



# 20 ANNUAL 26 REPORT

---



PROVIDENCE CHURCH // [WWW.PROVIDENCECHURCH.US](http://WWW.PROVIDENCECHURCH.US) // 440-937-5001 // 35295 DETROIT ROAD, AVON, OHIO 44011





**FORMING FAMILIES,  
EQUIPPING SAINTS,  
& MULTIPLYING CHURCHES**





# TABLE OF CONTENTS

|           |                               |           |
|-----------|-------------------------------|-----------|
| <b>01</b> | <b>Letter From The Elders</b> | <b>5</b>  |
| <b>02</b> | <b>Ministries</b>             | <b>7</b>  |
|           | Men's Ministry                | 8         |
|           | Women's Ministry              | 9         |
|           | Young Adult's Ministry        | 10        |
|           | Youth Ministry                | 11        |
|           | Children's Ministry           | 13        |
|           | Care Ministry                 | 15        |
|           | Small Group Ministry          | 16        |
|           | Worship Ministry              | 17        |
|           | Connections Ministry          | 18        |
|           | Missions Ministry             | 19        |
|           | Residency Program             | 22        |
| <b>03</b> | <b>Finances</b>               | <b>23</b> |
|           | Forward Together              | 24        |
|           | General Fund                  | 25        |
|           | Contributions                 | 27        |
|           | Cash & Investments            | 28        |



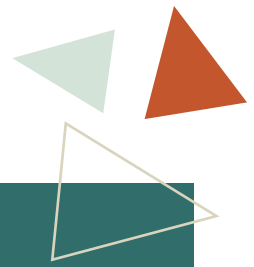
# LETTER FROM THE ELDERS

Dear Church Family,

*Ecclesiologist Tom Greggs writes that “An account of the church which begins with descriptions of the human form of the community in decidedly empirical and functionalist terms will fail to see the church as a creation of God’s saving grace in the person of the Spirit, describing a human society in a manner akin to descriptions of any other human society rather than describing the ‘society of God’ (to employ a phrase from Calvin) - a community that God establishes for God’s purposes”.*

In the following report, we pray that you do not see human “technique”, but rather the inbreaking of our living God upon our community and His building-up a people for Himself.

# WE ARE CELEBRATING



## Forming Families:

Scripture often describes the church as a family (Galatians 6.10; 1 Timothy 3.15). We know that healthy families are a source of stability, meaning, and joy. Conversely, unhealthy families can create pain, fear, and anger. You will see examples of how we remain committed to the development of young people, Christ-centered marriages, and multigenerational interaction.



## Equipping Saints:

We, the members of Providence Church, are a “royal priesthood” (1 Peter 2.9). The role of a priest is to mediate God’s character to the world. While it may be uncomfortable at first, we must embrace our identity as a community of priests bearing witness to the risen and reigning Lord Jesus Christ. The following pages testify to how we have invested our lives in one another to build each other up in faith and love (Ephesians 4.11-16).



## Multiplying Churches:

Among the first Christ-followers, the Holy Spirit regularly moved the church to reach beyond themselves to a lost and broken world (Acts 2, 13.1-3). This is why our church invests in pastoral residents and the support and care of local church pastors in NE Ohio and the ends of the earth. We are also seriously exploring a new church plant in the year to come.

**Know we love serving the Lord Jesus with you. May we continue Following Christ Together.**

With Love,  
Austin Shaw, Mike Ferrell (Chairman), Steve Trenta (Secretary), Jeremy Damstra, Matt Englehart, Alan Herr, Sean Moorhead.



# MINISTRIES



# MEN'S MINISTRY

## Impact Story - Karl Sooy

Since becoming a member of Providence, one of the most meaningful changes in my spiritual life has been studying Scripture alongside other men in the church—both in community throughout the week and on my own each day.

What began as a simple commitment to read the Bible more consistently has gradually become a discipline that has changed how I think, how I lead, and how I approach my relationship with God.

During the week, I spend personal time reading and reflecting on the passages that we've studied in Men's Wednesday morning Bible studies, monthly Men's breakfasts, or Sunday's sermons. Studying Scripture on my own has required a level of intentionality that I did not always practice before. Slowing down to read carefully, ask questions, and consider how the Word applies to my life has helped me move beyond simply knowing the text to truly wrestling with it. There are moments when a passage challenges my assumptions, convicts me about areas where I need to grow, or reminds me of God's faithfulness and promises. That quiet time in Scripture has become a place where I can listen, reflect, and realign my priorities.

