DECEMBER 2023

Crosswinds Connection

"Crossing Cultures—Connecting People"

CROSSWINDS
a foundation for faith and culture



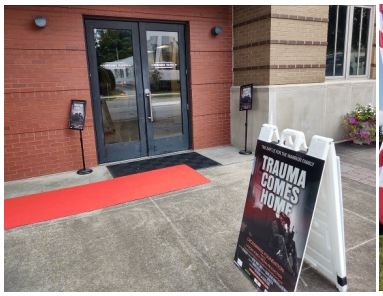
The past few days I've been reflecting on the past year in order to provide you—our support team—your annual end of year report. Here, I'll share some of what your investment in our work has enabled us to accomplish and a few of our goals for the upcoming year. I hope you are encouraged by this report as you read how we have utilize the funds entrusted to us in 2023. Your support is certainly a great encouragement to our staff and Board as it assures us you are standing with us again in the coming year. **Thank you in advance for investing in our efforts**.

Bob Waldrep
President and Founder

2023 MISSION REPORT

WHAT WE ACCOMPLISHED IN 2023—WARRIORS ON MISSION HIGHLIGHTS

TRAUMA COMES HOME: This year we wrapped filming and editing of our new documentary, *Trauma Comes Home: The Battle for the Warrior Family*. This film fills an important gap in the story of veteran trauma that has been neglected for too long—the impact of military related trauma on the warrior family.









Trauma Comes Home Premieres in Birmingham, Ohio and Chicago

In August the film premiered to rave reviews in Birmingham with additional showings held in Alabama, Ohio, and Illinois. The showing in Ohio included a training conference for Centers of Hope (see following page) spearheaded by longtime friend Staff Ouderkirk and his team.

Those who attended showings were moved to tears by the stories they heard. Several asked for future showings to be held in their area so they could bring other family and friends. We are already at work scheduling these. Based on responses we saw and heard, this appears to be our most effective and impacting film to date. Several showings and training sessions are already scheduled for 2024 with more to come.





Trauma Comes Home Premieres: Birmingham Chicago Ohio

Learn More About Trauma Comes Home, 2024 Showings or Schedule an Event at traumacomeshome.com



Chris Turner Shares His Story at Leadership Training Event



Leadership Training in Ohio



Graduating Class in Ohio

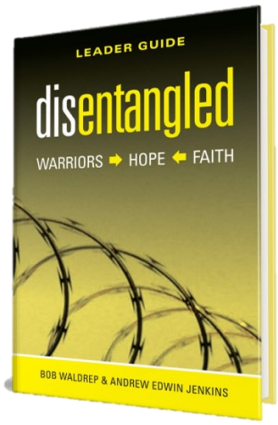
WARRIOR HOPE TRAINING AND GROUP MEETINGS: Training new leaders and creating new Centers of Hope groups are an important part of the Warrior Hope mission. In 2023 we again conducted meetings online and in person, including Andy assisting an online group in Illinois. We are also expanding the leadership training to involve a musical portion which helps those attending connect to this mission through Marine, Chris Turner and the Freedom Tour.



Hanging Out After a Meeting

PUBLICATIONS/RESOURCES: In addition to groups using the Warrior Hope curriculum, in 2023 we began training leaders to take groups through the new *Disentangled* Bible study curriculum that we wrote about in the 2022 year-end report. To assist those leading Disentangled groups, we spent part of our time this year writing a leadership guide to accompany the manual. In addition, Andy produced a screen share to walk potential leaders through the guide. With these new tools in place, we anticipate several new groups—in addition to those leading Warrior Hope groups—will begin using the *Disentangled* Bible study curriculum in 2024. Several churches have already expressed interest in offering the study. This year we also began offering select resources for free as audiobooks. **There are many groups, reaching out to help veterans with trauma, using a variety of methods, what they often lack is a guideline or structured plan to direct the group. Through your assistance, the resources we develop provide this for them.**

Andy Setting Up Resource Tables With Warriors on Mission Publications and







Curriculum (Including the New Disentangled Leader Guide) at an Event

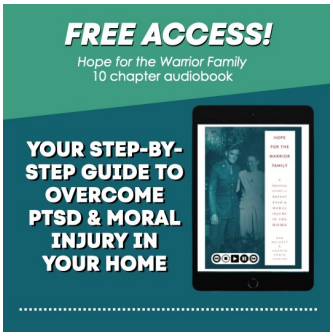
WARRIOR HOPE PODCAST: Now in its third season, the **Warrior Hope Podcast, hosted by Andy Jenkins, continues to grow in popularity** and has acquired a steady audience. Through it, veterans, family members, and experts who are leaders in the field of mental and emotional trauma are able to offer help and encouragement to those who are dealing with the traumas of PTSD and Moral Injury.



OTHER CROSSWINDS CONNECTIONS IN 2023

HERE ARE A FEW OF OUR OTHER 2023 MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS:

God has tremendously blessed our efforts to help veterans and it has grown to where it takes the overwhelming majority of our time and effort. However, we are also given opportunities to serve in many other areas. Here are a few highlights of those.



Media/Internet Presence: As we continue to grow and develop other areas it is important to keep our many websites up to date and connected. Andy took this on as a project for 2023 and working with McKinnon Maddox of McMedia Web Development, who maintains our sites, began working on a complete review and refresh of all our websites.



