





*A letter
from our
Lead Pastor*

BRANNON MARSHALL

I'm writing this letter under a graying September sky.

The weather's changing. And we're (finally) getting some rain.

This month has once again stoked the smoldering embers of our cultural fire.

But upon closer inspection, I'm comforted by the idea that our times are not that unique:

The Old Testament prophet Jeremiah (who lived in 7th century BC) probably would've felt oddly at home in 2025. His world was a lot like ours: political and social instability. No one knew what was going on. God's people had real questions. Questions like: "Who should we listen to?" "Who can we trust?" "What should we do?" The once united nation had become a house divided—on the brink of implosion. Enemies were waiting in the wings like vultures circling a dying thing. It wasn't a pretty picture.

Into that disorienting space, God's word comes with stunning clarity:

"Go stand at the crossroads and look around.

Ask for directions to the old road,

The tried-and-true road. Then take it.

Discover the right route for your souls." (Jeremiah 6:16, MSG)

What is this "old road"?

What is this "tried-and-true way"?

The "old road" is the life of faithfulness and kindness, long-ago established by God, and practiced by our spiritual ancestors—those who've walked this road before. Walking this road reorients us, reminds us of truth, gives us direction, grounds us in the ways of God, and sets our vision as each step reveals the next one. This long obedience in the same direction is the way of the kingdom because it's the way of our King.

I am so proud of you, church:

In a time of turmoil, you're choosing peace.

In an age of division, you're choosing unity.

In an era of competition, you're choosing to be servants.

When others have chosen anger, I've seen you choose love.

When others have leveraged fear, I've seen you step out in faith.

When others follow the powers of the age, I've seen you follow the way of the King.

As new roads open up in front of us (and there are plenty just around the bend for 2026!), let's stay mindful that going forward means rediscovering the tried-and-true ways of our King. I'm so very thankful to walk this road with you :)

Warmly,

Pastor Brannon





WORSHIP & PRODUCTION

2026 for the NCC Worship Teams will be a year of refocusing and refining. As we pray through what it means to make much of Jesus through the songs we sing and in the spaces in which we gather – I've (Micah) felt a deep conviction to narrow our focus in order to deepen our impact. We're deepening our focus on spiritual development and training for our team members and training up the next generation of worship leaders in our local body.

Production has seen growth in numerous areas! I (Seth) have added at least five more volunteers to the ranks of video, audio, and presentation operators. They're all capable to do nearly everything that's needed in our spaces. More youth are involved, as well, bringing our total amount of tech volunteers to nearly 20, across all spaces. Major upgrades have occurred in many spaces including new cameras for broadcast, new computers that enabled more reliable and higher quality functionality for gatherings and events, as well as other items that helped our spaces function with safety and excellence.



WAYS TO PRAY

Pray that our team would run deeper with Jesus and in understanding the scriptures more than we ever have. Pray that our congregation would be encouraged by the theology we sing. Pray that our team would grow in number and in depth. Pray for worship leaders to rise up in our student ministry and for the Spirit of God to lead us into all wisdom and understanding as we seek to make much of Jesus.



Pastor and author John Piper once wrote, "A congregation learns its theology by the songs they sing, not just by the preaching they hear."



The apostle Paul reminds the church in Colossians 3:16 that "psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs" are one of the ways we best build each other up in Christ.



As our NCC Worship Team (Band / Choir / Production) has grown this year, it's been our heart to carry the lyrics of the songs we sing even more than presenting the songs in a musically excellent way. It's always an honor to steward the spaces we inhabit for the glory of God. Our team always strives to create distraction-free spaces where our congregation can freely worship God together.



Recently, I began asking some of our team members and congregants: "What do you believe are the anchor songs of our church? Not just songs we like, but songs that resonate deeply among us?" I compiled a list of those songs and of the twenty core songs all but 4 of them were deeply Christological in nature. Their key lyrical focus was to make much of Jesus.

That is the greatest thing we are celebrating as a worship team, that our people consistently love to sing to Jesus together. We are passionate about making much of Him in the spaces He has entrusted to us. My prayer is we continue to do that "until He returns or calls us home".

