

# CCCCOV

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CLAY CENTER COVENANT CHURCH

## 2024 Report

*2025 Annual Meeting*  
*January 26, 2025*



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# Evangelical Cov. Churches President



DECEMBER 2024

## *Greetings Covenant Family,*

**I pray this finds you in a spirit of anticipation in this Advent season. As the year draws to a close, it is important to pause and reflect on the many things that God has done and is doing, and this annual letter helps me to be intentional about that pause. There is so much to rejoice over this year.**

First and foremost, thank you for your prayers! When I visit your church or you send me a note, it really does mean the world to me that you are praying. I could not do the work of the church without these sustaining prayers. Second, thank you for inviting me to be part of your church services and celebrations. I love connecting with you and am so inspired by how you are responding to God's call in your local context. Your creativity as you care for your communities is encouraging and fills me with hope. Over the last year I have had the opportunity to participate in 17 local worship services and anniversary celebrations, attend four regional conference gatherings, and attend three international events. I have seen firsthand the movement of the Holy Spirit around the Covenant's multiethnic mosaic!

Additionally, I was grateful for the opportunity to engage with our students and student leaders this summer at Unite East and Unite West. What a beautiful experience to see the commitment of students and to enjoy worshiping with them. I left with a sense of great hopefulness for this generation. Thank you for sending your students to this impactful experience.

Looking forward, I am excited to invite you to Orlando, Florida, for Gather 2025. We will be celebrating 140 years of ministry as the Covenant Church, and I have invited Covenant presidents from around world to celebrate with us. What a joyful event this will be to celebrate all that God has been doing in, around, and through our collective mission. I hope that you will consider attending this celebration in June, either as a delegate from your church or as a general conference attendee. This is a unique opportunity to be able to bear witness to the global kingdom of God and to learn from leaders around the world in person. For the latest details and updates, visit [covchurch.org/gather](https://covchurch.org/gather).

*For God's glory and neighbor's good,*

**Tammy Swanson-Draheim**, PRESIDENT, EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH

# Midwest Conference



December 2024

*In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets ... but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son ... The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being ...*  
Hebrews 1:1-3

Dear friends,

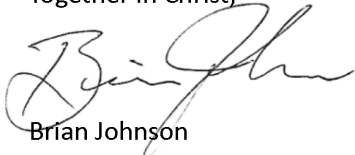
Our focus this year in the Midwest Conference has been [Re]Discovering Jesus. We rejoice that the Creator God has made himself known by becoming flesh and dwelling among us in Jesus. Jesus invites us both into God's family and into God's work of redeeming and renewing a broken world, even as we wait for His return.

As we conclude 2024, many of our congregations are experiencing the fresh work of God. We rejoice in baptisms signifying new life in Jesus. We thank God for leaders who are developing and engaging in immersive discipleship experiences across the conference and the invitation to be agents of reconciliation to a hurting world. And we celebrate God's work among our youth with a record attendance of over 300 at our fall high school retreat! God is at work in all this and so much more.

In the coming year, we look forward to offering opportunities for developing and resourcing fruitful leaders. We are also working toward lowering barriers so that every pastor and every congregation can be connected and encouraged, because isolation diminishes the health of churches and the effectiveness of leaders. We anticipate the launch of Manhattan Covenant Church in Manhattan, Kansas, and invite you to join us in praying for those God will bring to this budding ministry.

As your congregation gathers for your Annual Meeting, may you experience the radiance of God's glory in your encounters with Jesus as you continue to take the gospel into your community. Thank you for holding your MWC team in prayer. We have a small but gifted team who love to serve our leaders and churches. It is a joy to journey with you as we continue to support and encourage one another in the work to which we are called as Jesus followers. We look forward to seeing you April 25-26 at Hillcrest Covenant in Prairie Village, Kansas, for our Annual Ministry Celebration!

Together in Christ,



Brian Johnson  
Superintendent

# Letter to the Congregation



December 2024

Dear Church Family,

One year ends and another begins. I often find myself doing evaluations this time of year, perhaps you do also. There are all kinds of evaluations, such as job performance, financial evaluations, evaluations with crop production and marketing professionals, and for those in school, there are always final exams!

I also have my annual physical examination about this time each year. A number of different measurements, or markers, are evaluated by my doctor and compared to historical results. All of the blood tests, etc. are fine, but I don't look forward to stepping on the scale! The truth, however, is that all of these markers are being checked for my benefit, and to help my doctor give me advice on how to live a healthier and probably longer life. His advice about what I can do to improve my health is extremely valuable. Sometimes it is encouragement to keep doing certain things, and sometimes it's encouragement to make changes, maybe even to take off a few pounds! The critical question is, am I going to do anything different; am I going to make any changes as a result of this evaluation?

As I was thinking about what to write for this letter, I was tempted to make a list of the things that the Leadership Team and the Church did last year, thank everyone, and call it good. God has been at work. God has been, and continues to be, good and gracious with us individually and as a church, and there have been some really encouraging things happen this year. There are a lot of "markers" that I am thankful for and encouraged about in our church. At the same time, if we are doing a spiritual physical, we might also see a few markers that show us areas where we can make improvement, i.e. lose a few pounds and become more spiritually fit! I know that is true for my life personally.

I am easily convinced that I deserve to "put my feet up" spiritually and not to keep running the race as described in Hebrews 12:1, I Corinthians 9:24, and Philippians 3:14. I am also accomplished at hearing and knowing the Word, and not really doing anything different in my life because of it. I've been thinking about the first 11 verses of John 15 lately, where Jesus is giving very specific instructions about the need to "abide." To abide in Him and to have His Word abide in us. One of the things that struck me is that it takes *intentional effort* in order to do this. It is not going to happen any other way. "Abiding" sounds kind of "sedentary," but really it is anything but sedentary. I have an Adversary who is intent on distracting, discouraging and diverting me in every way imaginable so that I don't abide in Christ. And when I don't abide in Christ, I don't have the peace, security, fruitfulness, joy and fullness of life that He wants me to have.

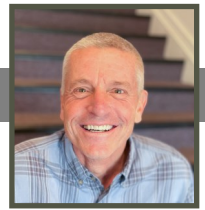
My prayer for the next year for myself, and for all of us, is that we would be very intentional and successful at abiding in Christ. I am truly thankful for our Staff, our Leadership Team, and for each of you as we pursue being the Church that Christ has called us to be.

As always, I, and all on the Leadership Team, welcome your questions, thoughtful input, and prayerful support. I thank you and look forward to the coming year!

Merlin Chestnut,  
Leadership Team Chair



# Lead Pastor



## Mission/year goals from 2024

The three areas I was hoping to see growth within during the 2024 year involved:

- a. Presenting the Gospel clearly and encouraging an abiding faith in Jesus within all whom God grants the opportunity to encounter. *My evaluation of fulfillment: This may be a lifetime desire for me – meaning that I will always seek present the Gospel and our need for Jesus clearly – along with the invitation to begin a relationship with Jesus right now. There is an urgency that is increasing in my heart and passion.*
- b. Cultivating leaders and leadership within each generation. *My evaluation of fulfillment: Passion may be strong in this area; building a workable process for leadership development continues to need finessing.*
- c. Prayerfully planting spiritual seeds. *My evaluation of fulfillment: Simply prayer on Sunday evenings is a solid start to prayerfully planting spiritual seeds.*

## Highlights from the year:

Here are a few of the areas where we have seen Ephesians 3:20 expressed:

*Ephesians 3:20 Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us...*

- The water-walk this summer – raising funding for water-wells in Chad, Africa. Not only did we see multi-generations participate in a ministry opportunity that impacted those beyond our local congregation, we also saw God stir hearts for giving towards these wells. We started with the desire to raise funding for at least 1 well in Chad (\$3000/well); and ended up raising over \$28,000. Wow! Far more abundantly than all that we ask or think. We continue to pray for this ministry and what our next steps might be in this area.
- People – all ages! I thank God for stirring people’s hearts to participate in Wednesday evening ministries, home groups, worship teams, tech teams, worship teams, Sunday morning ministries, prayer ministries, youth groups and Sunday School. May God continue to make us hungry!

