



GROW!

SEARCH

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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 NIV

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Every adult in every city invited to know and share Jesus—Search's vision is audacious for sure!

Rooted in knowing all things are possible through Him (Philippians 4:13), anchored by the knowledge that apart from God we can do nothing (John 15:5), and confident He will give us immeasurably more than we can ask or imagine (Ephesians 3:20), the men and women of Search continue to relentlessly pursue the lost.

This past year has been full of stories and testimonies of lives changed for eternity and equipping those same people to share the good news of Christ Jesus with their family, friends, co-workers, and even the first-time acquaintance in line at the store.

The following pages give a glimpse of the amazing things going on across the country in our Search cities, none of which could have happened without your generosity, involvement, and especially your prayers.

Thank you for being part of the Search story.

Humbled,

TIM KILPATRICK
PRESIDENT



Deep Roots: A Steady Focus on the Gospel

At Search, we lean forward—to meet new friends, see people grow, form new groups and expand into new cities.

But each season's "new" and "next" is firmly rooted in who we are and what we do best:

Investing in relationships with those who don't know Jesus.

Offering honest, biblically sound perspectives on those questions.

Engaging them in respectful conversations about life's big questions.

Trusting the Lord to draw people to himself.



▲ Search's first woman area director, Alissa Perry, and some of the women already involved with Search in Columbia, Tennessee.

SEARCH

Founded in 1977, Search has steadily focused on a ministry of relational evangelism. As we approach our 50th anniversary, we are humbled and empowered by the Lord's faithfulness and are committed to staying true to the ministry to which he has called and equipped us.

Search Mission:
Inviting adults to take a next step toward God.

Search Vision:
Every adult in every city invited to know and share Jesus.

“

I've never been a part of anything like this before. I have a lot of questions, and I think this is a good place to start.

PARTICIPANT IN SEARCH HOUSTON OUTREACH EVENT

”

Planting, Watering and Watching God Work

Search is a grounded ministry. It is not abstract, not virtual. In 26 cities (and counting), we have moved in, rolled up our sleeves and are carrying out the patient work of learning names and stories, engaging in conversations about life and faith and watching the Lord draw hearts to himself.

└ The Word became flesh and blood, and moved into the neighborhood. We saw the glory with our own eyes, the one-of-a-kind glory, like Father, like Son, generous inside and out, true from start to finish.

JOHN 1:14 MSG

“

After attending an Open Forum, a young atheist told me no one would answer the questions he had his whole life—people would just say he had to have faith. As I welcomed his questions, he softened from a hardened debater to someone who dared to hope someone might take his questions seriously and that there might actually be answers.”

RICK MUMFORD, SEARCH KANSAS CITY

”

While one person is where it all begins and what it's all about, we celebrate the combined efforts of SEARCH staff and volunteers in reaching each of the ones. Together, in 2023-24, we:

Led 344 small groups with 2,775 members, going deep into *Foundations* (for new believers or serious seekers) and Formation groups.

344

SMALL GROUPS

2,775

MEMBERS

Hosted 194 Forums where we engaged seekers in open and respectful discussions about life and faith.

194

FORUMS

Engaged one-on-one with 5,211 new friends gained through Forums and other events, inviting them to take a next step toward God.

5,211

ONE-ON-ONE
ENGAGEMENTS



Beginning a Season of Unprecedented Growth

In only 18 months, Search has added **19 new staff** and **11 new Search locations** – a **50% increase!**

Featured in this report - Fiscal 2024 Ministry Growth:

5

Search launched ministries in five new cities.

5

Five new staff joined the Search team.

First Half of Fiscal 2025 Ministry Growth:

14 New Staff, including **6 in New Cities**

You'll get to meet more of our new staff soon!



STEVE PINK
COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA



ALISSA PERRY, COLUMBIA, TENNESSEE

Led to reach more people in more places, the Search team is praying, planting and watering. But the growth we are experiencing is clearly of the Lord.

We are thrilled to introduce Search's first woman area director—Alissa Perry!

