



NEWS



January-February 2019

Dear Christ Community Wesleyan Family,

Well, we were hampered by weather two weeks ago, and knocked out on January 20th! Let's rally back into action and get your gang here for a great time in the various age level programs and Pastor Dave will finally get to start the short series on, "Spiritual Intelligence!" See you at church. So, what a start to 2019! It is just good to be here to experience it...right?

Enjoy reading about how your church works and how you can help!

Stretching Our Borders

You know that we have a pre-school, now with a first time Board of Directors. Their job is to work on encouraging and challenging the staff to be the very best one of our kind in the area, and to push the envelope on what "Development" means as a Christian entity. They are accountable to our church board. The members of this inaugural Preschool/Daycare Board are: Shelly Daniels, Montana Legg, Katie Holdcroft, Amiee Francis, and Pastor Dave Holdren.

Oh, yeah, back to stretching our borders

We are looking into launching an experiment, called Summer Camp. It is a child care service that would function during some part of the summer, as a service to all those in Athens and Vinton Counties who have their kids in school during the year, but need help in the summers. We would likely take on kids 5-12 yrs. old or so, and the program would be well-structured so it is meaningful and fun for the kids. **WE WILL START LOOKING FOR A DIRECTOR AND STAFF.** Currently Shelly Daniels (our preschool/daycare director) is leading the charge. These will be paid positions, so if you have some background or interest in this kind of role, sign a Communication Card or call the preschool office (740-698-4386) and let us know.

But that is not all

We would love to add a tutoring component to all of the above, as an added value to the community and the church. Got teaching experience? Want to help re-shape a young life with instruction, encouragement and love? Let us know.

Facility Use Policy Now in Place

A great deal of time has been spent by Jim Deardorff, building and facility manager, and the staff and board to arrive at a fair and detailed understanding of use of our facility beyond our own church programs and gatherings. In most cases, there is a modest charge for facility space use. Attendees get special rates. Outside entities pay a bit more, but the cost is still the best deal in the area. Additional uses of our facilities costs the church in custodial time, utilities, wear and tear, so that additional use is now intended to **help cover cost of operation.** We want to be good stewards of what God has allowed us, and you have helped us to have. Details for your use can be obtained at the church office, and will soon be available online.

Thrive Kids' Exciting News!

Have you heard the big news? We are beyond excited to announce Thrive Kids' Special Needs Ministry. Thrive Kids' Special Needs Ministries purpose is to provide support to families with special needs children and break down the barriers for those individuals so they and their families can participate in the community of the church. A few of our mission goals for this ministry include: work with families of children with special needs to establish an individual plan to include the children in our children's ministry, provide an opportunity for children with special needs to learn about God's love in a way that is accessible to them and although it is our desire to meet the needs of every special needs child and their family, there may be circumstances where this is not possible. Please be in prayer for this new ministry.

We want you to know about how your church handles and dispenses the money that we all contribute.



What About the Money at Christ Community?

As you know, we believe in and challenge our people to develop the discipline of percentage giving, called tithing ("a tenth"). This is very new and can be challenging for those who are not used to this part of their Christian life, and not everyone in the household may agree on doing it. HOWEVER, we want you to know about how your church handles and dispenses the money that we all contribute.

1. We have a treasurer, (Matt Gaiser) who is responsible for all financial management and accounts, payment of bills, salaries, missions and all that we do with finances. He manages our money.
2. The treasurer is responsible to report monthly to the church board, providing detailed reports of all financial activities. So, the board is involved in proper management and distribution of funds.
3. A Financial Guidance Committee works with the treasurer and board to develop financial policies and annual budgets.
4. Ushers receive the contributions on Sundays.
5. Multiple counters work together to count the funds each week.
6. Tellers record all contributions of the person giving.
7. All monies are sealed in special deposit bags.
8. Two assigned individuals deposit the funds in the bank and amounts are verified.
9. We annually audit our records.
10. In January a letter of appreciation is sent to you along with a record of your giving for the year just finished.

How is the Money Spent?

More information on this will be in future newsletters, but a couple of quick insights are that...

- A. We give away between 14-17% of our contributions to local, national and international ministries and missions. A high percentage of these funds are directed to Wesleyan projects and workers in the USA and around the world. SO, your church practices what we teach, which is our form of congregational/collective tithing!
- B. This past year, roughly 43% of our income was directed to payroll. This includes all staff, and a continued severance package for Pastor Denver (now retired). Norms for staff payroll for church our size range from 40-55% of the total budget, so we are well within a fair range. Staff payrolls cover every ministry of leadership, pastoral care, all age level programs and staff, preaching, teaching, worship, office and technical help, custodial and facilities/grounds management. There is a TON of territory covered by staff in the service of the church.
- C. The other 40-43% is directed to actual program expenses, outreach, evangelism, discipleship, facility care and debt retirement, educational materials, office equipment and all sound, lighting and technical support systems. We are going to include capital projects savings to help us prepare for major maintenance and development needs in future years.

Outreach/Mission Committee

The Outreach/Mission Committee is comprised of various members of the congregation with a heart and passion to see local, national and international ministries supported, both financially and prayerfully. It is funded by individual donations from the congregation and a portion of the budget from the the Local Board of Administration. They support various forms of mission and ministry such as, CRU (Campus Crusade for Christ), MMS and Seven Baskets. The Barnabas Fund provides financial assistance to those in our community who are in an emergency crisis.