-



GROUP LIFE

As we step into 2026, we do so with a spirit of expectancy, believing that God will continue the work He began among us last year. 2025 was a year of laying foundations across many groups at NCC, and now we sense the Lord calling us to build upon that momentum. We envision a year where our church presses forward with renewed passion for the Great Commission—seeking gospel fruit, multiplying disciples, and bringing greater glory to God. Together, we are trusting Him to do immeasurably more than we could ask or imagine in the year ahead.

- 4 new community groups formed and launched in 2025.
- NCC Foundations class was launched, with 58 attending the first sessions.
- The College/ Young Adult group continues to grow in community and mission.
- 55+ group has grown and continues to be a catalyst for community, spiritual growth, as well as mission.

WAYS TO PRAY

- *For God to stir hearts of future leaders and teachers.*
- *That groups at NCC would continue to grow in gospel-centered ways through learning His Word.*
- *Our prayer is that the people of NCC will not only be transformed by Jesus, but will radiate His love and truth, becoming a powerful gospel light to everyone they encounter—at home, at work, and in every corner of their communities.*



WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Around 140 women are currently involved in fall Bible studies, which is an amazing glimpse of how God is at work in our church body! While we love looking at numbers like these growing and how they reflect community and connection, the real story is told in conversations over text threads and cups of coffee, deepening faith during times of trial, and a feeling of having sisters who see, understand, and point one another to Jesus.

As we look ahead to 2026, we are looking forward to more opportunities to connect and grow – in studies, in service, and in fun! We want to continue to see connections made across generations, as well as opportunities to find and encourage others in a similar life stage.



WAYS TO PRAY

- *Pray for women to be brave and pursue connection and organic relationships outside of scheduled time.*
- *Pray for discernment as we consider the best ways to serve our particular body, and clear leading from the Holy Spirit.*
- *Pray for our women's ministry team to be refreshed and strengthened as many have faced significant changes and challenges this year.*



MEN'S MINISTRY

The Lord has been so gracious to us in everything we have done this year. With anticipation we are looking forward to seeing how and where the Lord will lead us, for men's involvement to increase, and discipleship to grow.

- Attendance at Men's Breakfast continues to grow, from an average of 40 to 50 men last year, to 60 plus this year.
- Live streamed Moody's Men's Walk Worthy Conference, 31 men in attendance.
- Hosted a Top Golf event with 17 in attendance.
- Hosted a fishing trip with 18 in attendance.
- Currently 6 Bible studies, 2 accountability groups, and 2 CLC groups are taking place throughout the week.
- Started The Forge monthly newsletter to inspire and encourage men.
- Hosted the first NCC Car Show.



WAYS TO PRAY

- *Leading from the Holy Spirit for Men's Ministry Team's direction in Kingdom work.*
- *For men to understand the need for Jesus in their lives.*
- *For men to get involved and be convicted to follow Jesus and become strong spiritual leaders for their families and in their communities.*