## Growth/challenges during the year:

- Counsel that is not heeded
- Encouragement that sharpens and not enables

## List of significant events in 2024

- Learning from the Minor Prophets
- Funerals of very special people
- Simply Prayer on Sunday evenings
- Baptisms and DC Sunday
- 1 on 1 meetings with staff members and congregation folks

## Direction for 2025:

1) Shepherd the staff well:

Goals for 2025:

- Help each staff member identify a leadership skill they would like to grow in
- Increase prayer coverage for each staff

2) Shepherd the church well (by solid biblical teaching, pastoral care and participation/leading in church-life)

Goals for 2025:

- Develop leaders/system for ministry gaps (PCT, women, inside/outside)
- Help lead and seek to position the church to fulfill God’s calling in our community by praying/thinking through church leadership for the next 5 years

Brad Mann,  
Lead Pastor



# Associate Pastor



I want you to know how grateful I am to be able to serve as one of your pastors, it's hard to believe that I am now in my 8th year serving at Clay Center Covenant. I count each day as a blessing. I am thankful to be able to serve alongside Pastor Brad and such an amazing staff team.

It was fun to watch how God continues to move among the students. Students are owning their faith for themselves and taking significant steps towards Jesus. It was a blessing to be a part of baptizing 9 middle school and high school students this year! We praise God for working on the hearts of these students!

I am grateful for the many leaders that I have the privilege to serve alongside. For April Lyon and Kelly Mann as they lead the children's ministries, they do a fantastic job. I'm grateful for the many that have used their gifts to teach and facilitate opportunities for adults to learn on Sunday mornings in Sunday school classes. I'm grateful for the many adults that are faithfully investing the middle school and high school students...the mentors, Sunday school teachers, Confirmation teachers, Power Hour leaders and high school youth leaders. Many volunteers are needed to offer so many opportunities for our adults and students to grow.

This past May I graduated from North Park Theological Seminary with my Masters in Christian Formation. I'm thankful for the support, encouragement and prayers from this congregation as I hammered away at my seminary work for the past 4 years. Graduation from seminary had been something that I had been pursuing off and on for the past 20 years, thank you for creating the space for me to finish! Now that I have my master's degree, I can move my credentials in the denomination from commissioning to pursuing ordination. I anticipate being ordained in June, 2026!

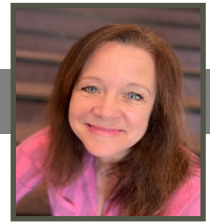
Thank you for continuing to pray for, encourage, support and love on Sara, the boys and me. We count every day that we call Clay Center home a blessing!

Mark Peterson  
Associate Pastor of Youth and Families





# Connections Ministry



## Mission:

- WELCOME OTHERS as we look beyond ourselves and notice those around us.
- CONNECT and share the good things God is doing with our brothers and sisters. Connect needs with those who can help meet those needs.
- REACH OUT as we grow in our relationship with Christ and be intentional sharing about Him with others.
- Assist people in taking next ministry steps.

## Highlights from the year:

- Friendship Packs in 3 different ways: Hot Drinks, Ice-Cream or Toppings, and Pork Burgers. Used as tools to provide encouragement and a jumping off point to look outwards and be an influence in someone's life.
- Water Walk
- >60 significant scheduled meet ups with people for any of the following: showing value, listening, encouragement, connection, assimilation.
- Welcome Team added new greeters, Starting Point volunteers, and ushers.

## Growth/Challenges of the year:

- Growth- 7 New Members following even larger membership class
- Growth- New Connection Cards, including a QR code, in pews; not loose in programs
- Challenge- People filling out those Connection Cards
- Challenge- Staffing enough ushers for 2<sup>nd</sup> service is a growing challenge
- Growth- Spiritual Gifts class

## Significant Events:

- 200+ participated in June Water Walk. Team leaders excelled. We walked 3.7 miles and raised over \$28K for 9.5 wells to be drilled in Chad, Africa for villagers who walk for water.
- Post Piotique Clean up of Ct. House, Dexter Park, and fairgrounds.
- Connecting with school staff through Blessing snacks in November
- Newcomer lunches

## Direction for 2025:

- Continued use of new Friendship Packs to encourage relationships, encouragement, and/or witnessing.
- Security discussions and application for the building.
- One-time usher meetings first of month during shift to review roles, give updates, and brief on new security practices

Jana Cott,  
Connections Coordinator



# Worship Ministry



## Missions/Year goals from 2024

A goal from 2024 was for worship to be more participatory for all ages in the congregation. We tried various things to accomplish this. All ages led prayer and communion in the services throughout the year. The Maundy Thursday service provided creative worship opportunities for all ages. During the month of June, various leaders from the team organized and implemented the services at the park. The December worship services were arranged in a way to include all ages in singing, testimony, Scripture reading, and special music. Through these participatory experiences, I pray that the team and congregation have experienced God in new ways and been transformed through worship, which is always the ultimate goal and vision of every year.

## Highlight from the year

The Maundy Thursday service was a personal highlight. Having the congregation in a circle in the MPR for worship has been a desire of mine for years. With Jesus and the symbols of Holy Week at the center and creative expressions of worship around the edge, we moved through the service together utilizing a booklet I created in collaboration with Melissa Wisner. It was a joy to create this service. Another highlight was the Christmas season in the “living room” with multiple people involved in creating an atmosphere of worship and participation. I also greatly enjoyed the Thank You BBQ for the team in May. It was a joy to fellowship together!

## Growth/Challenge from the year

The team is intergenerational, which is a joy on many levels. Along with this is the fact several musicians graduate from high school and move on to college in new towns and become active in new ministries. This is good and healthy, but also a challenge to continue to grow new musicians and integrate new instruments.

## List of significant events

- Video service for Ash Wednesday and Mid-Lent worship and prayer service
- Maundy Thursday intergenerational and interactive service in the round
- Thank You BBQ for the team and the fellowship time together
- Services in the park led by various volunteer leaders from the worship team
- All Team Sing! Vocalists and instrumentalists alike sang as a choir to lead the services throughout the year
- December “Living Room” services and the numerous people involved
- Introducing new musicians to the team

## Direction for 2025

Psalm 105:4 says “Seek the LORD and His strength; seek His presence continually.” This is my desire for our team and congregation for 2025. That we would continually seek the presence of God individually in the minutes of our days and congregationally when we are together for worship.

Laurie Larson,  
Worship Pastor



# Media and Technology



## Mission/year goals from 2024

1. Support the various ministries and events with their media/technology needs.
2. Support and encourage our Sunday morning Tech Team.
3. Maintain and update the website, server, livestream, and other technology needs within the church.

## Highlight from the year

Opportunities to use the creative side of my skills, whether in graphics, audio, or video.

## Growth/Challenge of the year

Keeping up with ever-changing technology: computers, livestream, internet etc.

## List of significant events

- Increasing number of those worshipping on-line and how to better engage them, especially in light of some technical issues we've been experiencing.
- Worship In The Park, the tech side.
- Providing video / technology needs for memorial services, weddings, etc.
- Purchase of hot spot monitors for use (especially for Worship in the Park)
- Graphics for sermon series.
- Continuing Ed in several areas of my job (cyber Security, photoshop, audio/visual)

## Direction for 2025

May the Lord be glorified as we continue to move forward with the many aspects of media & technology that intertwine throughout our ministries in the church and beyond the walls of our building. How can we incorporate our mission and vision through technology to those we may never meet but connect to us through technology? May He give me wisdom as I continue to look for ways to mix technology with creativity as we continue to point all to an eternal walk with our Lord!

"Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen."

Ephesians 3: 20-21, NIV

Jan Keim,  
Media/Technology



# Early Childhood Ministry



## Mission:

It has been a privilege and a joy to be on staff at CCCov! For that, I am very grateful!

The mission for the Early Childhood Ministry is to know, love, and point to Jesus! It's an exciting honor to be part of a team that introduces children to the love of God!

*I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth. 3 John 1: 4*

## Highlights:

- Sunday mornings are busy times for families with young children. The nursery cares for babies 0-2 years old. We typically have 4-6 children in the nursery during the first service, 2 during Sunday school and 2 during the second service.
- Children's Church is available for preschool children during the 9:00 worship service. Teachers volunteer for an entire month and a no-prep lesson is provided. This past year we've had 6-8 children most Sundays.
- During the Sunday School hour, we currently have a combined class for preschool and kindergarten children. This class has 7-8 children.
- On Wednesday evenings during the school year, we hold Kid's J.A.M (Jesus And Me) for ages 3 through kindergarten. This year we typically have 13-15 children on Wednesdays. We offer biblical lessons, crafts, play-time and a snack. It's a busy night and lots of fun!
- The Ark Preschool continues to bless young children and families in our community with preschool classes for children ages 3-Pre-K. This school year, we have two classes. Greta Hadduck does a wonderful job of teaching and leading the 3-4-year-old class. Jamie Reed is the program director, and she is the teacher for the Pre-Kindergarten class.
- Wonder Week was an exciting week during the summer. In the Early Childhood department, we provided *Seeds and Scripture* themed biblical teaching, music, and crafts for 25 children, ages 3 through kindergarten. We welcomed regular members and attendees as well as people from the community.

## Growth/Challenge of the year:

I'm continuing a journey of learning about available resources for young families as well as the needs of today's busy families. I'm also learning how to best schedule our amazing volunteers and how they impact ministry.

## Direction for 2025:

One of my goals for the new year is to provide consistent, strong biblical teaching to our young children as well as provide resources for parents to utilize in the spiritual teaching for their children.

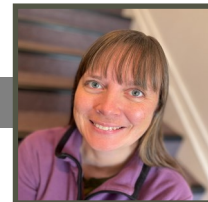
I am thankful for CCCov's dedication to Children's Ministry. I've loved getting to know families, welcoming several new babies, encouraging, and supporting parents, loving, and teaching little ones and leading them to know Jesus.

I sincerely thank everyone who has joined me in ministry to young children. I appreciate each of you and have loved serving families and little ones with you.

Kelly Mann,  
Pastor for Early Childhood Ministry



# Elementary Children's Min.



## Mission for the year 2024:

The mission for the Elementary Children's Ministry was to teach Biblical truth and other spiritual practices in a fun and engaging way. We provided opportunities to build relationships with each other and with Jesus as we learned and deepened our faith together. By developing an active relationship with Jesus, we discovered the need to share Him with others in our community and beyond.

## Highlight of the year:

I feel the highlight of our year was during the Lenten/Easter season. The Holy Spirit used several lessons to begin some deeper conversations with the children and by cultivating a sense of wonder and utilizing some reflective time journaling we were able to come alongside the work He was doing. Incorporating other spiritual practices and different ways to pray enhanced the experience further and helped make the Lenten season fruitful as the kids engaged with God on a deeper level.

## Area of Growth/Challenge of the year:

This year I felt challenged to create an atmosphere during Kid's Club on Wednesday evenings which reflected many aspects of the larger Sunday morning worship time while maintaining some of the small group elements and fun fellowship. We have enjoyed worshipping through music, prayer and interactive Bible teaching. We provided intentional reflection during a quiet journaling time followed by small group discussions with peers and a group leader. The kids were also encouraged to learn several portions of Scripture using song and dance. Further fellowship opportunities were provided through participation in large group games or by spending time putting together some creative crafts.

## List of Significant Events:

- Wonder Week "Seeds & Scripture"— a fun week of learning about the significance of seeds in the Bible, plus time in skill-based learning including Macramé, Woodworking, Decorating with Frosting, Jewelry Making, Exploring Nature, STEM (Building with Cardboard), Physical Fitness and Learning about Nicaraguan Spanish Culture. This year we invited the whole church (all ages) to join us for this special week and it was a fun time of intergenerational fellowship and learning!
- Eyes to See Christmas Blessing: 3 local families were covered in a wave of generosity and love. Each family's list of needs was met, including a dryer, new tires for two of the family vehicles, two beds, a kitchen table and chairs, a lawnmower and much more!
- Christmas Nativity Skit

## Direction for 2025:

Moving forward in 2025 I'm hopeful we can continue to make children and families feel so comfortable in our church it becomes a second home. I hope we continue to grow with Jesus, developing a greater awareness of His presence in the world and in our own lives, and through this intimate personal relationship with Him become courageous enough to share His good news with others. I pray we continue to be blessed with adults willing to invest whole-heartedly in kids who belong to our church and the community. Statistics show most of us were introduced to Jesus before the age of 12; I pray we recognize the need to sincerely join the Holy Spirit in this work. God bless you all!

April Lyon,  
Pastor for Elementary Children



# Youth Min.



## Mission/year goals from 2024:

This year we have seen some amazing spiritual growth within the middle school and high school students. Students are spending time in and wrestling with scripture. They are asking some significant and formative questions about life, faith and what it truly means to pursue God. Our goal for 2024 was to encourage holistic transformation beyond head knowledge and I believe we are seeing God answer that prayer. We praise God for how he has been at work in the lives of the students!

## Highlight(s):

- Having opportunities to witness transformative moments! Students taking next steps in their faith: being baptized, sharing their testimony, responding to God's call to ministry and faithfully walking in obedience with Jesus.
- The high school mission trip to Lake Traverse Reservation in South Dakota.
- Seeing our high and middle school students engaging in ministry inside and outside the church. A few examples: Helping to lead worship, volunteering in the middle school and children's ministries, greeting, ushering, counseling at Cedars and leading FCA at the middle school and high school.
- Camp and fall retreats are always a highlight for me and the students!

## Growth/Challenge:

We have an ongoing need for additional adult volunteers to invest in the students' spiritual lives.

## List of significant events:

Weekly Youth Groups, Sunday School, Discipleship/Confirmation, Camp Night, Summer Camp, Mission Trip to Lake Traverse Reservation, Bible Studies, Prayer Stations, Small Group Connect Nights, Fall Retreats, Baccalaureate, Graduation Sunday, Discipleship/Confirmation Sunday, Serving at the Lighthouse, and many additional opportunities throughout the summer and school year.

## Direction for 2025

- Equip students to be life-long disciples of Jesus! Our hope is that students will fall in love with pursuing Jesus through his word and letting Jesus transform every area of their lives.
- Evaluate our current ministry and adjust the areas that need to be adjusted for students to be challenged and continue to grow.
- Live out the church's mission, aiming for middle school and high schoolers to know, love, and passionately share Jesus.
- Maintain a welcoming space for all students, fostering questions and growth.

