

A young man with short dark hair is smiling broadly, looking towards the camera. He is wearing a white dress shirt, a dark patterned tie, and a white boutonniere on his left lapel. He is seated in a wheelchair, which is partially visible in the lower right. The background is a blurred indoor setting with other people in formal attire.

THE MOODY CHURCH

ANNUAL REPORT

SEPTEMBER 1, 2016–AUGUST 31, 2017

CELEBRATING
THE JOY
OF CHANGED
LIVES

*A trusted place where anyone can connect
with God and others.*

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A LETTER FROM PASTOR BERTSCHE

Since our last Annual Report, we are one year closer to seeing the Lord and being in His presence. That thought comforts me regularly and inspires words of thanksgiving to God for adopting me into His family. When I think of what my life would have been like had He not saved me, I realize more fully the depth of His grace to me. It's amazing indeed!

I believe the same is true of our church family and history. For instance, as we prepared for the time that we would be without a senior pastor, we prayed that we would not experience the dire downturn that can happen to churches in such times. While the generosity of the congregation enabled us to fully fund our reserves, we knew that ultimately our dependence was on the Lord. No reserve fund would be sufficient apart from God's grace. We are in His hands.

And so, one year later, we happily testify to God's provision in so many ways. Although we fell short of finishing the fiscal year financially positive, giving was actually up over last year. What an encouragement! We also welcomed many new members, baptized almost 50 people in Lake Michigan, served about 500 children at Summer Blast, and accomplished much more as a church family with God's help. We have experienced the truth of John 15:5—*I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.*

I hope that, like me, you are hungry to bear even more fruit for the Lord in the upcoming year. I pray He will increase our desire to be used by Him, and to see more lost men and women entrust themselves to Jesus for eternal life. In Matthew 5:14–16, Jesus tells us that we are the “light of the world” and that we are to let our light shine so that, ultimately, people will see it and glorify our Heavenly Father.

There are two ways I believe the Lord is leading us to do this. The first is by increasing the warmth of our church so that our love for one another and for newcomers is transparent and potent. As Christians, we are to be known by our love, so let's make that obvious to everyone. The second way is getting serious about being Jesus' witnesses. The shocking reality is that most Christians admit they have not shared their faith with anyone in the previous year. By God's grace, we

aim to make sure that is not true of The Moody Church—and we believe the Lord is showing us the way.

Warmth and Witness. Two words the Lord is laying before us. But more than just two words—two goals. Two ways to glorify God and fulfill the mission He has given us. You can read more about them in the *Casting a Vision for the Future* section of this Annual Report. I pray passionately that our goals excite you, and moreover, that you are fully mobilized by God for them. Let's do it!

For His glory,



Bill Bertsche
Executive Pastor



A LETTER FROM OUR ELDERS

This past year has been one of transition, but our faithful God has blessed and protected The Moody Church through it all. During a full year without a senior pastor in the pulpit, other leaders within our church have taken the reins and guided us faithfully under the loving hand of God.

We are thankful for our gifted ministry staff as they have served capably under the leadership of Executive Pastor Bill Bertsche. We also thank God for the preaching ministry of Dr. Ed Stetzer, our Interim Teaching Pastor, and others on our pastoral staff. Under their guidance, the gospel of Jesus Christ has been preached powerfully, effectively, and with great clarity.



Dr. Ed Stetzer preaching on Easter Sunday

We are mindful that the real Moody Church isn't its leadership or its building; it's all of us, from the smallest child to our eldest member. Everyone is a vital piece of this partnership in the gospel. This coming year, our desire is to bring the gospel to the lost and the needy. We encourage everyone to ask who in your life needs to hear the good news of the gospel, and then look for opportunities to serve them, share the gospel, and invite them to church.

Under Pastor Bill's guidance, our church is moving forward with our evangelism outreach to neighbors and friends. Pastor Ed is reinforcing this theme on Sunday mornings, and our Communities and small groups are working to keep us accountable in our faith as we strive to share the gospel more openly and effectively. How marvelous it is when God's people are sent out into the harvest! We pray that many will come to know the awesome power of the Resurrection.

If you need help in being ready to give an answer for the hope that is in you, we encourage you to take advantage of the many opportunities to study God's Word and connect with others. You will be sharpened, your witness will be strengthened, and God will be glorified in your pursuit to please Him.

In closing, we look forward to the year ahead and trust that God will continue to lead us and provide for our many needs. We want to thank all of you who generously and sacrificially give of your time, talents, and finances in furtherance of the church's mission. We love you and desire to serve you under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Keep us in prayer.

THE MOODY CHURCH ELDERS

Joseph Carré, Don Dix, Tony Durns, Steve Giere, Berv Peterson, Tom Sawyer, Ger Schultz, Greg Thornton, and Phil Zahn

ASSOCIATE ELDERS

Bill Bertsche, Michael Pitts

LIFE ELDER

Julius Wilson

CASTING A VISION FOR THE FUTURE

A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR BILL BERTSCHE

In a church that is more than 150 years old, it would be easy to focus on our past. While it is encouraging to reflect on the countless lives that have been changed in and through the ministries of The Moody Church, the work to which the Lord has called us is not finished yet. We don't want to be like the janitor who spends half his day marveling at how clean he got the floors, right?