KIDS

B i r t h t h r u 3 r d

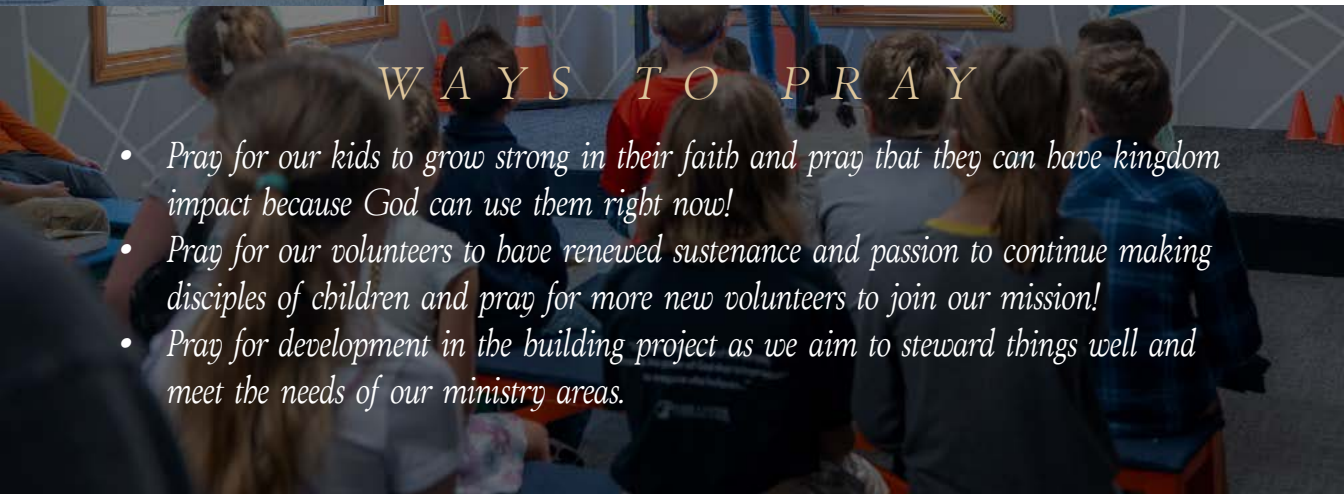


Family Blitz was an incredibly fun and energetic event for families to engage with one another, hear the gospel, and invite our community into the goodness of Jesus. We had over 200 individuals in attendance.



The Family Ministry Volunteer Training provided a space for volunteers to come together to grow in relationship with one another and renew our vision for why we serve and how it has kingdom impact!

We are also celebrating 9 families who took steps to dedicate their children to the Lord.



WAYS TO PRAY

- *Pray for our kids to grow strong in their faith and pray that they can have kingdom impact because God can use them right now!*
- *Pray for our volunteers to have renewed sustenance and passion to continue making disciples of children and pray for more new volunteers to join our mission!*
- *Pray for development in the building project as we aim to steward things well and meet the needs of our ministry areas.*

PRETEEN

4 t h & 5 t h

Over the past year we have seen preteens get more connected and invested in their ministry! They are growing in their faith and multiple preteens were baptized. We continue to have well attended connect events and preteens are bringing friends! We are outgrowing our space, which is a wonderful problem to have!

We are very excited for the return of SummerBlast and are looking forward to finding new ways to reach our community with it! Preteens will continue to have opportunities to grow their own faith and to connect with NCC as their church home.

WAYS TO PRAY

Preteens will go away for the weekend in March to attend SuperStart! Pray for their hearts to be open to what God has for them that weekend. Pray for SummerBlast as we open our doors for hundreds of kids to hear the amazing news of Jesus!



MIDDLE SCHOOL

What a year! The North Canton Chapel Middle School Ministry has been all about helping our students grow in their relationship with Jesus and grow in desire to bring their friends to meet Jesus. We kicked things off with our awesome student conference, Amplify, and it was a packed house! Praise God: one-third of everyone there were visitors! Then we headed to Indiana for MIX Camp, which was huge for teaching our students what it means to be real Kingdom Workers for Jesus. We kept the party going all summer long with fun ways to invite friends, like our Boettler Park picnics and the crazy Dive-In swim parties, showing everyone how much fun we have and how much we genuinely care for each other as part of God's family.

We're so pumped about what's coming up next! We're finishing the year strong with three huge events: our "Into the Wild" student retreat, Friendsgiving, and our epic Christmas party. Our biggest prayer right now is for our students to have total boldness to share the gospel with their friends and people they know at school and in their activities. Plus, get ready to help us bless the world! We're launching a new campaign to raise money for another water well in Zimbabwe next year. Thanks for praying for our middle schoolers as they step out and change the world for Christ!



WAYS TO PRAY

- *Pray for our students to have total boldness to share the gospel with their friends and people they know at school and in their activities.*