***Thank you to the many volunteers that step in to invest in students on a weekly basis! This ministry would not exist without their commitment. Also, thank you to the parents, for letting us partner with them in pointing their middle school and high school students to Jesus!***

Mark Peterson,  
Associate Pastor of Youth and Families



# Adult Sunday School

## Mission/year goals from 2024:

Our goal for 2024 was to continue to evaluate how we are approaching adult Sunday school and make shifts that we may need to make to continue to provide the classes/groups that will challenge and encourage adults to grow closer to Jesus. One way of doing this was that we wanted to continue to encourage those that attend adult Sunday school classes to be digging into God's word outside of Sunday mornings. As we went throughout the year, we also wanted to make sure we are not just filling our heads but also engaging our hearts as well. In 2024, we tried to offer classes that focused on studying a specific book of the Bible, classes that engaged in spiritual disciplines, practical application classes such as grandparenting, discipleship classes and classes that focused on who God is. We also leaned into intergenerational ministry opportunities by learning together, serving together and praying together.

## Highlight(s):

- The intergenerational Sunday school week when the high school students planned and shared about the mission trip. The students shared about how they saw God at on the mission trip and gave the adults/kids opportunities to ask questions.
- The intergenerational Sunday school week where the adults/youth/children served together to bless the teachers at Garfield and Lincoln with care packages at the beginning of the school year. It was fun to see how the church came together to provide the supplies but also put the care packages together and pray over them.

## Growth/Challenge:

Our growth/challenge area for the adult Sunday school ministry continues to be the same as it has the past couple of years as we need a larger base of teachers/group facilitators that are willing to serve in this ministry. If we don't have the teachers/group facilitators that are willing to serve, we are not able to offer as many classes and not be able to offer the learning opportunities that we hope to offer in 2025. This challenge has limited us in what we were able to offer at times in 2024. Please be praying about how you might be able to invest in others by teaching or facilitating a group in 2025!

## Direction for 2025:

Much like 2024, in 2025, we hope to continue to evaluate the Adult Sunday School ministry and to ask the question, "what is it that our congregation needs at this time in order to continue growing closer to Jesus?" In 2025, we hope to be able to offer a variety of different learning opportunities: large group, small group and intergenerational. We want CCCov to grow both in their knowledge and their love of Jesus!

## List of significant events:

### **November 2023 – January 2024**

Fasting (2 weeks)  
Prayer (2 weeks)  
Studying Scripture (2 weeks)  
Giving Thanks (2 weeks)

### **February 2024 – April 2024**

Grace Based Grandparenting  
Love One Another (BLESS)  
Ephesians, Small Group Study  
The Ministry of the Holy Spirit

### **July 2024 – August 2024 (Summer Sunday School)**

Better Together Launch  
Wonder Week Recap  
Listen In: Story Sharing Part 1  
High School Mission Trip Recap  
Listen In: Story Sharing Part 2  
School Service Project  
Fall Open House/Launch

### **August 2024 – October 2024**

1 & 2 Thessalonians  
Donuts & Dialogue  
Parables of Jesus  
Discipleship: The Study

### **November 2024 – January/February 2025**

Discipleship: The Study  
Mark: Living a Jesus Shaped Life  
The Power of God's Names  
What the Bible Says About Money

*Thank you to the many volunteers that have stepped in to teach adult classes in 2024, we couldn't have classes without such dedicated volunteers!*

Mark Peterson,  
Associate Pastor of Youth  
and Families



# Home Groups

## Goals for 2024:

- Challenge each Home Group (HG) leader to be mentoring, encourage spiritual growth in group members, and continue to facilitate ministry that focuses both inward and outward. Promote seasonal HG leading and involvement. Also to dig deeper and not settle for good enough.

## Highlights from year:

- Several groups have added new participants.
- Some seasonal HGs were a huge hit and filled to capacity quickly.

## Growth/Challenges of the year:

- Home groups that will actively invite others to join their group. We would like to see our home group ministry grow – help our home group leader consider splitting if their groups are full.
- We want to support and encourage our Home group leaders – all of them are seasoned and well-equipped leaders. The challenge for us is to bring support that is needed and timely.

## Significant Events:

- January Huddle: Had 3 different HG leaders prepare and share their behind the scenes stories and how managed within HGs.
- Appetizer and Question night at August Huddle for leaders. Learning from one another and expounding (and laughing) about different points of view and leading philosophies.
- 4 seasonal HGs added during 2024

## Direction for 2025:

- Encourage Home Groups to have relational time together and encourage leaders to foster leadership in at least one group member.
- Encourage more seasonal HGs. Seasonal HGs continue to be very successful and a good fit for those who want to initially check one out, or don't want to commit for long term.

Brad Mann & Jana Cott,  
Home Group Coordinators





# Intergenerational Efforts



## Background for an intergenerational effort in 2024 and beyond:

“Intergenerational ministry occurs when a congregation intentionally combines the generations together in mutual serving, sharing, or learning within the core activities of the church in order to live out being the body of Christ to each other and the greater community.” - *Intergenerate*, page 17

This year CCCov made an intentional effort to create spaces and opportunities for engagement for all ages in the church to participate equally and be valued as part of the body! The staff read the book, *Intergenerate* to help us form a deeper theological and practical framework for what this looks like in a church’s culture. Each person on staff made efforts to do this with in their own ministry areas (as you read within some of the other reports), and the LT supported staff efforts to create some space in the regular calendar to see this take shape.

## Significant Events:

- In February, we hosted a trial for “Final Sunday Fellowships” which happened during the Sunday School hour from 10:15-11:00. It was called the Connection Hour and was held in the Multi-Purpose Room with several stations with the hopes of bringing people together. The event was planned and facilitated by a small team that included representatives from multiple generations from pre-teens through adults.
- During the summer, we planned food and activities that would engage all ages following the 6 Sundays of Worship in the Park. The survey following the summer revealed that people loved having time and space to be together as ONE church body. Upon returning to the building in July, we chose to continue meeting at a whole church body during the Sunday School hour for seven weeks for the “Better Together” Sunday School Series which was intergenerational from first grade on up.
- Wonder Week made a significant change towards intergenerational inclusion, allowing people of all ages to register for classes! In the past, adults would participate in Wonder Week or other children’s ministry activities such as VBS in leader and volunteer roles. This year, adults could learn shoulder-to-shoulder alongside children to master a skill! The classes were fantastic at creating opportunities for learners of all ages to engage!
- Once the school year began, we started Final Sunday Fellowship times on a regular monthly schedule. These are monthly events created to engage all ages so people can build relationships and cross paths with one another. Final Sunday Fellowship included Potique clean-up/service day, Chocolate & Chats, The Blessing Project, and New Year’s Game Day! We plan to continue these through the current academic calendar year.
- Finally, church-wide events that occur beyond our regular Sunday morning ministry time are excellent opportunities for intergenerational leadership and participation. We have jumpstarted a group that is currently named The Fun Team to help facilitate these events. The first event they planned in 2024 was the Hayride and Bonfire, which was such a fun night for the church to be together!

## Direction for 2025:

Since this is a newer focus-area for ministry at CCCov, we hope to do some reflection in 2025 from what we have learned so far, and continue establishing the work of The Fun Team as well as incorporating creative intergenerational opportunities throughout all of our current ministries.

“And yet, becoming more intentionally intergenerational in outlook and practice is not an end in itself. It is a means that God uses to form Christians and the Christian community through encouraging and building each other into Christlikeness (1 Thess 5:11; Phil 2:5-11). Intergenerational ministry is a tool for forming disciples that are learning together to love the things God loves, in the way that God loves.” - *Intergenerate*, page 70-71

Melissa Wisner,  
Office, Communications and Community Life



# Property Team



The Properties Team had a fairly busy year as the building ages, the repairs and maintenance increases.

## Mission of the Properties Team:

- To keep the Church facility aesthetically appealing and welcoming, so the Church can be used for worship and ministry.

## Highlights from 2024:

- Installed a new roof over the office portion of the building.
- Sealed entire parking lot.
- Painted all the parking lines.
- Replaced main water line.
- Sprayed weeds.