I am excited about the future of The Moody Church. I feel this way in part because of God's marvelous faithfulness to us for more than 150 years, but also because the power of God to change lives through the gospel is precisely what this city needs—and this powerful gospel is exactly what you and I have been entrusted with. God's people have the answer to the brokenness, pain, and sinfulness of our great city—the Good News that Jesus Christ forgives and reconciles lost men and women to God.

As I write this, Philippians 3:12 and 1 Corinthians 9:24 are motivating me like a song on a distance runner's playlist:

*Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, **but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own.** (Philippians 3:12)*

*Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one receives the prize? **So run that you may obtain it.***
(1 Corinthians 9:24)

I hope you can feel it. I hope you are energized by God's call upon your life.

So what is it that God is calling us to in the next year? As I mentioned in my letter at the beginning of this Annual Report, *Warmth and Witness* are two priorities that will help us in our God-given mission to make disciples of all nations.

In short, warmth is nothing less than showing the love of God to others. It can be as simple as acknowledging people

with a smile as you pass them in the hallway, or calling someone you haven't seen at church in a while to check on them. Warmth tells people they matter to God and to us. As Christians, we are called to be known by our love (John 13:35). So look for ways to express and extend the love of God to others. It will likely make a bigger difference in their lives than you know.



Olaronke Omotade greeting on a Sunday morning

Another priority to which we believe God is calling our church is to increase our witness for Christ. This November, ten of our Elders and ministry staff will attend a multi-day conference helping our church learn how to share the Good News of Christ more naturally. It is a significant commitment that we believe the Lord will use to help us see many more people trust Christ. We expect to introduce what we learn to the congregation early in January. Pastor Ed has recently been encouraging us along these lines with the maps of our neighbors and the prayer lists of those we hope to reach. Be faithful and purposeful in praying, reaching out, and inviting people to the feet of Jesus.

The four ministries on the following pages are examples of the warmth and witness approach we are focusing on as a church this year.

For over 150 years, The Moody Church has been known as a congregation that reaches out to the lost and the needy. Let's make 2018 a banner year for that continued vision.

EQUIPPING MINISTRY

The Equipping Ministry teaches followers of Jesus to better live out and share their faith with others. It continues to grow each year, and last semester was one of our best attended to date. Students frequently remark how these classes are helping them deepen their walk with the Lord and, in some cases, are changing their lives. Instructors consistently analyze the cultural trends in order to train people how to live vibrant lives amidst the approaching darkness and to be

able to engage in the public dialogue in winsome and yet articulate ways. Approximately 285 people went through Equipping classes during the 2016–2017 year. Looking ahead, Pastor Steve Mason and his team are excited to see students enabled to more effectively study the Word and to boldly engage those around them with the gospel. Their prayer is for more teachers who can help build a more robust curriculum.



This year has been a time of blessed transition for TMC Kids, with our new Director Michele Forrider arriving on staff. Under her leadership, TMC Kids seeks to follow and serve God in the ministry to children and their families. TMC Kids' vision is to partner with parents and caregivers in raising their children to know, love, and serve Jesus. By God's grace, TMC Kids now serves almost 600 different children through events and regular programming, and is blessed to have over 250 volunteers to make this ministry dynamic and effective. Looking towards the future, Michele wants to enhance classroom resources and visuals with *The Gospel Project Curriculum*, to improve the training of staff and volunteers to better serve our children, and to empower parents with resources that work in conjunction with classroom programming.

CASTING A VISION FOR THE FUTURE



The Young family

139's year of ministry was marked by spiritual growth and kingdom expansion. Through the year approximately 150 volunteers ministered in Co-Laborers, Rejoice & Respite, Family Fun Night, TMC Kids Buddy Program, Fresh Hope, Deaf Ministry, and Access Ministries. 139 saw incredible expansion across all areas of ministry; in particular, attendance at Family Fun Nights grew from an average of 40 people to well over 100, with an average waiting list of 35 for the last two events. As more and more families have attended who are not churchgoers (LGBT, Buddhist, Muslim, Nation of Islam, agnostic), 139 Director Eric Targe has found that the consistent time of accessible worship in music and the Scriptural devotionals have not deterred them from returning for the next events. Some of these families choose to attend The Moody Church on Sundays, and others are struggling with what it might mean to leave Islam or Buddhism for Jesus. Praise God that many—including whole families—have come to Christ through their time with the 139 Ministry!

139 Disability Ministries

Crossroads experienced new vision this year under new College Pastor Dan Lee. Each week, students from campuses throughout the city gather to encounter God and connect with each other through sharing a meal and then participating in worship, Bible teaching, and small groups. Under Pastor Dan's leadership, warmth and witness are a major focus of their core activities. Crossroads' **REFUEL** fall retreat was especially dynamic. The theme of the retreat was *Identity: Who am I and Who has God Created Me to Be?* Students discussed the Enneagram, Myers-Briggs, spiritual gifts, and the "5 Love Languages." There were some great conversations and connections made within small groups, especially from those who felt distant before the retreat. One young lady in particular mentioned that she felt different and like she would never fit in. Dan encouraged her to be real and authentic with her small group, that they might surprise her, and they did. The group shared some deep pain stories, mourned, and grew together in friendship.

CROSSROADS



2017 REFUEL Retreat



Sunday Morning Class

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

OCTOBER–DECEMBER

HISPANIC MINISTRY RETREAT: El Ministerio Hispano en la Iglesia Moody had its annual family retreat this past summer at Wonderland Camp and Conference Center in Wisconsin, focusing on “Unidos en Pensamiento y Proposición,” or “United in Mind and Purpose.” This multigenerational, bilingual celebration of unity doubled its attendance from last year.