HIGH SCHOOL

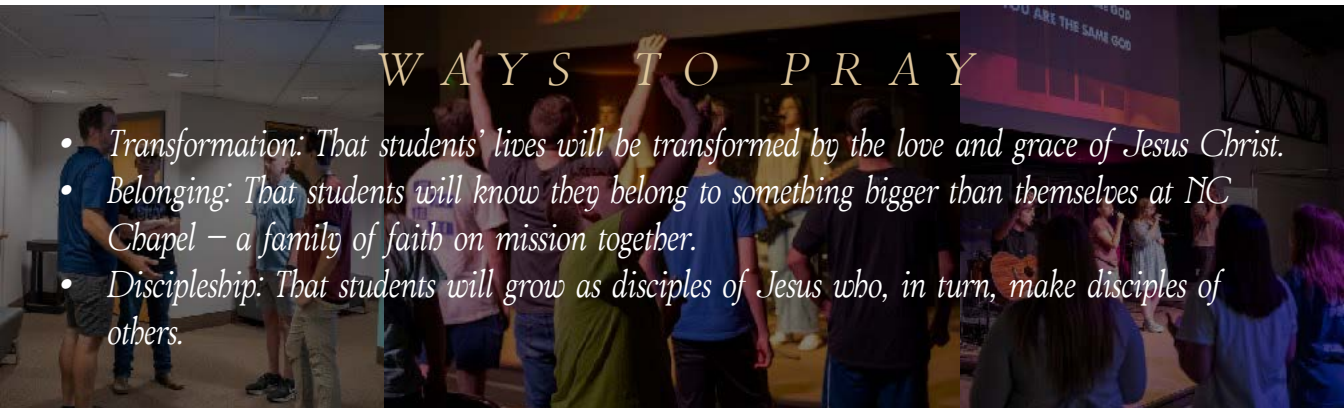
13

Howdy NC Chapel fam, Dustin here! To say that we are stoked to be part of NC Chapel is the understatement of the decade. Holly, our kiddos Grace and Gavin, and I are beyond excited to see what God is about to do in and through this ministry.

Even though we've only been here a short time, I wanted to give you a glimpse into the future as we close out a great year. I truly believe 2026 will be one for the books—not because of anything we can do, but wholly because of what the Spirit of God is already doing.

We are creating spaces for our students to become disciples who make disciples. Spaces where they can learn, grow, and be equipped to live out their faith. We are also creating spaces to invite—where students can experience dynamic worship, biblical teaching, and authentic community.

We want you to join us in praying for the incredible year ahead. Let's believe together that God will transform lives, build His church, and raise up the next generation of disciple-makers here at NCC.



WAYS TO PRAY

- *Transformation: That students' lives will be transformed by the love and grace of Jesus Christ.*
- *Belonging: That students will know they belong to something bigger than themselves at NC Chapel – a family of faith on mission together.*
- *Discipleship: That students will grow as disciples of Jesus who, in turn, make disciples of others.*

MISSIONS

- NCC sent teams to Cuba, Dominican Republic, and Guatemala in 2025.
- NCC has given 10's of thousands of dollars both locally and globally to mission partners for Gospel Kingdom work.
- Over \$72,000 was given during our Christmas Eve and Easter offerings alone.
- NCC hosted the third annual Mobilize Ohio conference with our local partner Hope Bridge.
- God continues to stir hearts at NCC to live missionally in a Matthew 28:19–20 way.



We are so excited to continue the momentum God has given from this year into 2026. NCC will send even more teams to Cuba, Dominican Republic, and Guatemala in 2026. We will be continuing to find ways to impact our community through our local mission partners. As a church we are also looking forward to new ways in which God will open doors for people of NCC to use their time, talents, and treasures.

INTERESTED IN JOINING A 2026 MISSIONS TEAM?
LEARN MORE AT [NCCHAPEL.COM/MISSIONS](https://ncchapel.com/missions)

