

# THE EVANGELICAL CATHOLIC



2019  
ANNUAL  
REPORT

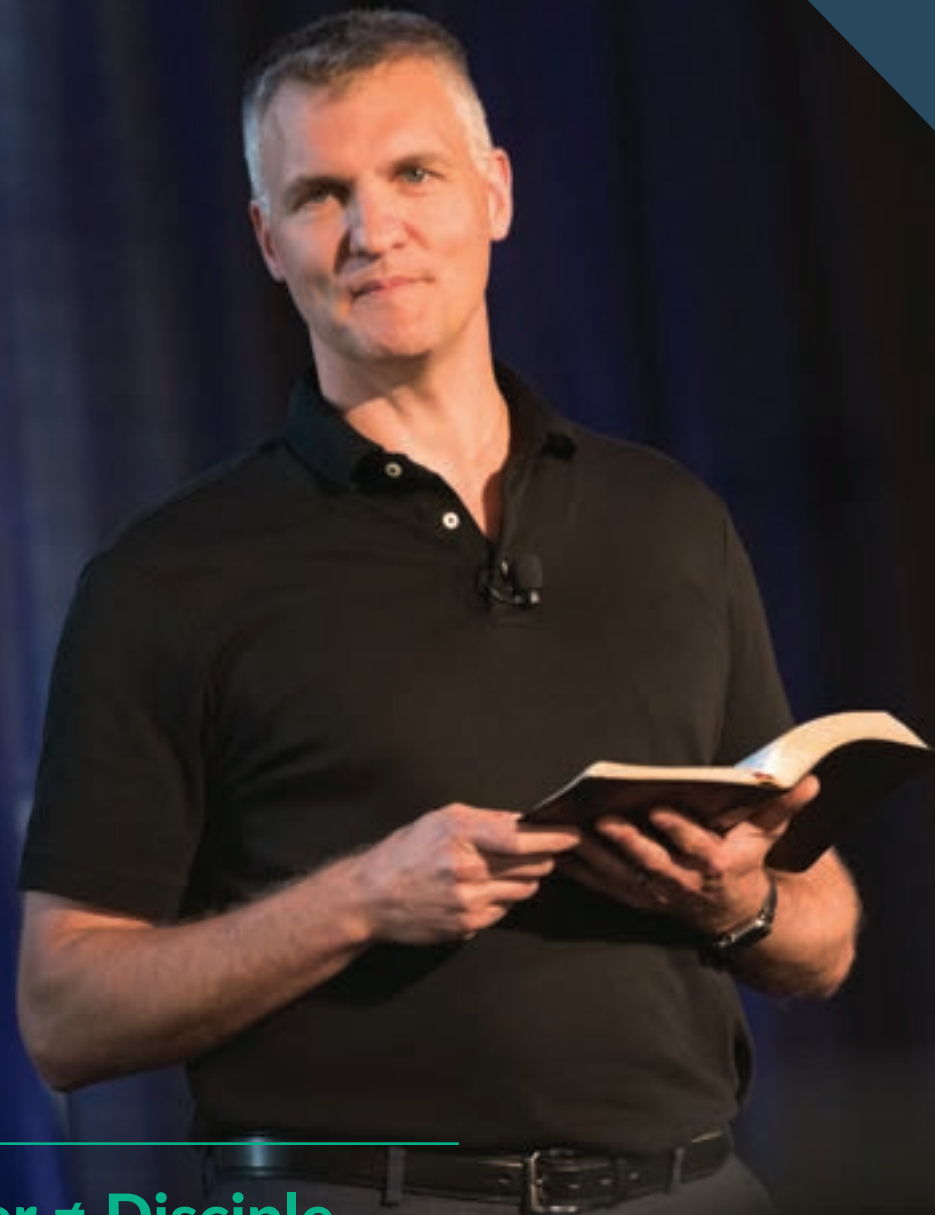


**GO, MAKE DISCIPLES  
OF ALL NATIONS.**

MATTHEW 28:19

# THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

## JASON SIMON



### GO, MAKE DISCIPLES OF ALL NATIONS.

We always label the first followers of Jesus “the twelve disciples.” But they were actually something more than that. They were “the twelve disciple-makers.”