Alissa loves her adopted hometown of Columbia, Tennessee, and she loves sharing Jesus with others. After 12 years on Young Life staff, she took some time out to raise kids and pursue other opportunities. When she learned about Search from former colleague John Vicary, her response was, "Why can't I do this in Columbia, and why can't I do it with women?" Alissa launched our Columbia, Tennessee, ministry in June of 2024.

📖 I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow.

1 CORINTHIANS 3:6 NIV



KEVIN HARRIS
ATLANTA, GEORGIA



JOHNNY RUSSELL
TYLER, TEXAS

“

Jesus makes it pretty clear we are called to love God and love others. Loving others means creating safe spaces for people to explore their questions about faith and life without worrying about being judged. No one does this better than Search!

KEVIN HARRIS, SEARCH ATLANTA

”

To learn more about any of our area staff, go to searchnational.org/locations.



Uniquely Called, Trained and Supported

Each Search city has a unique story which begins with a person God has prepared especially for the demanding job of leading that city.



All Search staff go through a thorough interview and discernment process before joining the team.



They then enter a two-year training program and are supported in many other ways to ensure that when Search “moves into the neighborhood,” we stay and thrive.

“

Each new staff person brings passion and gifts for sharing the love of Jesus. Our commitment to them is that they will be thoroughly trained and equipped in an approach to relational evangelism that Search has honed over nearly 50 years of ministry.

DON BARKLEY, SEARCH DIRECTOR OF STAFF TRAINING

”

A Capital Campaign for Continued Growth and Impact

The generosity of our many friends who support Search in their communities is the bedrock of our financial health. At the same time, adding, training and supporting new staff and new areas is made possible through gifts to our capital campaign.

\$20 Million

Our goal is to raise **\$20 million by 2027** to:

Seed 46 new staff, including 22 new cities, as they get established and build local support.

46
NEW STAFF

22
NEW CITIES

Provide national leadership and vital administrative support to free our staff to spend more time building relationships with seekers.

Increase the impact and visibility of Search through Reach.

We are eager to share the vision and details of the campaign with you. To learn more, please contact your local Search staff member or reach out to us at the home office.

Generosity and Stewardship

The Search Ministries team is humbled by the generosity and support of so many who make our daily work possible. We are committed to managing these resources prudently and strategically for God's glory.

FINANCIAL YEAR 2023-24

REVENUE
\$10,731,683

EXPENSES
\$10,761,945



Search Ministries is accredited by EFCA. Audited financials available at ecfa.org.



Conversations with Search staff about recent interactions with seekers. Questions asked, challenging situations faced and answers respectfully given. Stories shared by our staff about walking with nonbelievers toward Jesus. This is the Reach podcast. What better way to learn how to talk to others about Jesus in a natural, relational way? A new season will launch in early 2025.

Go to searchpodcast.org/reach to subscribe!

SEARCH Board of Trustees

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When we pause and reflect on all that has happened over the past year, the Search Board of Trustees is humbled and in awe of what God has done to grow and expand Search. We simply could not have done it without you—your support, encouragement, and prayers.

God's favor and faithfulness have brought us bright, dedicated new staff, started ministry in new cities, added our first woman area director, and launched Reach to encourage and equip believers to share their faith wherever God has them.

These dedicated, gifted men and women are impressive, influential, and committed to sharing the Gospel each and every day.

Thank you for being an essential part of all God is doing at Search and across the country. Your partnership is impacting eternity for generations to come. We are stronger together!

Gratefully,

BUDDY KIRK
CHAIRMAN

We Need Your Help!

Ministry is a team sport. We invite you to engage with our ministry by:

Praying for Search in your city, for national leadership and for people and places we don't yet know!

Tuning in to the new Reach podcast for real-life examples of how we invite others to take a step closer to God.

Stepping in—talk with your local Search staff about opportunities to get involved with ministry in your city.

Passing it on—keep an eye out for others who would support or join the Search team!

Supporting with vital gifts to sustain ongoing and future ministry.



STEFAN WILTZ
LAKE NORMAN, NORTH CAROLINA

“

I never understood any of this before, but this experience has changed my whole life.

PARTICIPANT IN SEARCH FOUNDATIONS GROUP

”

SEARCH

1300 S. University Dr. Suite 210
Fort Worth, Texas 76107