What has made the experience even more impactful is coming together with other men from Providence Church in the Wednesday morning Bible studies. Hearing how others interpreted the same passage often brings perspectives I would not have considered on my own. Sometimes another man's insight clarifies something I struggled to understand; other times their honesty about their own challenges reminds me that spiritual growth is something we pursue together, not alone.

Those conversations have created accountability as well. When we gather, we're not just discussing theology—we're talking about how Scripture shapes our daily decisions, our families, our work, and our character. The encouragement and wisdom that come from these discussions strengthen my faith and challenge me to live out what I'm learning.

God has used His Word and the fellowship of other men to deepen my understanding of Scripture and strengthen my walk with Him. It has reminded me that spiritual growth happens both in quiet moments alone with God and in community with others pursuing the same purpose.



*What began as a simple commitment to read the Bible more consistently has gradually become a discipline that has changed how I think, how I lead, and how I approach my relationship with God.*

## Key Highlights:

- Every week, 35 men gathered around God's Word and sharpened one another.
- 307 different men showed up to a men's event in 2025.
- 186.5 Pounds of steak consumed at Men's Steak Night.
- 103 golfers hit the links at the golf outing, with a winning score of -14 to take the title.

# WOMEN'S MINISTRY



## Impact Story - Barb Smith

Where do I even begin? I am so grateful that I made the commitment to take the Practical Christian Living class this fall. I encourage every Christ-follower to commit to this life-changing study and become a fully devoted disciple. Through these classes, I have developed and matured dramatically in my walk with Him. I've moved from someone who thought, "I should do my devotional time with Christ", to someone who now feels, "I can't start each day without being in His presence."

*My life's focus has become placing Christ first and living for my Redeemer.*

As I walk my daily journey with Christ now, I'm no longer living for broken, flawed Barbara Alice.

The Practical Christian Living classes have given me a new outlook. I am so blessed by how much I have gained in wisdom and perspective, by learning how to incorporate the virtues of Christ into my life. Once I start my weekly lessons, I get lost in God's Word. I have also seen a wonderful change in my prayer life!

Though I have been a long-time child of Christ, this year's classes have expanded my knowledge of our merciful God, of Christ, and of the power of the Holy Spirit. The PCL class has taught me how to confidently share my love of Christ through my testimony. I am also deeply grateful for my fellow classmates, whom I have learned so much from, and for the incredible friendships I've made that will last a lifetime. Now that the class is complete, I already miss the class and great conversations with my classmates. How blessed I am to have Christ now leading my life because of my experience in PCL!

## Key Highlights:

- Nearly 500 women filled two evenings with celebration and community at our annual Christmas Dinner.
- 10 different small groups hosted a monthly Widows' Luncheon.
- 230 women attended Bible studies over three semesters.
- Practical Christian Living added a brand-new group with 19 women growing in their relationship with Christ.



# YOUNG ADULTS

## Impact Story - Spencer York

For sometime, I had been searching for a community of believers I could grow alongside. My church didn't have many people my age, and at my public university, I didn't have many Christian friends either. I longed for a God-centered community. So I started visiting young adult groups at different churches, but found them lacking the community I was looking for. Then, one day, I decided to go to Providence's Young Adults group, and I was instantly welcomed. I found a strong community of believers who truly cared about one another and loved the Lord. It's been such a joy to sing together, hear teaching, dive into God's Word in breakouts, and meet new brothers and sisters in Christ.

Shortly after, I was launched into deeper fellowship when I was invited to join a discipleship group with some other men from Young Adults. These groups have been a true blessing and support. As we dove deeper into God's Word, prayed for one another, and grew in friendship, I began to see for the first time how we sharpen

each other as iron sharpens iron. These men poured themselves into one another—and into me—and have been a tremendous encouragement in my own walk. I remember thinking many times, 'At last! This is what I've been looking for!' I have found food for my soul.

Each time we meet, the teaching and conversations remind me of truths from God's Word and spur me to pursue Christ more faithfully each day. And the great thing is—I get an opportunity to support and help others! Just as much as I need a community, others do, too. What a blessing to be a part of it.

I am so grateful for Young Adults and John Matthew's faithfulness in leading this group. As I continue to be involved, I'm reminded to look towards Jesus and encouraged that I am not alone in my faith.

*I remember thinking many times, 'At last! This is what I've been looking for!'*

## Key Highlights:

- We grew from 3 to 5 discipleship groups, with around 40 young adults participating in committed groups centered on growing in Jesus.
- Around 35 young adults gather each month for Young Adult Night.
- Through luncheons, service projects, social gatherings, bonfires, Friendsgiving, and Christmas celebrations - we sought to practice Christian hospitality and deepen fellowship, while many young adults continued serving faithfully and passionately throughout the broader life of the church.
- Numerous young adults meet regularly with others for one-to-one Bible reading, walking through Scripture together.





