

LIVES transformed BY Christ



COMMUNITY CHURCH ROSELAWN



Church Profile:

www.communitychurchroslawn.com

Roselawn, IN.



COMMUNITY CHURCH ROSELAWN

LIVES *transformed* BY *Christ*

Sunday Worship Time:

9:30 AM

Education Hour:

11 AM - 11:45 AM

10498 N 450 E, Demotte, IN. 46310

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communitychurchroslawn.com

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SEARCH TEAM

Chairman:	Fred Schakel
Clerk:	Mike Miller
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	Dave Bykerk
	April Hubers
	Ross Peterson
	Mike Johnson, Jr.

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Community Church Search Team
Attn: Lisa King
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WHO WE ARE

Community Church Roselawn is a place where the message of salvation becomes visible. We approach the Gospel with a contemporary style and yet our message is traditional. A core of families from the original church planters have grown to include traditional believers drawn to the excitement for outreach. This group welcomes the unchurched and the disenfranchised who in turn gather their friends and families.



Our worship style mixes the best of the old and new with a strong emphasis on contemporary music. Almost every Sunday we are led by a full praise and worship team, interspersed with choir appearances and hymns. Our Gospel, presenting a clear call to salvation and Biblical living. The Good News is illustrated with personal testimonies, and culturally relevant illustrations.

Community Church takes it's vision statement, "**LIVES transformed BY** *Christ*," seriously.

Working out this vision is displayed in numerous ways. From our inception, Community Church Roselawn has desired to have an impact on the community in which it is centered. Our focus is bringing the unchurched into contact with believers. When these people come through the doors of our building, they receive the Gospel message demonstrated by the love of our congregation and presented in the preaching of God's Word. We continue to grow in numbers and opportunities to be the hands and feet of Christ to our community.

Community Church takes it's mission statement, "Developing authentic relationships with Jesus Christ," seriously.

Community Church Roselawn takes seriously its responsibility toward believers. We provide many opportunities for service, community, education, and growth as we walk the path of becoming more Christ-like while God uses our various gifts.

WHO WE ARE

Everything that we do is tailored to be shared with a community hungry for Truth and needing to learn how God is a real part of their daily lives. We give thanks for the work of the Holy Spirit that allows us to bring His message to those He has brought to us.



PROFESSIONAL STAFF

JIM BUSSCHER

LEAD PASTOR

Pastor Jim began his work at Community Church as our interim pastor in February of 2015. In November 2016 we invited him to be our next Lead Pastor! He has served numerous Churches as Interim Pastor during their vacancies over the past 15 years. Jim grew up in western Michigan where he met his wife Brenda. God has blessed them with 3 children. David is married to Courtney and is presently employed as a lawyer in the Michigan State Court of Appeals in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Julie is married to Jared and is presently teaching Spanish in Zeeland, Michigan. Jenna is their youngest and is attending her second year of college in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Jim and his family enjoy reading, watching movies, playing cards and challenging each other in board games.



Mark Janowski

Pastor of Discipleship and Youth

Mark began serving as Pastor of Discipleship and Youth at Community Church in February of 2019. He is married to Alicia, and they have three puppies: a husky/retriever mix named Arie, and two German Shepherds named Mila and Kodi. Mark is passionate about discipleship in the church, walking alongside of believers of all ages at all stages of their faith journey as they seek to draw closer to Christ. In addition to his role at Community, Mark currently serves as a chaplain in the Michigan Army National Guard, ministering to the soldiers of his battalion. Mark and Alicia both love reading, watching movies, hiking, camping, and exercising.



Kyle Vanderzee

Director of Worship and The Arts

Kyle has served as Director of Worship and the Arts at Community Church since 2008. He is married to Joanna. Kyle and Jo are the proud parents of three girls and one boy: Autumn, Hannah, Sophia and Charlie. Kyle has a passion for creating services that are Biblical, fresh, and rooted. Kyle enjoys hosting small groups, spending time around Lake Michigan, and the occasional skeet shoot.



Julie Sylvester

Director of Children's Ministries

Julie began working at Community Church in June 2020. She loves children's ministries and is excited to show kids that Jesus loves them. Julie was an elementary school teacher for 28 years and is looking forward to focusing on the spiritual growth of children. She is married to Brian and they have two teenagers, Kayla and Josh. Julie enjoys reading, camping, taking the dog for walks, and all types of music.



PROFESSIONAL STAFF



MARJIE DEN DULK **WOMEN'S MINISTRIES COORDINATOR**

Marjie den Dulk has been involved in Women's Ministry for more than 20 years and has recently joined staff as our Women's Ministry Coordinator. Five in-laws have been added to Gil and Marjie's 5 children and the number of grand kids keep going up! She loves to travel, especially to California - their previous home, and is trying to keep up with life and all the blessings of a busy family. Marjie is thankful for this opportunity to be part of the women of Community who are seeking to know God and His best for them.



