

JANUARY 2018

A Monthly Publication

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From the Pastor's Desk

Is There Oil in Your Lamp?

On a walk one morning, we came across this large, very old church. Around the main entry was a very ornate representation of the parable of the 10 virgins from Matthew



25:1-13. You may remember the story, if not, it is worth a read. A thumbnail version is that 10 virgins, presumably

bridesmaids, went out with their lamps/torches to meet the bridegroom. The 5 foolish ones took only their lamps, but no oil with them. The 5 wise ones took extra oil along with their lamps. The groom was delayed and the virgins all became drowsy and fell asleep.

When the groom finally arrived, the ones who did not bring oil begged the wise ones for more oil from their containers. Of course, they were

denied and sent off to purchase more oil for themselves and the night did not end well for them. You should read the rest of the text for yourself.

There is some disagreement about the exact meaning of this parable, but certainly, the moral of the story is to be prepared for the return of Christ as he may come when we least expect it. There will not be time for preparation once he arrives.

The thing that hit me about this particular representation of this parable is the fact that the building sits mostly empty. It appears that the offices are used for various purposes and the church supposedly has services, but by and large it is no



longer used to the level of its original intent or capacity.

It was a stark reminder that if we do not fulfill our directive to "go and

make disciples" not only will there be few "wise virgins" with oil in their lamps, there may be little to no



church at all when our Bridegroom, Christ, arrives.

I hope you will join me in my concern for those currently in the church and their preparedness for the return of Christ, but also for those outside of the church who do not yet know Him. It is my prayer that in 2018, we will take seriously the call to disciple believers and evangelize the lost. Outside of loving our heavenly Father, these are 2 of the most important things we can invest our time in.

Thank you for the financial Christmas gift and time for us to spend with our family!
Merry Christmas,
Love, Pastor Wade & Annette



Financial Information

January-November 2017

Total Giving:

\$120,700 (total General offerings) vs.
\$121,000 (total Budget is 11,000/month)

Pledge Giving:

\$94,000 (total given by those
making pledges)
vs. **\$90,200** (total pledged YTD,
\$8,200 per month)

Budget vs. Actual Expenses:

January 1st cash balance \$12,300

YTD general offerings \$120,700

YTD total expenses \$122,300

November 30 cash balance \$10,700

| Account | Budget | Actual |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Payroll | \$82,887.75 | \$82,000.00 |
| Missions | \$11,323.58 | \$15,000.00 |
| Plant & maintenance | \$11,495.00 | \$11,600.00 |
| office | \$5,545.83 | \$5,700.00 |
| discipleship | \$2,763.75 | \$550.00 |
| Property Ins | \$2,383.33 | \$2,600.00 |
| Miscellaneous | \$458.33 | \$0.00 |
| Fellowship | \$1,666.67 | \$1,250.00 |
| Outreach | \$550.00 | \$0.00 |
| Worship | \$1,054.17 | \$950.00 |
| TOTAL | \$120,128.42 | \$119,650.00 |

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

Please Pick up Your Cards!

Please check the box in the church foyer and take home cards that have been left for you.

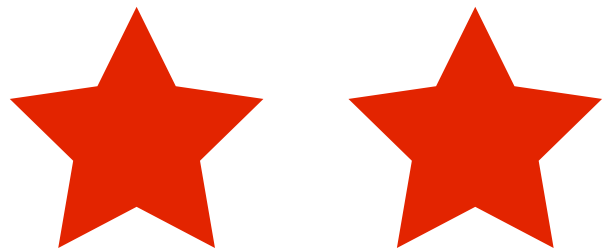


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Thanks to Julie Seeto 11-14-2002

WHY DON'T YOU STOP WONDERING WHAT'S WRONG WITH THE WORLD AND READ THE MANUAL



Please watch your mail in early January for 2017 Giving Statements. If you don't receive yours by the end of January, please contact the church office.



Women's Events!

EXCITING OPPORTUNITY FOR LADIES!

IF GATHERING 2018

Join other women from the Fox Cities at Pathways Church (311 W. Evergreen Dr, Appleton) on **Friday, February 9, from 5:30-9PM, and Saturday, February 10, from 8:30AM-5PM for the IF Gathering! Come for part or all ... whenever you're available.** IF is an annual, two day gathering of women in Austin, Texas, and simulcast all across the world in local homes, churches, and communities. Tens of thousands of women worldwide will collectively come together and hold one thing in common: they want to live like God is real.

IF:Gathering exists to gather, equip, and unleash this generation of women to live out their calling. The non-profit was born out of a God-given vision from Jennie Allen, the author of *Restless* and *Nothing to Prove*. Allen founded a global community out of the desire to gather this generation of women by creating a pure, honest space to wrestle with the essential question: IF God is real, THEN what? In its first four years, IF:Gathering has reached more than 1.2 million women in more than 120 countries. IF:Gathering is coming alongside women around the world, fostering relationships, and utilizing women's God-given gifts to not only transform hearts but also leave a tangible impact on the entire world.

There is no cost to this event. A boxed lunch will be provided Saturday, along with hot beverage options and a few snacks. Come as you are! Invite friends, family, and neighbors!

Community Church's Women's Ministry has offered to help with this gathering by providing baked goods for Saturday's breakfast (by 8:15 am) and by helping with clean-up on Saturday evening (5:00 pm). There will be a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board.

Please register online by going to this link and scrolling to the bottom for the registration section: <https://pathwayschurch.us/event-calendar/2018/2/9/if-gathering> OR by contacting Betsy Rozelle at brozelle@new.rr.com or 920-540-4109.

LIFT: (Ladies in Faith Together) group will meet for a time of Communion, fellowship, prayer, and devotional on Monday, January 8th at 5:30pm at Church.

All women: check out the Men's Breakfast and sign up to be waited on!! Saturday, January 13th.

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



Monthly Men's "Breakfast with a Twist"!

To start the new year - the men will be serving breakfast to all the women of Community Church!

Saturday, January 13th at 8AM. Sign up on the bulletin board if you plan to attend. Contact Greg Maxey (gmaxey52@gmail.com; 205-3495) for more information.

Ready to get more involved at church in the new year?

| | |
|----------------------------------|---------------|
| For more information about | Contact |
| Host,usher,greeter,snacks | Gardiniers |
| Sound Board | Fran Liesch |
| Power Point | Brenda Haase |
| Worship Team | Deb Sonntag |
| Mens Ministry | Greg Maxey |
| Womens Ministry | Betsy Rozelle |