## Challenge of the Year:

- Trying to find a water leak in the main line in a very dry year, because the leak would not come to the surface.

## Property Team Members:

- Greg Close
- Robert Cott
- Lynn Greenlee
- Matt Thompson
- Jerrod Ryals
- Daton Hess - Property Team Chairman

**The Church is TRULY BLESSED to have a custodian like Aryln Sanneman (who is blessed with many talents ) who goes above and beyond to keep the church in outstanding condition.**

Daton Hess,  
Property Team Chairman



# Pastoral Care Team

## Mission/Goal 2024:

Our mission is to help others in need, knowing the truths of Ecc. 4:9-12, that "Two are better than one," and "if one falls, the other can reach out and help." The PCT's ministry focuses on four areas of extending care through the love of Christ: practical helps, visitation, grief, and prayer.

## Highlight and Growth/Challenge of the Year:

A new ministry of practical helps of having a supply of frozen meals available in the church freezers has been accomplished. This allows staff/team to quickly fill a need when it comes to their attention. A small group of women work together with Vicki Peterson to keep these meals available. This is in addition to the meals arranged in cases of illness, death, and births. If you are interested in contributing to the frozen meal ministry, please contact Vicki Peterson.

## List of Significant Events:

- The Hope Group for grief support continues to meet 2 times a month. Leadership has developed from within the group so Margaret Bideau is able to share that responsibility.
- The Bible study that grew out of the Hope Group in 2022 is now meeting weekly instead of 2 times a month. The women continue to grow in their love for Jesus and His Word and in friendship with one another.
- Visits to our shut-ins are made by the team members and a few other volunteers with the goal for at least one visit a month. These visits are a blessing both to the visitor and the one visited.
- The church prayer requests are consistently prayed for. Cards are sent to many of those requesting prayer. Often a personal text message or call is made as well.
- The August open house event during the Sunday School hour provided us with an opportunity to invite others to serve on the team.

## Direction for 2025:

The team would be strengthened by having other gifted/called individuals serve. We gladly added Joyce Werrick to the team in September! Others would certainly be welcome.

## Team Members:

Tammy Thompson, Vicki Peterson, Robyn Brown, Aaron and Sylvia Greenawalt, Joyce Werrick, Dee and Fred Wait, Pastor Mann

Dee Wait,  
PCT Coordinator



# Missions Team

## Highlight from the year

The highlight from this year was being able to sit down with our missionary partners from ELLs and listen to their hearts for pastors in Africa who have very little access to training. We were able to enjoy fellowship around the table and hear about their successes and challenges and how through it all God has provided.

## Growth/Challenge of the year

We are continually challenged on how to support our missionary partners better. We know that support of them is a vital part of their long term success.

## List of significant events

- Hosting multiple missionary partners visiting CCCov
- New partnership with Max McClure
- Long-time partners Junior Obregon and Ziegelbaurs retiring from missions work
- Tefts finished raising support and are now on the field in Bosnia

## Direction for 2025

- Finalize plans for 2025 trip to Nicaragua and begin training the team
- Continue to look for ways to support and encourage our missionary partners

Julie Hughes,  
Missions Team



## Mission/year goals from 2024:

The purpose of Men2Men Ministry is to help the men of Clay Center Covenant Church become disciples: Men Knowing God – men who are called to walk with Christ, Men Connecting Men – equipped to live like Christ, and Men Sharing Christ – sent to work for Christ.

## Highlight from the year:

We had our annual Beast Feast event on October 13<sup>th</sup> this year. Approximately 140 men and boys had the opportunity to fellowship, worship, and hear a message presented by Kim Vass who serves as the director and owner of Camp L.I.T. He shared personal testimonies and challenged the men to get involved and give back to programs, etc. that God has given us giftings for.

Nick Regier and his family did a wonderful job again in the preparation and cooking of the hog. Cott Family Farms blessed us again with the donation of the hog. It is always fun to see so many men and boys get involved in different ways to make the event a success.

## Growth/Challenge of the year:

It continues to be the desire of M2M to have the men of our church invest in discipleship and the spiritual disciplines that come along with it. What a blessing it is when we hear the testimonies of individuals that have been discipled and invested in. May we all be challenged to invest in others. Some scriptures that continue to challenge us as a team:

No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful later on however it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it. *Hebrews 12:11*

All scripture is God breathed and useful in teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work. *2 Timothy 3:16-17*

As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another. *Proverbs 27:17*

## Significant events:

Our M2M Team continues to put on the annual Beast Feast each year and we enjoy the opportunity to feast and fellowship with brothers in our church, as well as community. We were also able to provide support at this summer's Water Walk event.

## Direction for 2025:

The direction for the Men's ministry in 2025 is to continue with the vision of the church to **Know, Love, and Point to Jesus** in all we do and plan. We encourage and welcome men to step in and use the gifts that God has given them, to serve and love others for God's kingdom in 2025 and beyond. We encourage men to reach out to members of our team if they have interest in serving with us.

M2M Team: Heath Craig, Cody Newell, Nick Regier, Jeff Riffel, Shawn Stratton



# 2024 Financial Summary

## Letter from the Financial Officer

God continues to show His faithfulness to our fellowship by providing for our finances once again this year. From a budget standpoint, our expenses were in excess of our tithes and offerings by \$19,421.51. However, due to a generous memorial gift our overall accounts increased by \$35,956.46.

Melissa Haden continues to serve as the church accountant and does an excellent job. We hired Christiaan Wiid a year ago to do the bill paying and deposit responsibilities and he also has done a great job.

As we began the budget process for 2025, the Leadership Team asked staff and ministry teams to develop their budgets by leaning into our Mission/Purpose Statements of: "To Know Jesus", "To Love Jesus", and "To Point to Jesus". The Leadership Team has prepared the budget using the recommendations of each of the ministry teams as well as the church staff. The proposed budget for 2025 is an increase of 3.75% from the 2024 budget.

May God continue to bless our ministry and provide for our financial needs as we seek to carry out our mission and purpose as a church in 2025.

Kyle Cott  
LT Financial officer

## Benevolence Fund

Through the Benevolence Fund, we have assisted approximately 20 families or individuals this year. Thanks to all who have contributed to the fund. If you would like to give to the Benevolence Fund, simply write "Benevolence Fund" on the memo of your check and place it in the offering. This year, we designated the Christmas Eve offering to this fund.

Beginning Balance 1/1/24	\$19,846.06
Benevolence Fund Giving 2024	\$5,669.00
Interest Earned	\$24.86
Benevolence Fund Checks Written	(\$6,918.56)
2023 Giving that came through in 2024	\$6,982.00
<b>End Balance 12/31/24</b>	<b>\$25,603.36</b>

# 2024 Financial Summary

## EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH

Bank Balance	167,080.72
NCP Church Demand Investment	92,474.86
Union State Bank CD	25,000.00
Union State Bank CD	25,000.00
Union State Bank CD	25,000.00
Union State Bank CD	25,000.00
GNBank CD	35,017.76
Accounts Payable as of 12/31/23	<u>(8,331.18)</u>

Net Funds January 1, 2024 Per Prior Statement 386,242.16

Receipts Exceeding Expenditures 35,956.46

Net Funds December 31, 2024 422,198.62

### Balances at End of Current Period

Bank Balance	196,949.90
NCP Church Demand Investment	95,295.37
Union State Bank CD	26,199.21
Union State Bank CD	26,199.21
Union State Bank CD	26,199.21
Union State Bank CD	26,199.21
GNBank CD	36,502.99
Accounts Payable	<u>(11,346.48)</u>

Net Funds 422,198.62

Special Designations/Carryover Funds (104,424.02)

