



BREAKTHROUGH!

JUNE 2020 DIGITAL NEWSLETTER

LETTER FROM THE

Lead Pastor

Dear Southwinds Family,

When Southwinds launched the **Breakthrough Spiritual Initiative** last fall, none of us could ever have envisioned what we've all experienced these last two months. The good news is, God could...and God did.

We can live today with the unshakeable hope that **our God knows everything**. He is sovereignly ruling and working in and through every situation... even a global pandemic.

That's what gives me hope for our future, as individual families and as a faith family. As we follow God faithfully, I believe God will continue to Breakthrough!

Through our Breakthrough Spiritual Initiative, we have launched **#Southwinds-Serves**, a new season of finding and meeting needs in Tracy, Mountain House and Lathrop. We believe that *"good deeds lead to good news which opens doors for the good news."* Think about this...

BEFORE THE LOCKDOWN...

» Over 100 of you served in our City of Tracy Bench Painting Project. We're more than halfway to our goal of 120 benches! And while we can't currently go out and

repaint benches, this project continues in your garages! Thanks to you who are still serving our city! We'll get back to painting on our streets as soon as we're able.

» As a faith family, together we paid the entire Fall 2019 school lunch debt for the Tracy Unified School district! Your generosity to Breakthrough provided over \$7800 to help families.

DURING THE LOCKDOWN...

» Over 60 of you sewed more than 1750 masks for frontline healthcare workers, first responders and seniors.

» Over 110 of you volunteered to deliver food and donate blood.

I'm so grateful to serve alongside **such generous people!** Despite the season's challenges, you've remained faithful to Southwinds' ongoing ministries. On top of this, you've given above and beyond to Breakthrough, supplying the resources needed to keep reaching out during the COVID-19 crisis.

Through April 30, our first five months of Breakthrough, **the Southwinds family has given \$287,604.37**, which represents 26.1% of our combined commitments, in only the

first 14% of the Breakthrough season!

If you've given to the Breakthrough Spiritual Initiative, I want to thank you for your love and commitment to the mission God has given the Southwinds family. If you haven't yet, I invite you to join us!

Please continue to pray for Southwinds. Ask the Father to grant us his power and grace through this pandemic season and then through the season of regathering and reconnecting. Ask him to give us wisdom to love our neighbors and share the only good news that gives true hope.

I can't wait to see you again. Keep asking God to bring it about soon!

Pastor Mike

LETTER FROM THE *Executive Pastor*

A CAMOUFLAGED OPPORTUNITY

Ecclesiastes 3:1 states, “For everything there is a season.” As a former coach, I understand that seasons always have a beginning and an end. We are living in the Covid-19 “season.” We did not get to choose when it started. We do not know when it will end. We do get to choose how we live today.

Someday in the future we will re-engage, at church and in the community. We certainly can dream about tomorrow; however, we do not want to dismiss what we can do today.

There are three phases of disruption: adjustment, investment, and re-engagement. We currently live in the investment phase. Like any investment, the decisions we make today will either produce significant dividends or they will represent opportunities lost forever. We want to spend this season well, so we don't miss the opportunities God gives us to grow spiritually.

In his book, *Good to Great*, Jim Collins talks about “The Flywheel Effect.” He imagines a massive flywheel—a 5000-pound disk suspended on an axis like a pendulum—that will require multiple thrusts to generate enough momentum to rotate on its own. His illustration teaches that we never know how many times we must push before we achieve the results we desire. I wonder how many people have quit, when all it would have taken was one more push to “flip the flywheel?” As Christ followers, we must continue to

BUILDING BY THE NUMBERS

TOTAL RECEIVED (THROUGH APRIL)	\$287,604
PERCENTAGE OF COMMITMENT RECEIVED	26%
PERCENTAGE OF JOURNEY COMPLETED	17%
TOTAL COMMITTED	\$1,100,462
FAMILIES AND INDIVIDUALS	189
MONTHS REMAINING	30

push! Overnight success never occurs overnight. It always takes time (James 1:2-4; Romans 5:2-4; Philippians 1:6).

