



# LIFEBRIDGE ANNUAL REPORT 2017





# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>A LETTER FROM RICK</b>	1
ENGAGEMENT & CONNECTION	2
BAPTISM & MEMBERSHIP	3
VOLUNTEERS	4
NEIGHBORING LIFE	5
GLOBAL OUTREACH	6
LOCAL OUTREACH	7
ADULTS	8
FAMILY	10
LIFESPORTS	12
CARE	13
PUENTE DE VIDA	14
JOHNSTOWN/MILLIKEN	15
<b>ELDERS</b>	
CURRENT ELDERS	16
ELDERS FOR ELECTION	17
ELDERS ROTATING OFF	17
<b>BUDGET</b>	
INCOME STATEMENT	19
REVENUE	20
EXPENSE	21

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# A LETTER FROM RICK

Dear LifeBridge Family,

Great achievements are always worth celebrating, no matter their size. We all gather with family and friends to celebrate birthdays and milestones. At LifeBridge, we have a lot to celebrate from this past year, and this annual report is an opportunity for us to reflect on those accomplishments.

Our mission to lead people in a growing relationship with Jesus allowed us to celebrate with 62 people who gave their lives to Christ through baptism. It is a such a great opportunity for us to celebrate baptism and this step of faith. Hundreds of others joined us in First Step and in small groups and classes. We are grateful for all the steps people take to move closer to Christ.

Another great story is our More Than Me generosity effort which shows how we have consistently followed God's lead to be good neighbors in our community and abroad. LifeBridge has a rich history of stories that reflect how grace is discovered in our lives, and we want to continue to share those stories. That's where our More Than Me effort comes in as we're asking our church family to give above and beyond their regular giving so that we can continue to follow God's lead to love our community and our world. We're more than 70 percent to our goal and that's because of the generous individuals who call LifeBridge home.

We are fortunate to be part of a family who cares about people and our community, not just how many show up in services on the weekend. I am grateful for the opportunities God has given us to care about people, care for our community, and care for each other. All of this gets expressed when we take the challenge of getting better at the two things Jesus said mattered most: loving God and loving our neighbors. Mostly, I am blessed by you and your partnership in the things God has called us to.

Stories from LifeBridge go well beyond what is shared on these pages as it unfolds in the bigger story that God is writing.

Blessings,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rick", written in a cursive style.

# ENGAGEMENT & CONNECTION

**W**e grow the most when we live in community. In fact, scripture calls us all as believers to intentionally share our lives with one another. Throughout the past year, we have seen people take steps to connect through First Step and First Serve. We've witnessed the value of having a clear pathway for people to connect no matter where they are on their spiritual journey.

## FIRST STEP

Research demonstrates that the more options we provide people, the less likely they are to take a next step. The goal of First Step is to not only provide a welcoming, fun environment, but to give a clear on-ramp for connecting at LifeBridge.

Through our First Step experience we have enjoyed meeting new people and sharing our vision while taking part in a meal together. It's been an incredible experience to see God use First Step as a way to help people of all walks of life feel as if they belong to a true community.

## ROOTED

A part of developing this engagement pathway involves implementing Rooted, a 10-week experience that is designed to help people connect with God, others, and their purpose.

In our first launch groups, we have had more than 150 people experience Rooted at LifeBridge. This fall, we look forward to a Rooted launch, and expect to see God do great things through it in the lives of our people.

## FIRST SERVE

Serving is a significant value at LifeBridge as people choose to give of their time. However, finding serving opportunities can be overwhelming in a large church.

First Serve is designed to give people a behind-the-scenes look at LifeBridge's facility, as well as introduce them to various ministry areas where they can learn how to engage and serve.