FALL FEST: This continues to be a significant outreach event to our community where families experience a fun day of games, candy, and costumes, and most important, hear about Jesus. We hosted almost 700 people in 2016, and are extremely grateful for the volunteers who helped make this event a success!



NEW ENGLAND DINNER: Celebrating our children’s ministry and student ministry volunteers who serve in a wide variety of capacities, this event is consistently a highlight of the year. The pastoral staff regaled the audience with singing and laughter while attendees dined together.

ANGEL TREE/HELP-PORTRAIT: Over 450 gifts were purchased by our church family benefitting 150 children who have a parent that is incarcerated. Approximately 250 children and adults were treated to a home-cooked meal, face painting, balloon designs, an impressionist, and a puppet show depicting the Christmas story. Partnering with The Moody Church was Help-Portrait, who provided professional hair styling, makeup, and photo portraits for families in attendance.

WOMEN’S CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON: Our Christmas luncheon featured a drama about the women mentioned in Matthew 1. It was a powerful presentation of God’s amazing grace. This continues to be an excellent outreach event for the women of the church.



CHRISTMAS CONCERT/CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE/ VESPERS: As the Christmas season began, we were so glad that the Sanctuary repairs were completed. The lighting enhancements were beautifully applied in each of our Christmas events. The outreach potential of the Christmas Eve service was powerfully demonstrated again this year with strong attendance and many new faces.

JANUARY–MARCH

SANCTITY OF HUMAN LIFE SUNDAY: We held a one-hour seminar with Pastor Ed discussing the latest cultural trends regarding the value of human life and how we can defend our biblical beliefs.

DAY OF PRAYER & FASTING: We focused our teaching and prayer times on the following four spiritual disciplines: *Intimacy with God; Serving Others; Reflection on Scripture; and Generosity.*

ARCTIC BLAST: This overnight event for our 3rd–5th graders is hosted by Camp Timber-Lee. Our children took advantage of many outdoor activities and participated in upbeat worship and Bible study. It’s a wonderful opportunity for our volunteer team to build relationships with these children for an extended period of time.

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

APRIL–JUNE

HOLY WEEK: At our Good Friday and Easter Sunday services, hundreds of people were invited to the church to hear the message of Jesus. We were encouraged by Pastor Ed Stetzer that Jesus was sent to rescue us, and that on Easter Sunday we celebrate the pivotal event in history that changes everything for us today.



GLOBAL OUTREACH CONFERENCE: This year's conference theme, SENT, was based on the commandment Jesus gave His disciples in John 20:21, "As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you."

REDEMPTION PROJECT: This year's Redemption Project had the highest offering received on record. We partnered with Call of Hope to provide goats to needy Christian and Muslim families in northern Africa. We raised over \$40,000—enough goats for 660 families!

AWANA AWARDS NIGHT: This celebration of our Awana clubbers who diligently studied and committed verses to memory over the past year acknowledges the achievements of children in our Puggles, Cubbies, Sparks, and T&T clubs. Following the Awards Ceremony everyone indulged in our decadent dessert buffet.

MEN'S GOLF OUTING: Held at the Meadowlark Golf Course in Hinsdale, this event continues to be a fun way for our men to connect with one another. This year saw our highest attendance ever!

139 FANCY FORMAL: 120 people from families affected by disability were in attendance, with 35 more on a waiting list. Families arrived dressed in their very best, and were

greeted with professional portraits, appetizers, a delicious dinner, an entertaining juggler, an evangelistic message, and a time of accessible worship.

INDEPENDENCE DAY CONCERT: The concert celebrated the freedoms of this great land and honored the men and women who fought to protect them. The music and message emphasized the unity, forgiveness, and hope for our often divided nation made possible because of God's grace and the freedom we can have through Jesus. A generous offering was received for Manierre Elementary School, our local outreach partner.

JULY–SEPTEMBER

SUMMER BLAST: We saw nearly 500 children attend this boisterous annual week-long event. Many children heard about the love of Christ for the first time, and their families were also welcomed to The Moody Church for the first time. Children walked away knowing they were loved by God and built for a purpose.

SUMMER CAMPS: This year we made incredible memories at our four summer camps: Kids Jam Camp, Soccer Camp, Lake Ann Camp, and Basketball Camp. Children and students were able to explore God's creation, learn new skills, and hear about Jesus. All camps experienced our highest turnout ever!

COMMUNITY SERVICE SUNDAY: Our TMC Communities exemplified the body of Christ over the August 4–6 weekend, when over 400 people went out into the neighborhoods around the church to share the compassion of Jesus through a wide variety of service projects. Some of the projects included visiting the elderly; handing out care packages, books, Bibles, and gift cards; and completing work projects at George Manierre Elementary School, By The Hand Club For Kids, and Pacific Garden Mission.

CELEBRATION SUNDAY: At our annual church picnic and MoodyFest, many from our congregation gathered to celebrate the goodness of God this past year. The highlight of the day was our annual Lake Michigan baptism where over 40 people committed their lives to Christ through public immersion.



