

ANNUAL REPORT



CEDAR HILLS
COMMUNITY CHURCH

November 2024

You Are Welcome Here

One of our core values is hospitality. We aspire to offer a generous welcome to everyone we meet. This is easier said than done.



I recently saw a sign outside a church that said, "Everyone welcome, but only those who will welcome everyone." That's my paraphrase and I'm certain that's not the message they hoped to send but this is how our best efforts at welcome come off sometimes. Feeling welcomed depends, after all, on how the one being welcomed feels about it. Right?

It might be impossible to welcome others without attaching conditions but we are the kind of people who aspire to welcome others unconditionally. In 2024 we moved closer to this aspiration as we practiced welcoming others regardless of background or belief. Are we experts at welcoming? Not yet! We can all grow as we practice offering hospitality and authenticity that leads to forgiveness and restoration for all!



I pray that in 2025 will be the kind of people who can truly say to everyone, "You are welcome here."

Blessings,
Pastor Kent



P. S. Meditate on these two verses:

"Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it."

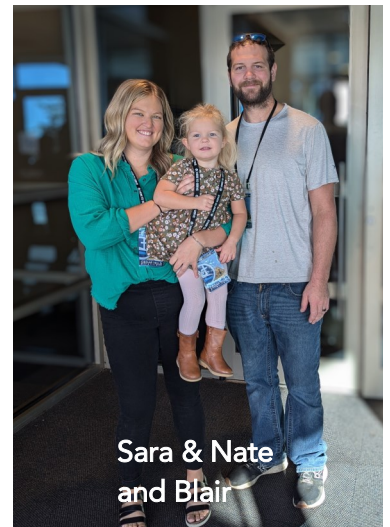
~ Hebrews 13:2

"Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling."

~ 1 Peter 4:9



Steve



Sara & Nate
and Blair

Welcome

What a bright spot to see all the smiles on those serving at the (refreshed) Welcome Desk and at the front doors! What a great way to offer hospitality to guests and regular attendees.



Carol & Shanon





Open Hands Food Pantry Bright Spot

Faithful, hard-working volunteers keep the pantry stocked to serve hundreds of families in need. The pantry is open two days every week, but volunteers work to stock the pantry almost every day!



Worship Ministries

New faces, mixed generations, and growing groups encompassed much of worship ministries this year! Our youth have really begun to find their place among the worship teams, especially learning new instruments and training on the tech team.

Sunday Class Kids

Each week teachers offer a smile and a happy greeting to show hospitality to our elementary students as they enter their Sunday classrooms, eager to learn another 'big idea' about the Bible and how it changes our lives. A bright spot is students offering hospitality to teachers and one another by welcoming new routines and classmates. Each lesson presents opportunities to be hospitable serving snacks, sharing while building a 'temple,' or boldly praying aloud for a friend.



Noah's Ark Preschool

Director: Kris Crowther

Noah's Ark Preschool is celebrating its 55th year, We are enjoying a few more students this year than last year, but have reduced our staff from five to four. Our school is licensed by the State of Iowa and we have full classes at ratio. Noah's Ark is very fortunate to be a partner/mission of the church. We always try and do our best to respect the space by keeping our rooms clean and in good repair. Thank you to everyone who helps support our school's mission of spreading God's love to all the "littles" in our community.



Kris Crowther,
Director & Lunch
Bunch Lead
Katie Curtis, Lead
Teacher, 4s
Melissa Eiselstein,
Lead MWF, 3s

Katie Crespo, Lead T/Th, 3s and Assistant MWF, 4s



Orange Day!