In Luke 9, Jesus sends the twelve out on mission to make disciple-makers. They succeeded. We know because later, in Luke 10, Jesus sends seventy-two others out on mission to make disciples.

In Matthew 28:19, Jesus commands the now eleven disciple-makers to “make disciples of all nations.” He can command this because they are not merely disciples; he has made them into disciple-makers.

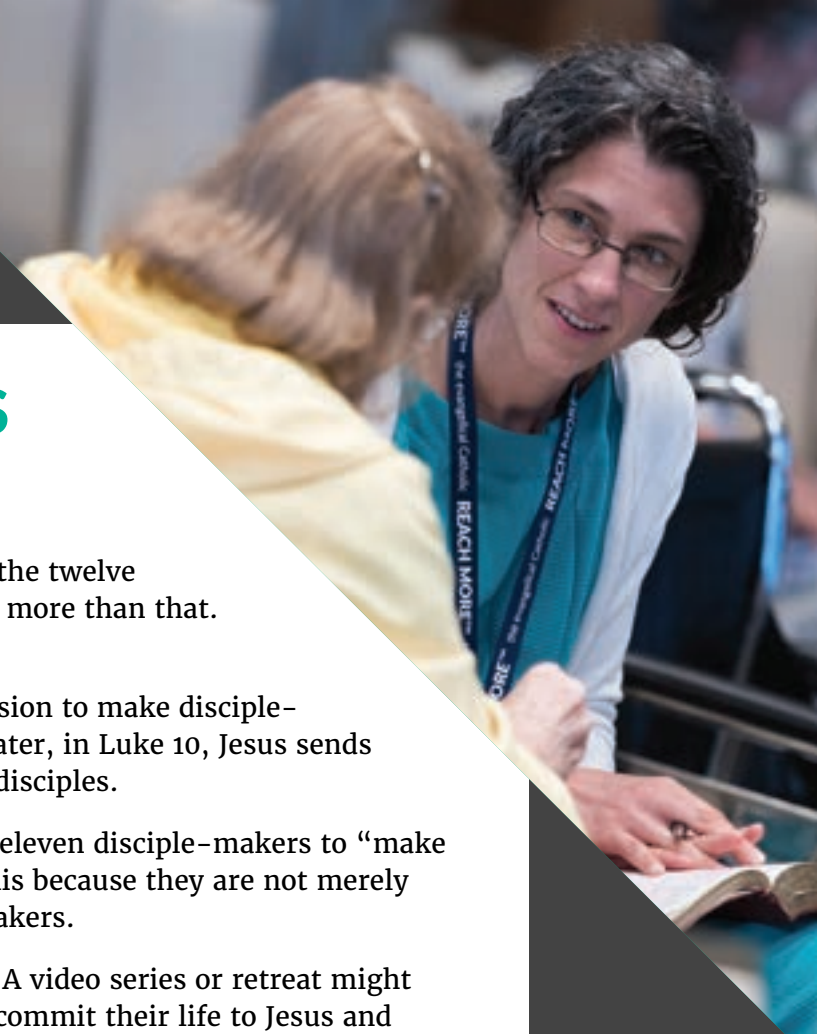
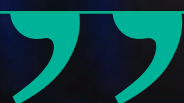
Where are today’s Catholic disciple-makers? A video series or retreat might make disciples. Programs can help a person commit their life to Jesus and learn discipleship practices by which to live. But no video series makes a disciple-maker. No retreat program makes a disciple-maker. It takes time and patient love to make disciple-makers. A man named Chip met one-on-one with me for months to help me become a disciple-maker. That’s what it takes.

For the Lord’s command to be fulfilled, we need to do more than make disciples. Implicit in his command is that the Church make disciple-makers. St. Dominic, St. Francis, and St. Ignatius of Loyola didn’t stop at making disciples. If they had, their movements would have never grown. They made disciple-makers.

The Evangelical Catholic raises up disciple-makers. In 2017–2018 we trained 750 disciple-makers and they reached 3,963 people. In 2018–2019 we were blessed to train 1,563 disciple-makers (108% increase) and together they reached 5,818 people (46.8% increase).

