



The rēp Community 2023 in Review



The team of leaders in Madagascar, April 2023

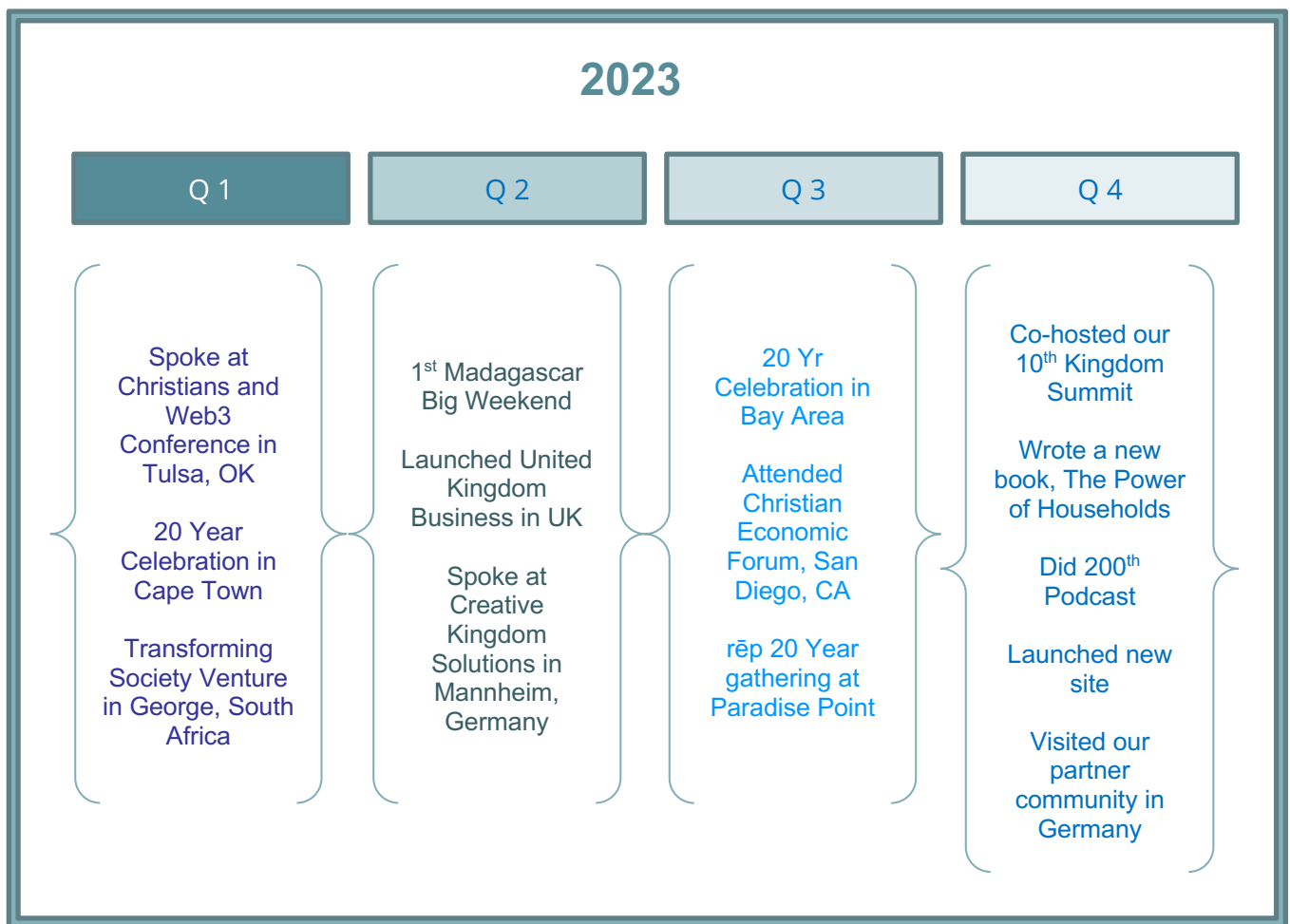
Recap of 2023

I often feel, “That was a bit of a quiet year,” until I recap where we have been and all God has done. Just some locations in 2023 include Tulsa, Cape Town, George, Antananarivo, Mauritius, the UK, Germany, four trips to California, Texas, Nashville and back to Germany. We commissioned rēp trainees from countries spanning Southeast Asia (Cambodia, Vietnam, Thailand, Singapore), India, the US, Germany, Kenya, Zimbabwe, Botswana, Namibia, South Africa, and our French-speaking cohort in Madagascar and France.

