



NEWS



March 2019

Dear CCWC Family,

Well, we have finally gotten a touch of “for real” winter weather! Not all bad, either. Our rolling terrain wears a blanket of white very nicely! This letter will help keep you updated on a few things in process with your church.

The Search for Pastor Next

The search team and your church board are now engaged in an all-out effort to find candidates that could become our next senior pastor. Pastor Dave begged the team to slow down so he could stay as long as possible (not true!).

We need some acts of God as well as the fine teams we have in place, in order to find a choice that we and God agree on to lead us forward. This is not easy. We are a church that, attendance-wise (550-600) is in the top 4-5% of all churches in America. We have staff and a complicated set of programs and systems. We believe that a key criteria is that a candidate have enough past leadership experience to demonstrate success in leading a church in growth and progress in their community.

When members of our church vote on a candidate, our limited exposure to the person is through a sermon on Sunday and possibly a focus group, possibly a personal handshake and brief conversation. Good sermon content and delivery is desired, but the other big part of the picture is leadership ability behind the scenes, during the week as they work with staff, the board and the public working on the myriad of things that create and sustain a healthy congregation. We are looking for a person who is highly competent on weekends and during the week. The behind the scenes skills are the things that a search committee has to research by making lots of call and contacts with those a person has worked with in the past, which is why

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we rely heavily on the combined affirmation of the search committee and the board.

Numerous calls have already been made with many more to come. We have interacted with several that we think would be absolutely dynamic for us, but, alas, they are firmly planted where they are...so far.

If you hear of, or know of, a leader that you think could be considered, and we can secure a resume, we will accommodate such inquires. Presently, we are searching nationwide for candidates. We will keep you posted as to the progress we are making.

Pastor Dave and Marlene are committed to the end of June, unless we find someone sooner. Strangely, Marlene prefers a retired man rather than a working one for a husband at this time in their lives, and she wants it to be Dave...Holdren. Pray for God's person for our next leader. That one is out there.

Athens City Spring Clean— CONNECTING WITH THE COMMUNITY!

The Week of April 22-26, the city of Athens will be cleaning up the community. The Mayor's office has requested that CCWC form teams that would be willing to help with several projects. Be thinking about how you can be a part of this outreach to our community.



**Where
do you
LIVE?**

For the month of March, there will be a county map in the church lobby for you to locate your home and place a pin in the location. If you are from Vinton or Meigs County, we ask that you put a pin in the county name sign.

Teen Stuff

The Middle School L.I.F.E. (main middle school gathering), has moved from Monday evenings to Sunday mornings at 10:15 AM in the second floor mezzanine of the newer addition on the right side of our facilities. They are having a solid group of 20 or more coming together. Got a middle school saint in your gang? Send 'em. Middle Schooler, got friends? Invite 'em.

Winter Jam

The youth group recently attended the big Winter Jam concert, in Cincinnati, on Saturday, February 9. A busload went.



L.I.F.E. youth heading to Winterjam

Big Ski Trip

Coming on March 1-3, and nearly 60 will be headed to West Virginia to melt the slopes in the state we/they call, "Almost Heaven." Maybe three more spaces left to sign up.

Church Finances—Dec.-Feb.

They are always a topic of interest and important to a non-profit organization, like ours. Following are some comparisons to help you see how your church is doing:

	<i>Budget</i>	<i>Actual</i>	<i>Variance</i>
Dec.	\$80,000	\$102,251	+\$22,251
Jan.	\$80,000	\$70,288	-\$9,712
Feb.	\$80,000	\$74,946	-\$5,054
	<hr/> \$240,000	<hr/> \$247,485	<hr/> +\$7,485

As you can see, December helped carry us a bit, so we need a 10-15% bump up in the other months. Thanks for helping!

We have begun making available a series of brochures on systematic giving (tithing) and some of the struggles that prevent us from doing it. Each one will first appear in your worship folder. Extra copies can be picked up at the Welcome Center for your reading convenience.

Missions at CCWC

With funds from the Barnabas Fund, CCWC was able to build a ramp for a member of our congregation who has recently lost a leg. Thanks to Bob Antle, Bill Irwin, and Lane Hoisinton for their help with this project.



EASTER
— HE IS RISEN —

April 19
Good Friday 7:00 PM

April 21
Easter Sunday 8:30 AM
10:00 AM
11:30 AM

We will not be having a Sunrise Service or breakfast this year. All three services are the same and will be dynamic and you don't want to miss "crossing the bridge." Begin reaching out to invite others to join us!