

HISTORY OF LIFE.CHURCH

God has done far more than we could have ever asked or imagined since Life.Church held our first worship experience. In this time, hundreds of thousands of lives have been changed. As we celebrate all He has done, we know there is much more to come since millions around the world still don't know Christ. We are honored He has entrusted us with such an awesome responsibility as we strive to do anything short of sin to spread His message. Here are some highlights from our story.

1996

- Senior Pastor Craig Groeschel and his wife, Amy, knew God had given them a vision to start a church—a different kind of church. In January, with a handful of people and a clear mission to lead people to become fully devoted followers of Christ, Life Church (the first of four iterations of the church's name) began meeting in a rented dance studio in Edmond, Oklahoma. Within a few short weeks, our church's attendance grew to over 130 people and we began to meet in a local middle school. Steady growth continued, which enabled a second move within the year to a renovated bicycle factory.

1997

- Life Church was averaging 200 people each week and continued to grow quickly. At this point, the only option to accommodate the growth was to add additional worship experiences.

1999

- In the spring, Life Covenant Church completed a 750-seat worship center, known today as Life.Church Oklahoma City. Attendance had grown to over 1,250 throughout three worship experiences every weekend.
- In October, Life Covenant Church held its first off-site experience in a nearby movie theater (popcorn included).
- By the end of 2000, Life Covenant Church was reaching more than 3,000 people each week.

2001

- Life Covenant Church officially became LifeChurch.tv when the church continued to grow in the Oklahoma City metro area. Our church's leaders realized the church's old web domain, lifechurchokc.org, needed to be updated to include new areas of influence, and out of that need www.lifechurch.tv was adopted.
- On a Saturday evening in January, Amy gave birth to their fourth child, Sam. It was obvious Craig wouldn't be preaching that Sunday morning. Someone suggested running video from the experience the night before. In that moment, an obstacle became an opportunity and the foundation was laid for how LifeChurch.tv would share its message with the world.
- Also in January, MetroChurch, a 25-year-old non-denominational church that averaged close to 1,000 people in weekly attendance, joined the LifeChurch.tv family and became LifeChurch.tv Edmond. Out of this partnership, LifeChurch.tv officially became "One Church in Multiple Locations."
- In the fall, LifeChurch.tv held its first video teaching experience called High Octane.
- By year-end, LifeChurch.tv was serving over 5,500 people in seven worship experiences between two campuses.

2002

- On Easter Sunday, a new LifeChurch.tv location in Tulsa, Oklahoma met for the first time in a hotel ballroom. The campus quickly grew and the LifeChurch.tv Tulsa began meeting at a local high school by September.

2003

- The fourth LifeChurch.tv campus was launched in September in Stillwater, Oklahoma.
- During Christmas Eve experiences, LifeChurch.tv held its first live simulcast between the Edmond and Oklahoma City campuses.
- By the end of the year, more than 9,000 people worshipped at 12 LifeChurch.tv experiences available at four campuses each weekend.

2004

- LifeChurch.tv reached over 12,000 people through 16 weekly worship experiences at four campuses.
- In August, a satellite uplink was built at the Oklahoma City campus, which gave LifeChurch.tv the capability to send a live video feed anywhere in the world.
- LifeChurch.tv Tulsa moved to its permanent location in October.

2005

- LifeChurch.tv South Oklahoma City, the fifth LifeChurch.tv campus, opened in March.
- In September, LifeChurch.tv opened its first campus outside of Oklahoma. The LifeChurch.tv Mesa and Gilbert campuses were located in a suburb of Phoenix, Arizona. In November, the two Arizona campuses were merged into one campus.
- By the end of the year, LifeChurch.tv reached over 14,000 people each week through 29 worship experiences.

2006

- Early in the year, a church in Fort Worth, Texas (The Church at City View) joined LifeChurch.tv and is now known as Life.Church Fort Worth.
- In April, the LifeChurch.tv Internet Campus was launched. Now known as Church Online, this revolutionary ministry provides a live experience for people around the world with the ability to engage in genuine community, unique volunteer opportunities, online LifeGroups, and even online mission opportunities.
- Also in April, Open ([open.church](#)) began. Through this tool, Life.Church is able to share resources—including creative content, messages, and resources—with ministries all over the world completely free of charge.
- Network Churches was launched to partner with others—church pastors and church planters—who are called and equipped to reach their cities and communities for Christ.
- LifeChurch.tv joined forces with another ministry, Church Unplugged, and added its ninth campus in Hendersonville, Tennessee.
- At the end of the year, LifeChurch.tv was averaging over 18,000 people each weekend through 40 worship experiences.

