

DECEMBER 2017

A Monthly Publication

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From the Pastor's Desk

Sharing out of Abundance

Dear Community Church,
As we come into Thanksgiving, I want to say that I am thankful for being rich - super-rich, I mean I'm obscenely rich. You may not have known that about me. That's because I hide it well. I hide it in the camouflage of a lot of other super-rich people that I hang around with. As a matter of fact, compared to some of them, I seem poor.

No, I didn't get an inheritance from a rich relative. I didn't win the lottery either. And before you start to judge me, odds are pretty good that you are filthy rich, too! According to the World Bank, it turns out that if your family income is \$10,000 per year, you are wealthier than 84% of the

people of the world. If your household makes more than \$50,000 annually you are in the top 2%. I would say that makes us rich – probably obscenely rich!

That puts things in perspective. It is so easy to look at our closest neighbors, make a comparison and feel like we come up short. The truth is, if we look at our global neighbors, we have it made, financially.

I hope you can take just that one aspect of your life and let it turn you to God with thanksgiving and praise for His provision. Add to that family, friends, shelter, heat, clothing, lack of persecution, vehicles, clean water, sewer, medical care – maybe even health, a good job and some prospect of retirement and we should be overflowing with thankfulness. And we haven't even gotten to the good stuff yet! When we add to all that the fact that God loves us, forgives us, saved us, gave us His Word, is patient with us, listens to our prayers and has invited us into his global mission – well then we should be beyond all comprehension of thankfulness!

As you enjoy a day of Thanksgiving and look forward to a month of preparation for Christmas, I hope you can see the great hand of God through His provision in your life. I pray that you can appreciate what you have been given and see how much it is, in light of the rest of the world. I would ask you to consider sharing some of the incredible blessings you have been given by your heavenly Father with those in need.

Make a commitment to share generously this Christmas. Look for the opportunities God will bring your way to share financially, with tangible goods, through fellowship and encouragement and certainly spiritually. The holidays can be a great time to share the gospel with family and friends. That's really what Christmas is all about!

Happy Thanksgiving and May your heart be fully prepared to celebrate Christmas to the Glory of God,

Pastor Wade



Financial Information

January-October 2017

Total Giving:

\$111,700 (total General offerings) vs.
\$110,000 (total Budget is 11,000/month)

Pledge Giving:

\$86,700 (total given by those making pledges)
vs. **\$82,000** (total pledged YTD, \$8,200 per month)

Budget vs. Actual Expenses:

January 1st cash balance \$12,300
YTD general offerings \$111,700
YTD total expenses \$106,200
October 31 cash balance \$17,800

Account	Budget	Actual
Payroll	\$75,352.50	\$72,333.00
Missions	\$10,294.17	\$9,400.00
Plant & maintenance	\$10,450.00	\$11,000.00
office	\$5,041.67	\$5,400.00
discipleship	\$2,512.50	\$500.00
Property Ins	\$2,166.67	\$2,600.00
Miscellaneous	\$416.67	\$0.00
Fellowship	\$1,666.67	\$815.00
Outreach	\$500.00	-\$500.00
Worship	\$958.33	\$950.00
TOTAL	\$109,359.17	\$102,498.00

Current Maintenance account:

\$0

Current Emergency Fund:

\$7,200.00

Current Building account:

\$25,400.00

This is a summary to keep you informed. If you would like to discuss this in more detail, contact Corey Olson or Wade Hetrick

Dates to get on your calendar!

Sunday, December 3: Annual Meeting immediately following worship service. This meeting has taken less than one hour each of the past several years. Review and vote on the 2018 budget as well as any leadership positions that are up for a vote. Ballots & Budgets available to pre-view.

If you have any questions, please talk to one of our elders: Kevin Sonntag, Todd Matulle or Wade Hetrick BEFORE the meeting.

Saturday, December 9: Christmas Dinner at church; 5:30pm. Please sign up if you plan to join us for dinner. Also note if you would like to host/decorate a table. Contact Annette for more information.





Monthly Men's "Breakfast with a Purpose"!

Women's Events!

LIFT: (Ladies in Faith Together) group will meet for a time of Communion, fellowship, prayer, and devotional on Monday December 11th at 5:30pm at Community Church.

Save the date: Women's Retreat! Friday, April 20 - Saturday, April 21, 2018

Free Christmas Card Delivery!

Following Thanksgiving, there will be a box in the foyer for Christmas cards. One side is "drop off" and the other side is divided alphabetically.

Bring in all your cards for your church family and put them in the drop-off side. They will be sorted by last name for pick up!



Please check the box each week and take home cards that have been left for you.

We will take the months of November and December off and resume in January. Contact Greg Maxey (gmaxey52@gmail.com; 205-3495) for more information.

Library Note:

The church library is no longer taking book donations.



You may still donate devotionals, which can be placed directly in the devotional basket.

If you have any questions about our library, or would like to help with it, please contact Vickie Hoffmann.