*Celebration Sunday: Church Picnic / Moody Fest
(top left and bottom right)*



Summer Blast



*Celebration Sunday: Lake Michigan Baptism
(left and right)*



Men's Ministry annual golf event



MOODY BY THE NUMBERS

MEMBERSHIP

2,222

Members

84

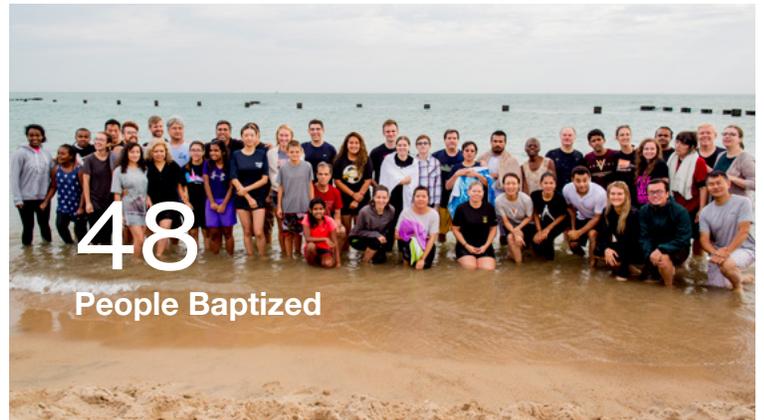
New Members

29

Associate Members

20

Babies Dedicated



AVERAGE ATTENDANCE

1,679

Sunday Morning

173

Sunday Evening

63

Wednesday Evening
Prayer Meeting

838

Weekly Service
Streaming



SPECIAL ATTENDANCE

2,247

Guests in Visitors Center

3,242

Easter Sunday

700

Fall Festival

445

Summer Blast VBS



472

Summer Camps

155

Countries Streaming
Our Service

GENERAL FUND

\$6,162,209

Total Giving

2,185

Giving Households

SPECIAL OFFERINGS

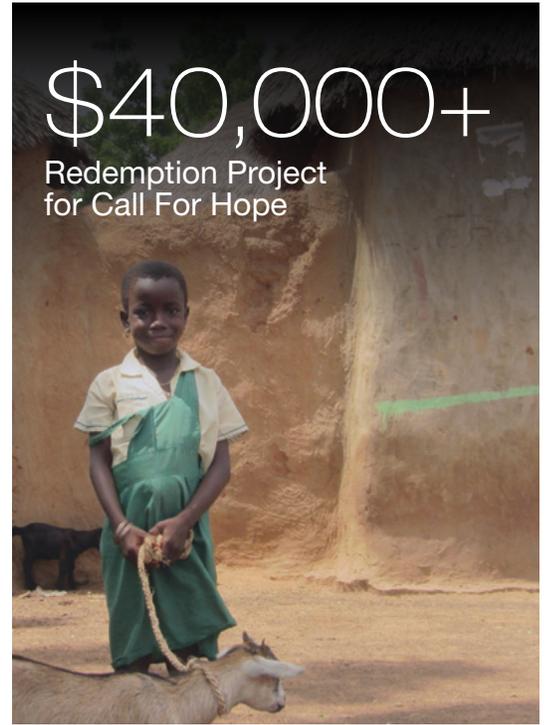
\$16,000

Christmas Festival Offering
for Lydia Home



\$40,000+

Redemption Project
for Call For Hope



SMALL GROUPS

47

Groups

320

Participants

EQUIPPING

13

Classes

285

Participants

TMC COMMUNITIES

17

Communities

800

Participants

S.T.A.M.P.

4

Trips

42

Participants

Moody Church media

A YEAR IN REVIEW

This has been a growing and productive year for our Media Ministry. We are reaching more people than ever with the gospel.

Running to Win is now in Spanish! On January 31, the program began broadcasting on about 100 stations in Central and South America. And just a few months ago, we received a report saying that the response is “massive.” This, of course, has added an extra burden on our budget, but we believe that this is a wise and productive investment. In a world that seems to be growing ever more hostile to Christianity, the fact that so many lives are still being transformed by the gospel should be a great encouragement to all of us.

“I wanted to let you know that I was able to lead a family to the Lord Jesus, when I told them how to pray with the Word. *The Correr Para Ganar* (*Running to Win*) program has been of great blessing for my life. So last week a lady from our small group told me about a certain family that had left all activities at church. I went to see them and when I arrived I spoke to them about Jesus. When I started to pray, I remembered how to do it. I had that specific program about prayer saved on my phone so we heard it together and they liked it. Now every time we are together and I have a program we’ll listen to them. **They have come to accept Jesus. Glory be to God.**”

This year I have been just as busy as Pastor Emeritus as I was while the Senior Pastor! As many of you know, this year marks the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation. As a result, I’ve been traveling to different churches and venues to teach about this pivotal event in the history of the Church. Many people are learning about the Reformation through my book, *Rescuing the Gospel*. My book tour will wrap up after I speak at The Moody Church on Reformation

Sunday (October 29), followed on Tuesday with a rally in Frankfurt, Germany on the actual Reformation Day (October 31).



The ministry continues to grow through traditional radio stations as well as our digital outreach. We’ve added several key radio stations this year, including stations in Philadelphia, Cincinnati, and Puerto Rico. We also continue to expand our digital reach via email, our website, and social media. 10,000 more people are receiving biblical resources each week via our email newsletter, and our social media audience has grown by over 50%. What a blessing it is to engage with an even greater number of people than ever and hear how the Media Ministry has impacted their lives.

Gary M wrote to us on Facebook – “We are all blessed to have you in our lives. I thank God for you and the message of hope, faith and love ... that you share. Thank you Dr. Lutzer, amen!”