We are zealous to raise up more disciple-makers in the world. Good Catholics in the pews respond so generously to the vision and mission of disciple-making. Jesus calls them to be disciple-makers. We are blessed to be one of his instruments to prepare them to bring his life to the world.

**Believer ≠ Disciple**  
**Disciple ≠ Disciple-Maker**



# CORE VALUES

## OF THE EVANGELICAL CATHOLIC

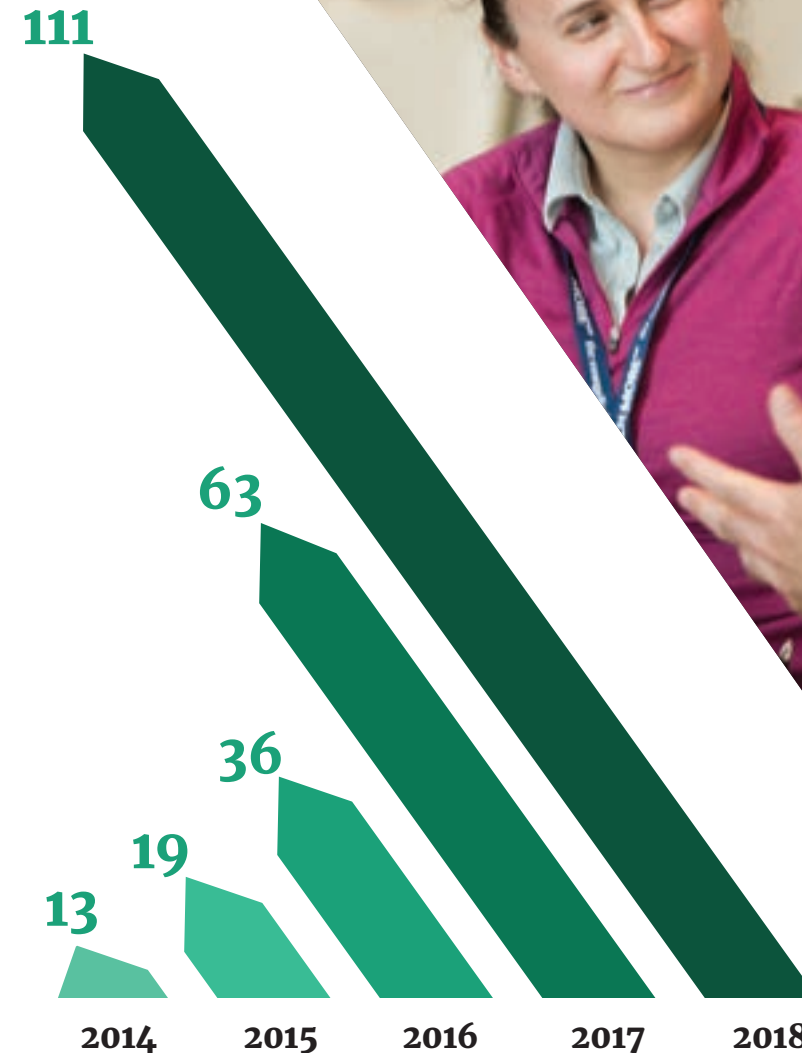
**ZEAL** Desire growth, work hard,  
and bring glory to God.

**EXCELLENCE** Pursue learning,  
improvement, and best practices.

**FUN** Infuse our hard work with joy.

**ALL THINGS TO ALL PEOPLE**  
Build bridges to reach more people  
with the Good News of the love of Jesus.

**CANDOR** Communicate directly with  
love, humility, and courage.



## GROWTH OF TOTAL MINISTRIES

The EC is experiencing tremendous growth in the ministries we serve. We continue to build up and foster disciple-makers who are equipped to reach the lost. The expansion of the EC has also required larger office space in Madison. We are ready to extend the Church's mission of evangelization across the globe.

