the desert and the mountains; gathering musicians for virtual choirs; and learning how to lead people through a camera lens as we were stuck in quarantine. I think about the various worship events outside Chelten's walls where our worship ministry has gotten to be a blessing.

But the most dominant memory might seem more mundane. It's the weekly rhythm of the liturgical life of Chelten's worship services. Every Thursday evening for the last six years, I have led rehearsals. Every Sunday for the last six years, I have built a liturgical and musical space for God's people to meet with him, to receive his grace, to be reminded of his forgiveness, to be sent out into his world as a blessing—however the Holy Spirit would choose to use that space. It's the weekly rhythm that most dominates my memory because of the way it has formed our imagination, like carving grooves in a record as the Lord sings over us with his love. The rhythm of our worship services has worked its way into our hearts, and we look more like Jesus because of it. What an incredible honor to be given the task of cultivating worship in the life of our community!

But my most precious memory is not the events or programs or strategies or implementing a ministry vision.

It's the Chelten staff and volunteers who I have worked so closely with, who have trusted me and let me lead them to the throne of grace. It has been an honor and joy to work with Todd. It has been a privilege to rub shoulders with such amazing artists of the various crafts required to throw a party for our Risen King.

I have always said, everything in the worship ministry is just an excuse for discipleship, and more than anything, I will miss the people. I'll miss the folks who sing and play music with me, and I will miss watching you sing from your seat and hearing the congregation's one voice of praise. So keep singing! He is worthy of praise!

Grace and Peace,
Jim Lovelady | Worship & Arts Director

Children's Ministry

Our desire at Chelten Kids is that children love Jesus for the rest of their lives!

Upward to our God:

- What a thrill to reopen all of our children's Sunday classes over this past year as leaders and volunteers faithfully pointed our children to God.
- Each week we email families with ideas on how to apply the pastor's sermon to their child's life along with Bible story videos and fun Scripture memory songs.

Inward to each other:

Wednesday night Chelten Kids looked different this year. After a large group teaching time, kids divided into smaller groups for discussion and connection. This format has led to some great opportunities for kids to connect with one another along with adult leaders and most importantly, grow in their understanding of their faith. In the fall we did everything outside and even had a movie night!

We were thrilled to hire Christa Caruso as the Children's Ministries Assistant in March. Christa is instrumental in assisting our volunteers and leaders as they teach and care for our kids.

Outward to our world:

We did backyard VBS this past year. Seven families were willing to open their yards to their neighbors and other Chelten Kids. While different than our previous VBS years, it was good to have the children connect in a safe outdoor environment.

Our families were encouraged to "egg" their neighbor! Families who participated filled Easter eggs with candy and then hid them on a neighbor or friend's lawn. One egg was empty as a reminder that Jesus is alive and the tomb was empty.

Specific plans for 2022-2023

- VBS will be in-person and on-campus this year! The dates are July 25-29, but kids will be encouraged to reach out to their community in a creative way using the VBS theme.
- As we look to fall, we are looking to further establish small groups for our kids. We want them to know what they believe, that they belong and continue to become faithful followers of Jesus.

Please pray with us for God's clear direction as we continue to move forward. We want our kids to be prepared to follow Jesus their entire life!

Partnering with you,

Mary Davis | Children's Ministries Director

Christa Caruso | Children's Ministries Assistant

Youth Ministry

As a youth ministry, we aim to create a safe space where intentional discipleship-based relationships between youth leaders and students can take place, as well as creating a community focused on the word, being in fellowship with others and proclaiming the gospel.

Christian discipleship also doesn't happen unless it is centered around the gospel, "the great equalizer" that levels the playing field because of our desperate need for the love of Jesus. With that in mind, we gather twice a week, Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings, for intentional time in Scripture and its application for our lives.