WAYS TO PRAY

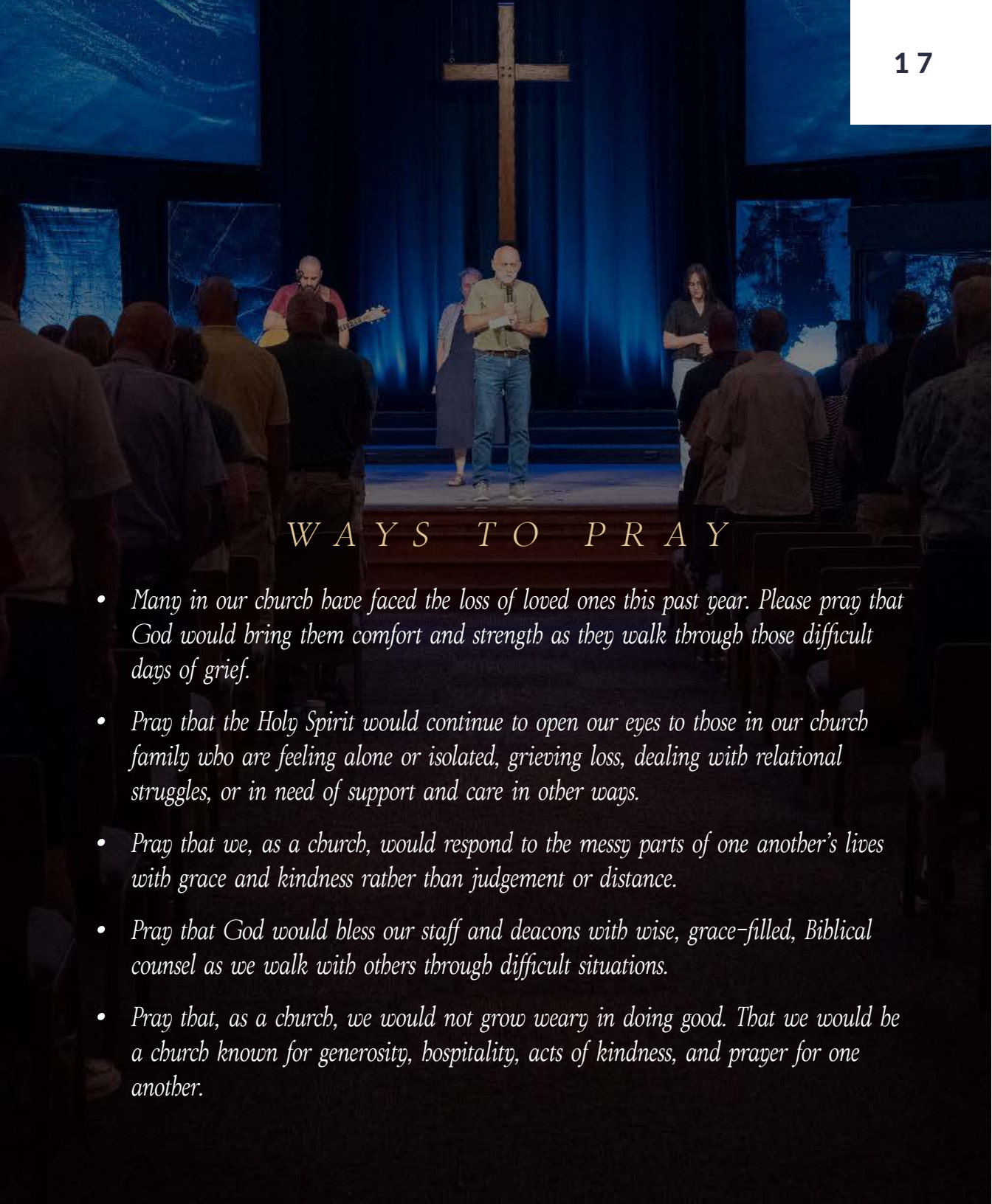
- *That God would stir the hearts of those He is leading to be part of international mission teams.*
- *That our local partners would never lack in the amount of quality volunteers they need to thrive this year.*
- *For each of our local and global partners by name as they pour themselves out for the sake of the gospel.*
- *And pray specifically, how God may be using YOU for His kingdom work here in our community and to the nations.*
- *Lastly, continue to pray that God would use NCC to be a gospel light to our own community and to every tribe, tongue, and nation.*

CARE & COUNSELING

The annual reports for our Care and Counseling ministry can feel pretty repetitive from year to year. That is because the work, in many ways, remains the same, but the people, the needs they experience, and the challenges they are facing are constantly changing. Each year it takes dozens of caring people providing meals, coming alongside one another in prayer, visiting those who are in the hospital or other facilities, helping to provide practical support through acts of service, providing encouragement and counsel to those facing crisis or struggling in relationships, or bringing comfort and support to those walking through grief. Many needs are met through organized ministries like our Meal Ministry, GriefShare, and our deacon ministry, but most needs are met as individuals in our church come alongside one another giving of their time, resources, prayers, and love to support and encourage each other through difficult times.

