



Ministry Report

2016/17

**The people of WPA are
theologically, spiritually and missionally
vital.**

2017 was an incredible year for WPA. This ministry report is a snapshot of the great things which happened throughout the year. You'll get to meet some people who have amazing stories to share.

Join us in celebrating all that God has done!





Pastor Chris Padiath – Lead Pastor

As I reflect on my first year of ministry as Lead Pastor of Waterloo Pentecostal Assembly, I am overwhelmed by the goodness of God and the warm reception from the congregation. Our family feels at home and is confident that this is the will of God for us and for this church. Thank you for praying for us and for your continual encouragement. I am thankful for the amazing pastoral team that God has assembled at WPA and their dedication to serving you. I am thankful for our administrative team that works diligently to operate and organize the office and supports our pastors. I am thankful for elders who provide sound counsel and care for our membership. I am thankful for the deacons who take care of the business of the church and monitor the fulfillment of the vision. Finally, I am thankful for each of you who call WPA your home and express your commitment through your financial support and faithful service.

When I consider the health of our church, I am happy to report growth in our theological, spiritual and missional vitality, but God has so much more in store for us as a church! How will the leadership move the congregation towards realizing the vision? I believe this is the God-ordained time to communicate where we are headed as a church. Our church leadership has agreed upon and is committed to seeing growth in five areas: biblical engagement, discipleship emphasis, care environment, local expression and inter-generational equipping. In Habakkuk 2:2-3, God instructs, *“Write down the revelation and make it plain on tablets so that a herald may run with it. For the revelation awaits an appointed time; it speaks of the end and will not prove false. Though it lingers, wait for it; it will certainly come and will not delay.”* I want to make plain what the Lord has laid on the hearts of our church leadership for the next year of ministry.

- Biblical Engagement is the creation of an annual rhythm of devotional experiences in order to increase biblical literacy in our congregation. This requires sensitivity to the multiple modes of learning by reading, scribing, memorizing, reflecting and praying the scriptures.

- Discipleship Emphasis is the process that moves visitors to core participants through a series of classes. We have created a new Starting Point Class which provides teaching on foundational Christian truths. We are excited to launch our SHAPE assessments which help equip the saints for ministry by helping congregants discover and utilize their spiritual gifts.

- Care Environment not only addresses the aesthetics of our church, but also the intimate environments where growth take place. As you have already seen, we have started to renovate and update parts of our facility in order to be good stewards of the resources God has entrusted to us. We also want to increase care not only through our small groups, but by also expanding the ministry to single adults, married couples and those who are grieving.

- Local Expression is divided into three steps, but the first step is to reinterpret the church building as a resource to the community. From Monday to Friday, the church is normally empty with the exception of some evening programming, but our hope is to host and provide space to approved local partners so that they can run their training and meetings in a safe space. Furthermore, we will provide specialized classes like First Aid or services like Tax Clinics to better resource and serve our community.

- Inter-generational Equipping bridges the generational divide by valuing all the generations equally and intermingling generations with intentionality. We are thrilled to announce that we will start to have inter-generational services quarterly throughout the year. From toddlers to seniors, this service will be tailor-made with you in mind. Furthermore, we will host fun family nights where parents and children can receive specialized teaching on relevant topics and access a variety of resources.

There is so much more that can be said, but I end by saying, "The best is yet to come!" If this is true, do not miss the opportunities to participate in bringing this vision to life.



Loron Pellowe – Board Chair

Foundations matter. We don't think about them much, but if they start to shift or deteriorate, everything on top can become shaky, tilt, become off-kilter. Cracks appear and things that were supposed to stay out, leak in. It happens gradually so we generally don't notice until we see signs that things are askew or unsteady or damaged....and then there's work to be done.

The board's responsibility to "direct and protect" extends beyond the physical and financial aspects of WPA; it also encompasses the mission. Three years ago, the board and Lead Pastor identified it was time to "jack up" our spiritual foundation—to re-establish and clarify who we are as a community of Christ-followers and re-align and refocus everything we do to support that. In 2015, we adopted the strategic initiatives the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada endorsed in its effort to rejuvenate its churches and made them our "blueprint" for reinforcing WPA's spiritual foundation:

The people of WPA are theologically, spiritually and missionally vital.

Big words are terrific for succinctly capturing a thought, but not always user-friendly so we unpacked the key components of the vision to ensure a shared understanding of where we are headed.

Vital – alive, vibrant, essential, relevant, growing

Theologically vital – every believer is engaging and interpreting the Word of God in a way that is doctrinally sound, aligned with Pentecostal beliefs and applying the Word accurately to daily life.