### New Address:

6602 Normandy Lane, Floor 2, Madison, WI 53719

# ETC 2019

Our annual Evangelization Training Camp (ETC), sponsored by the McGrath Institute for Church Life and the Word Among Us, was held on July 22-25th, 2019, at the University of Notre Dame. Over 350 leaders gathered for a week of prayer, training workshops, inspiring talks, Mass, and fellowship. Priests and lay ministers were deeply impacted to not only form disciples, but to raise up disciple-makers in their ministries. Hearts and minds were renewed through worship and prayer as leaders began to envision their ministry with on-fire disciple-makers. We will return to the University of Notre Dame on July 20-23, 2020, and we are excited to announce a new conference title: REACH MORE™ Live!

“

*I value a whole new approach to evangelization I was never taught. This is the key to the Church being and becoming what Jesus wishes it to be.*

*Rev. Richard Lifrak, SSCC  
U of Texas, Rio Grande Valley*

**Through the generous contributions of our benefactors, registration costs were covered for 37 priests.**



# CAMPUS **IMPACT**

Abby, a sophomore attending Syracuse University, stepped into the Catholic center her freshman year looking for community and deeper meaning in life. She joined a REACH MORE™ Training Group and began receiving one-on-one discipleship mentoring from Emily Mansfield, an EC Ministry Associate. She even joined RCIA to receive the sacrament of Confirmation.

In one-on-ones, Abby receives apprenticeship in the Christian life. At one particular meeting, while discussing devotion to the Eucharist, Abby expressed her desire to spend time in the Eucharistic chapel, but didn't know what to do there. Emily encouraged Abby to go to the chapel, be with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, and "let him love her." At the end of

the meeting, she prayed, "I am fully here for you and want to open my heart to the nourishment you have for me. I'm sorry for seeking food that perishes. I want to seek you, the food that leads to eternal life." At the EC, we're convinced that any new believer can pray so boldly with just a little bit of guidance. How many Abbys are out there waiting for a bit of accompaniment?

# PARISH **IMPACT**



When Father Dave asked us to consider becoming Evangelical Catholic small group leaders, I wasn't sure if we were up to the task. I would consider joining a small faith group but to lead one? After praying about it, we decided to take a giant leap of faith!

After the training, when we formed our small group, I was amazed to see how Jesus opened our busy schedules. He made it all possible! We completed the training and learned so much! Being introduced to *lectio divina* with daily prayer and reflection was key to forming our personal relationship with Jesus, our new best friend.

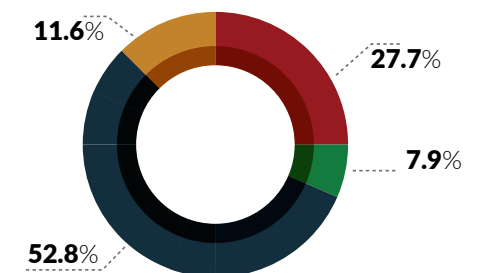
We formed our small group with parish couples and neighbors. They told us they felt comfortable sharing in our home. We all found that concentrating on the Scripture readings for the upcoming Sunday greatly enhanced our experience at Mass. For one of the couples, it awakened a desire to come back to Sunday Mass after a long time away. Alleluia, Praise God! We are on a faith journey together with Jesus shepherding the way!

Mary and Pat Regan  
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church  
Hastings, MN

# FINANCIALS

The Lord's blessings, through our many benefactors, has enabled us to reach the lost. The stories shared in this report reflect how the financial support of our work impacts the lives of Catholics, forming them as disciples and disciple-makers. Looking to the year ahead, we are prepared to continue our growth and launch more Catholics into the fruitful mission of disciple-making.

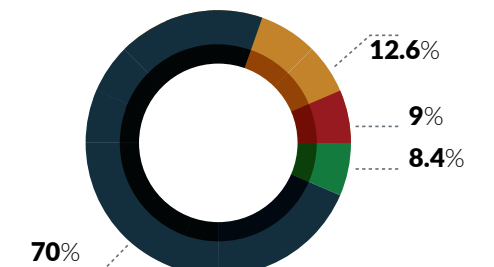
**TOTAL INCOME** \$2,166,945



## SOURCES OF FUNDS

- Benefactor Contributions
- Support Team Contributions
- Ministry Income
- Conference, Publications, & Other

**TOTAL EXPENSES** \$1,993,946



## USES OF FUNDS

- Evangelization and Consulting
- Evangelization Resources
- Office Ministry & Management Support
- Benefactor Stewardship & Expansion

# THE NEXT STEP

## THERE ARE 67 MILLION CATHOLICS IN THE UNITED STATES.

- 22%** of self-identifying Catholics attend Mass regularly.
- 7%** are “engaged” through parish involvement, financial giving, and personal prayer.
- 93%** of people sitting in the pews live a very passive Catholic life.