Whether it be for prayer, encouragement, guidance, or resources to meet material needs, our pastors and deacons are available for you. If you or someone you know is in need of pastoral care or counseling, please call the church office at 330.494.3419 or contact John Mangrum at john@ncchapel.com.





WAYS TO PRAY

- *Many in our church have faced the loss of loved ones this past year. Please pray that God would bring them comfort and strength as they walk through those difficult days of grief.*
- *Pray that the Holy Spirit would continue to open our eyes to those in our church family who are feeling alone or isolated, grieving loss, dealing with relational struggles, or in need of support and care in other ways.*
- *Pray that we, as a church, would respond to the messy parts of one another's lives with grace and kindness rather than judgement or distance.*
- *Pray that God would bless our staff and deacons with wise, grace-filled, Biblical counsel as we walk with others through difficult situations.*
- *Pray that, as a church, we would not grow weary in doing good. That we would be a church known for generosity, hospitality, acts of kindness, and prayer for one another.*

FACILITIES & OPERATIONS

This year may not feature many “headline” initiatives for facilities, but there is much to celebrate in the ongoing care and maintenance of the building God has entrusted to us. While routine and sometimes mundane, this work is essential in keeping our space welcoming and functional for ministry. We are grateful for a fully paid-for facility—a blessing made possible by the faithfulness and generosity of those who came before us and many who continue to give today. So much of what happens here each week—both in ministry and in keeping the building running smoothly—relies on the faithful service of volunteers and staff who support these efforts behind the scenes.

Alongside the routine care of our space, much of our energy this year has been focused on the building expansion project for our children and student ministry areas, now in the design development phase. While some of our initial facilities goals for 2025 remain in progress, we are hopeful to address key HVAC projects this fall as we near the end of the fourth quarter. We have also given special attention to updating our safety and emergency policies, ensuring our facility is as safe as possible while remaining warm and welcoming for all who come through our doors.

WAYS TO PRAY

- *Pray for wisdom and discernment in planning and stewarding our resources.*
- *Pray for guidance and smooth progress on the children's and student ministry expansion project.*
- *Pray for God's provision for maintenance, improvements, and future projects.*
- *Pray that every space would glorify Jesus and advance His Kingdom.*

BOARDS

19

Elder Board

The 3 nominees below completed The Shepherd School in 2025, and are eligible to serve as elders beginning January of 2026.

Jim Fahey, Chuck Hoover, David Rucktaschel

The Elder nominees below would begin The Shepherd School training in January 2026. Upon completion and appointment, they would be eligible to serve on future elder boards, starting at earliest, January of 2027.

Mike Pence, Josh Austin, Dave Griffing, Clay Cuninghame

(Continuing) Bob Roberts, Scott DePriest, Bill Deem, Matt Stanley, John Queen, Jerry Nuzum

(Outgoing) Hank VanHala, Tom Maurer, Gordy Boner

Missions Board

(Candidates) Ron Schumacher, Bettye McCartney

(Continuing) Carol Bagley, Jack Foughty, Lynn Pence, Christine Cunningham, Tory Headley, Amy Zelle,
Linda Kann, Amy Green

(Outgoing) Shelly Schroll, Dottie Rood, Martha Jones

Deacon Board

(Candidates) Dan Farson, Tom Baker, Terry Fair, Jay Hastings, Jesse Scarella, Kyle Stansell, Mike Hepler

(Continuing) J.J. Robertson, Richard Keefe, Todd Tolson, Ryan Headley, Chad Sponseller, Jim Spears, Ron Jones

(Outgoing) David Rucktaschel, Mike Pence, Zach Rambaud, Zach Soehnen, Ben Tippel, Bob Putman, Ed Conroy

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Things to Celebrate from 2025...

- ***Continued Generosity:*** This year, 90 new donors joined our community of 536 total giving partners—an incredible sign of God’s provision through His people! Thank you for helping us keep the mission front and center: to make much of Jesus, every day, to everyone.
- ***Rising to the challenge:*** Our giving is currently about \$79,000 (4.9%) ahead of this time last year—which was already the strongest year in NCC’s history! That means we’re on track for another record-setting year of generosity and ministry impact.
- ***Giving that makes a Difference:*** Since our last annual meeting, NCC has given more than \$71,000 through special offerings (Christmas Eve and Easter) above and beyond our regular budget. These gifts have directly supported ministry partners, including \$32,264 to Rahab Ministries and \$39,195 to a Middle East church plant through ABWE.