KELLY DYKSHORN **DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS**

Kelly has been a member of Community Church for over 10 years. She married her H.S. sweetheart and they have 3 children together. She has been involved in several outreach programs and youth groups throughout the years. She loves connecting with people and is ready to help others move forward in their faith journey and take those next steps. When not at church Kelly is with her family and they love camping, hiking, going to the race track and swimming.



LISA KING **SECRETARY**

Lisa joined the staff in October 2016. She and her husband, Phil, have four children and two son-in-laws. They are excited about recently becoming grandparents. Lisa and Phil have been near lifelong residents of Newton County and care about its people. She enjoys crocheting, reading, Bible study and crafting with friends. Lisa can be found in the church office Monday through Friday working on the church bulletin and other usual office duties.



TIM STEGENGA **LEAD CUSTODIAN**



JACK PFAU **CUSTODIAN**

PASTOR PROFILE

Welcome to Community Church Roselawn. Due to the forthcoming retirement in 2023 of our current Lead Pastor, Reverend Jim Busscher we are searching for our next male Lead Pastor.

Community Church Roselawn is an outreach church. Developing authentic relationships with Jesus Christ is our mission; the same mission we expect to be the focus of our Lead Pastor. Many in our community do not have a relationship with Jesus Christ or due to life's circumstances have drifted away from the relationship they once had. It will become very



clear as you read this church profile that a very large portion of our time and energy is focused on introducing those who are searching, and/or hurting, to Jesus Christ. That being said, it is also very important to us that we focus diligently on nurturing and discipling those who attend Community Church Roselawn as they continue their spiritual growth. If this mission interests you, continue reading this church profile. Let us introduce you to a beautiful place with a heart for the hurting and a soul for the lost.

Attributes of our next Lead Pastor:

- Most importantly a very strong personal relationship with Jesus Christ that cannot be contained; it must be shared.
- A passion for the gospel that drives every portion of life and work.
- Love for people and a desire to bring them to an ever stronger relationship with Jesus Christ.
- An eagerness to bring that gospel to all in our community.
- The belief that all preaching must be founded on God's Holy Word.
- Acknowledgement that salvation is through God's never-ending grace.
- Readiness and willingness to extend God's invitation to salvation whenever appropriate.
- The belief that the Bible as the Word of God is first in priority and authority.
- The belief that the reformed confessions are accepted as the true interpretation of this Word.
- The belief that the confessions are themselves subject to the Word.
- The belief that the Heidelberg Catechism, Belgic Confession, and Canons of Dordt are foundational to our reformed faith.
- Eager to reach out to the hurting and show compassion to those who reach out to him.
- Commitment to the vibrant worship style that is characteristic to Community Church.
- A willingness to follow the style of church governance as determined by the church Council, bylaws, and Christian Reformed Church Order.
- Subscription to all the creeds and confessions of the CRC.
- A willingness to be part of a staff that pursues the mission of Community Church Roselawn as laid out by the Church Council.
- Commitment to taking his direction from the Council of Community Church Roselawn.
- A desire to be part of the greater church community in the area.

PASTOR PROFILE

Strengths of our next Lead Pastor:

- Practiced oratory skills and pulpit mannerisms preaching the Word
- A great love for God and people
- A kind and approachable personality
- Pastoral Care
- Visioning
- Overseeing Staff
- Team Player. Developmental and organizational skills to assist in bringing our church ministries to an even greater level of success than they already enjoy.
- Desire to assess active ministries and help us develop others
- A commanding knowledge of the Bible
- Great appreciation for the importance of music in the worship service
- An openness to the use of various other forms of enhancing the worship experience
- The ability to communicate his faith to others
- The ability to give wise counsel and/or seek wise counsel when appropriate

Thank you for taking the time to explore our Pastor Profile. If this is who you are we strongly encourage you to open yourself up to the Holy Spirit and see if He leads you to ministry at Community Church. This is a place where our Savior is doing amazing things. If He calls you to ministry here you will see the incredible transformations that salvation through Him brings to His people, this church, and our community every day.



CHURCH HISTORY

Community Church Roselawn began when First and Bethel Christian Reformed churches in DeMotte took action on the denominational program "Evangelism Thrust" in September of 1972 to establish a mission outreach in the Roselawn area. A year later the first worship service was held in the rented facilities of the former Thayer Presbyterian Church. This came after a very successful VBS held in August of 1973. According to early minutes, there was an increase in Sunday School attendance from 9 to 73 in the first 8 weeks. The vast majority of these children were from the community. Church attendance in this first year was in the area of 30 with over half being from the community. In 1975 there was a discussion of hiring a full-time man with an annual base salary of \$7,400 being proposed.