Net Available Funds 317,774.60

### SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS/CARRYOVER FUNDS -

Building - Long Term Replacements 2002-2023 Net	48,310.10	
Building - Long Term Replacements 2024	20,000.00	
B/J Underground	(2,620.00)	
Vogts-Parga Construction, LLC	(14,903.75)	
McGee Roofing	(8,000.00)	
		<u>42,786.35</u>

Future Church Plant - 2013 - 2023 Net of Expenditures	2,382.66	
		<u>2,382.66</u>

Missions Special Designations 2003-2023 Net	46,637.74	
Missions Special Designations 2024	9,500.00	
Great Awakenings - Gabe Hedman	(500.00)	
Ezri Catlin	(500.00)	
Wycliffe - Ledebuhr Travel Support	(3,000.00)	
Student Mobilization - Isaac Lee	(500.00)	
Great Awakenings - Africa Trip	(2,500.00)	
		<u>49,137.74</u>

Vision Project Designation 2012-2023 Net	10,617.27	
Vision Project Designation 2024		
City of Clay Center Parks Department - Worship in the Park	(500.00)	
		<u>10,117.27</u>

Total Special Designations/Carryover Funds \$ 104,424.02

# 2024 Financial Summary

## Evangelical Covenant Church of Clay Center

### Statement of Financial Position

As of December 31, 2024

	TOTAL
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
10200 Regular Checking Account	196,949.90
10800 NCP Chuch Demand Invest	95,295.37
11000 USBCC CD - 3056	26,199.21
11200 USBCC CD - 3057	26,199.21
11400 USBCC CD - 3058	26,199.21
11600 USBCC CD - 3059	26,199.21
11800 GNBANK CD - 0320	36,502.99
<b>Total Bank Accounts</b>	<b>\$433,545.10</b>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>\$433,545.10</b>
Fixed Assets	
15500 Building & Improvements	525,000.00
15600 New Building Addition	454,898.13
<b>Total Fixed Assets</b>	<b>\$979,898.13</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$1,413,443.23</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
20000 Accounts Payable	11,346.48
<b>Total Accounts Payable</b>	<b>\$11,346.48</b>
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>\$11,346.48</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$11,346.48</b>
Equity	
39003 Equity in Funds	1,012,743.19
39004 Equity Adj Princpal/Imp	306,834.25
Retained Earnings	46,562.85
Net Revenue	35,956.46
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>\$1,402,096.75</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>	<b>\$1,413,443.23</b>



# 2025 Proposed Budget

Account ID	Account Description	2024 Budget	2024 Through Dec 31	% of Budget as of Dec 31	2025 Proposed Budget	Incr/Decr from 2024
<b>BUDGETED RECEIPTS</b>						
41000	Tithes & Offerings	713,183.02	638,009.54	89%	739,924.50	26,741.48
	<b>Total Budgeted Receipts</b>	<b>713,183.02</b>	<b>638,009.54</b>	<b>89%</b>	<b>739,924.50</b>	<b>26,741.48</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>						
<b>CHILDREN'S MINISTRY</b>						
60000	Children's Ministry Curriculum	2,000.00	1,122.11	56%	2,000.00	-
60200	VBS	2,000.00	1,479.66	74%	2,500.00	500.00
60400	Elementary Children's Programming	1,500.00	1,418.02	95%	1,500.00	-
60500	Early Childhood Programming	1,500.00	1,142.04	76%	1,500.00	-
60600	Christmas Program	700.00	331.94	47%	700.00	-
61000	Nursery	1,000.00	546.31	55%	750.00	(250.00)
61200	Camp Scholarships	2,000.00	-	0%	2,000.00	-
61550	Elementary Children's Equipment	500.00	386.08	77%	500.00	-
61600	Ark Expenses	350.00	275.00	79%	350.00	-
61700	Early Childhood Equipment	500.00	410.62	82%	500.00	-
61800	Elementary Children's Family Resources	1,000.00	978.77	98%	1,000.00	-
61850	Early Childhood Family Resources	500.00	38.54	8%	250.00	(250.00)
61900	Camp Expenses	1,500.00	1,096.33	73%	1,000.00	(500.00)
	<b>Total Children's Ministry</b>	<b>15,050.00</b>	<b>9,225.42</b>	<b>61%</b>	<b>14,550.00</b>	<b>(500.00)</b>
<b>YOUTH MINISTRIES</b>						
62600	Youth Ministry Events & Supplies	3,750.00	3,208.90	86%	3,750.00	-
62900	Youth Ministry Food	1,250.00	971.10	78%	1,250.00	-
63100	Youth Tech Equipment/Software	300.00	15.98	5%	300.00	-
63150	Youth Special Events Scholarsh	1,200.00	580.00	48%	1,200.00	-
63800	Youth Ministry Curriculum	1,500.00	903.43	60%	1,500.00	-
63950	Youth Leader Development	900.00	633.12	70%	900.00	-
64000	Discipleship/Confirmation	1,400.00	1,074.24	77%	1,400.00	-
64100	Youth Leaders Fees	4,500.00	4,460.00	99%	5,700.00	1,200.00
64300	Youth Missions Opportunities	4,000.00	3,196.65	80%		(4,000.00)
64600	Youth Retreats	1,350.00	902.40	67%	6,350.00	5,000.00
64700	Youth/Children Game Equip Replacement	300.00	134.23	45%	300.00	-
	<b>Total Youth Ministries</b>	<b>20,450.00</b>	<b>16,080.05</b>	<b>79%</b>	<b>22,650.00</b>	<b>2,200.00</b>
<b>ADULT MINISTRIES</b>						
65050	Spiritual Formation Team - Adult SS	500.00	654.56	131%	1,000.00	500.00
65070	Outreach	6,990.00	2,017.88	29%	7,425.00	435.00
65080	Connections Budget	2,105.00	541.49	26%	3,290.00	1,185.00
65090	Specials				500.00	500.00
65125	Resource Center Exp Exc Rev	500.00	767.28	153%	500.00	-
65150	Men's Ministry	250.00	-	0%	250.00	-
65200	Women's Ministry	500.00		0%	500.00	-
65210	20's Ministry				500.00	500.00
65225	Single Mom's Ministry	500.00		0%	-	(500.00)
65300	Library (Books, Supplies, Furn)	100.00	62.14	62%	300.00	200.00
65350	Staff Development	800.00	508.78	64%	750.00	(50.00)
65360	MINCO	400.00	100.00	25%	360.00	(40.00)
	<b>Total Adult Ministries</b>	<b>12,645.00</b>	<b>4,652.13</b>	<b>37%</b>	<b>15,375.00</b>	<b>2,730.00</b>
<b>SALARIES &amp; COMPENSATION BENEFITS</b>						
	<b>Total Salaries &amp; Compensation Benefits</b>	<b>395,654.02</b>	<b>388,510.36</b>	<b>98%</b>	<b>408,839.50</b>	<b>13,185.48</b>
<b>FELLOWSHIP TEAM</b>						
68500	Fellowship	3,200.00	2,139.84	67%	3,200.00	-
68800	Kitchen/Coffee Bar Supplies	1,600.00	1,458.46	91%	1,800.00	200.00
	<b>Total Fellowship Team</b>	<b>4,800.00</b>	<b>3,598.30</b>	<b>75%</b>	<b>5,000.00</b>	<b>200.00</b>