Youth ministry must be relational. Every week a team of about 30 youth leaders, ranging from college students to middle-aged parents, dive head first into the lives of our students. They get involved in students' day-to-day lives by attending sporting events, performances and anything else that communicates the church's desire to be part of their lives—not just on Sundays and Wednesdays. Then there are the many other events we throughout the year (retreats, corn-maze trips, etc.) that build community and relationships within our group.

If we truly desire the things Jesus desires, then we also cannot ignore the world and culture around us that is in desperate need of the message of hope found only in Jesus. For that reason, we also emphasize serving each other and those at school.

We create events that students can invite their non-Christian friends to that emphasizes either the value and difference of Christian community, as well as an introduction to the gospel, such as our youth all -nighter which happens every January.

Coming out of a time unlike any other, we began to see just how deep the community roots that have been instilled in our group really run. This past summer we launched a brand new event, a week-long retreat in the summer that we called Youthcation. This was a time for our students to enjoy reconnecting with each other and their youth leaders as well as intentional time in Scripture each morning and small group time in the afternoons and evenings. The response from our students was unlike anything we expected and revealed just how much our students need, and are beginning to value, Christian community and time in God's word.

Our hope this year is that our group continues to look beyond the borders to those outside of our group. It is our goal that all of our events, and even our regular meetings for that matter, become a place where the gospel is not only heard, but experienced through the lives of our students to those who don't yet know Jesus.

Jake Fairfield | Youth Ministry Director
Micah Portis | Youth Ministry Assistant

Young Adults Ministry

This fall, we relaunched our young adults' program, Kairos. The name Kairos comes for the Greek word which is translated as "appointed time." Unlike the generic word for time "kronos," kairos is always used to emphasize an intentional time. What better name to give a ministry that seeks to minister to people in such a pivotal time in their lives. This group is centered around a weekly Bible study that meets Sunday nights and involves two of the most important things in the life of a Christian young adult: the Bible and a cup of good coffee.

Our group really has two core values: the centrality of God's word, and a deep value for the Christian community that the gospel produces. For this reason, we don't sit in a circle or at a large table, or have a speaker up front. Instead, we sit at round tables, forming multiple small groups that discuss the passage together before sharing with the larger group. This is to emphasize the value of both small group and the corporate study of Scripture. Conversation is facilitated through guided questions more so than a lecture, with the focus being how do we apply the truths of Scripture to our specific situations as college students, employees, roommates and wherever else we may find ourselves. We just finished our study of the book of Mark, and we saw that the gospel really is so much more than simply good advice. It is the good news that a better kingdom has arrived, led by a better king, Jesus.

Now that we studied what the kingdom is, we are diving into the book of 1 John to look at life in this new kingdom.

In addition to deep intentional study of God's word, we also are concerned with creating a community for those that often get missed in the church. We have seen our group grow to an average of 15-20 students coming out per week. We have been thinking about ways to foster community among a group that is comprised of people in very different stages of life, and the most fun thing we did so far was our Murder Mystery Dinner this past Halloween. We had about 30 students come out for a time of fun and food, trying to find out "Who Done it." The response was so great that we are hoping to make the murder mystery dinner an annual event!

As we look to the second year of this new group, our hope is that the bonds and community that was formed this year would continue on with a new class graduating high school looking for a place to belong. We also hope that this ministry would act as bridge that connects emerging adults to the local church and that our college-aged students would find a place to belong right here at Chelten.

Jake Fairfield | Young Adults Director

Women's Ministry

Our theme for this Tapestry year was *Unity*, a timely word if there ever was one! Following a year filled with continued stress, easing restrictions and heightened divisiveness it was exactly the right time to focus on unity as we sought to gather and regroup.

We started off the fiscal year with a series of campfires in the back field. Under a canopy of lights, we gathered and sang, shared funny stories and got to know each other. It was a connecting point for some, an introduction point for many. We continued campfires into the fall, finding this a non-threatening way to enter into community once again.