# YOUTH MINISTRY

*I have made so many friendships that refresh my soul and encourage me in my faith.*

## Impact Story - Kate Shearer

I started coming to Providence Youth Group a little over three years ago. My entire life I have attended public school and never felt like I had a group. When I began attending Youth Group, I didn't have many real friendships. I quickly noticed the difference in the community, and I realized I had finally found my people—my group.

I have made so many friendships that refresh my soul and encourage me in my faith. One of my favorite parts of coming to Youth Group on Wednesdays is getting to talk to and spend time with the leaders, many of whom I have grown close to. Their actions encourage me to strengthen my faith and grow closer to Jesus.

Another thing I appreciate about our Youth Group is the strong messages. I always feel convicted, but also encouraged, as we are given practical ways to grow in our faith and live out what is preached.

I have also created some wonderful memories on our summer trips. My first trip was Challenge two years ago, which is the youth conference we attend every other year. I felt so close to God that week, and it changed my faith forever. It also felt amazing to be there with thousands of other believers. Last summer, we went to Costa Rica on a mission trip. We worked with the youth there, mixed and laid concrete, partnered with a local church, and served around the city. My favorite part was being with the kids in the community because, even though we couldn't communicate much with them, we got to play and share joy with them.

I love our Youth Group; it is always the highlight of my week, and I am so blessed to have such a great community of believers!



### Key Highlights:

- Averaged 95 students for Wednesday night Youth Group.
- 22 students attended our first-ever Fall Retreat.
- There are 13 volunteers in Youth Ministry (fun fact, the average leader spends approximately 80 hours per academic year engaging with students during Youth Group).
- 34 students went on one of two mission trips: 23 to Costa Rica and 11 to Minneapolis.



# CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

---

## Impact Story - David and Carolyn Perkins

*Awana helps children explore the foundational truths of Christianity through Scripture memorization, sound doctrine, and meaningful relationships.*

Over the past three years, we have served as T&T Directors (3rd-6th grade) at Providence Church. We became involved in Awana because of the profound spiritual impact it had on our own family.

Awana helps children explore the foundational truths of Christianity through Scripture memorization, sound doctrine, and meaningful relationships. It serves as both a discipleship ministry within the church and an outreach to our community—an opportunity to share the Gospel with the next generation.

Our children, Zach and Jena, began attending Awana in preschool. Carolyn served as a leader and director in Cubbies, the preschool program. Each week, our kids eagerly anticipated club time and were motivated to “hide God’s Word in their hearts.” Awana provided a wonderful environment for building relationships with other families in our church. One especially meaningful moment was when our son had the privilege of sharing his testimony with a large group of peers and leaders. Awana played a significant role in shaping our family’s walk with the Lord.

Now, as newly empty nesters, we are deeply grateful for the opportunity to continue serving. We find great joy in watching children grow in confidence as they study Scripture, recite verses, and pray aloud during large group time. It is a blessing to work alongside our dedicated team of leaders and to encourage young students who are eager to learn God’s Word.

We look forward each week to students enthusiastically arriving, ready to share their verses, and build relationships. Hearing one student faithfully sing her verse each week brings us particular delight. We have witnessed shy, hesitant children grow into confident, smiling participants.

**It is truly an honor and a privilege to serve and lead as part of the Awana ministry at Providence Church.**





## Key Highlights:

- 49 dedicated volunteers pour into 104 kids every week through Awana, building faith one verse at a time.
- VBS brought out 160 adults and 60 teen helpers who helped 356 kids experience the Gospel in a big way.
- Every Sunday, over 240 kids are learning about Jesus – made possible by 235 volunteers who show up week after week.
- 20 first graders received their very own Bible.
- 23 families stood before the church and committed to raising their children in faith through Family Commitment.
- 34 babies were born into the Providence Church family.