## FIRST STEP

**240**

ATTENDEES TOOK PART IN OUR FIRST STEP LUNCHEON

MORE THAN **50%** OF FIRST STEP ATTENDEES TOOK A NEXT STEP AND JOINED A SMALL GROUP

## ROOTED

A 10-WEEK SMALL GROUP EXPERIENCE DESIGNED TO CONNECT WITH GOD

**150**

PEOPLE HAVE ALREADY EXPERIENCED ROOTED

**350+**

PEOPLE ARE ANTICIPATED TO BE INVOLVED WITH ROOTED THIS FALL

## FIRST SERVE

**85%**

OF FIRST SERVE PARTICIPANTS ARE NOW SERVING REGULARLY AT LIFEBRIDGE OR IN THE COMMUNITY WITH A CHURCH PARTNER

**1,173**

ADULTS AND CHILDREN ARE INVOLVED IN A SERVING GROUP

# BAPTISM



*Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.*

**Matthew  
28:19-20**

In late 2016, our church celebrated a baptism for Will, who has been attending LifeBridge for a year-and-a-half. Like all of us, Will's story is laced with imperfection. Even though Will doesn't have everything figured out, he does know he loves Jesus and is seeking what it means to follow a God who loves him more than he can imagine. Although Will entered LifeBridge hurting and in a difficult situation, he continues to strive for a deeper relationship with Jesus. And that's what following Jesus looks like!

## BAPTISM

- 62 ADULTS, STUDENTS, AND CHILDREN WERE BAPTIZED

## MEMBERSHIP

- 78 PEOPLE BECAME MEMBERS AND OFFICIAL MINISTRY PARTNERS AT LIFE BRIDGE THROUGH BAPTISM, STATEMENTS OF FAITH, OR THROUGH A MEMBERSHIP TRANSFER

## MEMBERS / ATTENDEES

- 5,045 MEMBERS/REGULAR ATTENDEES (EXCLUDING GUESTS; 3,195 ADULTS & 1,850 CHILDREN)
- 1,746 GUESTS (936 ADULTS; 810 CHILDREN)



# SERVING

LifeBridge would not be able to fulfill its mission without the faithfulness of more than 1,000 individuals who give of their time and talents each week. From our Guest Services team who creates a welcoming experience for both new visitors and regular attendees to the hundreds of people who help make ministry happen both inside our building and out in our community, we are so thankful for the sacrifices made by these individuals. To learn more about serving, visit [lbcc.org/serve](http://lbcc.org/serve).



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## OVERALL VOLUNTEERS

- **1,173 PEOPLE** IN SERVING GROUPS AT OUR LONGMONT CAMPUS
  - **201 GUEST SERVICES VOLUNTEERS** SERVED AT 280 REGULAR WEEKEND WORSHIP SERVICES AND INVESTED OVER 7,000 HOURS
  - **GREETERS WELCOMED OVER 98,112 PEOPLE**
- 



*"I serve in hopes of being the hands and feet of Jesus... helping those who enter LifeBridge feel welcome, seen, cared about, accepted, connected and loved by God. I serve because I feel called to serve. I always seem to get more than I give...believing that God is teaching, strengthening and guiding me through service to Him and his children."*

