

An aerial photograph of a church campus during sunset. The scene is bathed in a warm, golden light. In the foreground, a large white tent with a peaked roof is set up in a parking lot. To the left, there are several large, modern church buildings with grey roofs. A few cars are parked in the lot. The background shows a line of trees under a clear sky with the sun low on the horizon.

FEARLESS UPDATE

BOLDLY
PURSUING
JESUS
AND HIS
MISSION

APRIL 2019



I love these words (attributed to Frenchman Antione de Saint-Exupery):

*If you want to build a ship
do not drum up people to gather wood
divide the work and give orders
Instead, teach them to yearn
for the vast and endless sea*

It's impossible to be on West Side's campus and miss the fact that we're constructing new space. But I hope you've noticed that we haven't totally shifted our focus to construction details.

Behind the scenes, sure, both our professional partners and we are discussing floorplans, systems and budgets. And, yes, we are trying to keep you up-to-speed on how to navigate our campus and facility during construction.

But the vast majority of our collective time and energy *continues* to be poured into our core ministry: planning worship gatherings, serving our city, creating environments, leading volunteers, preparing to engage people with God's word, supporting people who need comfort or guidance, and helping believers grow into more devoted followers of Jesus.

Explorers build ships because ships make greater adventures possible. Healthy churches construct buildings because more space makes it possible for more people to be impacted by our message and ministry.

Let's never lose our passion for "the vast and endless sea" of God's kingdom.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Eddie'.

Eddie Lowen, West Side's Lead Guy

BOLD COMPASSION

\$1.5 million to unleash a fresh wave of help and hope through our local and global mission partners in Kenya, Myanmar, India and beyond.



Myanmar Hope Christian Mission

Your Fearless generosity is funding a new prison ministry building in rural Myanmar. Funds were sent in December and construction is already scheduled for completion in June! In this region of the world, family members often travel many days to visit imprisoned relatives with few options for overnight accommodations. Thanks to your gifts, the love of Christ will be shared with hundreds of inmates and their families through the ministry of this new guest house.



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THANK YOU! Your many prayers and generous gifts make the work being done in Myanmar possible.

Chuck Cherry, Director of Myanmar Hope Christian Mission

Harvard Park

West Side's decade-long partnership with Harvard Park Elementary School continues thrive in fresh, new ways. Thanks to your year-end Fearless generosity and volunteering efforts, every class at Harvard Park received a Christmas party equipped with games, snacks and loads of holiday cheer. It's our honor to partner with this at-risk school in bringing help, hope and love to Harvard Park's staff and students.



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Seeing our students loved by Westsiders and being able to experience their excitement was terrific! The kids loved the fun activities, and I loved getting the break from having to plan them.

- Allison,
Harvard Park Teacher



OVER
\$374,000

GIVEN TO LOCAL AND GLOBAL MISSION PARTNERS AND CHURCH PLANTS FROM DECEMBER 1, 2018 TO APRIL 15, 2019.

BOLD DISCIPLESHIP

\$13.5 million to fuel West Side's ongoing ministry to kids, students and adults in 2019 and 2020.

4835

At the Movies
weekly average

4076

Average weekend
attendance in 2019

7814

Christmas
at West Side

In February, **255** kids and students attended Believe and Superstart, high-energy weekend events designed to help the next generation grow in their relationships with God, friends and caring adult leaders.



Rooted is 10-week experience designed to catalyze life transformation. In January 2019, nearly **200** Westsiders participated in Rooted for the first time. Rooted participants created new spiritual habits, connected with friends who became like family and sensed the love of Christ in a new way. Hundreds of Westsiders are walking a little taller and stronger these days thanks to the 10-week Rooted journey.