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

Next year I intend to be more intentional in mentoring pastors and have already accepted a number of speaking events in that vein. Rebecca will also be speaking to pastors’ wives at many of these events. Thank you so much for praying for us! Please join us in praying for the Search Committee while it continues to seek God’s mind regarding the man to lead The Moody Church in the years ahead.

Rich blessings to all of you,
Pastor Emeritus Dr. Erwin Lutzer



BY THE HAND CLUB FOR KIDS™

OVERVIEW

The vision of By The Hand has always been to help children who live in high-risk, inner-city neighborhoods have abundant and eternal life. We now serve nearly 1,400 children in four of Chicago's most under-resourced neighborhoods—Cabrini-Green, Altgeld-Murray, Austin, and Englewood—literally and figuratively taking them by the hand from kindergarten through college. We provide a safe place to learn during the after-school hours, as well as safe passage to and from the club on school buses. And we love them as our own—mind, body and soul. Last year alone, we served 87,823 meals and provided 862 kids with vision care, 1,007 with dental care, and 112 with professional counseling.

We also emphasize literacy. Children who can't read at grade level by the time they're in third grade are four times more likely to drop out of high school—eight times more likely if they are from poor, inner-city neighborhoods like the ones By The Hand serves. Our blended learning program leverages a combination of technology-based learning and one-on-one personalized instruction for dramatic results: this year some of our students improved their reading level by as much as two grades.

ONE STORY

Makayla stepped out of the Englewood apartment where she lives with her mom, grandmother, aunt, three siblings and two cousins. Knowing she passed the third grade, she scurried off to school, head held high. Yet Ms. Turner, her teacher, was concerned about Makayla's reading. Fortunately, Ms. Turner suggested By The Hand, saying that it would be good for Makayla. She has attended ever since because "my mom makes me."

The following fall, Makayla earned all ABCs, winning the first of many trips to Six Flags. Still, she was reading at a second-grade level. By the seventh grade, reading was still her weakest subject—not good for someone who wants to be an attorney.

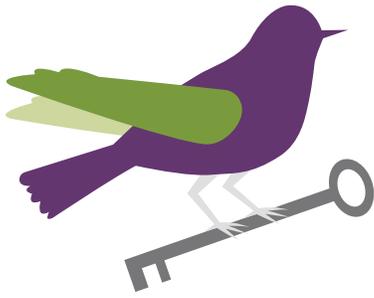
In fact, Makayla said her reading "was stuck at a kiddie level." But that year, Pastor Ed Johnson (her tutor) noticed a difference in Makayla's attitude towards school since she had prayed to accept Christ as her Savior. Also, "Angelina was beating me in reading," she said, "and I didn't like it one bit." So Makayla and Angelina, best friends at By The Hand, began a friendly competition to see who could move up the fastest in reading. Through the personalized reading instruction she received with our technology-enhanced reading program, Makayla mastered more advanced skills—at an accelerated rate. In a mere five months, she increased her reading ability an astounding six grade levels—advancing to the twelfth-grade level. Nothing is holding Makayla back now.

HIGHLIGHTS FOR 2016–2017 ANOTHER RECORD YEAR

- We served 1,360 kids—mind, body and soul
- Our kids earned one of their highest overall GPAs (2.82)
- More kids than ever passed all of their classes (85%) and made the honor roll (46%)—61% had all ABCs
- Our high school senior graduation and college matriculation rates are higher than the national average
- 227 of our children accepted Jesus as their Lord and Savior

HOPE FOR THE FUTURE

With the goal of serving more than 3,000 kids by 2026, God willing, we plan to open additional By The Hand locations in the next few years. Our new locations will include clubs based on our new school-plus-after-school model that is enabling us to have an even greater impact on our kids while reducing our cost per child.



naomi's house

We have seen incredible life-change in the women at Naomi's House (NH)! The women in our program are brave and strong, and are committed to their therapy, educational, and spiritual goals, their healing journey, and our community living. Although conflict arises and setbacks happen, the residents are making great strides in healing from their trauma and intentionally pressing forward. One woman describes her time in the program as the best thing that has ever happened to her. Another woman says she has never experienced so much love and support. The work is hard and weighs on our staff in significant ways but there is no greater reward than to see a life turn around and begin to take a new shape.

HIGHLIGHTS

- We opened our residential home on December 2, 2016
- We've served seven women since we opened
- Total cumulative number of days we have served a woman in our program: 700!
- We've trained over 100 volunteers to work in our program in some capacity
- One woman made the decision to give her life to Jesus!
- One woman made the decision to get baptized at the local church she has been attending
- One woman started attending College of DuPage
- Three women currently have part-time jobs
- Currently we have two full-time employees, eight part-time shift supervisors, four as-needed-staff, and one part-time Executive Director

ONE STORY

One woman at NH fits the pattern of a victim of human trafficking: lured into the life as a teenager, bought and sold many times by various pimps, suffering incredible physical and sexual abuse, forced to take drugs to cause her to be addicted, covered in tattoos that her traffickers forced her to get, and eventually ending up in jail. When she came to NH, she had just finished serving her prison sentence. Since being

in the NH program, we have witnessed this woman overcome the obstacles of her past and literally start a new life. She has overcome her drug addiction, enrolled in community college, covered up her trafficking tattoos, and embraced her therapy head-on. She knows that healing from her past is difficult, but she remains unafraid of what a new life could look like and what it will take to get there. More than anything, she remains so grateful for NH and what she has been able to accomplish since moving in last spring. And her spirit is infectious—often it is this resident who encourages the others to “take off your mask” and not be afraid of what God is doing in their lives. She is the first to say that Jesus has rescued her and brought her up from the depths of despair, giving her beauty for ashes. When we think about why NH exists, we think of this woman because of what God can do through her testimony and how He can and will bring glory to His name through her redemption!