In September we began to meet as a large group to study the Ten Commandments followed by a study on the communicable attributes of God. These studies were taught by women in the church, women from different backgrounds and walks of life, but all women who loved the Lord and had a deep relationship with him. What a rich time to sit under the teaching of so many women—to hear their stories, their struggles and to be encouraged in the faith because they were willing to open their hearts and lives to us.

In December we gathered to dress up in silly Christmas clothes, laugh together and be encouraged by the fellowship of friends both old and new. In March we held a one-day retreat, *Let's Take a Minute,* with over 120 women in attendance. As it snowed outside we were warmed by great sessions with Katie Bailey and Joan Gangwer.

We continue to see fellowship and community as the driving needs of Women's Ministry, needs which were always present, but fueled by the pandemic and ensuing quarantine of the past two years. Our lives have changed, but God has not. He continues to lead us into deeper relationship with himself and others, to seek *the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Ephesians 4:3)*, that we find in him.

We seek Him—with you,
Joyce Brown and Linda Stevenson|
Women's Ministry Directors

Men's Ministry

Men's Ministry is a brotherhood of men who seek to center their lives on Jesus Christ and live gospel centered lives that impact their homes, church, and communities. It's a place for men of all ages to come together to learn practical biblical truths as they live their lives together. When we meet, our goal is to worship together, to edify each other with prayer and Bible study, and to reach out in our jobs and neighborhoods to other men in need of Christ.

Last year we continued to have morning Men's Ministry groups meeting together faithfully. And we were able to resume our annual Men's Advance in the fall at Refreshing Mountain in Lancaster County. Pastor Tom Allen led the retreat weekend as the men formed new friendships along with worship, Bible study, zip-lining and rest.

As we started to emerge from the pandemic, the ministry team re-grouped to pray and imagine how God might use Men's Ministry in new ways. The team developed a roadmap and started a new communication plan for the men at Chelten. Our initial goal is to recruit more men to serve in this ministry and start to build momentum with new events throughout the year. The purpose of events is to create intentional space for more discipling relationships to form among our men.

Our regular ministries include:

- Weekly small groups that study Scripture, pray, and deepen relationships
- OnPoint group that provides a private setting to address sexual brokenness and support men striving for sexual purity
- Saturday breakfasts every other month designed to attract a larger group of men through a special speaker
- Spring camping trip for a long weekend of fun and fellowship
- Minor league baseball game

We're praying that God will continue to advance the gospel in the lives of our men. We pray that existing relationships deepen, and new relationships form as we point each other to Jesus Christ our Lord.

George Caruso | Elder

Dr. Bill Krewson | Senior Pastor of Discipleship

Food Pantry Ministry

MADE IN HIS IMAGE, SERVING IN HIS STRENGTH

"He was moved with compassion" Matthew 9:36.
Moved with compassion is used several times to describe Jesus in the New Testament. He was human and portrayed very human emotions; he was moved when he saw people in need and acted with compassion to help them. What an amazing opportunity Chelten has to join what God is doing by sharing the compassion of Jesus—and the hope of the gospel—with our neighbors.

During the past year *Seeds of Hope* Food Pantry met the needs of approximately 300 families monthly from Chelten and the surrounding community thanks to continued generous donations from our church family and our local community. We are so thankful for our 25 weekly volunteers!

The pantry continues to be blessed in abundance through grant funding, monetary and in-kind donations. Praise God! We are thankful for our ongoing partnerships with Philabundance and the Trader Joe's store in North Wales. Special thanks to our friends at GIANT Maple Glen for supporting us through their *Bag Hunger Campaign.* GIANT sent us over **$15,000** in gift cards this year—such an amazing staff and generous shoppers!

Upper Dublin in Crisis

When the tornado struck Upper Dublin this fall our pantry responded by bringing food and supplies into the devastated neighborhoods. Many families were sleeping in hotels but spent the day salvaging belongings in their homes that were without electricity and food. Lots of tears and stories were shared at the doors of the pantry cargo van. The pantry also partnered with Katie Greco who did an amazing job of organizing hot meals for displaced households.