It is extremely important that we maintain **our Internet presence—websites, social media, podcasting, etc.—as they enable us to continue to reach a growing demographic, connecting with many who are in need of our services**. These most recent updates also included making more of our resources available to access online.

Presentations: In addition to the travel and presentations we led for Warriors on Mission, we stayed quite busy with other speaking engagements:

Our staff members taught two weekly men's Bible studies both in person and by Zoom—amounting to over ninety meetings. In addition, they participated in over twenty other public meetings (not including those associated with Warriors on Mission). These included such things as speaking in churches, Mission Conferences and Men's Conferences/groups.


Crosswinds Founder Bob Waldrep Speaking to Men's Group



Thrive: This is not a new ministry; it's a new name for Step by Step Ministry under the leadership of, founder and Director, Todd Gober and his wife Leslie. Over the years Step by Step had become primarily associated with the fantastic golf events Todd conducted. However, as it is about so much more than golf; Todd and Leslie decided a name change was in order to be more reflective of all they offer.

The golf is still there but it's not all that is "thriving." **The services and help Todd and Leslie offer, such as mentoring, marriage support, discipleship and more, have gone through tremendous growth**. Not only did the number of individuals and organizations reached by Thrive increase but the scope of the ministry did, as well.

Learn more at starttothrive.org

Benevolence and Missions: Our Men's groups and other partners **again enabled us to provide benevolence assistance to those** affected by economic problems. Not including funding distributed to our US subsidiaries and veteran services, **over 8 % of funds we received in 2023 went directly to our overseas efforts and to providing services and aid to those in need here at home.**

Continued on p. 4



Nelu and Ieremia at Conference

International Efforts: Despite continued political upheaval in western Europe, our missionaries in Romania, Nelu Filip and Ieremia Rusu, continue to have a tremendous impact in their country and other parts of Europe. Recently, they attended the annual Prayer Breakfast held by the Romanian Parliament. It included a conference organized on the theme "Political Leadership in Christian Identity." Nelu had been elected the president of his denomination and, as such, was invited to make a presentation on the topic of the conference theme. Ieremia said Nelu exalted the name of the Lord Jesus and presented Christ's model of leadership, based on humility and service. Ieremia further reported, "Nelu's message was very well received by political, administrative, cultural, and religious personalities [present]."

Ieremia and Nelu have traveled extensively in 2023 for speaking engagements at churches and conferences in Romania and Europe. Both have also been actively involved in helping the Ukrainian Christians. Of this Nelu wrote, "Our [denomination's] recent hosting of the Ukrainian Churches' leadership marked a significant milestone in fostering collaboration and mutual support. The unity we experienced during these discussions lays the foundation for meaningful cooperation in the future."

In speaking of the support we are able to offer our missionaries in Romania, Nelu wrote, "Our strategic planning sessions for missions have been marked by your unwavering support, allowing us to approach discussions with clarity of purpose and a shared vision." We consider it a significant step that one of the accomplishments reported was a conference held to "bring together Christian business people to strategize on leveraging our business community for positive change". Nelu reported, "The commitment and enthusiasm displayed by attendees were truly inspiring."

As you can see **your support is making a difference not only in the States but in Europe as well**.

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Each **$5.00 gift** helps Crosswinds/Warriors on Mission provide warriors free DVDs/manuals.

- **$100** provides resources for 20 veterans.
- **$ 50** provides resources for 10 veterans.
- **$ 25** provides resources for 5 veterans.

WARRIORS ON MISSION

CENTERS OF HOPE

Our staff members also depend on your gifts for their support and ministry needs.

PLEASE GIVE TODAY

YOUR DONATIONS HELP

To make a financial investment in our ministry send your check payable to: Crosswinds Foundation at: P.O. Box 12143 Birmingham, AL 35202

SECURE ONLINE GIVING: ECONTRIBUTION.ORG

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LOOKING AHEAD TO 2024

We believe in planning big—aiming high—even if it means missing a few goals. Not to rest on past success, **here are a few of our goals: for 2024.**

- **Book Projects:**:

  Warrior Hope Book: We plan on redesigning *Warrior Hope* in a non-manual (book format) making the material available for individual study.

  Warrior Family Curriculum: Develop a six-week course to be used by families who are struggling with a family member's PTSD or Moral injury

  Warrior Devotionals: Develop a series of monthly devotionals aimed specifically for warriors and others who face mental and emotional trauma.

  Disentangled Follow Up: Produce a second Bible study curriculum.
- **Launch nine new Centers of Hope—**Six being out of our local market.
- **Offer Six Facilitator Trainings:** At least four being in another city/state.
- **Reach Warriors With Music**: Provide a Songs of Hope concert and continue developing/growing The Freedom Tour, with minimum six shows at VAs, American Legions and other service organizations.
- **Release Documentary:** Schedule in-person showings of *Trauma Comes Home* to promote and create new Centers of Hope.
- **Add additional staff**. To keep pace with the rapid growth of our military outreach it is imperative that we add more staff. However, this can only be done if the funding is available.

All of the above means we need your support more than ever.

THANK YOU FOR SEEING US THROUGH 15 YEARS OF SUCCESSFUL MINISTRY

AND THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR BEING PART OF OUR TEAM IN 2024!