HOPE FOR THE FUTURE

Our dreams for the future of NH and how our program can impact women are endless! We are praying that God will give us the opportunity to serve 50 women over the next five years. Additionally, we want to increase the average of number of days women stay in the program from year to year, decrease the number of women who relapse back into the life, and develop a survivor group for the women who exit NH and are looking for continued support. Our hope for each woman who enters NH is that she would leave after her time with us with a deeper understanding of God's love for her through the saving grace of Jesus Christ, and that she would feel equipped to face the day-to-day challenges of living independently. Our prayer is that both our residents and our staff will live flourishing lives (Psalm 1:3), and will make an impact in the community that honors and glorifies God!

Global Outreach

Jesus commanded us to bear witness and share the gospel both locally and to the ends of the earth (Acts 1:8). Each one of us—whether we are missionaries overseas or living here at home—has been sent by Jesus to make Him known. In fact, this year’s Global Outreach Conference theme, SENT, was based on the commandment Jesus gave His disciples in John 20:21, “As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.”

At this year’s conference, Dr. Ed Stetzer and Kevin Harney reminded us that we ALL have the responsibility to share the gospel. Both men made it clear that while global missions and gospel advancement may often be thought of as geographically distant, each of us has ample opportunities wherever God has placed us here in Chicago. Our cross-cultural mission not only includes crossing oceans but also crossing yards or fences and simply meeting and loving our neighbors.

MISSIONARY UPDATE

By God’s grace, Moody Church Missions continues to grow in its global reach and influence. For the 2016–2017 fiscal year, Global Outreach supported over 164 active missionaries, of whom 118 are serving overseas. They are doing incredible work all over the world, spreading the good news that Jesus saves sinners and reconciles them to God. Despite a culture seemingly moving away from the things of God, we see more and more young missionaries taking up the mantle to spread the gospel abroad. For example, two new missionary families, the Frushers and the Ottens, are beginning their work overseas this year and next.

Vance and Andrea Frusher are serving with TeachBeyond in Asia, working to start and strengthen international Christian schools. Many Asian countries are rapidly closing the door to Christian missionaries and yet value an English/Western education. Using Christian education in these countries is another way to advance the gospel while serving missionary families in the region.

Frusher Family



In early 2018, Jeremy and Christy Otten will head to Belgium where Jeremy will teach New Testament Theology at Evangelische Theologische Faculteit (ETF) Seminary. This will be an unpaid position due to the Seminary’s desires to keep its tuition as low as possible for students and to provide generous scholarships for students from developing countries, and also due to the overall inability of local churches to provide financial support.

HOPE FOR THE FUTURE

Looking to the future, The Moody Church continues to develop home-grown missionaries. The Missionary Preparation Program (MPP) serves as an incubator for members of our church family who answer the call to overseas cross-cultural ministry. We have eight participants who are starting to explore the idea of missions. One such example is Melissa King, who works in our TMC Kids ministry and hopes to be sent in early 2018 to Albania.

The courageous men, women, and children whom we send abroad and who are doing incredible work for the Kingdom of God should remind and encourage us all that the Great Commission is not only global but also local. How can you get involved in missions? We need your prayer, we need your support, but most importantly we need your heart to align with God’s heart as we journey together as a church to share the good news of the gospel with the lost all over the world.

TRUSTEES' REPORT

During the past year a significant amount of the Trustees' time was spent overseeing the completion of the Sanctuary restoration. As noted in the 2016 Trustees' report, the following work was undertaken:

REPLACE

Replaced and extended the catwalk above the ceiling, which also included cutting a new entrance to the space above the ceiling and a ladder to access that entrance.