# CARE MINISTRY

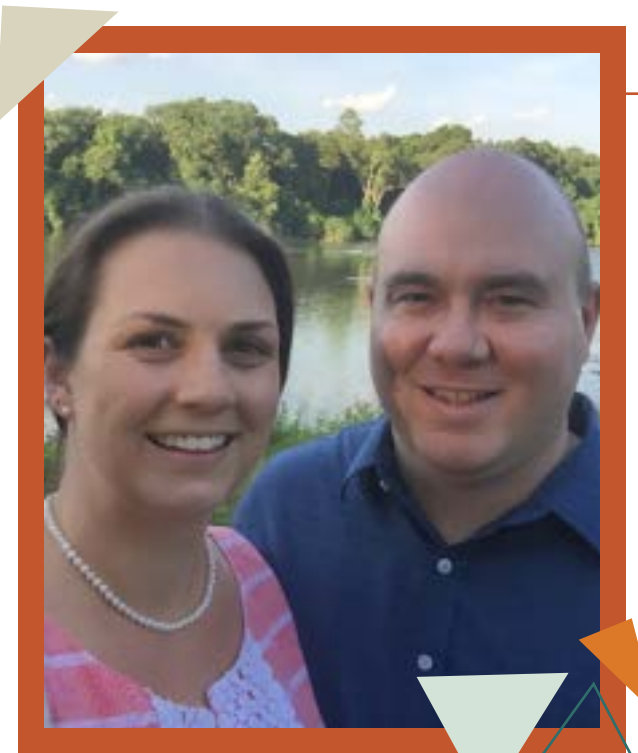
## Impact Story - Nate and Kaitlin Hoffman

Marriage is hard work and constant learning, while simultaneously being a joy and incredibly rewarding. Kaitlin and I have been blessed to have couples invest in our lives at all stages of our marriage. This caused us to see and experience the impact that one couple can have on another. Marriage is not meant to be done on an island, and like the rest of the Christian life, there are many times God uses other believers to show us aspects of life we cannot or will not see on our own.

In the marriage ministry, *we get to see firsthand God's work restoring and strengthening relationships*. Whether it is a small change like

understanding why not picking up those socks can lead to an all day fight, or that your spouse not seeing the world just like you is a mercy from God not a limitation. It is not just the marriage that grows, also their kids, families and other relationships. Few things cause as much upheaval in a marriage as a lack of unity – yet few things create as much peace and joy as a marriage centered on God.

What makes this ministry such an amazing blessing is that we are just as often learning from the people we serve as we are helping them. It is a constant reminder and push to keep our focus on Christ in our own marriage.



## Key Highlights:

- Over 500 handwritten cards were delivered for encouragement and sympathy.
- 25 people navigating chronic illness are finding community and support through our Chronic Illness group.
- 9 marriage coaching couples have walked alongside more than 20 couples.
- 20 prayer team members faithfully covered over 700 different requests this year. Praying continually so no one carries their burden alone.
- More than 50 visits made to hospital rooms, recovery beds, and homebound members.
- Over 50 meals delivered to families in need.
- 24 members are bringing the Word of God to 7 nursing homes, reaching nearly 100 people who might not otherwise hear it.

# SMALL GROUP MINISTRY

## Impact Story - Jeanne Evers

God, in His infinite kindness, goodness, grace, and joy led me to a wonderful small group! One of the first recommendations I received when I started attending Providence was: "Join a small group!" Being a slow learner from birth, it took over a year before I looked through the listing of small groups on our website.

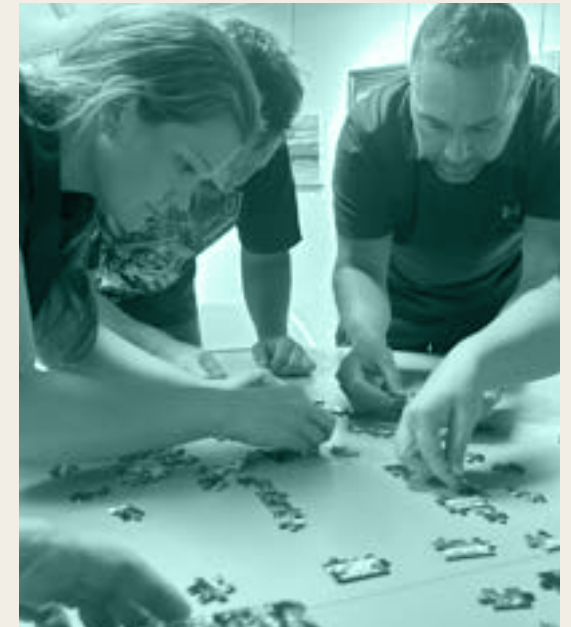
The Devadhas & Paul group jumped out at me since I had had the great good fortune of meeting both Dhanesh and Jenephin at Wednesday prayer. As they say, the rest is history. What a fun, interesting, and loving group of people! Their beautiful East Indian culture has enriched me in so many ways - the way they nod their heads back and forth to emphasize a point (okay, do you mean yes or no?); Bible discussions are always interesting as some issues look quite different through an Eastern lens; their constant mantra, "By God's grace," has humbled me more than once; above all, the depth of their heartfelt prayers never ceases to touch my own heart.