It is a well established biblical principle that preparation proceeds promotion (I Peter 5:6) This challenging season is an opportunity in disguise. We have a chance to “live by faith, not by sight” (II Corinthians 5:7) and to realize the Lord's favor on the investment we make right now.

The Breakthrough Spiritual Initiative is one way you can invest today and know that the impact from your generosity will extend beyond the end of this season. If you're already contributing to Breakthrough, on behalf of Southwinds Church, thank you. We pray that you will remain faithful. If you have not joined us on the Breakthrough journey, let me encourage you to make an investment.

Through faith, victory is assured (I John 5:4; Hebrews 11:6). As the psalmist reminds us, “He gives us our food at the proper time” (Psalm 145:15). In other words, our Breakthrough is coming!

Until then, let's keep pushing!

Pastor Jay



COVID-19 has created massive change in our world, our city, our church and our personal lives. But it hasn't changed our mission as the church. Southwinds' mission is to help people become fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ. Although we are unable to meet in person for our Life Groups, our Life Groups have not stopped meeting. Life Group Zoom gatherings enable us to stay engaged, grow together in understanding God's Word, and help us develop as Christ-followers. No matter what is thrown at us, God will build His church and the gates of Hades will not prevail. You can get connected by emailing LIFEGROUPS@SOUTHWINDS.ORG.

- » Set up Zoom meeting with Pastor Chris to discover which Life Group is best for you
- » Learn how to start your own Life Group on Zoom
- » Receive training on how to use our Zoom platform
- » Use your Zoom license to stay connected with family and friends
- » Learn how to reach your community in this COVID-19 season
- » Sign up to paint one of the park benches in our community
- » During this season, discover how you can pray with groups of people who are sharing similar experiences
- » Become part of Southwinds' Mission to transform the world for Jesus Christ

BREAKTHROUGH SPIRITUAL INITIATIVE

STUDENT MINISTRY

Our goal of reaching the 22,000 students in Tracy, Mountain House and Lathrop will not happen by accident! That's why our student ministry has set out **THREE** distinctive pathways modeled after our church-wide spiritual initiative to help accomplish our own Breakthrough! If you're interested in learning more about what is going on in student ministry or would like to serve, email Pastor Marko for more information! mmarin@southwinds.org

BUILD A LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PIPELINE

1. Establish & train a core group of students (leadership team)
2. Complete our student ministry volunteer leadership pipeline

EXPAND OUR FAMILY ORIENTED COMMUNITY OUTREACH

1. Provide 4 Life Groups for parents of students
2. Parent – student discussion groups
3. Joint volunteer & parent leadership trainings
4. Fulfilment of the student ministry experience
 - Courtyard experience
 - Volleyball court & gaga ball pit
 - The refinery upgrades
 - Stage redesign
 - Interactive game enhancements
5. Build a “brand” that students want to represent

DEEPEN OUR GENEROSITY CULTURE

1. Fall breakthrough sermon series & life group conversation guides
 - Generosity at the core
 - Examples of generous living
 - Overcoming learned habits of generosity
2. Student organized charity golf tournament
 - All funds collected will be utilized to serve school districts in Tracy, Mountain House & Lathrop.
 - Cultivate a Southwinds student ministry in every high school in Tracy, Mountain House & Lathrop.
3. Establish two 1-year \$15,000 goals (totaling \$30,000)





CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

"It's a lot easier to get kids to drag parents to church than it is to get parents to drag kids to church."

Reaching the next generation of kids and their parents with the Gospel means having a Children's Ministry that is safe, loving, and so much fun that kids insist that their parents bring them back. My hope as a Children's Pastor is to build up and disciple kids who come from a church home and create an attractive place where kids from unchurched homes can learn and explore what it means to know and love Jesus. So much so that even if the parents are hesitant to come or keep coming, their kids will drive them crazy bugging them to return!

In the last couple months through Breakthrough, we have been able to resurface all of the floors in the Children's Area with a beautiful stained concrete. We've added colorful lines pointing kids to their classrooms, incorporated new fun features to our Shed room,

and updated the Nursery with carpets and new furniture.

To enhance security, we equipped each door with a barrier system to prevent entry from potential intruders. Along with radios in each room, and the presence of our Emergency Response Team, we're doing our best to protect our kids from the possibility of harm.