# 2025 Proposed Budget

Account ID	Account Description	2024 Budget	2024 Through Dec 31	% of Budget as of Dec 31	2025 Proposed Budget	Incr/Decr from 2024
<b>PASTORAL CARE TEAM</b>						
70000	Pastoral Care Team Training/Materials	400.00	168.21	42%	600.00	200.00
70400	Pastoral Care Team Funerals	1,000.00	503.15	50%	1,000.00	-
	<b>Total Pastoral Care Team</b>	<b>1,400.00</b>	<b>671.36</b>	<b>48%</b>	<b>1,600.00</b>	<b>200.00</b>
<b>NATIONAL/CONFERENCE MEETINGS</b>						
71600	Midwinter Pastor's Conference	2,500.00	1,008.23	40%	2,500.00	-
71650	Midwest Conference Pastor/Spouse Retreat	2,000.00		0%	2,000.00	-
71800	Covenant Annual Meeting	4,000.00	418.00	10%	4,000.00	-
72000	Midwest Annual Meeting	1,500.00	170.00	11%	1,500.00	-
72100	Called & Gifted Retreat	300.00		0%	300.00	-
	<b>Total National/Conference Meetings</b>	<b>10,300.00</b>	<b>1,596.23</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>10,300.00</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>OFFICE ADMINISTRATION</b>						
73100	Background Check-Youth & Child	150.00	1,061.22	707%	250.00	100.00
73250	Website Hosting & Improvemts	709.00	477.53	67%	740.00	31.00
73400	Equipment Repair & Maint	500.00	79.99	16%	500.00	-
73500	Equipment & Software Purchase	9,100.00	7,792.90	86%	8,500.00	(600.00)
73520	Contracted Bookkeeping	4,000.00	3,900.00	98%	4,020.00	20.00
73525	Contracted Acctg Service	4,900.00	4,900.00	100%	5,000.00	100.00
73530	Acctg Office Supp/Software	1,400.00	974.91	70%	1,400.00	-
73550	Software-Church Community Bldr	2,500.00	2,496.00	100%	2,500.00	-
73600	Internet Connection Chg/Phone	3,600.00	2,662.67	74%	2,700.00	(900.00)
73800	Copies & Printing	6,000.00	5,996.10	100%	6,000.00	-
74000	Postage	750.00	631.19	84%	750.00	-
74200	Office Supplies & Printing	1,200.00	582.36	49%	1,000.00	(200.00)
	<b>Total Office Administration</b>	<b>34,809.00</b>	<b>31,554.87</b>	<b>91%</b>	<b>33,360.00</b>	<b>(1,449.00)</b>
<b>CONFERENCES/DENOMINATIONAL GIVING</b>						
71705	Covenant Shared Ministry Budg	26,000.00	26,000.04	100%	26,000.00	-
71750	Midwest Conference Budget	26,000.00	26,000.04	100%	26,000.00	-
	<b>Total Conf/Denominational Giving</b>	<b>52,000.00</b>	<b>52,000.08</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>52,000.00</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>MISSIONS TEAM - OUTSIDE OUR FELLOWSHIP</b>						
76000	Covenant Cedars	900.00	900.00	100%	900.00	-
76200	Operation Christmas Child	600.00	30.38	5%	600.00	-
76400	Missionary Weekend	750.00	750.00	100%	750.00	-
76600	Common Ground	3,000.00	3,000.00	100%	3,000.00	-
77000	Labor of Love	650.00	650.00	100%	650.00	-
77200	Lighthouse for Christ	2,000.00	2,000.00	100%	2,000.00	-
77600	Time 4 U	2,000.00	2,000.00	100%	2,000.00	-
77700	Hope House (Women)	750.00	750.00	100%	750.00	-
77800	Faith Mission (Men)	750.00	750.00	100%	750.00	-
78000	C-4 Intl Mission Trips					-
78200	C-4 National Mission Trips					-
78400	College/Student Short Mission					-
79400	Weibe Support	900.00	900.00	100%	900.00	-
79600	TEAM - Aaron & Jessica Catlin	5,400.00	5,400.00	100%	5,400.00	-
80000	Clint Decker/Great Awak Suppt	5,400.00	5,400.00	100%	5,400.00	-
80100	John & Amy Battenfield Support	5,400.00	5,400.00	100%	5,400.00	-
80200	Avant - Kara & Carson Hildebrand	3,600.00	3,600.00	100%	3,600.00	-
80300	Zigelbaur -> now Max McClure Support	1,800.00	1,800.00	100%	1,800.00	-
80400	Bob Stratton Community Pastor	5,400.00	5,400.00	100%	5,400.00	-
80500	HIS Ministry	4,000.00	4,000.00	100%	4,000.00	-
80600	Merge Ministries - Dale Lusk	5,400.00	5,400.00	100%	5,400.00	-
80700	ELLS International	2,700.00	2,700.00	100%	2,700.00	-
80900	Pioneers - Laura Beth & Jared Tefft	3,600.00	3,600.00	100%	3,600.00	-
81000	Junior(Nicaragua) CCC	900.00	750.00	83%	-	(900.00)
81100	Local FCA Coordinator	2,700.00	2,700.00	100%	900.00	(1,800.00)

# 2025 Proposed Budget

Account ID	Account Description	2024 Budget	2024 Through Dec 31	% of Budget as of Dec 31	2025 Proposed Budget	Incr/Decr from 2024
81300	Ken Goodyear Support	5,400.00	5,400.00	100%	5,400.00	-
81350	Loran & Kensey Ledebuhr Supp	2,700.00	2,700.00	100%	5,400.00	2,700.00
81400	Non-Category Mission Expense	1,000.00	262.69	26%	1,000.00	-
	<b>Total Missions Team</b>	<b>67,700.00</b>	<b>66,243.07</b>	<b>98%</b>	<b>67,700.00</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>PROPERTIES TEAM</b>						
83000	Church Repair & Maint	7,500.00	7,119.89	95%	7,500.00	-
83200	Long Term Replacement/Carryover	20,000.00	20,000.00	100%	25,000.00	5,000.00
83400	Custodial Supplies	2,000.00	1,881.84	94%	2,000.00	-
84000	Property Insurance	22,600.00	22,948.00	102%	26,500.00	3,900.00
84200	Workman's Comp Insurance	4,000.00	3,056.00	76%	4,000.00	-
84800	Exterminator	800.00	600.00	75%	800.00	-
85000	Lawn Care	3,000.00	2,715.12	91%	3,000.00	-
85200	Church Van - Gas/Repairs/Maint	500.00	958.99	192%	1,000.00	500.00
	<b>Total Properties Team</b>	<b>60,400.00</b>	<b>59,279.84</b>	<b>98%</b>	<b>69,800.00</b>	<b>9,400.00</b>
<b>UTILITIES</b>						
85600	Electric & Water	13,500.00	14,120.71	105%	15,000.00	1,500.00
85800	Kansas Gas Service	6,000.00	3,172.92	53%	5,500.00	(500.00)
	<b>Total Utilities</b>	<b>19,500.00</b>	<b>17,293.63</b>	<b>89%</b>	<b>20,500.00</b>	<b>1,000.00</b>
<b>INSIDE/OUTSIDE UPDATES MINISTRY</b>						
86100	Inside Updates	2,500.00		0%	2,500.00	-
86200	Outside Updates	2,000.00		0%	2,000.00	-
86300	Church Aesthetics/Furniture	2,000.00	182.99	9%	2,000.00	-
	<b>Total Inside/Outside Updates Ministry</b>	<b>6,500.00</b>	<b>182.99</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>6,500.00</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>WORSHIP MINISTRY</b>						
86500	Instruments & Maintenance	800.00	100.00	13%	800.00	-
86600	Music - Worship Team	175.00	9.99	6%	150.00	(25.00)
86650	Music - Tech Booth	50.00		0%	50.00	-
86800	Tech Equipment & Maintenance	5,000.00	2,414.99	48%	5,000.00	-
86900	Stage Development	1,000.00	820.49	82%	1,000.00	-
86950	Service Development	1,700.00	825.24	49%	1,500.00	(200.00)
87000	Worship Team Development	850.00	362.09	43%	850.00	-
87100	Tech Team Development	400.00		0%	400.00	-
		<b>9,975.00</b>	<b>4,532.80</b>	<b>45%</b>	<b>9,750.00</b>	<b>(225.00)</b>
<b>OTHER MISCELLANEOUS</b>						
89000	Other Expense	2,000.00	2,009.92	100%	2,000.00	-
	<b>Total Other Miscellaneous</b>	<b>2,000.00</b>	<b>2,009.92</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>2,000.00</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>		<b>\$ 713,183.02</b>	<b>\$ 657,431.05</b>	<b>92%</b>	<b>\$ 739,924.50</b>	<b>\$ 26,741.48</b>
<b>BUDG RECEIPTS IN EXCESS (SHORT) BUDG EXP</b>		<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ (19,421.51)</b>		<b>\$ -</b>	
<b>NON-BUDGETED RECEIPTS</b>						
91000	Benevolence Fund Giving		1,000.00			
91100	Vision Project Giving					
91105	Future Church Plant					
91400	Mercy's Cry					
91500	Flowers - Designated Giving		650.00			
92500	Building Use		2,070.00			
93000	Missions - Designated Giving		7,000.00			
93500	Long Term Replacemt Non CashFd		20,000.00			
94000	In & Out Items		99.90			
94800	Interest Income		9,241.09			
95001	Memorials		42,786.75			
94999	Other Non Budgeted Receipts		4,709.93			

