



Dear South Fellowship Family,

Each year, as we enter the Advent season and Christmas, we have the opportunity to celebrate God's greatest gift: His Son and the light and life this gift brings to us all. It is also an opportunity to be reminded of how each of us can participate in bringing the light and life of Jesus as we step fully into what it means to be a church our city and world would miss if we were gone.

Many families would face food scarcity were it not for our Food Bank ministry, where we serve over 150 families each week. Our shoppers come seeking food. We pray they experience the smiles, welcome, and embrace of Jesus through the 140 volunteers who serve each week. Pick-ups from our grocery partners, stockers, cleaners, registration, and serve team individuals descend upon the Food Bank to ensure an amazing and uplifting experience. The smiles, thank-yous, and hugs our teams at South receive from the Food Bank Community after shopping and experiencing a dignified encounter are a beautiful thing to see. They aren't just a case number... they're welcomed and the light this ushers in brings peace and joy.

Another way South shows up is through the support we provide to our missionaries and global partners worldwide. Just two months ago, I (Andrea) sat across from the Executive Director of one of our global partners to get an update, and she showed me a photo of two girls. Seeing their faces wasn't easy. The photo showed two girls from Nepal, aged 11 and 13. Both smiling ear to ear, bronze skin shining. They seemed to be thriving in their new home, a beautiful and cozy safehouse and school for trafficked girls in Kathmandu. The contrast between the darkness of their former life and the light of their new one was powerful. As I sat across from the Executive Director and listened to their prayer requests and needs, I was reminded of the eternal impact of our "yes" at South to those we support around the world and here in our own community.

This year, South committed \$191,000 from our budget to nearly 30 Local and Global Partners and ministry initiatives, including the Food Bank and the annual Food Bank Christmas Shoppe. Here at South Fellowship, we want to live fully into what it means to be a church our city and world would miss if we were gone.

Our church community is one that rolls up our sleeves, gives time, sweat equity, and financial resources to be a light in our community and support other lights around the world. These Local Partners and Global Missionaries rescue, teach, help train in financial literacy, provide education, and share the love and good news of Jesus around the world! In addition to these efforts, our Benevolence Ministry prayerfully processes, evaluates, and wisely discerns giving an average of \$34,000 per year to help those in and outside our church family facing financial crisis.

We're a church community that sees and steps into a hurting world.

We're a church community that says yes to serving and giving generously.

We see the darkness, and many have experienced its effects; yet, we trust Jesus and the light He brings.

(continued)

*Jesus spoke to the people once more and said, "I am the light of the world.
If you follow me, you won't have to walk in darkness,
because you will have the light that leads to life."
John 8:12*

As we enter the Advent and Christmas season this year, we'd like to invite your prayerful consideration of an above-and-beyond year-end financial gift to our *Bringing Light and Life Year-End Giving Fund*. We want to raise the full \$225,000 (12% of our total budget), which we commit to our Local and Global Partners, Missionaries, and our Benevolence and Local Outreach initiatives.

We recognize that this is a *big goal*, exceeding our regular monthly giving goal of \$110,000.

Together, with our Local Outreach Partners and Global Missionaries, we're reaching a *big world*.

And...we believe God will provide exactly what we need and will give us wisdom in the want and wisdom in the plenty. He is, after all, a very *big God*!

Grace & Peace,



Alex Walton
Lead Pastor, South Fellowship Church



Andrea Jones
Executive Pastor, South Fellowship Church

Ways to Give:

[SOUTHFELLOWSHIP.ORG/GIVE](https://southfellowship.org/give) | CHURCH CENTER APP | GIVING ENVELOPE

*Please specify if you would like your gift to go towards the
"Bringing Light and Life Year-End Giving Fund".*