I've been beyond blessed to get to know and love my small group. They have given me a preview of what heaven is going to be like - praising and worshipping our awesome God with people from every tongue, tribe, and nation! Can't wait!



## Key Highlights:

- Over 500 people are connecting and growing together across 35 small groups.
- 55% of our 790 members are plugged into a Small Group.
- Five new small groups launched in 2025, creating fresh spaces for community.
- Over 100 leaders, co-leaders, and their spouses are investing their time and hearts into leading others.
- We are actively looking for 10 to 15 new leaders ready to open their homes and grow our community.



# WORSHIP MINISTRY

## Impact Story - Sarah Lowe

My family first came to Providence when I was about 8 years old, and we have been attending ever since. I moved out of state for college and wanted to move back to the area after graduation. Upon moving back, my desire was to serve at my home church again. Shortly after I joined membership, I volunteered to serve in the worship ministry, and what a sweet time it has been! It is one of my greatest joys to exalt the Lord's name above all through singing corporately with the church! Music has been part of my life for as long as I can remember. It is one way I learned to memorize Scripture and to set my mind on the truths of God's Word. Serving on the worship team has been a time of encouragement and an opportunity to practically live out Following Christ Together. Over the

past few years, I have gone through various trials. I saw many of the friends I have made on the worship team faithfully praying and walking alongside me during those times. I'm so thankful for the Lord's kindness in the friendships I've built through serving on the team. Serving has also opened up opportunities to connect with so many in the congregation whether that be coming in early Sunday morning to prepare or connecting with others before and between services. Worship on Sundays keeps my mind continually returning to the deep truths in the hymns we sing, always leading me to the Lord! I'm so thankful for the community I have found at Providence through serving – ***“all glory and honor to the Lord!”***

## Key Highlights:

- Our congregation has sung over 200 songs together this year on Sunday mornings.
- Some of our new songs for this year include:
  - *“The Steadfast Love of Christ”* by Sovereign Grace Music
  - *“Bless the Lord (Oh My Soul)”* by Sovereign Grace Music
  - *“Holy Forever”* by Chris Tomlin
- We've also resurrected a few older worship songs & hymns:
  - *“Everlasting God”* by Brenton Brown
  - *“Agnus Dei”* by Michael W. Smith
  - *“Give Me Jesus”* written by Rev. Jacob Knapp in 1845
  - *“How Great Thou Art”* written by Carl Boberg in 1885
- We have continued the Providence Church Choir and had our largest choir in December, with over 50 participating, including horns & timpani.



# CONNECTIONS MINISTRY

## Impact Story - Taylor and Haley Dittman



This past year we moved to the Cleveland area, a city we had never even visited. As you can imagine, we felt both terrified and excited. When Haley received a promotion at work, we were thrilled at first, but that excitement quickly gave way to uncertainty when we learned the new position would be located 140 miles from home.

Family, friends, and community have always been incredibly important to us. We love hosting people any chance we get—whether it's Friendsgiving, Super Bowl watch parties, or Haley's book club meetings. Because of that, leaving the comfort of home was a difficult thought. So we spent a lot of time praying and asking God to guide us on whether we should stay or go.

*Sorry to spoil the ending, but here we are – 140 miles from our comfort zone – sharing what God has done in our lives through Providence Church.*

When the opportunity to move to Cleveland came up, God began opening doors in unexpected ways. At the time, Taylor was working in Columbus, but his job was actually based in Cleveland. The same day Haley was offered the new position, Taylor happened to be traveling to his Cleveland office for the first time. This gave him the opportunity to talk with his company about relocating, and they were completely supportive.

After praying about the decision for a few days, we decided the first step was finding a church before moving. We reached out to our pastor in Columbus, who suggested Providence. We watched one service online and immediately felt drawn in. Austin's gentle yet straightforward approach to sharing the Gospel stood out to us. He communicates the truth of Jesus clearly while also creating space for people to ask questions.

Soon after, we started driving from Columbus to Cleveland on Sundays just to attend. Each visit, we were welcomed with kindness and genuine conversation.

Eventually we felt confident that God was calling us to move. Providence has strengthened our faith, challenged us to grow, and deepened our marriage. Being far from family and friends is difficult, but the community here has made it worth every mile. We are excited to be part of what God is doing in Avon and grateful to see how He continues to work through this church.

