

THE GOSPEL UNDERGROUND

ANNUAL REPORT

2020-2021

WHAT A YEAR!

Greetings friends,

Did this year go by fast for you? Or extremely slow? Extremely fast? To be honest, I'm really not sure how I've experienced 2020-2021. There are moments when I feel as if ten years has come off of my life and there are others where I feel this year there has been some sort of time warp teleportation. My overwhelming feeling, however, is one of gratitude for God's grace, steady leadership, and provision for our work and family.

As our world has clambered for power and sought to blame one another constantly for all of our travails, I have worked hard to focus on the leadership of Jesus Christ. The Bible tells us to look to him, the author and perfecter of our faith, and his call was certainly clear: follow me.

Like many of you, I have had my days of distraction of everything from masks and no masks, vaccines and no vaccines, racism and everything is racism, the hypocrisy of some of my heroes, to the constant discord and strife which is particularly acute on social media platforms. However, one truth smashes through all the noise: Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

Sometimes we understand Christianity as a complex social and historical reality involving millions of souls. Sometimes we see it is an intensely personal relationship in the heart of an individual who is sought out by God. Most simply, Christian faith is about local communities trusting and seeking the Lord in their lives in the simplicity of loving God and loving neighbors. It is no coincidence that Christ calls us to obey two simple commands and a wonderful commission.

Love God. Love people. Share the gospel of the saving grace of God in Christ with all.

This all, of course, takes place in the borderlands between the church and culture and we've had a wonderful year seeking to advance the mission of God there. It has been a fruitful year for the Gospel Underground in so many ways.

It is my profound hope and prayer that reading this report will be encouraging to you and your family and that in a small, behind-the-scenes way, our partnership in mission would be one of the positive things in our lives this year.

As you travel through these few pages today, I pray that your heart is full of gratitude for the faithfulness of God, the provision he has made for this work, and the human beings who have been forgiven, transformed, and equipped this year for ministry.

On behalf of our family and our board of directors we send you our profound thanks for standing with us in 2020/2021!!!



Reid S. Monaghan

SUPPORTING AND STRENGTHENING

We support and strengthen local churches with equipping and training.

One of the privileges we have with the Gospel Underground is to help churches be more effective in their mission. This year we have had the honor of coaching several pastors and developing a curriculum for another ministry which invests in leadership health and development in churches. Much of this work is behind the scenes but bears much fruit as it involves sharpening and equipping others in their crucial work and service.

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His voice carries weight because of his personal connection and long track record of faithfulness in the trenches of ministry.

- Jeremy Buck



Jeff Nine

Pastor of Church Planting & Strengthening at Frontline Church OKC

Over the years working side by side with Reid Monaghan, my respect for and trust in him has only grown. His work through the Gospel Underground has been a massive blessing to our elders, our staff, our members, and many of our partner churches.

Whether he is doing training for our members in evangelism or parenting, mentoring some of our young leaders, coaching some of our elders, or helping our team craft training content and resources for church planters, Reid's service to our church has been invaluable. We are grateful to be a partner with Reid and the Gospel Underground.

“ Reid is uniquely gifted to make complex concepts incredibly teachable.”

- Elliot Grudem



Elliot Grudem

Founder and President Leaders Collective

Reid is uniquely gifted to make complex concepts incredibly teachable. He doesn't just make them simple, he makes them transferable. My team loves the curriculum he created to develop pastors and other leaders to start and support churches across the United States. Jesus's Church will benefit from this work.



Jeremy Buck

Pastor
Redeemer Church
Pampa, TX

Reid is a faithful, loved, and trusted brother. He served the men of the Redeemer Network with grace and pastoral care. His voice carries weight because of his personal connection and long track record of faithfulness in the trenches of ministry. We are always glad to get time with Reid.

SHARING GOOD NEWS

We share *good news* with the coming generation.

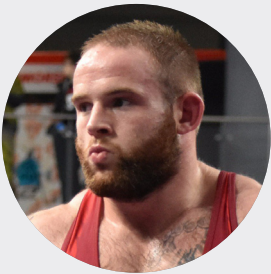
Part of my ministry is direct and personal. This year I began working with the young people, coaches, and staff of the Virginia Tech wrestling team. This work keeps me fresh in the things I train others to do on the front lines of ministry. I also enjoy working with these men to help them come to know Christ and grow in their faith. I've stepped out to meet new people, serve a community, and extend hope through the gospel. I've also continued to speak in university contexts albeit this year via Zoom. Zoom is suboptimal! Long live Zoom!



Jarrod Lynn
Director of Athletes in Action
Brown University

Brown University

Did you know I have a long running partnership with Jarrod Lynn, director of Athletes in Action at Brown University? I've been speaking at Brown since 2005 and this year was no exception. The last trip I had in February 2020 before the Covid shutdowns was at Brown and this year I did a Zoom message that my college and high school daughters joined in! It has been an enjoyable and fruitful partnership for many years that we hope continues.



Ty Walz

3X NCAA All American
Olympic Hopeful

Reid has made a tremendous impact on those that have chosen to hear him within the Virginia Tech Wrestling Team. His weekly Bible studies for both athletes and coaching staff provided world class wisdom, leadership, and character development that went above and beyond anything we have had before. He transformed the Team Chaplain role into something that could have been seen as an extra benefit to an essential piece of a successful college program puzzle.