**Lorynda Sampson,  
Welcome Team**

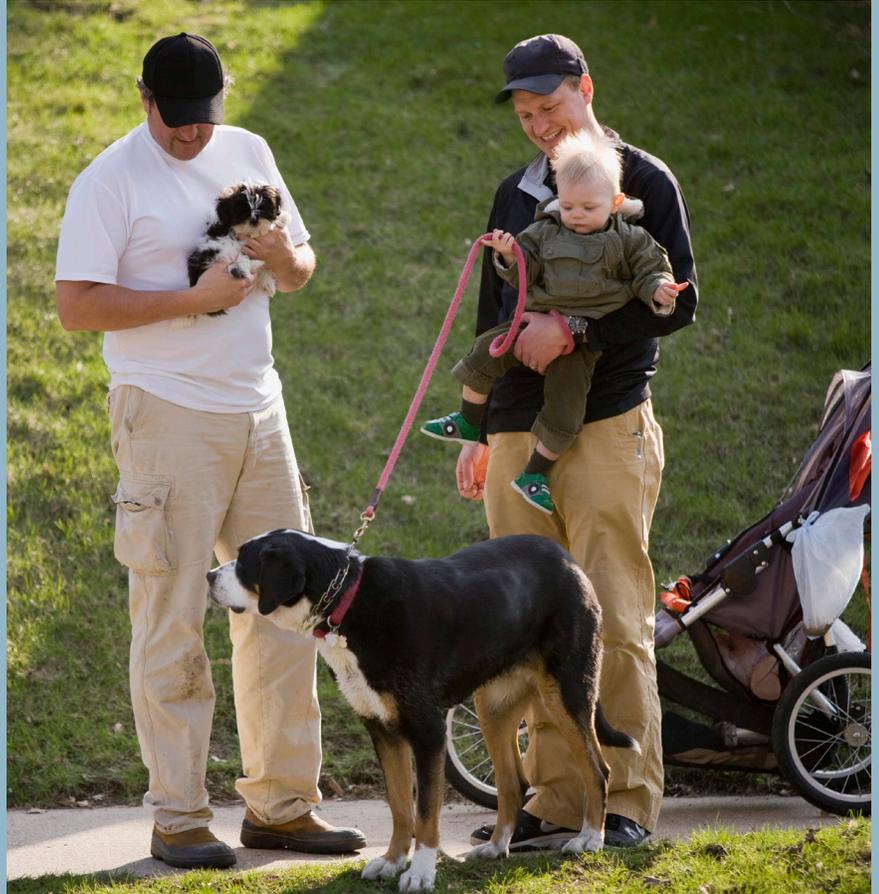
# NEIGHBORING LIFE

**A**s a church, we are on a mission to get more people to say “Yes” to loving their neighbors and paying special attention to the people that God has placed right next to us in our neighborhoods. This goes far beyond a church program. It’s a way of life and God calls each of us to love our neighbors in relationship, stay connected, pray for them, have fun together, and share our lives and faith with them. Just take one step in love toward your neighbor in your own, unique way...and then another...and another. God has a way of blessing that kind of faithfulness.

The Neighboring Life is about more intentionally loving the people around us and specifically our literal neighbors. It’s a call to be aware of what’s happening around us. It’s a call to look for ways to jump in and act when God nudges us. It’s a call to share and to be good news to people.

And here’s the bonus! The Neighboring Life is not just for your neighbors. It’s also for you. It enhances your relationship with God. It helps you move beyond religion. It helps you feel more connected to the mission of God. It helps your faith grow and come alive.

To find out much more about The Neighboring Way of Life, visit [lbcc.org/neighboring](http://lbcc.org/neighboring).



*Even though I am free of the demands and expectations of everyone, I have voluntarily become a servant to any and all in order to reach a wide range of people: religious, nonreligious, meticulous moralists, loose-living immoralists, the defeated, the demoralized—whoever. I didn’t take on their way of life. I kept my bearings in Christ—but I entered their world and tried to experience things from their point of view. I’ve become just about every sort of servant there is in my attempts to lead those I meet into a God-saved life. I did all this because of the Message. I didn’t just want to talk about it; I wanted to be in on it!*

**1 Corinthians 9:19-23 The Message (MSG)**



**WHAT  
IF WE GOT  
BETTER AT THE  
TWO THINGS  
JESUS SAID  
MATTERS MOST?**

**LOVE GOD  
LOVE YOUR  
NEIGHBOR.**

# GLOBAL OUTREACH



## INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

### THAILAND, BURMA AND LAOS

Focus: Community Development and Orphan Care

### ECUADOR

Focus: Church Planting and Child Development

### DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Focus: Sports Ministry for Kids, Discipleships, Student Ministry, Young Women

### SOUTHEAST ASIA

Focus: Community Development and Art Outreach

### TURKEY

Focus: Neighborhood Outreach and Educational Development



7

SHORT TERM TRIPS

82

TRAVELERS

482

CHILDREN SPONSORED THROUGH LIFEBRIDGE

# LOCAL OUTREACH

**B**y serving our community, we connect to various local outreach opportunities where God uses us to help others.

LifeBridge has a number of local partnerships including the OUR Center, Crossroads School, LifeChoices, Habitat for Humanity of the St. Vrain Valley, Kids Hope, and the St. Vrain Valley School District.