REPAIR

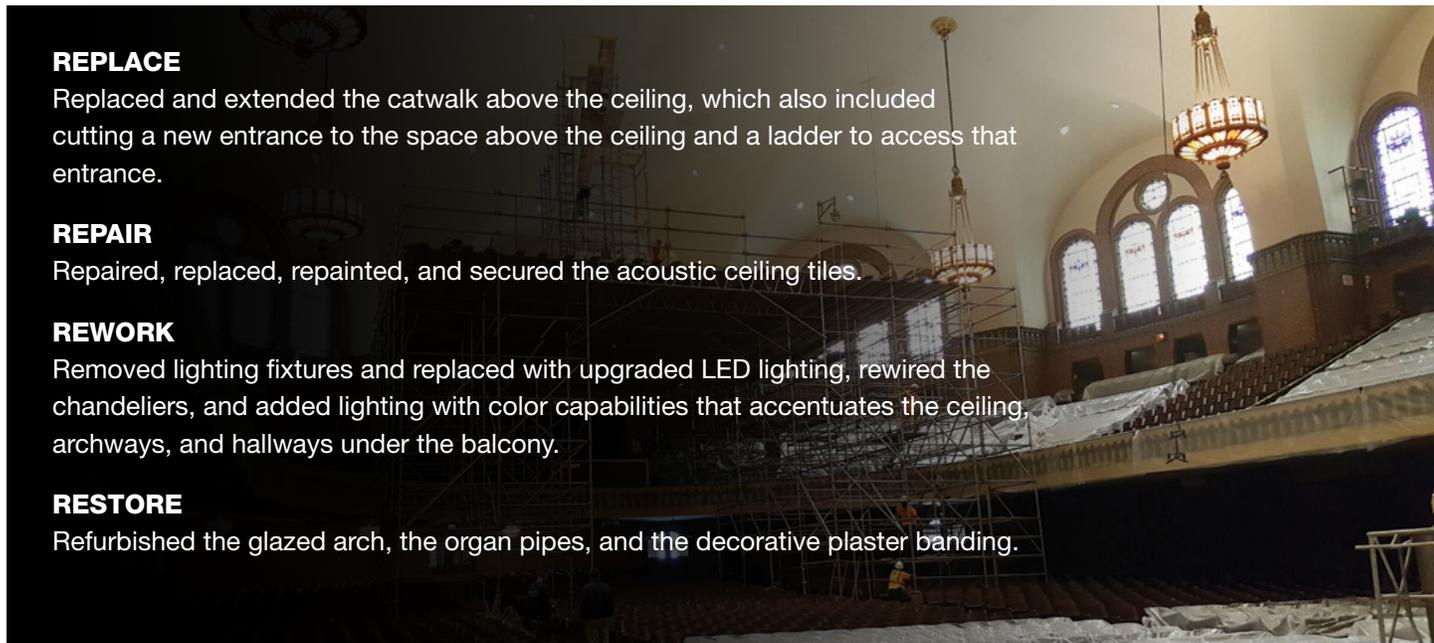
Repaired, replaced, repainted, and secured the acoustic ceiling tiles.

REWORK

Removed lighting fixtures and replaced with upgraded LED lighting, rewired the chandeliers, and added lighting with color capabilities that accentuates the ceiling, archways, and hallways under the balcony.

RESTORE

Refurbished the glazed arch, the organ pipes, and the decorative plaster banding.



Praise God for providing the funds and for allowing us to complete the entire project, including some additional scope, below budget. Furthermore, with the installation of LED lighting we are realizing the benefit of significantly lower electrical costs. Finally, we praise God that the Sanctuary has never looked and functioned better.

This past year we also had to replace the guardhouse associated with our North & LaSalle parking lot, as the old one was badly deteriorated.

In looking forward to the new year, we are considering how to refurbish the Christian Life Center (CLC) to increase our warmth and witness to the community. This high-use facility has seen extraordinary ministry use and impact over its 10-year lifespan. In fact, we never envisioned that our ministries would expand as much as they have during this decade. Praise God! Our Thanksgiving Offering Campaign, which we're calling *TLC on the CLC*, will examine options for replacing worn-out carpeting and furniture, installing a welcoming canopy at the 1635 North LaSalle entrance, and adding digital signage to the building interior and exterior to improve our communications visibility.

In addition, we have been discussing and reviewing how we can add railings in and around the Sanctuary balcony. We do not currently have a timeline for this work as more analysis in terms of architectural features and costs is required.

THE MOODY CHURCH TRUSTEES

Earl Bowers, Daniel Favero, Kim Lahti, Bervin Peterson, and Thomas Sawyer

FINANCE COMMITTEE AND TREASURER'S REPORT

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

In Fiscal **2017** contributions fell short of budget by 9.0% at \$6,162,051 or \$607,422 below budget. The contribution shortfall was largely offset by expenses being below budget across all areas: pastoral ministries was favorable to budget by \$200,252, Camp by \$3,834, office administration by \$21,021, Missions by \$57,571, and Facilities by \$153,265. Although total expenses were below budget by \$435,943, they exceeded operating income by \$175,436. This deficit was covered primarily by a prior estate gift which was designated for the General Fund. We give thanks and glory to God for his continuing provision to The Moody Church and its ministries.

MEDIA MINISTRY

The Media Ministry income, which includes product sales, general donations, direct mail, and offering envelope contributions, was \$2,735,618. Revenue was unfavorable to budget by \$135,382. Expenses in Media were favorable to budget by \$198,456. This resulted in a \$63,074 positive variance for the Media Ministry relative to budget.

ESTATE GIVING

Donations from estates totaled \$90,480. Funds were allocated to specific ministries as designated. For undesignated estates, 10% was allocated to Missions Projects and the balance to the Capital Fund. Stewardship materials to assist those interested in providing for The Moody Church ministries through their estates are available from Michael Pitts in the church office.

FISCAL 2018

The General Fund budgeted contributions for next year are the same as this year's budget, but 9.9% above this year's actual.

All of this planning and budgeting would not be possible without strong support from Michael Pitts, Managing Director of Operations; Kent Schmidt, Director of Finance and Administration; and Financial Assistants Neelu Joseph and Carol Verovich. This great team is committed to conservative accounting for controlling the Church's finances on a daily basis.