“Believe is a total life-changer. The games we played were a blast. The teachers are great and easy to relate to and I really connected with the worship and felt God's presence. Believe was such an amazing experience!
”

- Kinsley, West Side 8th Grader

“Before Rooted I was battling anxiety, perfectionism and control issues. Now, I'm learning to lean more on God and trust Him!
”

- Krissy, 2019 Rooted Graduate



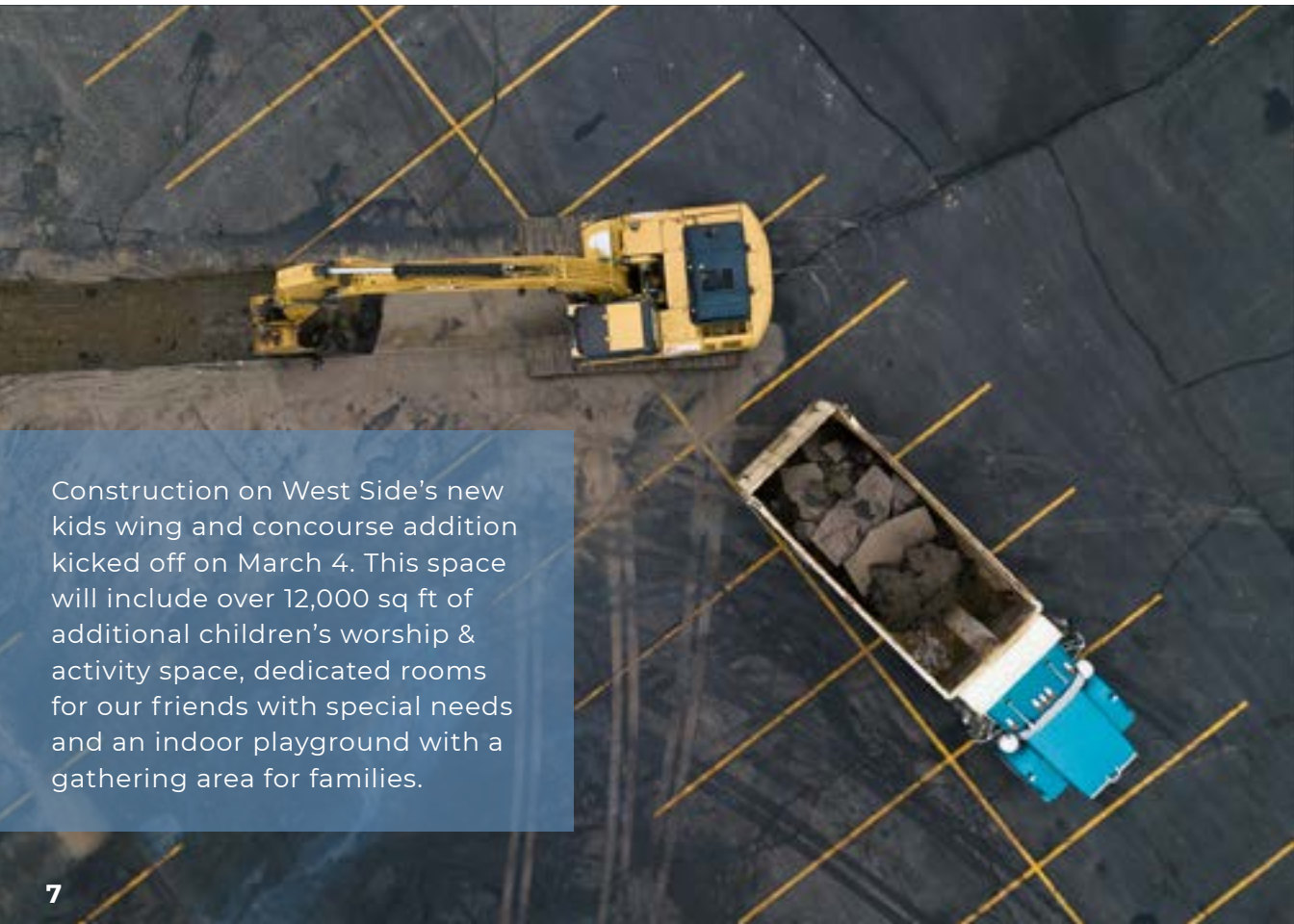
43

WESTSIDERS HAVE FOUND NEW LIFE IN JESUS THROUGH BAPTISM IN JUST OVER 4 MONTHS!