Catholics at Sunday Masses long to grow in their relationship with Jesus and their ability to be his witnesses in the world.

They are positioned to be engaged, but they don’t know their next step.

Guiding these Catholics into mature discipleship and fruitful mission can change the world.

Nextstep is a multimedia Catholic discipleship guide that leads spiritually-open users step-by-step to solidify their belief, mature their discipleship, and launch them into mission.

<sup>1</sup> CARA Institute, Frequently Requested Church Statistics, 2018

<sup>2</sup> Kelly, Matthew; Signs of a Dynamic Catholic, 2011



### Print and Digital Release Dates

*Nextstep: Volume One*  
Now Available

*Nextstep: Volume Two*  
March 2020

### Free Online Trial - Lent 2020

Go to [www.ecnextstep.com](http://www.ecnextstep.com) to sign up for updates.

# MILITARY “IMPACT”

In our initial training group, we invited a newlywed couple new to the parish to participate in discipleship formation. The wife had always been a devout Catholic and the husband, who was raised Catholic, had more recently come back to his faith and was looking for an opportunity to grow. In the first few meetings, I could tell he was listening hard to the opening testimonies, and during check-ins, it became clear that making regular time during the work week for prayer was a challenge. I’ll never forget when

we were talking about our friendship with Jesus and how we would rank it on a scale of 1 to 10. There were a lot of sevens and sixes, but this young man spoke up and bravely stated that he felt his relationship with God was at about a two. I thanked him for honestly voicing this, and from that point on, the transformation we’ve witnessed in this young man is re-evangelizing us! God is truly reaching more.

*Cullen Sporleder*  
*Camp Pendelton Marine Base*



# REACH MORE™ MOVEMENTS



**GERMANY**  
Military Bases: 2



**NEW ZEALAND**  
Campuses: 1



**HAWAII**  
Military Bases: 1



**WISCONSIN**  
Parishes: 14  
Campuses: 1  
Dioceses: 1



**LOUISIANA**  
Parishes: 1  
Campuses: 1



**GEORGIA**  
Campuses: 1



**NORTH CAROLINA**  
Campuses: 1



**NEW JERSEY**  
Parishes: 1  
Campuses: 2



**IOWA**  
Parishes: 3  
Campuses: 3



**SOUTH CAROLINA**  
Parishes: 2



**MASSACHUSETTS**  
Parishes: 4



**FLORIDA**  
Parishes: 1  
Campuses: 1



**NEVADA**  
Campuses: 1



**MISSOURI**  
Parishes: 2  
Campuses: 1  
FOCUS Partnership: 1  
Military Bases: 1



**MINNESOTA**  
Parishes: 3



**ILLINOIS**  
Parishes: 2  
Campuses: 2



**WASHINGTON**  
Parishes: 1



**PENNSYLVANIA**  
Parishes: 4  
Campuses: 1



**VIRGINIA**  
Parishes: 5  
Military Bases: 1



**OKLAHOMA**  
Parishes: 2  
Campuses: 1



**ARKANSAS**  
Campuses: 2



**NEW YORK**  
Campuses: 1  
Military Bases: 1



**ALASKA**  
Parishes: 3



**INDIANA**  
Campuses: 1



**COLORADO**  
FOCUS Partnership: 1



**MICHIGAN**  
Parishes: 1  
Campuses: 1



**ARIZONA**  
Campuses: 2



**OHIO**  
Parishes: 18



**CALIFORNIA**  
Parishes: 8  
Campuses: 1  
Military Bases: 2



**TEXAS**  
Parishes: 1  
Campuses: 2