*Truly I tell you,  
whatever you did  
for one of the least  
of these brothers and  
sisters of mine, you did  
for me.*

**Matthew 25:40**

## SERVE 125

**IN 2016,** THE CHURCH CELEBRATED 125 YEARS. AS PART OF THAT CELEBRATION WE CHALLENGED OUR CONGREGATION TO SERVE 125,000 HOURS OVER THE NEXT YEAR.

BELOW ARE SOME OF THE WAYS THOSE HOURS WERE ACCUMULATED:

- **SHOEBOXES FOR SAMARITAN'S PURSE**
- **BLANKETS MADE FOR LIFECHOICES**
- **CHRISTMAS PARTY FOR MOUNTAIN STATES CHILDREN'S HOME**
- **GIFTS TO SENIORS AND SINGLE MOMS AT CHRISTMAS**
- **CHRISTMAS GIFTS WERE COLLECTED AND DISTRIBUTED TO CHILDREN IN OUR COMMUNITY**
- **MENTORS TO CHILDREN IN THE ST. VRAIN VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT**
- **HABITAT FOR HUMANITY BUILD DAYS AND LUNCHEAS**
- **HUNDREDS OF HOURS SPENT SERVING NEIGHBORS**



# ADULTS



**W**e all crave authentic relationships with each other and with God. Through the many ministries at LifeBridge, our adults can connect through small groups, service opportunities in our church and community, and special events to build meaningful friendships.



*Christ has set us free to live a free life. So take your stand! Never again let anyone put a harness of slavery on you.*

**Galatians 5:1 The Message**



## 141 SINGLE MOMS

were members of the programs.

## 80 SINGLE MOMS & 100 KIDS

were served weekly through one of the programs.

## AN AVERAGE OF 80 WOMEN

met on Wednesday nights (60 single moms and 20 mentors).

## 12 SINGLE MOMS

in higher education were supported financially.

### LIFEBRIDGE 50 & BETTER LIVED OUT PSALM 92 IN FRUITFUL LIVING THROUGH THE FOLLOWING:

#### TOUCHING LIVES MINISTRY

Reached out to 11 retirement centers and assisted living facilities.

#### HANDYMAN MINISTRY

Cared for LifeBridge widows, widowers, and elderly couples with fix-up/repair project.

#### HIS HANDS MINISTRY

Sewed comfort items for cancer patients and assisted living centers.

#### DORCAS PIECE MAKERS

Made baby quilts for LifeChoices Pregnancy Center, and lap robes for several assisted living centers.



**OUR YOUNG  
ADULTS MINISTRY  
DISCOVERS  
HOW TO LIVE LIFE  
WITH JESUS IN A  
CONSTANTLY  
CHANGING  
CULTURE.**

# FAMILY

**S**mall is big! This was so true for one of our leaders in the 3-year-old environment. After months of two kids attending every week and never uttering a word, Mary and her small group were listening to a story when one of the shy kids spoke, which encouraged the other little guy to start talking. They talked about the story and about how they are part of God's big story. While these 3-year-olds aren't the first thing we think of when talking about ministry, LifeBridge is a place where kids feel safe. It was the environment that Mary created that helped make a safe place for both of these kids.



# PRESCHOOL

**W**e continue to see many young families at LifeBridge. For our younger kids, these are the years of wonder where they are learning that there is a God, that He created them and wants to be friends with them. This past year, we had more than 200 daddy's and their daughters attend our annual Father/Daughter Dance. We also handed out many New Baby Bags to families welcoming new babies. We are so excited about partnering with these new parents to envision what God has created for each little heart.