WAYS TO PRAY

Ask God to keep shaping us into a generous people, trusting Him to provide all we need and to guide us in stewarding His resources wisely, that His work would grow and His kingdom would advance.

WAYS TO GIVE: IN-PERSON. ONLINE. MOBILE. BY MAIL.

NCCHAPEL.COM/GIVE FOR MORE INFO

BUDGETED
GIVING YTD

\$ 1,754,503

ACTUAL
GIVING YTD

\$ 1,670,597

EXPENSES
YTD

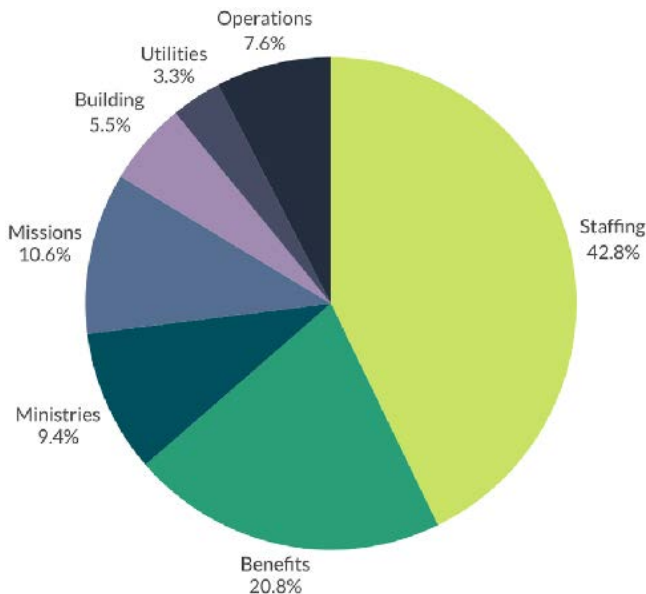
\$ 1,698,550

CASH ON
HAND

\$ 278,580

THROUGH THE FIRST 10 MONTHS OF 2025 (43 OF 52 SUNDAYS)

	2026	2025
Staffing	\$ 953,888	\$ 901,000
Benefits/Healthcare	\$ 463,587	\$ 427,950
Ministry Expense	\$ 209,470	\$ 185,950
Missions (Local & Global)	\$ 235,775	\$ 229,525
Building Expense	\$ 121,500	\$ 144,000
Utilities	\$ 74,000	\$ 69,000
Operations	\$ 169,407	\$ 164,300
Total	\$ 2,227,627	\$ 2,121,725



God provides for His mission through the generosity of His people.

Every gift is part of God's story through NCC.

Thank you for partnering in making much of Jesus!

LEADERSHIP & STAFF



Cassidy McCann
Preteen Director



Dave Short
Executive Pastor



Dustin Ichida
High School Pastor



Jeff Mihalik
Facility Manager



Linda Jarka
Administrative Assistant



Matt Brumfield
Digital Media Specialist



Micah Hasty
Worship Pastor



Nancy Martindale
Financial Manager



Alex Cook
Group and Missions Pastor



Beth Wagner
Elementary Director



Brannon Marshall
Lead Pastor



John Mangrum
Care and Counseling Pastor



John Thomas
Men's Ministry Director



Judy McClintock
Family Ministries Director



Kristi Stephens
Women's Ministry Director



Nikki Austin
Creative Director



Roger Fout
Middle School Pastor



Seth Day
Production and Technical Director



Tina Votaw
Early Childhood Director



WAYS TO GIVE:

IN-PERSON. ONLINE. MOBILE. BY MAIL.

[NCCHAPEL.COM/GIVE](https://ncchapel.com/give)

FOR MORE INFO

make much of
JESUS
every day to everyone



STAY IN THE LOOP WITH WHAT'S HAPPENING AT NCC

[NCCHAPEL.COM/EVENTS](https://ncchapel.com/events)

SUBSCRIBE TO EMAIL UPDATES & SEE THE CALENDAR