Spiritually vital – every believer is growing in intimacy with God and is living a Christ-honouring, Spirit-empowered, Spirit-led life.

Missionally vital - every believer is intentionally and generously living out the Great Commission in every aspect of life.

In 2016, the board and pastoral team began to “gather the materials” and explore the best way to approach the job. Small groups were formally established, programs and services were streamlined to concentrate our efforts on the work ahead—and Pastor Chris came aboard to be the “site manager” – orchestrating the work that needed to be done! In 2017, the work has begun! Pastor Chris’s emphasis on strengthening our scriptural foundation, pastors collaborating for more effectiveness in ministry and refreshing updates to our property and building are all laying the groundwork for a WPA that is theologically, spiritually and missionally vital—where we *know* what we believe, experience what we believe and confidently, courageously and authentically *show* what we believe in our homes, workplaces, classrooms and online presence.

A couple of months ago, a young adult new to our area shared with me that she’d tried some other churches and landed at WPA because it felt like “home”. On two different Sundays this summer, we had guests with us. On both occasions, the word that came up to describe their WPA experience was “vibrant”! I’ve heard people share that after two years, their small group has become a real community of spiritual support and accountability. A comment in the foyer from a senior a couple of weeks ago - “That was the best Bible-preaching I’ve heard in a long time.” The foundation is being reinforced and strengthened and stabilized—not just to support the WPA of now, but the WPA God wants to build on that foundation.

²⁴ “Whoever hears these teachings of mine and obeys them is like a wise man who built his house on rock. ²⁵ It rained hard, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house. But it did not fall because it was built on rock.

~ Matthew 7:24-25 ERV



Mid-week attendance

Our mid-week programs are attracting 25% more children on average.



Increase

25%



VBS registrations

Our VBS registrations were at maximum capacity, and we needed a waiting list!



18.1%

119

**Kids Ministry
volunteers**

72

**Kids attending on
Tuesday nights**

17

**Babies born
to WPA families**

Youth weekly numbers



70 | WEEKLY



23 JR HIGH

Average attendance on Friday night.



18 JR HIGH

Average attendance at Sunday School.



29 SR HIGH

Average attendance on Friday night.

Gang's story



Gang Gang

Gang is a high school student who has been attending our Sr. High program for the better part of a year now. Gang has been living next door to our church for roughly 5 years and was invited by a friend to come try out a night of our high school program last March. He instantly felt accepted as part of the group and has been around ever since. Gang went to Overflow Youth Convention last year and it was there that he felt God in a real way for the first time. Gang says “going to Overflow changed my perception and way I think about going about life, it really changed me a lot”. Gang continued to be a regular in our high school program and started bringing his brother Kol along with a few of his friends. This fall Gang attended our Sr. High retreat and committed his life to Jesus. “I don’t want faith to be a phase, I want it to last. I want to make sure everyone feels welcome and finds the faith I have”. Gang is going into his final year of high school this Fall. When I asked him if he knew yet what he wanted to do upon graduating, Gang said he feels like God has been leading him to study journalism. Gang has a dream to be a sports journalist for the NBA and says, “I’m really passionate to understand athletes better and reach out to them with my faith”. Gang has been an incredible influencer over this year. In the short time I have been here I have seen him care for our church building, volunteer, reach out to new students who attend our program for the first time, invite dozens of friends to our programs, be a role model to our Jr. highs, and grow deeper in his relationship with Christ. I am so thankful to have Gang as part of our group and I can’t wait to see where God leads him this next year.

Andrew Brown

Student Ministries Pastor



Meals provided through outreach and ministry programs

86,006

Nutrition For Learning

Snacks prepared for elementary students at Public Schools.

3,960

Feeding Frenzi

Meals served up to University and Collage students on Thursday nights.

1,080

Achievers

Monthly luncheon served for our 55+ group.

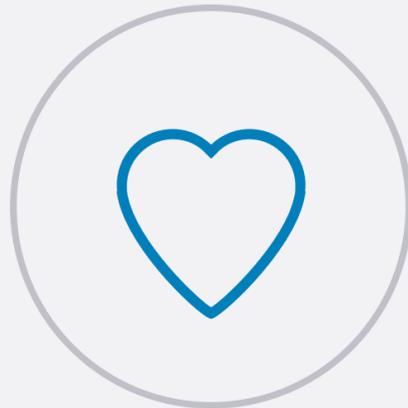
Next steps



28
Salvations



23
Water baptisms



6
Holy Spirit baptisms



30
New members

First Impressions



320

New visitors met

We had more than 200 new families visit us this year at WPA.