A steering committee at this time evolved into a long-range planning committee and a "Mission Analysis Program" was conducted in 1976. This study recognized Roselawn as a center of growth and an area with a high concentration of children. A local developer donated five acres in the Roselawn Woods subdivision. After six years of worship in Thayer, ground was broken in 1979 for a two-story building with about 4500 sq. ft per level. The upstairs kitchen, library, office, and sanctuary that seated nearly 200 and the basement classrooms were dedicated at a service on April 16, 1980. This is also the year that Community became an "organized" congregation in the CRC with a reported membership of 121 members.

A good number of men served as part-time or short-term preachers over the first eight years but the first full-time time pastor was John VanSchepen (78-83), followed by Don Byker (84-89), Jim Stoel (89-96), Joel Zuidema (1998-2014), and Jim Busscher (2016-Present). After 20 years of growth, it was time for an expansion. A 15,000-square-foot addition was built, giving us offices, classrooms, and a sanctuary seating 500. This addition was dedicated in May 2004, with a membership of 350. Growth continued at Community and in November 2013 a second addition with about 7,500 sq. ft. of classrooms, fellowship hall, nursery, and kitchen was added.

The vision and mission of Community Church Roselawn was originally, and continues to be, to bring Christ to those who are searching, particularly in the Roselawn area. We summarize this vision of Community Church as "Lives transformed by Christ" and our mission as "Developing authentic relationships with Jesus Christ". We praise God that through the years He has continued to call on His people at Community to be used as a part of His great mission.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

Community Church Roselawn is nestled on a 22-acre piece of land in Roselawn, Indiana. The property consists of 17 undeveloped acres primarily used for a well-groomed 1/2 mile community fitness trail and outdoor exercise area. The remaining 5 acres houses the building, a large parking lot, preschool play area, and open grass areas used for church and community events.

The original building was constructed in 1979 and has had two major expansions that concluded in 2013. The main auditorium is 7,140 sq. feet and has flexible seating for 500 accompanied by a multi-level stage. The large lobby and gathering area surrounds the auditorium on two sides and feeds into the 2013 addition where you will find our west fellowship hall. This area houses a 575 sq. ft. modern kitchen and pantry, restrooms, and dedicated rooms for nursery and pre-school. The fellowship hall also contains a large gathering area used for many of our outreach programs and classrooms of various sizes. As you work your way through the newest addition you will find seven dedicated offices used for the church staff and a hallway connecting the original portion of the church and the two expansions.

The original portion of the church has a 2800 sq. foot worship area, a kitchen, and two sets of men's and women's restrooms along with numerous classrooms of various sizes equaling an additional 6200 sq. feet.



COMMUNITY AND CONGREGATION DEMOGRAPHICS

Community Church is located in Roselawn, Indiana, a small rural town with a population of approximately 4,000. Roselawn is a large agricultural area but is conveniently located an hour south of Chicago, IL. where many members of the community find blue-collar employment.



The church property is nestled in a residential neighborhood that includes the local elementary school. Church members and participants come from a 20 mile radius which includes the towns of Roselawn, Demotte, Wheatfield, Lowell, Fair Oaks, Lake Village, and Mokence.

US Census Bureau Information Roselawn, IN (2019)

Median Household Income- \$64,500
7% of community is below
poverty level
Median Home Price- \$135,00
Median Gross Rent Cost- \$940.00/mo

Community Ethnic Distribution
Less than 1% Asian
Less than 1% African American
6% Hispanic or Latino
93% Caucasian



LOCAL SCHOOL INFORMATION

The local public school system is North Newton School Corporation, including Lincoln Elementary which is located only a block away from the church building. Because many of our congregation families also live in neighboring Jasper County, we have a significant number of families whose children attend the Kankakee Valley School Corporation.



LINCOLN ELEMENTARY



NORTH NEWTON JR/SR. HIGH SCHOOL



KANKAKEE VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL

LOCAL SCHOOL INFORMATION



There are families who choose Christian education. Located in the neighboring town of DeMotte is DeMotte Christian Schools, Inc., which includes Demotte Christian School (PK-8th grade) and Demotte Christian High School (9th-12th grade).

We support Christian Education and have Tuition Assistance.

DeMotte Christian Schools is committed to providing a Biblically-based education from a Reformed perspective and is dedicated to academic excellence, spiritual growth, and service to God and others. Both schools are accredited by the state of Indiana and Christian Schools International (CSI). The Indiana School Choice Scholarship is available which provides vouchers for tuition assistance.