We had our first Transforming Society Venture in George, South Africa in March 2023.

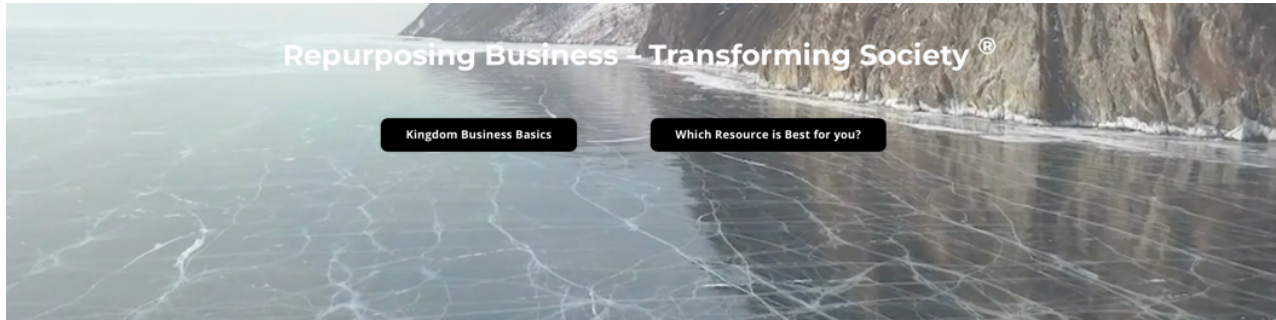
Another first was The Big Weekend in Madagascar. We then worked with our alumni in the UK to kick off United Kingdom Business and had a couple of trips to Germany. The Bizcipleship program began again with a focus on Kingdom Couples.

2024 could be a challenging year on many fronts. On the last page I suggest ways we can support each other.



Consolidated websites, New-look classes

The second half of 2023 was focused on moving classes from the old system (Matrix/Edu20/Cipher) to Kajabi where we host brettjohnson.biz We have too many products and URLs to keep them scattered, so we are gradually consolidating rēp, LEMON, Convergence, etc. etc. into one space. This enables us to have one “engine” behind most things.



Repurposing leaders and corporations to help them discover and walk out their personal and corporate callings so that they can positively impact their worlds.



Take a tour and be sure to check out Kingdom Business Basics and Which Resource is Best for You? You may have done the rēp training, but there are plenty of other classes and quite a few will start in Q1 2024 including LEMONpreneur, LEMON for Lovers and Kingdom Economics. Pull a group together, such as your cell group or people from your workplace, and do the classes together.

Podcasts etc.



Brett spoke at various venues during 2023 kicking off with the Christians in Web3 Summit at Oral Roberts University, Tulsa OK. We left the next day for 2.5 months in Africa.



We continued with podcasts in 2023 and did our 200th podcast in December 2023 on the topic of Households. Our usual pattern is to post two Marketplace Minutes and one Leadership Minute each week.

Transforming Society Venture

We decided to work alongside the cohorts from the previous year's training who were starting practical projects that emanated from the training. We met most months and began plans for a Venture in March, 2023.

We spoke to church, business and social sector leaders, preached and shared testimonies in churches, did skills training and helped establish a community garden in Thembaletu.





Rachel O'Connor, Fanus and Lisa Mostert, Celeste and Isaac Petersen, Lindsay Greenway and Lyn and I rounded out the visiting team. You can find more photos and videos in Usapho's report on the Venture on their website: <https://usaphoindlu.org.za/transforming-society-venture-march-2023/>

The Big Weekend, Madagascar

Lyn's Heartistry graduates excelled at hospitality at TBW Madagascar; about 70 people gathered for the weekend in March/April 2023. God did his usual amazing work bringing truth, healing and setting people free! Marlene and Olga from A2A traveled with Lyn and me and the local leaders did a stellar job making the weekend memorable.





United Kingdom Business

We had an amazing time in the UK. After some deliberation we called the weekend “United Kingdom Business” with its many meanings. A paragraph doesn’t do justice to what God did over the weekend. It was relatively low on content and high on connections in the presence of God. The New Barn has some history, the Old Barn down the road being made from the ribs of the Mayflower. We were in Quaker Country meeting on the threshing floor of a tithing barn... so it had to be good!