2,600

Cups of coffee at the Cafe

Our self serve coffee bar was a big hit!

12,000+

Handshakes

Way too many to count!

29

**Active small groups
running weekly**

270

**People attending Small Groups
all age groups**

Small Groups stories

"As a small group leader, I enjoy being part of Powersource because I like seeing the kid's readiness to learn about God and the things He has done for us, and for them. As we help them in the early stages of their Christian journey, it is an inspiration and a great joy to see their excitement and ability to study and remember the memory verse(s), and messages, that we share with them. So truly, as small group leaders, I believe we have a wonderful role of helping the kids grow knowing God."

Mbabi

Small Groups Leader for WPA Kids

"Small groups are definitely a big part of the reason why I love attending WPA. I attended the church for two years before I got connected to a small group and since then I've met so many incredible people who have helped me to grow stronger spiritually and challenge me to become a better person. Small groups challenge me to really study the Word of God, dig deeper and to ask questions I would have never asked on my own. It's also a place where I developed many deep friendships with people whom I can not only have fun with but people who challenge me, support me and help me grow. I also love the opportunity to pour into other people's lives from my experiences and the opportunities to encourage others and serve together as a group."

Anonymous

Small Groups participant

60

**Prayer requests
sent to our emergency prayer team**

100+

**Hospital & shut-ins visited
by our care team**

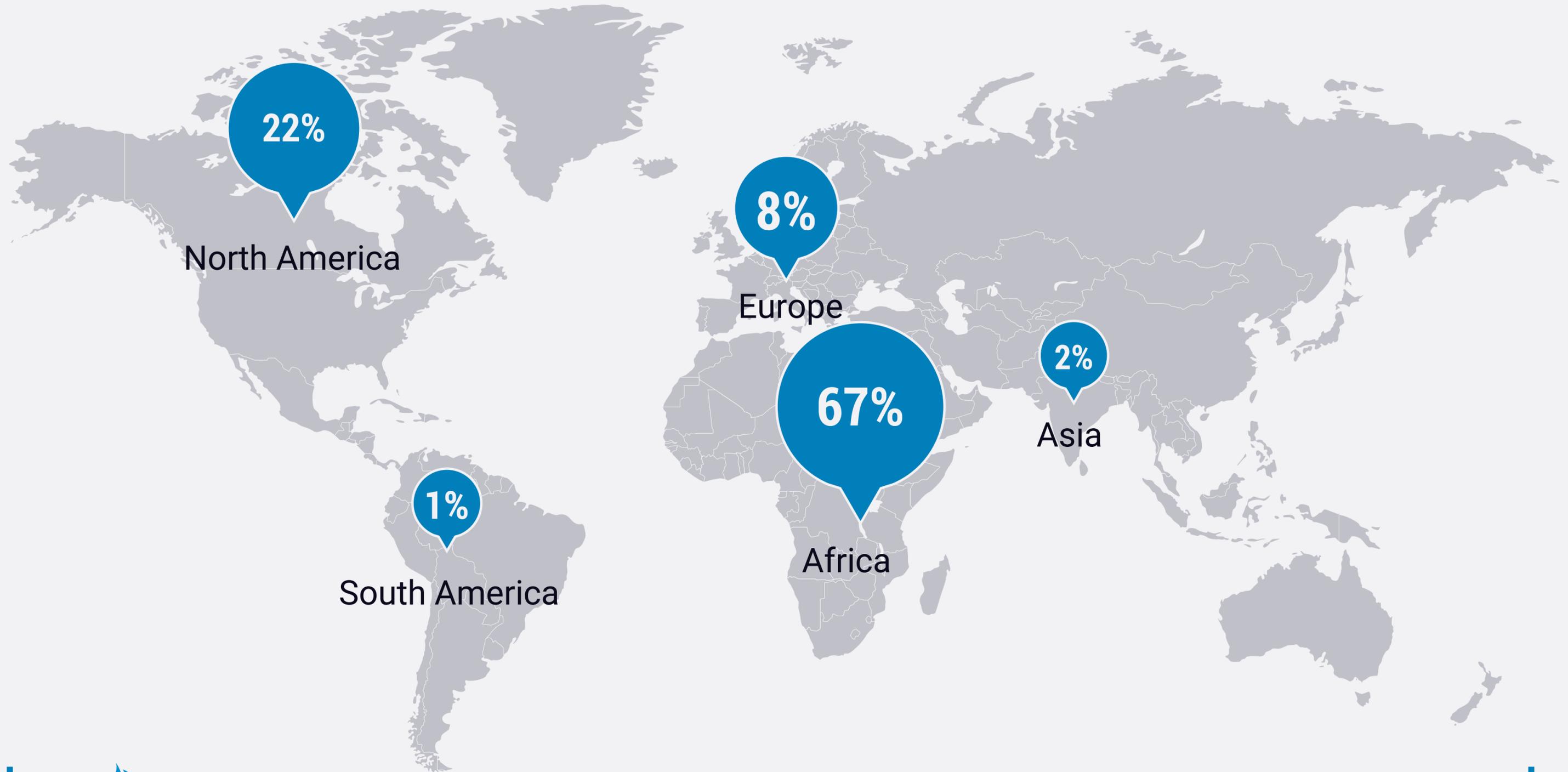
Cross-generational connections

This ministry year our Young Adults had the opportunity to write personal cards to some of the seniors in our congregation who are unable to fellowship with us regularly due to age and health constraints. This simple act of writing a card had a beautiful impact. Here is a story from one of the young adults and her experience connecting with an older lady in the congregation.

"I remember writing all the typical things like 'have a great Easter' and 'God loves you!' and I was like, this is nice but it doesn't feel real. So at the end I just wrote 'hey, this might be odd but I'd love to know how I can pray for you specifically, and if you want, please give me a call' and I literally put my phone number in the card! Anyways, today I got a phone call from the lady and I was so in shock! It was so cool. She told me what I could pray about for her, and then she prayed for me as I wrote exams! It was a cool call, short but really cool. I'm going to call her on Easter, and try and visit her somehow when I come back!"