## Key Highlights:

- 128 people walked through the doors of Discover Providence in 2025, taking their first steps toward membership.
- 11 people made their faith public through the waters of baptism.
- 98 people call Providence home and joined the church family in membership.
- We have 790 members, doubling our membership from 2021.
- 321 people showed up Sunday after Sunday this year, serving in Connections and making every guest feel welcome.
- Lisa Baracscai stepped into a new chapter, transitioning from Ministry Coordinator to Women's Ministry Director.





# MISSIONS MINISTRY

*Faithful volunteers building genuine friendships, meeting practical needs, and demonstrating the love of Christ.*



## Domestic Missions Impact Story - Sue & Pete Kiesel via Renata Barbosa

One student from Central America joined our ministry after being invited by Randy Nickel at a local community college. She comes from a humble background and is a bright, hardworking young woman. While she is not currently a believer and has expressed skepticism toward the church, she has continued to engage with the community and faithfully attends our Dinner & Discussion gatherings.

Transportation has been a significant challenge for her. Without a car, her daily commute can take up to four hours, often requiring long bus rides and walks home in the dark.

Through the ministry, Pete and Sue Kiesel became her “American friends.” They began inviting her into their home for meals and friendship. Pete has spent time teaching her how to make wooden toys, while Sue began helping her learn how to drive. When it became clear that she could not afford the required driving classes to obtain her license, several volunteers quietly contributed to cover the cost. Because of their generosity, she has now completed the required courses and received her drivers license.

This story reflects the heart of the ministry: faithful volunteers building genuine friendships, meeting practical needs, and demonstrating the love of Christ. We continue to pray that through these relationships she will one day come to saving faith.

## Key Highlights:

### ISM (International Student Ministry)

- We had a presence at 5 separate colleges including LCCC, Oberlin College, Cleveland State University, Tri-C Westshore, and Tri-C East.
- We had 30 international and local students representing over 16 countries.
- 10 Students regularly attended a weekly Bible study.

### Domestic Partners

- 68 Individuals served at Laura’s Home, distributing food and sharing God’s love to women and children in crisis.
- Raised \$5,828.25 through our Baby Bottle drive. Raising money for Mom’s and babies in need.
- We supported 9 domestic partners. Adding two new partners including Café 87 and Garden Christian Academy.





## Key Highlights:

- 25 Adults went on 5 missions trips to Central Asia and South America.
- We supported 33 Family Units (Husband and Wife) within 9 separate countries.
- We began supporting missionaries in three new countries including Germany, Vietnam, & El Salvador.

## International Missions Impact Story - Cara & Quentin Daily

*Those quiet moments of prayer and testimony remind us why we came: to point people to Christ and to encourage the missionaries faithfully serving there.*

Traveling to Kyrgyzstan on international mission trips with my son Quentin has been one of the greatest blessings of my life. What began as an opportunity to use my professional gifts as a neurodevelopmental psychologist has grown into something far richer—an experience of serving God together as mother and son while watching Him work in ways we never imagined.

During these trips, I have the privilege of teaching parents, teachers, physicians, and other professionals about autism and other special needs. In a place where resources and understanding are limited, even simple knowledge can be life-changing. We discuss recognizing signs of autism, supporting children with special needs, and helping families move from isolation toward hope. Many parents arrive feeling overwhelmed or ashamed, but leave encouraged that their child has value, dignity, and purpose.

Quentin has played an equally meaningful role. While I teach adults, he speaks in schools to hundreds of teenagers about character, integrity, and faith. Watching him stand confidently in front of students from another culture and share about living with purpose has been incredibly meaningful. Some of my favorite moments are seeing him connect naturally with local teenagers—laughing, talking, and building friendships that cross language and cultural barriers.

Together we also share the Gospel with families of children with special needs and gather in small home churches with local believers. Those quiet moments of prayer and testimony remind us why we came: to point people to Christ and to encourage the missionaries faithfully serving there.

Perhaps the most meaningful part for me has been watching Quentin grow in his relationship with Christ. Each trip I see greater maturity, compassion, and courage in him. It has also been a joy to watch him support the missionary teenagers who often feel isolated, encouraging them in their own walks with the Lord.

God has taken my love for children with autism and used it for His glory—not only through international missions, but by allowing my family to serve together. What began as a personal calling to teach has grown into a ministry that now invites other teenagers and their parents from our church and local Christian schools to join these trips. Seeing teenagers and their families serve together, share the Gospel, and grow in faith has been an incredible blessing.

