

ELEVATE OUTREACH

MINISTRY.ORG

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ANSWERING THE CALL

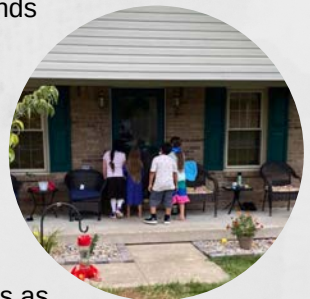
AT HOME IN UNCERTAIN TIMES

Like many organizations, we started 2020 with plans that changed when the COVID-19 pandemic hit. We had to take a step back and re-evaluate how we would reach people during the pandemic. As a small, home-based church plant, we kept meeting in small groups throughout the lock-downs. Early on, we recognized the need to continue to reach out, and within the first couple weeks of lock-down, we began broadcasting online from our homes. The response was terrific, with dozens watching live and hundreds more hearing the gospel throughout the week. It took work and city approval, but we found a large parking lot and hosted a public, drive-in, Easter service that 50 people attended.



ELEVATE YOUTH

The Bus Ministry reaches 30-50 kids a month. Early in the pandemic we saw loneliness and suicide ideation increase as the children tried to adapt to the closures and lock-downs. The need to keep reaching and being the hands and feet of Christ was incredible. Thinking outside the box was necessary, we decided to bring church to the neighborhoods. In March, we delivered Easter gift bags to over 100 kids; in April, we wrote 40 personal letters of encouragement; in May, we did limited social-distanced services in the park. In June, we hosted a small in-home Vacation Bible school; in July, we rented the Kona-Ice truck and handed out 500+ Snow-Cones. August through September saw limited services again, and in November and December, we did a coat drive and provided food to those in need. We gave out 20 coats, provided 32 Christmas dinners and gift bags, and gave out over 200lbs of ham and deer meat donated by Hunters for the Hungry. During each of our walks through the community, God opened doors as people came out to share their burdens and ask for prayer. We found ourselves praying with those in need and being blessed at each step. In total more than 200 meals were provided to kids during the services. *This year through the VBS, five new kids heard about the Gospel and through the bus ministry 13 kids made a decision for Christ in prayer! Praise God for his blessing!*





ANSWERING THE CALL

ABROAD IN UNCERTAIN TIMES

Traditionally there would be ministry trips during the year to support our partners abroad. This year prevented any trips and saw an increased need as many foreign countries saw hunger spike during the lock-downs. This opened a great door for the ministries we support to provide much-needed food in their communities and be a great witness for Christ. With a limited budget, we brainstormed how we could help and used what we already had.

We advertised and offered to mow lawns or clean yards in our area. The response was overwhelming. The youth and church pitched in for several weekends and raised \$600+. The online posts triggered giving beyond our imaginations. This year ministries and people from the Netherlands, Britain, the Philippines, and across the USA, donated. Over \$25,000 dollars was raised and sent to India, Honduras, Belize, and Haiti! This was more than our entire operating budget for the previous two years!

These ministers and missionaries provided for their families and gave out thousands of meals and much needed supplies. One preacher wrote how a farmer who would never speak to him needed food and came to know Christ through the giving of the food. Many more in all of the countries were reached as well. We were also able to help Pastor Verde in Belize after his home was flooded. Thank you for your giving!



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ELEVATE CHURCH

What a year to plant a church! We started with pop-up church intentions, using hotel conference rooms, parks, and meeting spaces to invite the community. The COVID lock-downs eliminated that plan quickly; we decided through prayer to look for a space to lease. Discouragement followed several no answers when God opened the door He wanted. We secured a beautiful college campus building that was significantly out of our price range for 1/5th of the asking price!

We launched by canvassing the community with mailers and walking the streets, knocking on doors. We invited the neighborhood to a Fall Fest and saw over 500 people attend. Several churches and Christian faith groups partnered with us in supporting this event. We gave out Bibles, tracts, candy, played games, and were able to pray with several local families.

In November, we partnered with another local church to provide 70 Thanksgiving meals to families in need. We organized a church clean-up day for a small local church who's pastor has been ill and blessed them by cleaning, painting, and ministering with music to their congregation.

At Christmas, the school district reached out asking for assistance and the church provided Christmas for four children. We've had a handful of visitors to our new church since its opening in September. In that time, we've seen one soul who is struggling with many battles pray for salvation, and we're looking to have an even more significant impact for Christ.

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TO PRAY WITH MANY

This year, Elevate signed a formal agreement with God's Bible School and College (GBSC) to sponsor up to three students through Bible School at a time. GBSC has agreed to give 50% off of international student tuition through the Elevate Scholarship program. Elevate is currently sponsoring two students (one HS and one College) who have dedicated their studies to serving Christ.

Several new efforts into the community will be launching this year. Please pray, with us, for our community and our ministry. Pray that God would use us to reach souls and make an eternal impact. Let's take the fight to the enemy together. **Get in the Fight 2021!**