It was wonderful to have so many rēp alumni: Pete and Kamesh Flynn, Peter and Andrea Ressel, John and Marie Manwell, Andre and Annelize Holtshausen, Peet Pieterse, Rob Schermbrucker, Gerard and Elize Swart and Amy Chanthapavong... and a visit from Asta Siswanto.

Thanks to Andrew and Zara Hobley for hosting and Peter and Kamesh Flynn for planning and preparing. There was quite a South African presence and the US-UK-SA linkages were a theme throughout. The Brits provided the English countryside and organic wine, the South Africans manned the braai... and the Americans wondered why they left the Commonwealth! We have a possible venue for Summer 2024... start saving!



PS: I discovered Zara shares a birthday... almost twins. It was fun celebrating together.

Germany: Creative Kingdom Solutions (CKS)

Jonathan Dubowy is the founder of CKS and has a passion to see business as a transformational force in German-speaking parts of Europe. Jonathan completed the rēp training in 2023 and invited us to speak at an event in Mannheim (where the bicycle was invented). We had a great time sharing about rēp, kingdom marriage and more. We were also interviewed for a couple of podcasts.



We hope to be back in 2024 for a weekend session and look forward to partnering further.



Core rēp Training

Rachel O'Connor has filled the Training Coordinator shoes well in 2023. One of her key focuses had been streamlining the training as she re-hosts it on a different software platform. We continue work going back 10 years to make the training more accessible and easier to manage without losing the impact. Both the Transforming Society and rēp Training have more of a cohort-based feel, more self-study and an attempt to foster community.

My theology of work was re-done, it was so wonderful and refreshing to see that work is GOOD... It showed me how Christ can be at the centre of it all, even in work and business' - Theuns Alberts, South Africa

The training far exceeded my expectations. I found it to be focused and very practical. The first big paradigm shift was the realization that business isn't just a tool to fund Kingdom advancement but is actually an arena for Kingdom advancement...I'm also grateful to be able to approach business now with fresh thinking and a greater sense of fulfillment in the workplace. – Moipone Lopang, Botswana

The Institute created a community of people who, just by listening to them, encourages you to dream again, inspires you to be creative and equips you to make it happen. The golden thread of Brett's knowledge and wisdom that is taught goes far and wide. It is a blessing I never knew I needed. And this life has significantly changed because of it. – Kirsty Knott, Cape Town

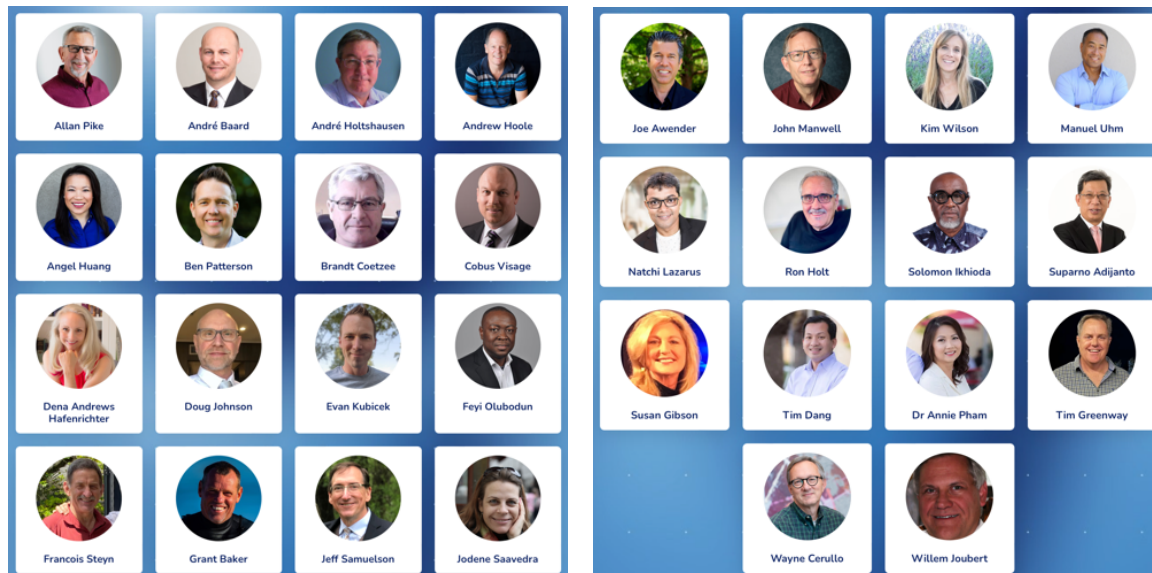
"I thought 'calling' was for Church ministers only. Now, whenever I'm at work I'm fully convinced that business is a ministry and a calling for furthering God's Kingdom. I am empowered." – Nyasha Mutetwa, Zimbabwe