**What started as one opportunity to serve has become a pathway for many families to experience how God can use their gifts to impact lives around the world.**

# RESIDENCY PROGRAM



## Impact Story - Nate Washburn

*The residency program exists to equip and train future pastors and leaders for a lifetime of faithful ministry.*

I began attending Providence at the start of 2025, with no intent to end up as a Pastoral Resident, but I am so glad that this is where the Lord has led me. The residency program exists to equip and train future pastors and leaders for a lifetime of faithful ministry. Being the first resident in this official program felt uncertain at first, then daunting—and has now become one of the greatest blessings of my life and a significant step in my aspiration to the pastorate.

Throughout these first six months, I have served consistently in the youth ministry alongside Pastor Caleb. I have had the opportunity to help plan and lead the fall and winter retreats, lead several Bible studies, preach at Wednesday night youth group, and lead a small group of high school guys.

During my first four months, I also shadowed Pastor John, helping him plan the upcoming adult education classes and writing curriculum for one of them. I assisted John in the Young Adult's ministry as well, where I had the opportunity to preach at one of the monthly gatherings and participate in a discipleship group. I recently transitioned to shadowing Pastor Brian. In this transition I started attending men's Bible study, teaching at several

Men's Breakfast, sitting in on baptism classes, and leading one Join Providence class.

God has used this residency to humble me greatly as I aspire to this weighty calling, and as I work and serve alongside gifted and godly people. Building relationships during my time here has often put me on the receiving end of encouragement and constructive feedback, which the Lord has used to shape both my practices and attitudes. I have learned to accept my limits (with difficulty at times) and have grown in both my convictions and competencies as a servant of the church. I have grown as a preacher, small group and Bible study leader, friend, brother in Christ, and listener.

*This residency has deepened my appreciation of the diversity of the Body and encouraged me as I continue in pursuit of pastoral ministry.*





# FINANCES



# FORWARD TOGETHER



The church has continued to faithfully fulfill Forward Together pledges, contributing an estimated \$5.8 million between November 2024 and March 2026. Outstanding pledges totaling \$1.6 million are expected to be fulfilled by the end of December 2026. Due to the overwhelming support of the congregation, construction expenses will be paid with cash, eliminating the need for a long-term loan.

In October 2025, we celebrated the one-year anniversary of Forward Together with an incredible night of worship and prayer. Our congregation came together to lift our voices in praise and seek the Lord in prayer as we look ahead with anticipation to how He will use our building.

| Infrastructure Project   |             |
|--|-------------|
| # of spaces added to our original 236 spaces   | 230         |
| Total cost of the infrastructure project   | \$2,075,865 |
| Project costs paid in cash<br><i>(combination of building fund reserves and \$684 thousand donated during the project)</i> | \$775,865   |
| Christian Investors Financial loan for the project, to be paid back over a 25-year period                                  | \$1,300,000 |

| Forward Together Building Expansion   |             |
|---|-------------|
| Total cost of the project   | \$6,300,000 |
| Total gifts received <i>(as of 3/31/2026)</i>   | \$5,798,458 |
| Outstanding Pledges<br><i>(includes \$189 thousand of pledges for the completed infrastructure project)</i> | \$1,619,982 |
| Expected longterm loan  | \$0         |

## Key Highlights:

- The parking lot expansion wrapped up in the fall of 2025, doubling our capacity.
- The retention pond was added to provide adequate drainage for the expanded parking lot and building expansion.
- The Residency Program had a successful first year and is ready to bring on a second resident.
- The Building expansion is to be completed this summer.
- Moving more Midweek programming is moving to Wednesdays so families can be together.
- Providence Institute is ready to launch this fall.
- Funding is in place, and we are working to replant The Orchard Church in Olmsted Township.

# GENERAL FUND

| General Fund                           | Approved Budget<br>2025-2026 | Forecasted Actual<br>2025-2026 | Proposed Budget<br>2026-2027 |
|--|------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Building/Capital                       | 618,000                      | 569,000                        | 456,000                      |
| Outreach & Missions                    | 325,000                      | 325,000                        | 330,000                      |
| Benevolence                            | 12,000                       | 12,000                         | 0                            |
| Ministries & Support                   | 413,000                      | 401,000                        | 471,000                      |
| Personnel                              | 1,732,000                    | 1,690,000                      | 1,923,000                    |
| <b>Operating Expenditures</b>          | <b>3,100,000</b>             | <b>2,997,000</b>               | <b>3,180,000</b>             |
| Expected Contributions to General Fund | 3,100,000                    | 3,030,000                      | 3,180,000                    |
| Surplus                                | 0                            | 33,000                         | 0                            |