In October 2019, we had our largest Harvest Party by far, and it was only possible because of our new Worship Center and Courtyard. Moving our event to that space allowed us to have plenty of room to host the 4,000+ people on campus for our event. That would not have been possible without your generosity to the Next Gen & Breakthrough Spiritual Initiatives.

Thank you for your generosity on behalf of the Kids and all the families who have yet to hear the gospel at Southwinds!

Pastor Chris Thiel



\$7,800! Paid Off Tracy Unified School District Fall 2019 Lunch Debt



#SOUTHWINDSSERVES

GOOD DEEDS LEAD TO GOOD WILL WHICH
OPENS DOORS FOR THE GOOD NEWS.

Video



Distributed Door Hangers to Promote the Harvest Party & Christmas Eve Services



Over 60 Park Benches Repaired & Painted -- Halfway to our 120 Bench Goal!



COVID-19

RESPONSE STATISTICS

MASKS

1,750 masks made in 2 weeks!

Masks were distributed to local hospitals, nursing homes, senior apartments, first responders, and individuals.

NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS

We've provided various services to local seniors and over 100 families as part of our neighbors helping neighbors program. Some things we've been able to do:

- » Shopping errands for senior living center
- » Passing out food at the senior apartments
- » Work with the Tracy Senior Association to provide meals and shopping for seniors
- » Partner with Brookdale Senior Living and Tracy Senior Association

BLOOD DRIVES

We filled **all appointments slots for 3 blood drives!** Over 70 pints of blood have been donated. As the American Red Cross representative said, "That means potentially 216 lives may be saved!"

HONOR HOSPITAL STAFF

Southwinds is showing our gratitude by **providing catered meals** to the staff at Tracy Sutter Hospital.



BREAKTHROUGH

Videa

TESTIMONIALS

BREAKTHROUGH VISION

At the heart of Breakthrough is the passionate conviction that only God can change the world. God makes it clear in His Word that He does this through His people, the church (Eph 3:10). We have been given a treasure of infinite value... eternal life in God's Son Jesus Christ. **We must share what is ours only by God's grace.**

BREAKTHROUGH IS A 3-YEAR SPIRITUAL INITIATIVE TARGETING FOUR STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES:

Build a Leadership Development Pipeline

We are over 70% of the way to our goal of 1,000 adults in Life Group community all across our valley. We will seek to develop 50 more Life Group leaders to launch another 50 groups to reach 500 adults, while developing leaders in all areas of Southwinds' life.

Expand Our Family Oriented Community Outreach

We are breaking through to thousands of kids and their families through our Harvest Party, Easter and Christmas outreach events. We will multiply that impact by discovering and implementing new ways to serve our communities through love-motivated, gospel-oriented, hands-on ministry.

Deepen Our Generosity Culture

Southwinds has demonstrated great generosity in the past. We will continue to deepen our generosity as a faith family by giving 10% of our total Breakthrough gifts to reach our community and world.

Position Ourselves Financially for the Future

While our Breakthrough vision is focused on what happens in our region, strengthening our financial position is vital to providing the kinds of environments needed to launch a movement that shines light across the valley. We will accomplish this by addressing our current indebtedness and completing planned NextGen projects (i.e. Cross/Windmill, repurposing of KidSpace, enhanced security systems in all three buildings).

THERE ARE THREE WAYS YOU CAN GIVE TO THE BREAKTHROUGH SPIRITUAL INITIATIVE.



ONLINE

SOUTHWINDS.ORG

Set up a recurring gift or give one-time through PushPay via ***ACH**, debit, or credit card.



MOBILE

**TEXT SOUTHWINDS
TO 77977**

Message and data rates may apply.



ENVELOPE

MAIL CHECK

Write "Breakthrough" in memo area.

— **If you give via ACH, more of your donation will be used for ministry due to reduced processing fees.* —

Join Us

**YOU'RE INVITED TO OUR
ONLINE WORSHIP SERVICES!**

VISIT

FOR DETAILS



southwinds CHURCH

209.835.HOPE | [SOUTHWINDS.ORG](https://southwinds.org)

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