OUR KIDS RAISED MORE THAN \$2,000 FOR MOUNTAIN STATES CHILDREN'S HOME



# ELEMENTARY

**W**hat has 1000's of sneakers, is loud, colorful, and laughs a lot? Our elementary kids who line our hallways. Our elementary kids are in the years of discovery as they learn about what to do with their new found faith and discover how they can make choices that honor God. These kids also make huge impacts in the community! This year, our kids raised more than \$2,000 for Mountain States Children's Home. Our leaders have served more than 2,856 hours.

**LIFEBRIDGE STUDENTS** IS DESIGNED ESPECIALLY FOR MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS. OUR HEART IS TO CREATE ENVIRONMENTS WHERE STUDENTS CAN CONNECT WITH GOD AND EACH OTHER. OUR GOAL IS TO MEET THEM WHERE THEY ARE AND PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE HOLY SPIRIT TO INTERSECT THEIR LIVES THROUGH WORSHIP, STUDY, AND FUN!



## MIDDLE SCHOOL

**T**he mission of LifeBridge Student Ministry is to be a place where middle and high school students can discover who Jesus is and ultimately live life on mission. Middle school is all about identity. Students are exploring not only what it means to have a relationship with Jesus, but also what that means to their identity. These are some of the most formative years! Our middle schoolers have stepped up in big ways to flex their spiritual muscles through serving. They serve in the band, on the tech team, and as small group leaders in elementary and early childhood. It's only when we give students something significant to do that they will know they're significant.



## HIGH SCHOOL

**T**his has been a year of changes for LifeBridge Student Ministry as we've navigated some transitions, but our students remain strong, faithful, and mission-minded. High school is about new possibilities, which also comes with new responsibilities. High school is about freedom, how do we use our freedom, and how can we leverage our freedom with wisdom and discernment. We had an incredible team travel to The Dominican Republic this year that were able to lock arms with our partners on the ground by helping with some building projects and leading kids in large and small groups.



# LIFESPORTS



The LifeSports Ministry serves the greater Longmont area by cultivating community through sports and fitness for participants from ages 3 to 100. LifeSports provides fitness classes, sports leagues, tournaments, instructional summer camps, and other recreational events that are open to the public. The program is led by qualified and caring individuals who wish to share their passion for their sport while focusing and helping to cultivate relationship building – first with God, teammates, and opponents.

**47**  
LIFESPORTS LEAGUES

**1,250**  
AVERAGE WEEKLY PARTICIPANTS



“Under the pressure of competition, who I really am on the inside tends to come out, whether I want it to or not. I am in a process of letting my faith show instead of my emotions, as I work toward caring more for my teammates and opponents than winning.” - Player Quote

**FITNESS,  
BASKETBALL,  
VOLLEYBALL,  
SOFTBALL, DANCE  
SUMMER CAMPS,  
SOCCER**



THE CARE MINISTRY PROVIDES ENCOURAGEMENT, MOTIVATION AND DIRECTION TO PEOPLE IN NEED. WHEN WE CARE FOR OUR PEOPLE, JESUS SAYS THAT WE CARE FOR HIM (MATTHEW 25:40). AS WE MEET THE NEEDS OF OUR PEOPLE, WE ARE SAYING "YES" TO LOVING GOD. AS WE ENGAGE PEOPLE TO SERVE WITHIN THE CARE MINISTRY WE ARE ENABLING PEOPLE TO SAY "YES" TO LOVING THEIR NEIGHBOR AND EACH OTHER.

**100**  
VOLUNTEERS

**763**  
SHUT-INS SERVED COMMUNION

**3,295**  
CONNECTIONS MADE THROUGH BARNABAS MINISTRY, MEAL PREPARATION, HOSPITAL VISITS, PRAYER, SHEPHERDING

**18**  
FUNERALS CONDUCTED

**103**  
RECEIVED COUNSELING

*AGAIN JESUS SAID, "SIMON SON OF JOHN, DO YOU LOVE ME?" HE ANSWERED, "YES, LORD, YOU KNOW THAT I LOVE YOU."*

*JESUS SAID, "TAKE CARE OF MY SHEEP."  
JOHN 21:16*

# PUENTE DE VIDA



The goal of Puente de Vida is to be a presence in the Longmont Latino Community, supporting the community leaders in strengthening our neighborhoods, while building additional leaders at the Puente de Vida campus. Puente de Vida has been serving the Latino community since December 2012 through Sunday worships and weekday small group opportunities.