2007

- In February, LifeChurch.tv Stillwater moved into a brand-new facility.
- The 10th LifeChurch.tv location was launched in February when a church in Florida (in the West Palm Beach area) became what is now known as Life.Church Wellington.
- On April 1, LifeChurch.tv NW Oklahoma City opened its doors.
- Also in April, LifeChurch.tv launched a fully interactive campus location—as part of the Internet Campus—in Second Life, the 3-D online virtual world.
- In May, the 12th campus, LifeChurch.tv Albany, was launched after a church in New York became part of the LifeChurch.tv family.
- YouVersion.com, the revolutionary free online Bible, was released in Beta version in October. This tool allows users to connect Scripture with a wide variety of media content, including pictures, video, journal entries, blog posts, and more.
- LifeChurch.tv Fort Worth moved into a permanent facility on Christmas weekend. The response to the move was amazing and the campus set location attendance records during the first weekend.
- By the end of the year, LifeChurch.tv was meeting in six states, reaching over 21,000 people weekly through 49 worship experiences.

2008

- In January, the 13th campus, LifeChurch.tv South Tulsa, opened in Bixby, Oklahoma. Located in the heart of south Tulsa, this new campus allowed LifeChurch.tv to reach a growing community with the life-changing message of Christ.
- The LifeChurch.tv Internet Campus became known as Church Online and launched a 9:00am GMT worship experience.
- In June, LifeChurch.tv invited hundreds of churches worldwide to pray, teach, and love as one in the first OnePrayer event.
- YouVersion mobile launched with over a dozen translations of the Bible. The YouVersion Bible App released in the Apple App Store and debuted later in the year for Blackberry.
- Church Metrics, a free web-based application to track church statistics, released to churches in October.
- Open free resources topped half a million downloads.

2009

- The YouVersion Bible App for iPhone and iPod Touch reached 1 million users.
- One million people in more than 6,000 host locations participated in Town Hall for Hope, a free event with financial expert Dave Ramsey.
- Several free resource websites launched including: Babelwith.me, a real time chat translation tool; VideoTeaching.com, a website with over 60 free video teachings; and the much-anticipated LifeKids.tv.
- Open reached more than 1 million downloads of free resources from LifeChurch.tv.
- LifeChurch.tv campuses launched thirty new weekly experiences.
- In response to explosive growth in the Tulsa area, a permanent facility was established in South Tulsa and a new campus launched in Owasso, Oklahoma.
- OnePrayer 2009 united more than 2,000 churches from 38 countries.
- LifeChurch.tv partnered with 91 churches through Network Churches.

- Over 27,000 people worshipped weekly at LifeChurch.tv campuses, with more than 20,000 surrendering their lives to Christ during the year.

2010

- LifeChurch.tv Yukon launched Easter Weekend with more than 2,000 people in attendance. Even though the campus is located in one of our smaller communities, the launch was one of the largest in LifeChurch.tv history at the time.
- LifeChurch.tv Hendersonville moved into a permanent facility in the Indian Lake, Tennessee area.
- LeadershipXP, an intensive leadership development program for young leaders, launched as a pilot program in April.
- In May, LifeChurch.tv and XXXChurch.com kicked off ThePornEvent.com, a 25-minute interactive experience designed to help people struggling with pornography. Thousands of people attended and nearly 100 accepted Christ.
- In June, LifeChurch.tv led the third annual OnePrayer event, uniting nearly 1,500 churches across continents, cultures, and denominations to come together and share, serve, and give.
- LifeChurch.tv partnered with 121 Network Churches located in 15 countries.
- The Chazown Experience and www.chazown.com launched and helped over 9,000 individuals discover their life purpose and develop a plan for personal growth.
- LifeChurch.tv supported 22 global mission initiatives and doubled the number of local partnerships.
- The YouVersion Bible App had 13 million installs on mobile devices and users spent 4.3 billion minutes reading the Bible through YouVersion by the end of the year.
- Twenty-one new experiences were added throughout the campuses and Church Online. Across all locations, nearly 32,000 people worshipped together weekly and thousands became followers of Christ during the year.