DeMotte Christian Schools recently approved a \$19M expansion project. They are awaiting the groundbreaking ceremony, which will take place on September 29, 2022. They have a lot of community support, and building plans that are currently being finalized. They anticipate the New High School to be ready in 2026.

CHURCH GOVERNANCE

Council consists of 9 elders and 9 deacons

Council meets quarterly

Pastoral Elders meet monthly

Pastoral Deacons meet monthly

Administrative Elders and Deacons (Executive Committee aka Admin Team), which meets monthly, ordinarily consists of Council President, Council Vice President, Clerk of the Council, Treasurer, Asst. Treasurer, Deacon At-Large, and Lead Pastor.

Standing Committees

- Education
- Outreach
- Fellowship
- Worship
- Building and Grounds

Pastor may or may not be President of Council but would attend council meetings, elders' meetings, and executive committee meetings.

THE ATTACHED ORGANIZATIONAL CHART HELPS IDENTIFY MOST OF THE MINISTRIES AT COMMUNITY CHURCH ROSELAWN AND WHERE THEY FALL IN TERMS OF ACCOUNTABILITY.

Worship Committee handles teams related to the actual services.

Education Committee supervises all education ministries. They are assisted by a full time Children's Ministry Director and a Pastor of Discipleship and Youth.

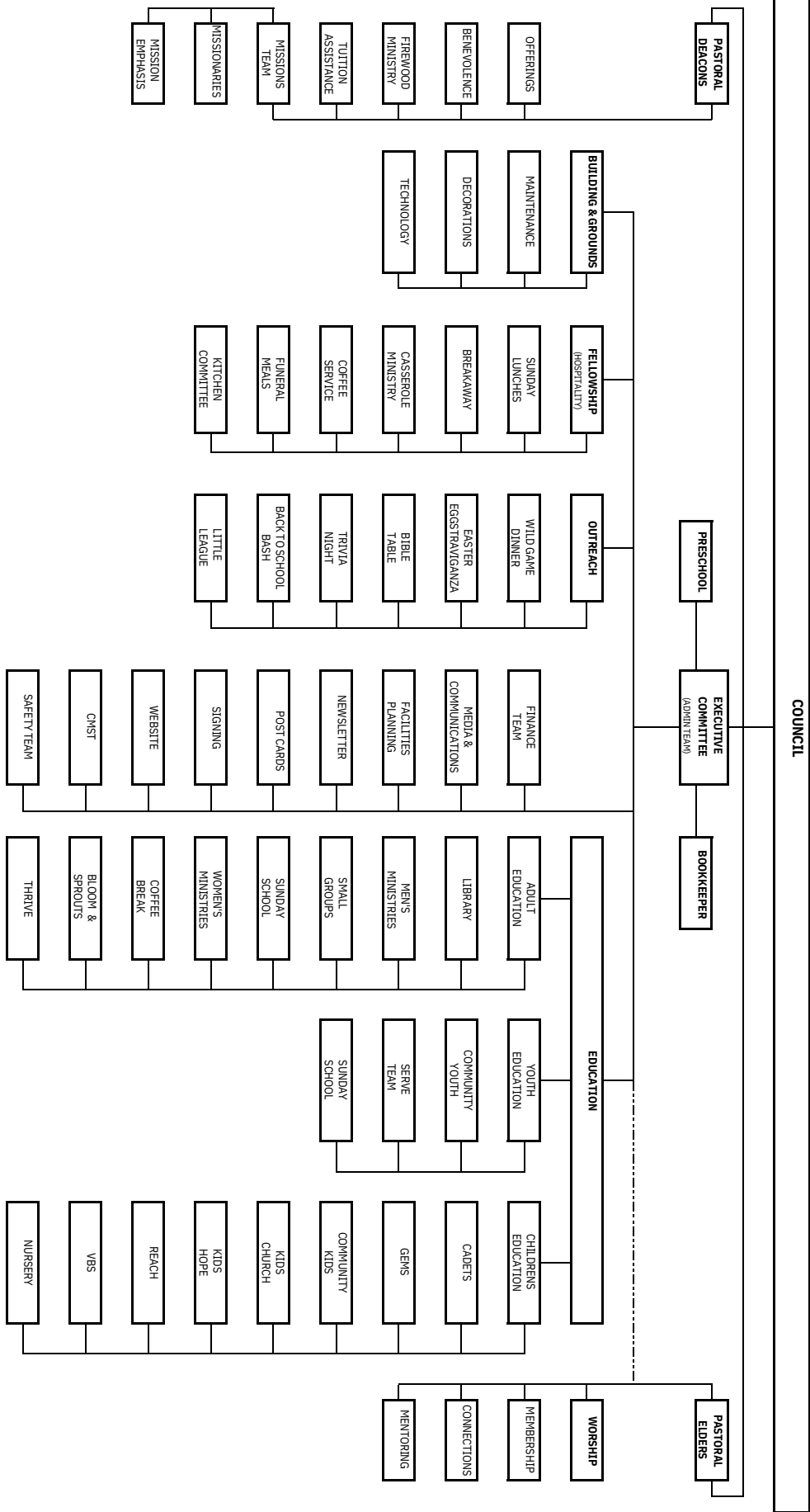
Fellowship Committee supervises items in that column but is also instrumental in any dinner or ministry function that includes food.