AN AVERAGE OF

# 161

ATTENDED THE 11AM WORSHIP SERVICE EACH WEEK

AN AVERAGE OF

# 66

ATTENDED VIDA KIDS AND EARLY CHILDHOOD EACH WEEK

*And this is the way to have eternal life—to know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, the one you sent to earth.*

**John 17:3**

# 333

ATTENDED EASTER IN 2017

# 15

COMPASSION SPONSORS



# JOHNSTOWN/MILLIKEN



**T**he vision of the Johnstown/Milliken campus is to grow a family of Christ-followers who are rooted in Scripture, and who are growing, sharing, and living out our faith in our homes, relationships, and our community. We are accomplishing this through greater focus on connectedness in groups, greater access to and emphasis on Biblical teaching, and greater investment in relational connections with our community.

Through consistent involvement in the community by so many members of our church family, we have built a reputation for being willing, available, and accessible when needs arise. During this past year, we received invitations for engagement from both Johnstown and Milliken town governments, schools in our community at all levels (elementary, middle, and high school), and other churches and civic organizations.

AN AVERAGE OF

# 205

PEOPLE ATTENDED SUNDAY PROGRAMMING EACH WEEK

AN AVERAGE OF

# 52

KIDS ATTENDED SUNDAY PROGRAMMING EACH WEEK

AN AVERAGE OF

# 100

STUDENTS ATTENDED YOUTH GROUP EACH WEEK

NEARLY

# 210

PEOPLE ARE SERVING OUR CHURCH / COMMUNITY AT LEAST ONCE A MONTH

# CURRENT ELDERS



**BLAKE  
ISOM**



**BRUCE  
FARWELL**



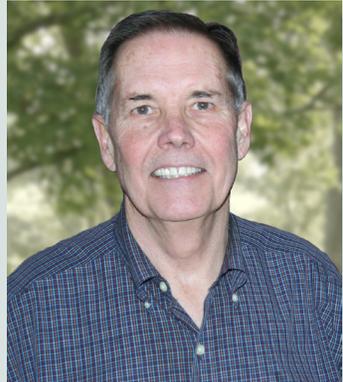
**CLAIR  
VOLK**



**GAYLE  
ZONNEFELD**



**GORDON  
HAMPTON**



**JIM  
NELSON**



**MARK  
BROTHERS**



**MIKE  
MATTHEWS**



**SCOTT  
OWEN**

# ELDERS FOR ELECTION - 1 YEAR TERM



**CHRIS  
JEFFERSON**

Chris Jefferson has been married to his wife, Kristi, for 18 years. Both preacher's kids, Chris and Kristi grew up in churches in Ohio and Kansas and now live in Firestone with their three children: Maisey (16), Marley (14) and Mosley (6). They have served together at churches in Ohio, Indiana, Missouri, and Colorado in the areas of children's and student ministry, college and young adult ministries, worship arts, and men's ministry. Chris has been active in teaching in student ministry and small groups at Life-Bridge.

As attendees of LifeBridge for the past 16 years and members for 10 of those years, Doug and Ranelle Williams has been married for 17 years. They have three boys: Blake (14), Cooper (11), and Luke (8). Doug has been heavily involved in LifeSports and Upward Basketball, as well as small group ministry, couple's ministry, and most recently Rooted.



**DOUG  
WILLIAMS**

## ELDERS ROTATING OFF



**JAMES  
HERBERT**



**DON  
HOOD**



**RICH  
KINZLE**

**WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK JAMES HERBERT AND DON HOOD FOR THEIR SERVICE AS ELDERS.**

**A SPECIAL THANKS TO RICH KINZLE WHO HAS SERVED AS AN ELDER FOR 32 YEARS.**



[LBCC.ORG](http://LBCC.ORG)