2024-2025 Board Members

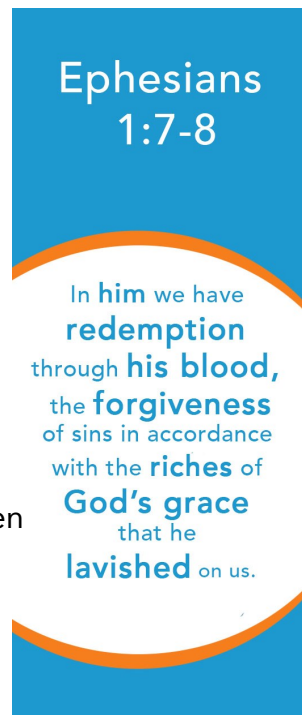


Annual Budget Summary	2024	2025	% Change	Change
TOTAL BUDGET	\$969,006	\$885,033	-8.7%	(\$83,973)
ANNUAL BUDGET	2024	2025	% Change	Difference
STAFF TOTAL	\$538,288	\$558,200	3.7 %	\$19,912
PHYSICAL PLANT TOTAL	\$214,261	\$99,836	-53.4 %	(\$114,425)
RCA (2023)/ALLIANCE ASSESSMENT	\$30,000	\$0	-100.0 %	(\$30,000)
MINISTRY TEAM TOTAL	\$186,457	\$226,997	21.7 %	\$40,540
TOTAL	\$969,006	\$885,033	-8.7%	(\$83,973)

- Total Missions Budget included in Ministry Team Total is \$69,500. The Open Hands Food Pantry—2025 anticipated designated giving is \$30,000.
- Our goal for total mission giving is 10% of our budget!
- The decrease represents savings from paying off the mortgage.
- The largest increase was the cost of insurance.
- Staff members received 4% cost of living increases.
- Every gift matters and we appreciate your generosity!

Cedar Hills Missions

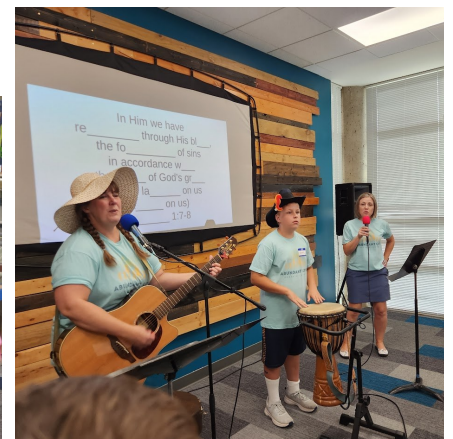
- Open Hands Food Pantry
- Bridgehaven
- Beth Larson, Brno, in Czech Republic
- Campus Crusade for Christ - Katie Smith
- Lake View Camps
- Frontiers, Macedonia
- Indiana YFC-Abbi Lackey
- Power of Women and Children
- Geneva Campus Ministries - Brett Erickson
- RCA Words of Hope - Radio Ministry
- RCA Foreign Ministry - Blaine Newhouse in Bahrain
- Salvation Army - Local Needs
- Serve the City - Care Network
- Guatemala Mission Trip
- Days for Girls
- Matthew 25
- Benevolence/Gap Ministries
- Alliance Mission Shares



Cedar Camp

God's Abundant Love for us was demonstrated over and over throughout Cedar Camp. For three

nights, 11 adults taught over 50 children and their adult mentors a new skill. Mentors and mentees read about God's good plan for salvation for us through His Son and laughed their way through nightly games. A bright spot for the planning team was witnessing Cedar Hills' hospitality shown through active involvement that far exceeded 2023.



Cedar Hills Consistory

2024 Deacons

Bruce Boldt Melanie Boots
 Justina Conrad Carol Davison
 Amy Geiger Beth Larson
 Ken Palmersheim (retiring 2024)
 Andy Welk

2024 Elders

Beth Brown Alan Crandall
 Randy Fox Dan Hakken
 Brian Hintermeister Kent Landhuis, President
 Joanne Lodge Gary Mills
 Steve Poole Diane Potter
 Paula Stevens Frankline Tshombe

2025 Deacon Nominees

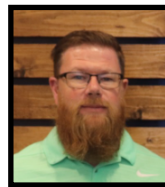


Matt Johnson



Sonya Schneekloth

2025 Elder Nominees



Gabe Dorrell



Gary Sager

Youth Ministries

New faces! Recognize anyone? Hopefully you recognize some of the teenagers in your life in these pictures, possibly your Pray4Me student. There are also many teens in these pictures you may not recognize because they don't regularly attend our church (yet), but they come to youth group where they hear and experience the Gospel because their friends invite them. Our youth are very welcoming and intentional about inviting their friends, especially to events like the ones pictured here.