Outreach Team is presently being served by the Staff. They supervise those ministries under them.

Operations functions involve a building and grounds committee but items in this column are primarily coordinated with staff.

CHURCH ORGANIZATION

COMMUNITY CHURCH ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



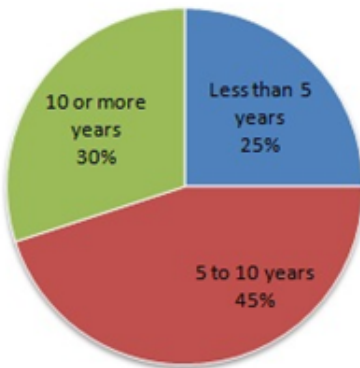
CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

2022 Average Attendance is 260

Worship Service Time: 9:30 AM

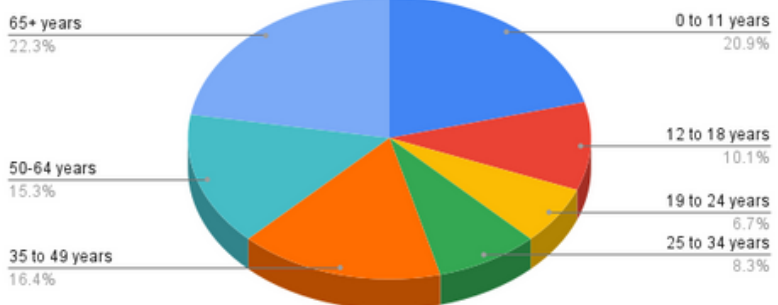
Length of Membership

2016

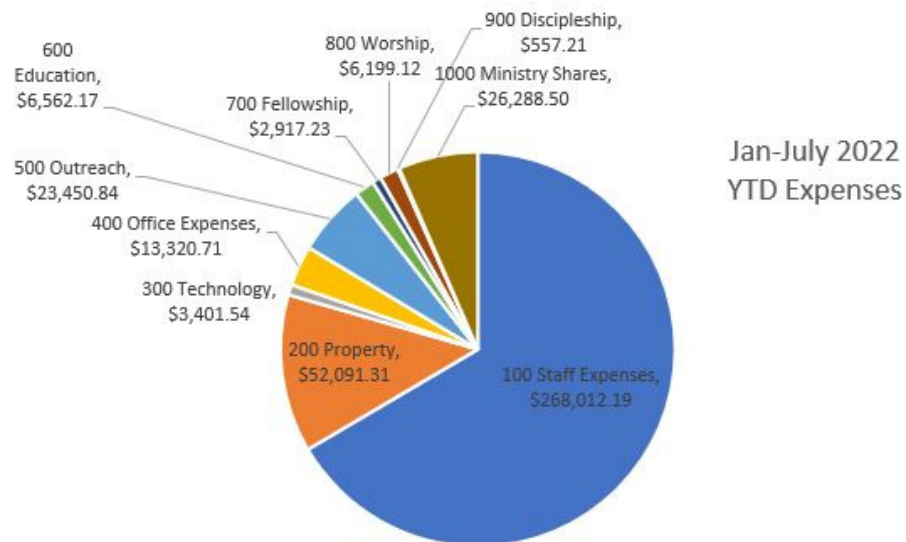
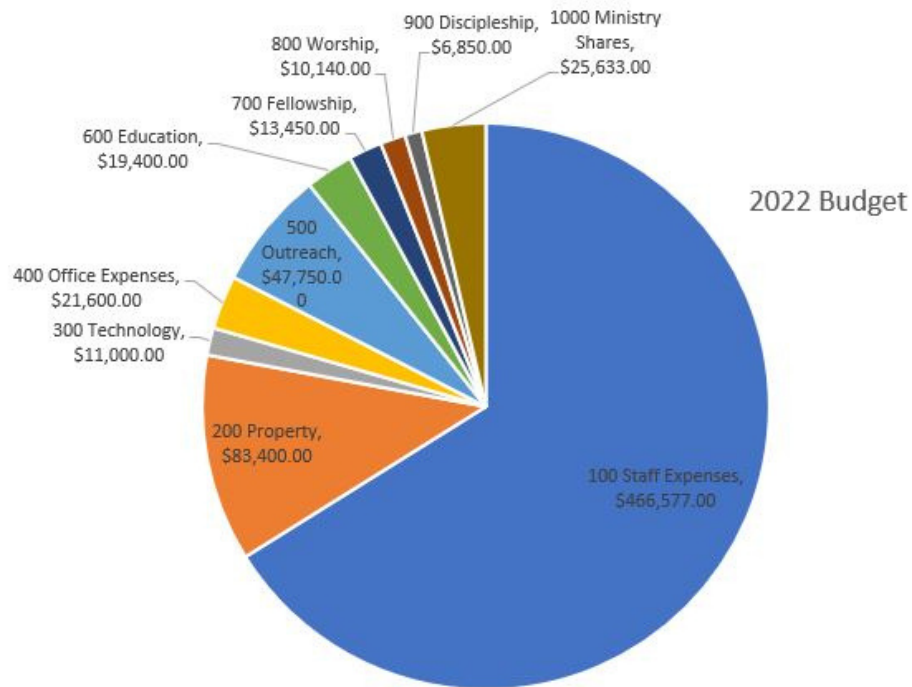