We have added an introductory class. Why? There are truths that should be “self evident” but they are not. So, we created an easy way for those new to work-faith practicalities to get their feet wet.

If you haven't checked out the new layout of the website, please do so.

rēp Fellows

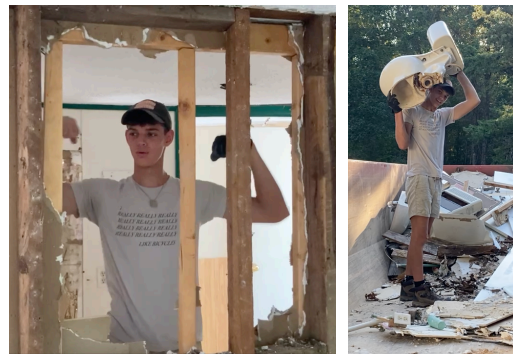
Thanks again to all who have stepped into the role of rēp Fellows—your life stories are the highlight of the training each week. <https://www.brettjohnson.biz/rēp-fellows>



A shout out to Melissa Lo and Izak de Wet for using the rēp Training to mentor people in their businesses... a great way to make disciples. Imagine your colleagues going through training and you having coffee with them afterwards to figure out how to practice the principles in your workplace.

At Home with Heartistry

Lyn's passion for creating prepared places continues. In 2023 we finished the Farmhouse. While much of training now happens online, having an expanding place creates the possibility of groups gathering at Paradise Meadows. We did a TON of work in 2023 and much of it would not have been possible without Jean le Roux, son of Centurion/Melkbos rēp-ees. Jean came to stay for nearly five months and it was wonderful having him. He did the least favorite jobs with the greatest joy! He not only has character but many new skills involving 21 new tools.



Check out <http://paradisemeadows.place>

Bizcipleship

We continued bi-weekly meetings with execs from various nations. They have become a source of encouragement, fellowship and wisdom for each other. We look forward to some fresh faces in this group in 2023.



Kingdom Economics

We had sporadic meetings with the class of 2021 who encourage and pray for each other. We are running another class in 2024. The need remains great. Involved in financial services, investment advising, investing? Bring a group to the class with you.

The Kingdom Summit

We held our 10th Kingdom Summit in Lagos (with over 2,000 joining online for some of the sessions.) Things kick off on Friday with us judging the finalists of the Goshen Impact Fund. This year we had about 475 applicants. The Top 10 businesses were inspiring. Then the plenaries and panels were once again inspiring. It is my delight to partner with Ben Akabueze, Goke Akinrinmade and the TKC/Oasis team once again.



LEMONpreneur

We launched a new LEMONpreneur class in January 2022 We will have our second class starting January 25th, 2024. You should have received quite a few emails about this or seen it on our social media. ACTION: This is a good way to give people you know a light introduction to things rēp – why not sponsor someone or join them in the class? <https://www.brettjohnson.biz/lemonpreneur>

The Power of Households

As I reflect on the last twenty years one of the key constructs that has unlocked the hearts of business leaders towards their teams, customers, suppliers and more is “Households.” In a podcast in the week of December 11 I discussed this with the CEO of an I.T. company. He had asked me, “Have you told anyone else about households?” wondering why he had not heard it before. That’s partly what prompted me to write a book unpacking the topic.

My goal is not just to awaken CEOs to their sphere of influence but to see a Household-to-Household missions movement as business-based churches plant business-based churches.