2011

- LifeChurch.tv celebrated its 15-year anniversary in January.
- YouVersion reached 5 billion minutes of Bible engagement in February.
- LifeChurch.tv teamed with Convoy of Hope to send relief to earthquake victims in Japan.
- In March, LifeChurch.tv broke ground on a new building in Wellington, Florida.
- Things got Weird! In coordination with the launch of Craig's book, *Weird*, nearly 200 leaders and over 900 people met in Weird LifeGroups during April.
- Church Online celebrated its five-year anniversary in April.
- Network Churches celebrated its five-year anniversary in May.
- In June, a campus in Midwest City, Oklahoma opened with 2,241 in attendance and 38 salvations.
- LifeChurch.tv broke ground on a new building in Owasso, Oklahoma.
- Over 150 students from all LifeChurch.tv campuses participated in Capacity, a new NextGen leadership development opportunity.
- The most popular series of every year, *At the Movies*, celebrated its 10th year in July.
- LifeChurch.tv partnered with Compassion International to support Child Survival Programs in India, Uganda, Ecuador, and the Philippines.
- Open launched a completely rebuilt website, which nearly doubled the number of users by the end of the year.
- The Bible App reached more than 30 million installs on mobile devices by October.
- The YouVersion community completed 1 million reading plans by the end of the year.

- Over 60,000 people attended 191 Christmas experiences.
- Throughout the year, 29 new experiences were added at campuses and Church Online.

2012

- In January, LifeChurch.tv Wellington opened a permanent facility with 1,342 in attendance on opening weekend.
- LifeChurch.tv experienced record attendance on Super Bowl weekend by debuting *30-Second Theology*, a message based on popular TV commercials.
- The Broken Arrow location launched on February 12 with 2,136 in attendance and 48 salvations. The campus added two more experiences in the following two weeks.
- On March 11, LifeChurch.tv Owasso moved into a permanent facility with three Sunday morning experiences. There were 2,347 in attendance and 24 salvations the first day.
- Restore, a three-session, documentary-style video learning experience, was released in March to help individuals, LifeGroups, and families identify how to effectively bring restoration to our communities and the world.
- By May, more than 2,000 churches registered to use the Church Online Platform, a free web-based tool to help churches expand their own ministries to reach people online.
- In June, 190 student leaders from all LifeChurch.tv locations came together to attend Capacity, a three-day leadership development program for students.
- More than 900,000 resources were downloaded through Open for free by over 42,000 church leaders around the world.
- The Bible App reached 75 million installs on mobile devices, and the YouVersion community spent more than 38 billion minutes engaging in God's Word.
- By the end of the year, Church Online welcomed nearly 5 million people from 227 countries and territories.
- LifeChurch.tv gave nearly \$2 million toward Relief and Restoration efforts around the world.
- NetworkChurches.tv helped equip more than 11,500 people in 14 countries with teaching resources.
- Through God's work at LifeChurch.tv, more than 2,400 people were baptized and over 23,800 found new life in Christ.

2013

- In March, the YouVersion Bible App was chosen to be the official Bible app of *The Bible*, a television mini-series from award-winning producers Roma Downey and Mark Burnett.
- LifeChurch.tv set an attendance record with more than 85,000 people attending Easter experiences.
- In response to the May tornadoes in Moore, Oklahoma, LifeChurch.tv donors contributed \$1.2 million in relief funds and sent out more than 1,200 volunteers to remove debris and distribute donated items. LifeChurch.tv also partnered with 190 families to provide ongoing support.
- In June, LifeChurch.tv launched its 16th campus in Jenks, Oklahoma with more than more than 2,500 in attendance.
- Church Online added several new experiences throughout the year for a total of 62 experiences throughout the week.
- The YouVersion Bible App celebrated 100 million installs in July and received media coverage from *The New York Times* and *NBC Nightly News*. By the end of 2013, The YouVersion Bible App was downloaded more than 120 million times. LifeChurch.tv opened its 17th location as a portable campus in Keller, Texas on September 22. The location launched with 538 in attendance.