Community Church Roselawn Age Distribution

June 2022



FINANCIAL STATUS



OUR MINISTRIES

Children's Ministries

Sunday Programs

- **NURSERY** is available for infants and toddlers through age 3 during the AM service. There is also a family room available.
- **SUNDAY SCHOOL, KIDS CHURCH (SUMMER/JUNE-SEPT.)**
Sunday morning classes for ages preschool through 2nd grade meet during the AM service.
(SEPT/MAY) In addition to Kids Church for Preschool-2nd grade during the service classes for all age groups through adults meet during the Sunday School hour from 10:45-11:30 AM.



Breakaway Wednesdays (Every other Wednesday)

- **DINNER** for the whole family is served from 5:00-6:30 PM. Adults, teen, and children's groups meet from 6:30-8:00 PM.
- **GEMS** A ministry for girls in grades 1 through 8. In GEMS, girls learn about having a living relationship with Jesus Christ; they participate in team-building exercises; enjoy dynamic singing, creative movement, and dance; make creative and fun crafts, and find answers to challenges that face girls today.
- **CADETS** for boys in 1st through 8th grade, focuses on using the Bible as a guide to life, learning outdoor skills to understand God's world and serving God and others.



Summer Events

- **VBS** is a one week program that meets daily and provides opportunities for singing, Bible lessons, crafts, and games. Participants include children both from our church and the community.
- **BACK TO SCHOOL BASH:** is a event that provides free school supplies for students K-6 from our local elementary schools. Lots of fun, food and activities.

OUR MINISTRIES

Youth Ministry



- **COMMUNITY YOUTH** Grades 9-12 participate in outings and events throughout the year. Teens are challenged through Bible study and serving others.



Women's Groups

- **COFFEE BREAK (SEPT-MAY)**
An interfaith Bible study for fellowship, prayer, and study. Coffee Break meets on Monday mornings from 9:15-10:45 AM.
- **BLOOM & SPROUTS**
Ladies of all ages are invited to join us as we study the Word, guided by a variety of Bible teaching materials. Groups meet Wednesdays at 8:45 AM or Tuesdays at 6:30 PM. This group is on Facebook, email, and in Small Groups during the summer. Nursery (Sprouts) is provided.
- **THRIVE**
Women of all ages meet on BreakAway Wednesdays, 6:30-8 PM for activities and Bible learning time.

OUR MINISTRIES

Men's Groups



- **MEN'S BIBLE STUDY**

Meets weekly to study various books of the Bible. The group also hosts a Thanksgiving dinner for the community and passes out free Bibles at every outreach event.

- **MEN'S BREAKFAST**

Meets the 3rd Saturday of each month for camaraderie, good teaching, and great food!

Adult Groups



- **DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRIES (SMALL GROUP SERIES)**

Small groups meet for a study that coincides with the winter sermon series. In addition, groups may meet during the summer, spring, and fall for topical studies.

- **55 PLUS**

This group gets together for lunch, outings, or day trips.

- **HOST CARE GROUPS**

Elder and Deacon districts are divided into geographical care groups that minister to the needs of their members.

- **THE BIBLE TALBE**

This group passes out free Bibles at many area events. It started as a men's ministry, but spouses and friends soon joined along.