Aside from his ministry, Reid has become a trusted friend to athletes and coaches alike. From barbecues with his family at his own home, to routine outings with various individuals, he quickly became part of our team (Despite being a Tar Heel!).

For myself personally, Reid completely opened the door for me in my own faith. With rooted beliefs as an agnostic and atheist, I was initially reserved, spiteful, and closed minded within our meetings. Slowly, Reid would provide answers to questions I would have and inspire me to concoct more questions. Through repetitions of this cycle I soon found myself in a completely different place spiritually than I had been previously. The benefits rewarded through casting aside my former views and looking at life through a different lens are much too drawn out for this review. To keep it simple: I am thoroughly grateful for Reid's time spent with our team and am more than excited to see how it continues to develop in the future.



Tony Robie

Head Coach
Virginia Tech Wrestling

As the Head Wrestling Coach at Virginia Tech it is important to me that we provide support and development for our athletes in all areas of their lives. For those who are interested, spiritual development is as important as developing athletically, academically, and socially. Through building relationships, gaining trust, and teaching the gospel, Reid has taken the spiritual development for many of our athletes and coaches to another level. He has helped create a culture of acceptance, faith, and gratitude. Most importantly, he is helping us understand what it means to walk with God and live in his image."



FCA Wrestling

Truth and Technique

In early 2021, I was asked by my friend Carl Perry, national Director for FCA wrestling, to help with a project called Truth and Technique. It involved getting people together from our sport to share good wrestling technique as well as biblical truth and testimonies. I helped coach some of the athletes and coaches who shared content on the "Truth" side of this project. It was an honor to serve these guys to create tools to reach out to a specific sport community.

THOUGHTFUL ENGAGEMENT

We thoughtfully engage people in culture with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

One aspect of our work is to help followers of Christ to thoughtfully engage with people in culture. This year I developed a new parenting seminar which helps moms and dads think through guiding their children up and out into our culture. Kayla actually spoke with me at one event and traveled with me to two others. It is such a privilege to partner with my daughter in ministry.

We also continued with a major focus on our podcast related to various aspects of our cultural moment with popular episodes focusing on *Resisting Misinformation* and a series focused on the reality of moral goodness and how this points us to the existence and beauty of God.



Pastor James Fields

Lead Pastor
Sojourn Church Carlisle

As our church was entering a focused season on our core value of Missionality, there was no one else whom I desired to teach on the subject of evangelism, missions and engagement than Reid Monaghan. Reid is one of the best, if not the best teacher, on shaping a missional culture within the context of the local church. Reid is winsome, thoughtful, and engaged and as a former church planter himself, he has practical ways to apply his teachings into the everyday life of the local church. As a young church plant, we only met virtually for five weeks; however, due to Reid's investment and training, our church, Sojourn Church Carlisle, is better equipped to live out the Gospel of Jesus Christ with greater confidence and much competency in our ethnically diverse community (The South End of Louisville).

BY THE NUMBERS

We preached in

9

church pulpits
this year

We personally coached

11

church leaders
this year

We ran

14

events for churches ranging
from church leader trainings,
evangelism training, church
planting assessments, and
parenting events.

We consulted with

4

different churches in
2020/2021

FINANCIAL REPORT

INCOME	2020-2021
Speaking Honorariums	\$3,803
Travel Reimbursements	\$6,478
Monthly and Annual Donations	\$131,232
Coaching and Consulting	\$41,066
Total Revenue	\$182,579
EXPENSES	
Minister Salary	\$39,012
Minister Housing Allowance	\$45,006
Ministry Expenses	\$9,926
Office Expenses	\$524
Communications (mobile/internet)	\$1,800
Staff Development	\$6,692
Benefits (Health, Dental, 403b)	\$18,000
Accounting, Financial, Legal	\$3,925
Technology (Hardware/Web/Software)	\$4,797
Travel Expenses (much reimbursed)	\$12,483
Support to Other Ministries	\$2,987
VT Wrestling Ministry	\$771
Total Expenses	\$145,923
2020-2021 Net Revenue	\$36,656

Financial Notes

- We had an unexpected and very successful year in our consulting and coaching work. We also had two content development contracts that were short term in duration. These were one year contracts that are not renewable.
- One of our ministry partners made an unexpected, mid-year gift that was very generous. This was a also one time occasion.
- Our monthly and annual partners continue to be faithful and consistent, which is the financial foundation for our work. Thank you!

LOOKING AHEAD

As we continue into the 2021-2022 ministry year we are excited about new potential partnerships and continued ministry. Our strategic objectives are simple and focused.

- 1 Continue to develop and expand our local ministry of evangelism and discipleship with the Virginia Tech Wrestling program.
- 2 Explore local and national network partnerships with the Bonhoeffer Haus and the Harbor Church Planting Network
- 3 Development of Gospel Underground Podcast Content. We look forward to our Fall 2021 series on human embodiment and Christian views of the body.
- 4 Continue to strengthen and local churches as invited for training, coaching, consulting, and speaking. I will continue coaching pastors and church planters as well as speaking in university contexts. (I'm specifically encouraged to be speaking at Kayla's University in November!)

We hope and pray that you found this report from the field an encouragement to your faith. We pray it stoked the embers for your fires of hope in Jesus, and moves you forward to love and serve others, allowing to God to use you in his work.

As always, we write with our most profound thanks for your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now.

Yours for advancing the mission of God in the borderlands between the church and culture,

Reid S. Monaghan





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