- In conjunction with the release of Pastor Craig Groeschel's book *Fight: Winning the Battles that Matter Most*, the Fight Live Simulcast event was held in October. More than 900 churches worldwide hosted Fight events.
- The YouVersion Bible App for Kids launched in November with more than 1 million downloads in the first week.
- The 18th LifeChurch.tv location launched on December 15 in Moore, Oklahoma with more than 3,500 in attendance and 70 hands raised to accept Christ.
- In December 2013, Open reached a key milestone by giving away more than 5 million free resources to more than 130,000 church leaders around the world.
- Through our global mission partners, we supported relief and restoration in the lives of more than 578,000 people in 41 countries all over the world.
- The lives of 3,357 people were forever changed by the decision to take their faith public through baptism.
- Church Online Platform helped more than 5,700 churches prepare for online ministry.
- Church Metrics tracked 269,087 salvations across all users.
- More than 6 million people all over the world experienced God and connected with one another through Church Online. Through live prayer and email support, 90,500 documented prayers from Church Online visitors were prayed for.
- LifeChurch.tv sent more than 3,000 volunteers to serve our local mission partners.
- NetworkChurches.tv helped 128 churches reach communities around the world using LifeChurch.tv resources.
- Each week, 4,000 volunteers helped lead children and teenagers to become fully devoted followers of Christ.
- Nearly 25,800 people were involved in more than 2,000 LifeGroups across the country and through Church Online.

2014

- LifeChurch.tv debuted a new website that better communicates the mission, beliefs, and values of our church.
- In April, the YouVersion team launched Bible App 5, an update that added a robust community-sharing feature. For the first time, readers are able to share the Bible, ask questions, and engage in conversation with their friends within the app.
- On Easter Sunday, LifeChurch.tv Keller moved to its permanent building.
- The Bible App for Kids Curriculum launched on Easter weekend and was made available through Open. The new curriculum features new songs, more lesson interaction, and stories from the Bible App for Kids.
- Develop.Me was made available as a free resource to other church teams.
- On July 12, LifeChurch.tv Broadway and Britton launched in the Oklahoma City area as the 19th LifeChurch.tv location nationwide.
- On August 17, LifeChurch.tv Wichita opened as the 20th campus and the first location in Kansas. The campus began meeting at a local school and construction on a permanent building started later in the year. Kansas was the sixth state with a LifeChurch.tv physical location and the first launch in a new state in seven years.
- Church Online welcomed more than 6 million unique visitors throughout the year.
- By the end of the year, the YouVersion Bible App had been downloaded more than 165 million times.
- Over 9,500 people came to know Christ as their Savior through the Church Online ministry.

- In December, the LifeChurch.tv Worship Team reached #1 on the iTunes Christian/Gospel Chart with “We Lift You High,” a new worship song written and performed for the *Come to Worship* series. The song also debuted at #9 on the Billboard Christian chart.
- A LifeChurch.tv television show launched in three markets—Wellington, Wichita, and Kansas City—as a way to support growth and build awareness in those areas.
- By the end of 2014, 1,157 new LifeGroups were started, bringing the total number of LifeGroups meeting to 3,351. More 1,700 people signed up to lead a LifeGroup—more than double the total number at the end of 2013.
- More than 3,800 people went through a Chazown Experience, and 2,560 went through the Restore series. More than 5,000 people were connected with a local mission partner.
- Over 60,000 people worshipped at 20 LifeChurch.tv physical locations each week.

2015

- On January 18, Catalyst Church in Rio Rancho, New Mexico, officially became the 21st LifeChurch.tv location—LifeChurch.tv Rio Rancho. New Mexico became the seventh state with a physical LifeChurch.tv location.
- LifeChurch.tv South Broken Arrow launched January 25 as the 22nd LifeChurch.tv location and the second in the Tulsa suburb. Over 3,000 people attended three services on launch weekend.
- In January, the Bible App for Kids celebrated its 5 millionth download.
- On Easter Weekend, LifeChurch.tv became the first church in America to reach 100,000 in attendance on a single weekend.
- LifeChurch.tv Worship released its first digital EP, the four-song *Savior Forever*, to coincide with Easter weekend.
- LifeChurch.tv Mustang was one of the largest launches to date with nearly 4,000 in attendance. It became the ninth location in the Oklahoma City metro area.
- Amplify Church, a Network Church, joined with LifeChurch.tv to become LifeChurch.tv Shawnee. It is the 24th physical LifeChurch.tv location.
- In July, Open celebrated the download of its 7 millionth free resource.
- In August, LifeChurch.tv Worship debuted its latest original song release, “Walls Come Down.”
- LifeKids released its first-ever kids music album, *Mr. Music’s Sing-Along, Vol. 1*, in August.
- In August, The Bible App for Kids Storybook Bible was announced. During preorder, the book reached #1 on several Amazon.com best-seller lists.
- In October, LifeChurch.tv officially changed its name and website address to Life.Church. This change was a way to share our mission with the world by taking advantage of the new .church domain.