OTHER MINISTRIES

- **PRAYER FORCE**

Praying for needs through the prayer line, prayer mail and prayer team available after each worship service.

- **KIDS HOPE USA: LINCOLN ELEMENTARY**

A mentoring program that connects one church with one school.

- **CASSEROLE MINISTRY**

Provides meals for members and neighbors in times of need.

- **COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY**

The Community Food Pantry is open on the 2nd Saturday of the month to help provide groceries for Newton County neighbors who need help.

- **PHIL'S FRIENDS**

Provides care packages for those affected with cancer.

- **LIFEWISE ACADEMY**

New and upcoming program in partnership with area churches which provides Bible based character education for public school students.



- **TREAT STOP**

A family-friendly way to spend Halloween with a neighborhood stop along the trick or treating trail to get a hotdog, pop, and candy.

- **WILD GAME DINNER**

An evening of fun, fellowship and exotic cuisine for the whole family.

OUR MISSIONARIES

Missionary Support

- Rev. Eric and Penny Schering - Wewak, Papua New Guinea with Pacific Island Ministries
- Calvin and Jessica Wunderink - Czech Republic with Teach Beyond USA
- John and Angela Wagenveld with Multiplication Network Ministries
- Rev. Lloyd and Annie Ng'ambi - Lusaka, Zambia with Chilenje CCAP Church



- Kyle and Jen Beckrich - University of Southern Indiana with Campus Outreach
- Steve and Frankie Wunderink - Egypt with Resonate Global Mission

OUR CORE VALUES

+ BIBLE-CENTERED

The Bible is God's word to His people, written by the Holy Spirit through faithful people throughout many centuries. (2 Peter 1:20-21) Through the Bible, God tells us about Himself, His relationship with us, and the amazing plans He has for us. Therefore, we teach and learn all of these things from the Bible as we walk with Christ.

+ GROWING IN CHRIST

Being a Christian means that no one has ever "made it". In other words, no one is a perfect Christian: it is a lifelong process of the Holy Spirit working in each of us to make us more like Christ. (Colossians 1:9-12) This means that we learn and understand more about God, we learn more about ourselves, our sinfulness, and our need for Christ, and gradually grow to be more like how God desires each of us to be.

+ RELEVANTLY REFORMED

Our church is part of the Reformed tradition, which dates back to the 16th century when the Protestant Reformation occurred. During that time, a number of documents were written that help to explain important teachings and concepts of the Christian faith, called doctrines. We still use these documents today (thankfully translated into English!) as teaching tools. Times and traditions of the world change, but God's truths are unchanging: therefore, we must always seek to apply God's truths to our lives today! (Numbers 23:19)

+ SINCERE WORSHIP

God desires for our whole lives to be worshipful! Worshipful lives are centered on serving others in love. (Romans 12:1-21) We also set aside time on Sundays, at the beginning of each week, to gather together as a church to worship God. (Colossians 3:14-17)

+ GENUINE HOSPITALITY

God has blessed each of us in many ways, and one of the joys of following Christ is using our blessings to bless one another. This is one of the ways the Lord calls us to show love to each other: by sharing what He has given us! (1 Peter 4:8-10)

+ AUTHENTIC RELATIONSHIPS

Jesus told His disciples, and therefore each of us today, that people will know that we are truly His followers by how we treat one another: with love. (John 13:34-35) And not just any love, but the love of Christ Himself! (John 15:12-13)

+ SERVING OUR COMMUNITY

Just as God calls us to love and serve one another as individuals, He also calls us to love and serve the neighborhoods we live in. Part of our witness to Christ's love to our community is caring for our community in real, tangible ways. (Galatians 6:10)

+ JOYFUL GENEROSITY

Everything good we have comes from God. (James 1:17) When we approach sharing with each other, our church, and our community from this biblical perspective, it is easy to give with a joyful attitude. (2 Corinthians 9:6-7)

+ KINGDOM FOCUSED

While God is working through us to share the gospel of Christ with others in the world today, we look forward to the day when Christ returns and His Kingdom comes in its fullness. This is what motivates us to share this Good News with urgency, to give sacrificially, and persist in faith and hope for the day when we will dwell with Christ in righteousness, peace and joy. (Romans 14:17-18)

MISSION STATEMENT

Our Mission Statement flows out of our Vision Statement: it describes how we as a church will join in God's work to transform people's lives through Christ.