"The ink in my pen is frozen!"–Nancy King

Real feel temperatures have ranged from -3° to 103°! Our valiant parking lot greeters, Nancy, Frank Hartwell and Al Cibos, continue to greet, listen, counsel and pray for each person who drives up for food—no matter the weather!

How can you be involved?

- Please join us in praying that the individuals we serve would come to know or rediscover Jesus and find peace in him.
- As fuel and food prices rise, and COVID relief wanes, the number of neighbors we care for is increasing. Please consider picking up extra non-perishables at the grocery store so we can generously care for our community in need. Information on how to donate can be found at *chelten.org/food-pantry/* or watch for current needs in Chelten's midweek updates.

With gratitude,
Sandy Knight | Ministry Connection Director Kay Negley | Food Pantry Director

Chelten Child Development Center

Chelten Child Development Center continues to offer a quality early childhood education for children ages 9 months to 5 years. We strive for excellence in everything we do that God might be glorified. Our reputation for quality in the community creates many opportunities to share God's love with those who may not have experienced it. Our commitment to our students with special needs reflects our belief that every child is precious to God and deserves the same opportunities as those with more typical needs. Our families benefit from the parenting support we provide to help them in the difficult job of raising their children. Not only are we looking outward to share God's love, but we also focus inwardly on building up our staff, providing staff development, resources, and emotional and spiritual support.

Some highlights from this past year:

- We contracted with private speech and occupational therapists, as well as a behavior specialist, to provide supplemental services for children with delays in these areas. We share the cost with families to make these services available to all.
- We raised our entry-level wage to $15.00/hour to be competitive in the changing field of early childhood education. As a result, we had to raise our tuition a substantial amount. Although this has been a burden to our families, they have been very supportive of compensating our staff for the great job they do.
- We received a sizable grant from the government intended to help schools recover from the effects of the pandemic. As a result, we were able to do some needed projects. We resurfaced the playground and replaced an aging climbing piece. We purchased sheds for the back field to replace the one that was falling apart. We will be replacing the windows in the toddler classrooms as they are original to that part of the building. We are also replacing the divider in one of the classrooms.
- One of our staff, Josi Ribeiro, earned her CDA certificate, which is a certificate of national recognition. Amanda Brown and Margaret Mbugua will finish degrees in early childhood education this year.

This coming school year we plan to resume our pre-pandemic structure. This means that we will finally have full enrollment. We are grateful to God for the families he sends to us.

This school year Chelten Child Development Center will celebrate our 50th anniversary! The school opened in September of 1972 with one class of 11 children. We now have 140 students and almost 30 staff. We'd like to invite you, our church family, to join us in celebrating God's faithfulness to us. We have several events planned throughout the year. We hope you'll join us!

Please pray for us:

- We continue to struggle to find enough substitutes to fill our needs.
- We need to hire multiple staff for both our summer program and the fall. Pray that God will send us just the right people.
- Our administrative team needs wisdom for the many decisions we make each day.

Pam Post | Child Development Center Director

Director
Pam Post

Asst. Director
Kate Nagele

Office Manager
Beth Patitucci

Bookkeeper
Alison Chan

Teachers

Amanda Brown
Kelsey Deres
Shannon Colpitts
Elizabeth Kramer
Shardae Littlejohn
Margaret Mbugua
Hannah Post
Josi Ribero
Thalia Rosado
Lauren Shaw
Pamela Stewart
Jennifer Vincent

Assistant Teachers

Crystal Badal
Emma Brown
Toni DePaul
Sue Fluck
Katie Kim
Jill Mann
Kayla Mishner
Carol McDanel
Jessica Miller
Kayla Misher
Grace Ponukumati
Faith Sammy
Dana Shelton

Community Groups

At the beginning of the year, in our sermon Spiritual Friendships, we learned about the scarcity of friendship. In the last couple of years, the pandemic especially evaporated "second-tier" friendships. While the pandemic might have strengthened our closest ties, many of us lost relationships whether they be colleagues, co-workers or church friends. As a result, isolation and loneliness have also been exacerbated, and we need generous friends who share their lives with one another.