Young Adult

Percentage of missions funds by continent



Special missions projects

\$1.9k

Canada

Welcome Home & Prueter Public School

\$5k

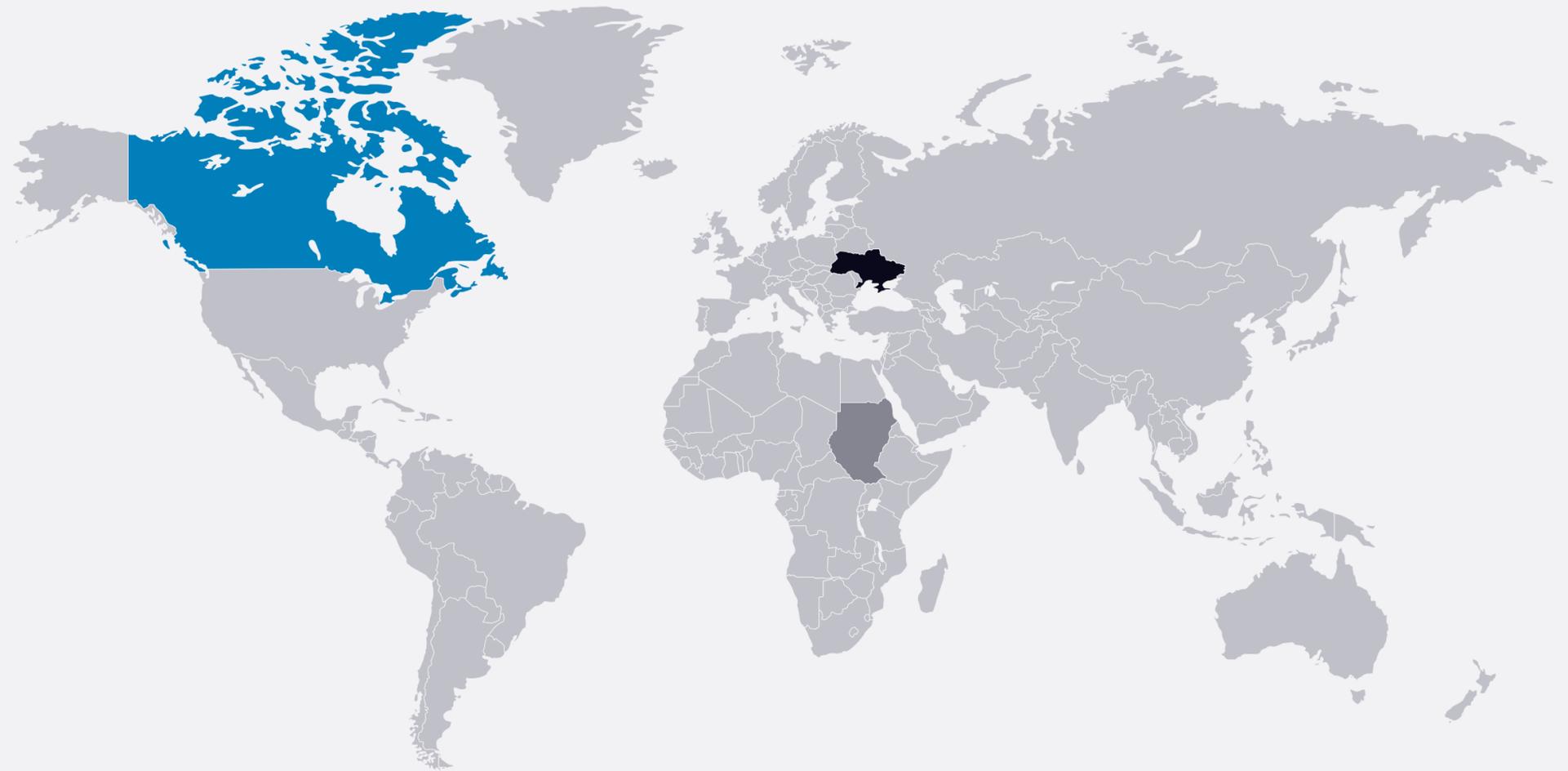
Ukraine

Loads of Love, McJoyful Christmas

\$30.5k

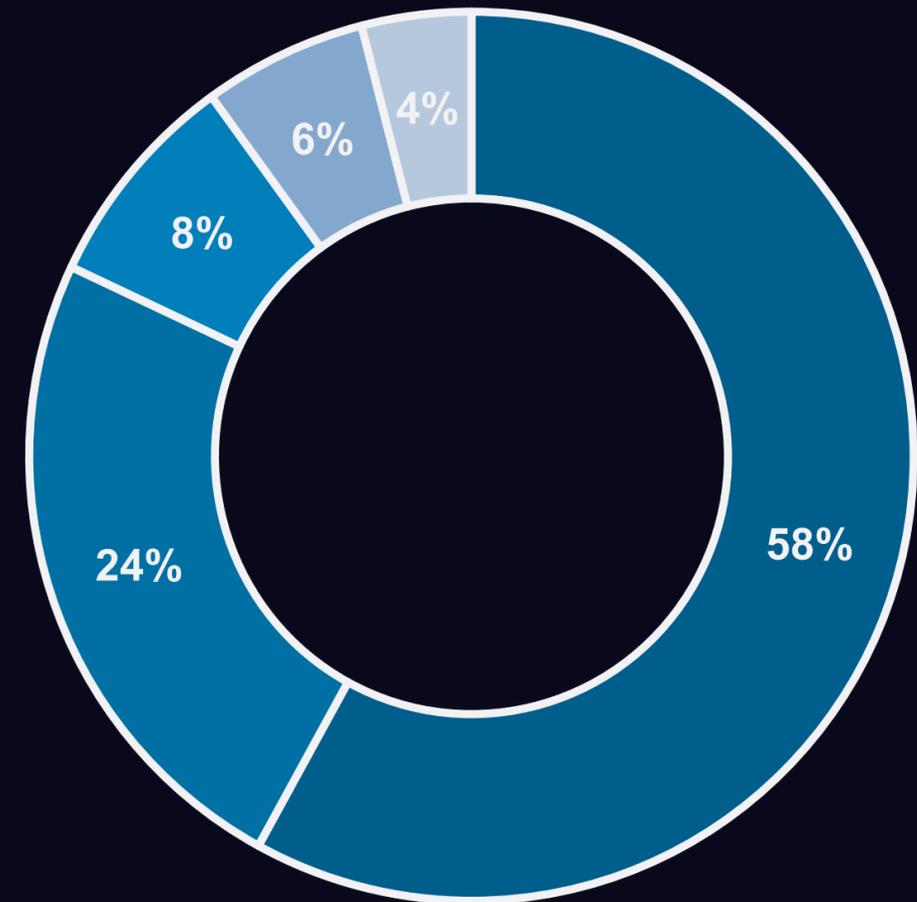
Sudan

famine relief



Giving options

- 58% | **Morning Service** – Offering plates
- 24% | **Debit/Credit** – At the Welcome Desk
- 8% | **EFT** – Automatic monthly donations
- 6% | **Text2Give** – Using your phone
- 4% | **Website** – Through Canada Helps



\$1,294,557.72

Total General fund
Thank you!

293

Members

600

Individual givers

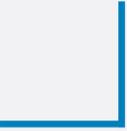
141

First time givers



Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

Ephesians 3:20-21



2016
2017



¹⁷ I know, my God, that you test the heart and are pleased with integrity. All these things I have given willingly and with honest intent. And now I have seen with joy how willingly your people who are here have given to you. ¹⁸ LORD, the God of our fathers Abraham, Isaac and Israel, keep these desires and thoughts in the hearts of your people forever, and keep their hearts loyal to you.

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