+ DEVELOPING AUTHENTIC RELATIONSHIPS WITH JESUS CHRIST

Everything we do comes back to our relationship with Jesus Christ. Whether you've heard the name "Jesus" before but you're not sure who He is, or you just committed your life to Christ yesterday, or if you've been walking with Jesus for the last 80+ years, God calls each of us to grow closer to Him each and every day. (Colossians 2:6)

We do this by:

CONNECTING WITH GOD

+ IN WORSHIP

We connect with God when we gather together to worship Him. But God also calls us to worship Him with our whole lives! (Matthew 22:37-38)

+ IN HIS WORD

We connect with God by studying the Bible, His infallible Word to His people. By studying the Bible we grow in our understanding of who God is, who we are as His people, and what God instructs us to do with the lives He has blessed us with. (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

+ IN PRAYER

We connect with God when we come to Him in prayer. Communication is the foundation of every relationship, and this is true of our relationship with God as well! God has invited us to speak with Him about all aspects of our lives, the good and the bad, and He responds by granting us His peace. (Philippians 4:4-7)

+ CONNECTING WITH HIS CHURCH

The Church is the gathering of God's people. God works through the Church to draw people to Himself, to teach and instruct His people, and to bless the communities in which He raises up local churches, including ours! Unlike the Israelites, God's people in the Old Testament, God's people today are not one nation; rather, God calls His people from all nations. These are the people God gathers together and this gathering is the Church. (Revelation 5:9-10)

+ IN FELLOWSHIP

When we connect with God's Church in fellowship, we follow God's instructions to encourage each other in our lives and faith and build each other up. (1 Thessalonians 5:11) In fellowship, we grow in our relationships with each other, laughing together in joyful times, mourning together in sad times, and always encouraging each other to live worshipful lives. (Acts 2:42)

+ IN FAITH FORMATION

When we connect with God's Church in faith formation, we recognize that our faith should continue to grow throughout our lives. Similar to growing intellectually through classes at school, growing spiritually by gathering as the Church is an important part of lifelong faith formation. (2 Peter 1:5-11)

+ IN BIBLE STUDY

When we connect with God's church in Bible study, we don't just study for understanding, we study for action! We live our lives differently because of what we learn from God's Word to us. (James 1:22)

+ IN SMALL GROUPS

When we connect with God's church in small groups, we encourage each other toward love and good deeds. (Hebrews 10:24-25) In small groups, we help each other to see where God is calling us to repent of sin and grow (Galatians 6:1-2) and to see how God is working in each of our lives.

+ IN THE USE OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS

When we connect with God's church in the use of spiritual gifts, we recognize that God has blessed us with these gifts to build up His church. (1 Peter 4:10-11) In using our spiritual gifts, we see that God blesses each of us differently and yet we are united in Christ. (1 Corinthians 12)

+ IN THE STEWARDSHIP OF OUR RESOURCES

When we connect with God's church in the stewardship of our resources, we realize that all we have is from God...we're merely responding to His blessings! In good stewardship of our resources, we gather the wisdom and discernment that God has blessed members of our church with in order to be a blessing to our community and to share the life-transforming gospel of Jesus with more people. (Luke 16:1-13)

+ CONNECTING WITH HIS WORLD

While the Church is called by God to be distinct from the world, we are also called to be light to a world. God calls us to be His representatives to the world, whether here in our own neighborhoods or on the other side of the planet! We joyfully respond by sharing the love of Christ through our words and actions so that we answer God's command to go out into the world and make disciples. (Matthew 28:19-20).

+ IN WITNESS

When we connect with God's world in witness, we joyfully glorify God by being obedient to His instructions to be a light to others. (Matthew 5:16) In witnessing to others, the words we speak and the actions we take show others how we have been transformed by Christ's Holy Spirit working in us.

+ IN PROMOTING BIBLICAL JUSTICE

When we connect with God's world in promoting justice, God works through us to begin fixing some of the brokenness of the world caused by sin. (Isaiah 1:17) In promoting justice, we see that one aspect of God's holiness is His love of justice and He wants His followers to love and do justice.

+ IN ACTS OF SERVICE

When we connect with God's world in acts of service, we recognize that being a follower of Christ is more than just words: it is action! (Philippians 2:3-8) In acts of service, we seek to follow the example Jesus gave us by serving and caring for one another. (Amos 5:24)

VISION STATEMENT

LIVES *transformed* BY *Christ*

Our Vision Statement is what we as a church desire, hope, and pray we will see happen in God's work through our church.

LIVES: Our church is focused on people - and not just one part of their lives, but all of their lives.

TRANSFORMED: In a word, this is what happens when someone comes to know, trust, and love Jesus Christ. They are transformed, changed! And as they continue in a lifelong relationship with Jesus, that change continues and they become more Christ-like. (Romans 12:1-2)

BY CHRIST: God has called us as a church to join in His work of sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ with the world, but it is Christ, not us, who changes hearts and transforms lives. (2 Corinthians 5:17)