CONNECTING **EVERYONE** TO JESUS AND HIS MISSION

BOLD GROWTH

\$12 million to expand our campus and make room for EVERYONE who does not yet know the love, hope and freedom of Jesus Christ.



Construction on West Side's new kids wing and concourse addition kicked off on March 4. This space will include over 12,000 sq ft of additional children's worship & activity space, dedicated rooms for our friends with special needs and an indoor playground with a gathering area for families.

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We made a Fearless commitment because the chance to contribute to something that would impact our kids' lives and would also last for generations to come was just impossible to turn down.

- Shaun & Ginny Anders
Parents of Atticus, Archer & Tenley



Sacrificial giving isn't comfortable – in fact, it can be downright scary. But, when paired with deep faith and trust in God, it's a beautiful thing. Meet Shaun and Ginny. From the get-go, these long-time Westsiders knew they wanted to be a part of FEARLESS, but as the parents of two autistic sons who require expensive therapy, they didn't quite know how sacrificial giving would fit into the plan. However, it soon became clear – it was all about faith.

As they considered the many Westsiders who gave sacrificially in order to create space for their family, they knew they had to be a part of doing the same for others, so they dove in, trusting God would take care of their sons' needs. Today, Shaun and Ginny are living and giving FEARLESSLY and look forward to the day when thousands more come to know the transforming power of Jesus at West Side.

Watch the Anders' story at wchurch.org/STORIES

GIVING UPDATE

BRINGING HELP & HOPE TO **EVERYONE**

We won't stop until every person within our reach has the opportunity to know Jesus and connect to a healthy, vibrant church.

100% ENGAGEMENT

We challenge **EVERY** Westsider to take a fearless next step in devotion to Jesus and generosity with his mission.



1,818 Total Households
Giving to Fearless
December 1, 2018 - April 15, 2019

\$27 MILLION IN GENEROSITY

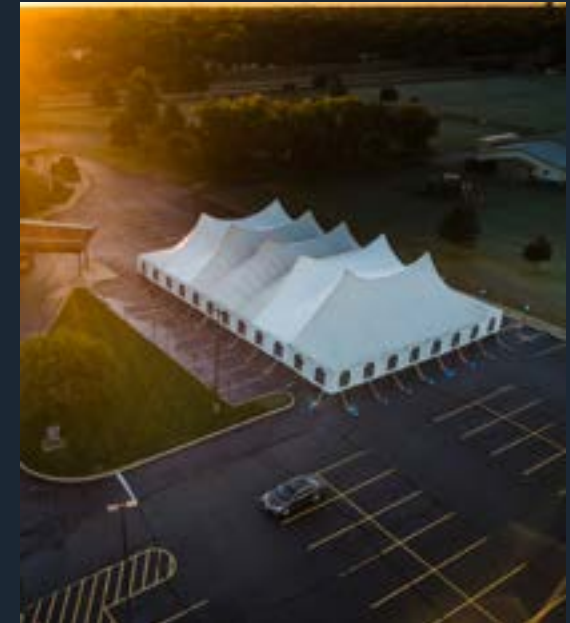
\$27,063,579

Committed

\$5,237,868.80

Total Given

December 1, 2018 - April 15, 2019



If you have questions regarding your giving, contact West Side's Director of Finance, Brenda Lavin at:

BrendaL@wschurch.org
or **217.793.2800**

Set up a consistent weekly or monthly giving schedule at

wschurch.org/Give



[WSCHURCH.ORG/FEARLESS](https://www.wschurch.org/fearless)