*\* Proposed Budget 2026-2027 presented to members for approval*



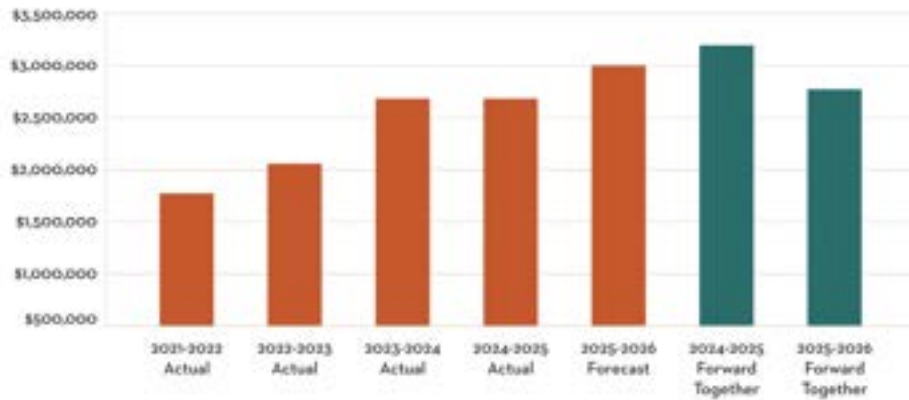


# CONTRIBUTIONS

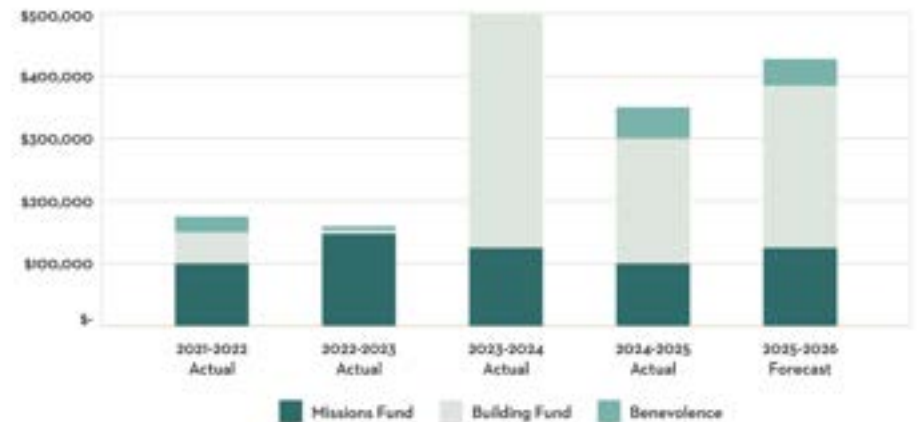
General Fund contributions have grown annually, with a projected increase of \$275,000 in fiscal year 2026 over the 2025 fiscal year. This giving supports our regular ministries and daily operations.

Building, Missions, and Benevolence gifts have also increased in fiscal year 2026. Gifts to the Building Fund were used for the parking lot expansion, which was completed in late 2025. The Missions Fund received approximately \$75,000 in Christmas Initiative gifts, which supported two building projects for ministries in Central Asia, as well as a local project at Garden Christian Academy. An additional \$50,000 in missions gifts was allocated to support adult mission trips and ongoing domestic and international efforts. Despite the significant resources directed to other funds, the church has continued to respond to the call in Galatians 6:10 to support our brothers and sisters in Christ, giving more than \$36,000 to the Benevolence Fund.

## General Fund & Forward Together



## Building, Missions, & Benevolence



|               | 2021-2022 Actual | 2022-2023 Actual | 2023-2024 Actual | 2024-2025 Actual | 2025-2026 Forecast |
|---------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| General Fund  | \$1,706,124      | \$2,103,800      | \$2,724,430      | \$2,755,723      | \$3,030,000        |
| Missions Fund | \$98,103         | \$150,000        | \$131,843        | \$107,733        | \$125,000          |
| Building Fund | \$51,085         | \$7,900          | \$394,591        | \$191,539        | \$265,000          |
| Benevolence   | \$30,540         | \$3,800          | \$34,457         | \$45,994         | \$38,000           |

# CASH & INVESTMENTS

- In fiscal year 2026, the Building Fund surplus was used for the Forward Together building expansion and is returning to pre-construction levels.
- The Church Planting Fund was established at the end of fiscal year 2025 and will be fully funded at \$200,000 by the end of fiscal year 2026, as approved by the members in the 2024 Forward Together vote.
- The Benevolence Fund has grown to over \$100,000, and contributions have kept pace with benevolence needs; therefore, no additional money will be transferred from the General Fund to the Benevolence Fund.
- The General Fund and Missions Fund remain stable, with sufficient resources to cover normal operations for at least three months.



## Cash & Investments at Fiscal Year End