The Finance Committee appreciates your prayers.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Jonathan Hauser, David Newton, David Camarena, Jamail Carter, Jim Paterik, Michael Pitts, and Kent Schmidt

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2017

CONTRIBUTIONS FELL SHORT OF BUDGET BY \$608,000

Actual, \$6,162,000

Budget, \$6,770,000

EXPENSES WERE UNDER BUDGET BY \$418,000

Actual, \$6,520,000

Budget, \$6,938,000

EXPENSES EXCEEDED INCOME BY \$175,000

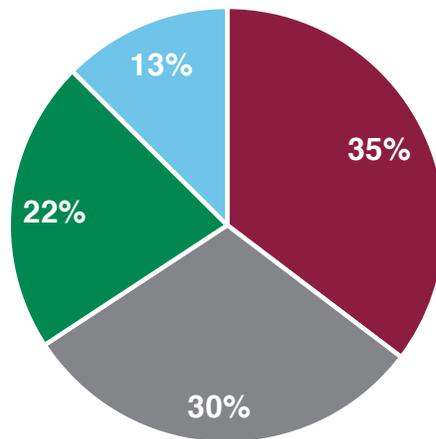
Total Income, \$6,345,000

Total Expenses, \$6,520,000

\$0 \$2,000,000 \$4,000,000 \$6,000,000

EXPENSE BY CATEGORY

- Ministry
- Facilities
- Administrative
- Missions



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2017

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

	<u>8/31/17</u>
Assets	
Cash & Cash Equivalents, at cost (Note 5)	\$ 3,094,102
Other Current Assets	152,848
Promissory Notes for Pastoral Housing	65,000
Long-Term Investments, at cost (Note 5)	175,182
	<u>\$ 3,487,132</u>
Liabilities & Fund Balances	
Accrued Expenses	\$ 6,315
Fund Balances	3,480,817
	<u>\$ 3,487,132</u>

FUND BALANCES

	<u>8/31/17</u>
Unrestricted Funds	
General Fund	\$ -
General Fund Reserve	694,278
Capital	189,883
Capital Reserve	694,278
Auditorium Media Capital	44,759
Elder Designated	211,762
	<u>\$ 1,834,960</u>
Restricted Funds	
Camp Capital/Reserve	\$ (57,184)
Recreation	1,910
Mission Projects and RTT	430,618
Media Ministry & Media Reserve	481,742
Fellowship Fund	303,467
Capital (Restricted)	95,122
Naomi's House	161,875
Naomi's House Capital	1,275
Class Funds	108,965
Other Restricted Funds	118,067
	<u>\$ 1,645,857</u>
	<u>\$ 3,480,817</u>

See Notes to Financial Statements as an integral part of these statements.

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES AND CASH FLOWS

FOR YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2017

	INCOME		EXPENSE		NET FOR FUND		
	Actual	Actual	Actual	%	Variance	%	
GENERAL FUND							
Income							
Contributions	\$ 6,162,209	\$ -	\$ 6,162,209	100.0%	\$ (607,422)	-9.0%	
Investment Income	(157)	-	(157)	0.0%	(157)		
	<u>6,162,052</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,162,052</u>	<u>100.0%</u>	<u>(607,579)</u>	<u>-9.0%</u>	
Summarized							
Ministries	80,727	2,260,437	(2,179,710)	-35.4%	200,252	8.4%	
Camp	5,921	43,212	(37,291)	-0.6%	3,834	9.3%	
Missions	9,841	817,960	(808,119)	-13.1%	57,571	6.7%	
Facilities (Note 4)	86,029	1,983,568	(1,897,539)	-30.8%	153,265	7.5%	
Administration	200	1,415,029	(1,414,829)	-23.0%	21,021	1.5%	
	<u>182,718</u>	<u>6,520,206</u>	<u>(6,337,488)</u>	<u>-102.8%</u>	<u>435,943</u>	<u>6.4%</u>	
Total General Fund	<u>\$ 6,344,770</u>	<u>\$ 6,520,206</u>	<u>\$ (175,436)</u>	<u>-2.8%</u>	<u>\$ (171,636)</u>	<u>-2.5%</u>	

BUDGETED RESTRICTED FUNDS

Recreation	\$ 4,713	\$ 4,359	\$ 354	\$ 354
Naomi's House	301,787	348,051	(46,264)	(46,264)
Media Ministry *	<u>2,735,618</u>	<u>2,745,144</u>	<u>(9,526)</u>	<u>63,074</u>
	<u>\$ 3,042,118</u>	<u>\$ 3,097,554</u>	<u>\$ (55,436)</u>	<u>\$ 17,164</u>

* See Supplemental Financial Information

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2017

1. The Moody Church is a not-for-profit religious organization and is exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

2. In order to ensure observance of limitations and restrictions placed on the use of resources available, the accounts of The Moody Church are maintained in accordance with the principles of fund accounting. Under these principles, resources are classified into funds according to their nature and purpose, and financial transactions have been recorded and reported by fund group.

3. These financial statements are presented on a modified cash basis, but all significant liabilities are believed to be recorded or noted. The preparation of financial statements has required management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the amounts of revenues and expenses recognized during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from these estimates.

4. The Moody Church owns virtually all facilities used for its ministries. Those facilities are not recorded in the financial statements. Noncancelable operating leases for space and equipment are not significant.

5. Most funds are maintained in cash equivalents or other short-term investments, for which cost approximates market value. Longer-term investments are also carried at cost and may or may not be held to maturity. Investment objectives emphasize the safety of principal. Futures and forward contracts are not permissible.

6. The Moody Church receives and provides substantial non-monetary contributions of services and goods in connection with various ministries. Those contributions have not been quantified and are not recorded in the financial statements.

CELEBRATING
THE JOY OF
CHANGED
LIVES