Transforming Society fund: A reminder, especially to our South Africans

In 2020, Andrew Hoole, Kirsty Knott, and Gary Janeke become the first directors of a new non-profit corporation (NPC), Transforming Society Fund. Peet Pieterse is the auditor and Johann de Klerk the investment manager. This team created a rēp “Stokvel”-type fund to support people going on Ventures and the expansion of the [Repurposing Business—Transforming Society](#) work. This co-op style savings scheme, administered by a professional fund manager, enables a wide group of rēp alumni to save / invest for future Ventures. It is aimed mainly at South Africans to sow seeds into future ventures and trainings, but we welcome contributions from other nations. Please reach out to Andrew if you have questions: andrewho@netactive.co.za We encourage those who have been impacted by rēp to make contributions on a routine or occasional basis:

Transforming Society Fund NPC
ABSA bank: 4105162967
Branch code: 632005
SWIFT code: ABSAZAJJ

We have more alumni in South Africa than anywhere else. The Transforming Society Fund should be growing accordingly.

Passing of another legend

Larry Wiens was core to our Jakarta 2006 Venture led by Bob Norsworthy. Wayne and Chris Cerullo visited Larry and Esther about a month ago and passed on greetings from the rēp Community. Larry battled brain cancer yet passed away graciously, his humor intact and his faith strong.



Bob and I reminisced about Larry and his impact before Bob shared at Larry's memorial service on December 10. Back in 2006, Larry's client, Topa, was falsely accused and landed in prison. Larry kept in contact with Topa throughout the ordeal. We prayed Topa would be released but eventually we received a message from him. "Stop praying that I will be released from prison. I now have a church in the prison and have built a church building in the prison courtyard." Topa also petitioned for pastors to visit prisoners, not just Imams. Bob actually found Topa's client presentation from way back and was able to tie his stories to the Venture deliverable!

20 Year Celebrations

Time flies when you're having fun! We loved gathering with our community in Cape Town, California and Tennessee during the course of the year. We as a community are rich in friends and co-laborers.





Huge thank you and glimpse into our Finances/Profit P

There are a few handfuls of people who contribute financially in support of the work that is done. It is very helpful to have financial underwriting for travel, events and special projects especially when we go into new nations, take teams on Ventures and host community-related events. The focus is always on advancing the kingdom of God.

Second, training is done through The Institute since we attempt to be a business reaching businesspeople; this is good missiology 101. In plain English, we eat our own dogfood. That said, training is not profitable at our present volumes of trainees. The same DNA that is in the rēp training is in all our trainings from LEMON Leadership, LEMONpreneur, Kingdom Economics, Transforming Society, rēStart, etc. etc. You can help by actively encouraging others to take a class or, better yet, bring them with you. By following us on LinkedIn, for example, and sharing the content we put out each week... perhaps it will help. Like, repost, share, comment.

Third, when it comes to Lyn and me, we try to pay our own way through work with leadership teams and business consulting. We have never drawn an income from Vine—nor do any of the board members for that matter. So, if your company invests in leadership development or could benefit from strategy consulting around Purpose, Foundational Principles or Impact... or if your organization could benefit from LEMON Leadership assessments and workshops, please contact me. To be sustained, the work we do for the rēp Community (an organic group, I know) means our remaining time needs to be deployed gainfully.

Fourth, we do have a travel account with the 501c3, Vine Associates, and this enables us to do some of the things you see in this report. I believe the work we do together is “good seed” in “good soil” that produces a good harvest. If you agree, why not ask God how you can contribute to the coffers that will provide the flexibility to expand into new cities and nations? We don’t mind if you support the General Fund or our travel fund; both are useful.

Finally... alumni have asked me if we have models in place to allow them to share the increase they have had in their businesses by applying rēp principles. The answer is... probably, but we don’t want to decide the best way for you, but with you. If you would like to hop on a private (non-Zoom zoomish call) with fellow rēp Alumni, please let us know by signing up here: <https://www.brettjohnson.biz/offers/uaTiLtni> The call is on January 8th at 12:30 Eastern or 19:30 SA.

A final PS on the subject of generosity (a Kingdom KPI): If you are in Africa and want to give, rather make contributions to the Transforming Society Fund, the Non-Profit Corporation in South Africa. Your Rands, Naira, Pounds, Ariary or whatever will go further there. Since a vehicle has been created, why not pull the trigger and make this part of your generous living strategy.

Transforming Society Fund NPC, ABSA bank: 4105162967, Branch code: 632005

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With love and appreciation,



Brett & Lyn Johnson

December, 2023