We facilitated Community Group Sunday because we believe that one of the best ways to get to know one another here at Chelten is to join a community group. 35+ people signed up to check out and join one of the community groups that Sunday, and still, we regularly refer people to one of our groups.

We have seen many of our attendees begin to form new friendships because of joining a group. Christine Pohl, in her masterpiece Living into Community: Cultivating Practices That Sustain Us, outlines four practices for building a community marked by the gospel: gratitude, promise-making (and keeping), truth-telling in love, and hospitality. I am grateful to be able to say that our community groups here at Chelten embraces those qualities.

- We have about 200+ people plugged into one of our 13+ community groups. Last year, we began a new community group of mainly young adults, and this year we have begun another group with young families as their main demographic.
- Our community groups are quite diverse. Some groups are made out of being in a similar stage of life while some other groups are created more by the close proximity to one another. Some groups do a practical book study based on their needs while other groups do a study in one of the books of the Bible. The one common theme, however, that remains throughout all community groups is their care and love and time spent praying for one another.

Is it your desire to share your lives with one another? You get to know more about God and his people by being part of one another's lives. You get to be known and loved for who you are. We encourage you to join one of the groups if you are looking for spiritual friendships here at Chelten.

Dr. Jin Lee | Senior Pastor of Preaching | Liturgy | Community Groups

Global Outreach

Following his death and resurrection, Jesus gave a Great Commission to his disciples, which is passed down to all believers. "Make disciples of all nations." Chelten's missions committee exists to educate, equip and involve everyone in our church to joyfully participate in this great calling Christ has given to his followers. To be a Christian is to be involved in this command at some level. We have endless opportunities at work, at school, in our neighborhoods and everywhere we go to participate in this calling firsthand.

In addition to active participation, the Chelten family continues to partner with over 20 missionary units or organizations both locally and globally through your generous giving. Regardless of where these missionaries are stationed, their goal is to "make disciples" in their own unique ways. One point of emphasis this past year for our team has been to ensure that we are caring well for these missionaries.

While the pandemic has been hard on everyone, it has brought unique challenges to our ministry partners living overseas. We have strengthened our lines of communication with these units, caring for them as comprehensively as possible, including emotionally, financially and spiritually. Your continued financial generosity has allowed us to meet many one-time needs that arose directly as a result of changes to ministry during the pandemic.

Here are a few highlights from this past year within the Chelten missions team:

- Chariots for Hope promoted Mark Wakeman to the position of CEO in January 2022
- Began a partnership with Cradle of Hope
- When war came to Ukraine, Jim Pitman (CLC) and his team jumped into action, sending Ukrainian biblical, theological and counseling resources to aid in the refugee crisis
- Several ministry partners continue to serve local and international college students in campuses around the country: Bill & Bianca Bernhard (Philadelphia), Valarie Althouse (New York City), Jeff & Andrea Eads (Muncy, IN), Tom & Alicia Vosters (Cambodia), "Sofia" (Global)
- In light of easing pandemic restrictions around the world, short-term trips have resumed as well allowing many of our missionaries to either travel for ministry, vision trips or rest

During this next year, please continue to pray for fruitful ministry for our ministry partners. Pray that the Lord would raise up new missionaries who would give their lives to take the gospel to the thousands of unreached people groups around the world. Pray that our Chelten family would see ourselves as ambassadors of Christ in the places where God has placed us. Finally, pray for your own heart, asking God to give you a joyful burden to be a part of the Great Commission in whatever way you can.

Your Mission's Committee,

Trish Bernhard, Andrea Daft, Brandon Gregg, Rune Hellerslia, David Sheaffer, Jon Shepherd, Sophia Wang and Keith "Williams"