# 2025 Proposed Budget

Account ID	Account Description	2024 Budget	2024 Through Dec 31	% of Budget as of Dec 31	2025 Proposed Budget	Incr/Decr from 2024
<b>Total Non-Budgeted Receipts</b>			\$ 87,557.67			
<b>NON-BUDGETED EXPENDITURES</b>						
95050	Benevolence Fund Paid Out		1,000.00			
95767	L/T Updates		25,523.75			
95800	Missions Special Designation		4,500.00			
96000	Flowers		655.95			
96110	Vision Project Expenditures		500.00			
96200	Mercy's Cry - Expenses					
96400	Future Church Plants Funded					
99999	Misc Non Budgeted Expenditures					
<b>Total Non-Budgeted Expenditures</b>			\$ 32,179.70			
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS IN EXCESS(SHORT) BUDG EXP</b>			\$ 35,956.46			

# 2024 Annual Meeting Minutes

## CLAY CENTER EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH

Minutes of the January 28, 2024

Annual Congregational Meeting

### CALL TO ORDER

- The Annual Meeting was opened in prayer by Dana Kelley.
- The Leadership Team Chair Merlin Chestnut, called the meeting to order at approx. 11:05a.m. A quorum was established with 76 members present, along with many others present.

### APPROVE MINUTES OF THE 2023 ANNUAL MEETING

The Minutes of the 2023 Annual meeting were written by Denise Beutler. Jean Frigon motioned to approve the 2023 minutes, Tim Penner seconded, the minutes were approved.

### MINISTRY REPORTS

Merlin requested that those in attendance look over the Ministry Team Reports. Chad Haden prayed for the Ministries in 2024.

### ELECTION OF NOMINEES

Jeff Riffel announced the candidates from Nominating Team for election:

#### Leadership Team:

- Cindy Roth (3-year term to end at the beginning of 2027, with a possible second 3 yr. term)
- Nick Regier (3-year term to end at the beginning of 2027, with a possible second 3 yr. term)
- Dana Kelley (second 3-year term to end at the beginning of 2027)

#### Pastoral Relations Committee: 3-year term, one term total

- Julie Chestnut (3-year term to end at the beginning of 2027)

#### Auditor: 2-year term, one term total

- Jean Frigon (term to end at the beginning of 2026)

#### Nominating Team: 2-year term, with a possibility of 3 terms

- Susan Tiers (Second term to end at the beginning of 2026)

Jack Kelley made a motion to vote for the entire slate of candidates to approve for election. David Larson seconded; when put to a vote electees were approved for positions, motion carried.

### PRAYER FOR ALL SERVING

Pastor Brad prayed for Denise Beutler and Jeff Riffel and thanked them for their service on Leadership Team. He also prayed for all serving in elected positions.

### VISION FOR 2024

Pastor Brad shared the vision for 2024. He shared three areas he feels the Lord is leading people to focus on for 2024:

- Prayer- seeking God before there is a crisis.
- Intergenerational Opportunities to be provided for the church body.
- Relationships, focusing on ways to build relationships within and outside the church to bring light to the darkness.

Kathe Decker read the lyrics to "Be Thou My Vision" and prayed for God's plans in 2024.

# 2024 Annual Meeting Minutes cont.

## 2023 FINANCIAL REPORT/ 2024 BUDGET

- AUDITOR'S REPORT—Derrick Tiers shared that Maury Catlin filled in for Kerri Spielman as she was out of town and unable to go over the finances at the time it was due to be done. He complimented Melissa Haden and her detailed work with the finances of the church. Everything appeared to be in excellent order with no concerns noted. He mentioned that they are trying to formulate a check list to pass off to next year's auditors to make the transition easier and get some ideas to be sure all the areas of the finances are checked well.
- Kyle Cott, Leadership Team's Treasurer, said God provided for our finances this year! He mentioned for 2023 expenditures exceeded our budgeted receipts by \$13,353.46. When non-budgeted receipts and expenditures were factored in the total expenditures were \$28,125.37 more than total receipts. Part of the reason being that the parking lot was paved this past year and a heating unit needed to be replaced. Overall, we are in good shape with sufficient funds in our operating accounts.
- There was a question about how the Benevolence fund is being used. Typically, a staff member or one of the pastors is made aware of a financial need or an individual asks for assistance. Most requests utilize around \$300-500. Pastor Brad said it is used a few times a month (2 or 3 times) on average. Last year \$3,400 was given out of the Benevolence Funds.
- Kyle and Merlin stated that the 2024 budget was 1.96% higher than the 2023 Budget.
- It was noted that Alex Velasco was no longer with Merge Ministries, so he is no longer receiving missionary support from our church.
- A question was asked how the amount of money we give to the denomination each year is decided--is it our decision or does the denomination tell us how much we must give? Merlin clarified that it is our decision and that we have over time slowly increased how much we give but have leveled off in the last couple of years due to being at a higher level of giving compared to our peers.
- Bob Larson motioned to approve the 2024 Budget Sharon Yarrow Seconded and voted on motion carried.

## CLOSING

Nick Thompson gave a closing Thanksgiving prayer for 2023 and prayed for 2024.

The Meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m. with a motion and a second motion, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Dana Kelley



# Leadership Team 2024

Name	Position	Contact
Merlin Chestnut	Chair	785-632-7086
Chad Haden	Vice Chair	785-447-0678
Dana Kelley	Secretary	785-632-0403
Kyle Cott	Financial Officer	785-447-2236
Kathe Decker	Member	785-632-5989
Nick Regier	Member	785-447-2244
Cindy Roth	Member	785-447-0467
Nick Thompson	Member	785-632-4717
Brad Mann	Lead Pastor	720-317-4309
Mark Peterson	Associate Pastor	785-447-1489

2024 Church Treasurer—Melissa Haden, 447-2251

# Election Ballot 2025

**Submitted by the Nominating Committee: Dana Kelley, Brad Mann, Nick Regier, Kari Stratton, Susan Tiers**

**Leadership Team: 3-year term, with possibility of 2 terms**

Josh Macy—1st term to begin in 2025, possibility of second term to begin in 2028

**Auditor: 2-year term, 1 term total**

Lon James—one term to begin in 2025

**Nominating Team: 2-year term, with a possibility of 3 terms**

Kari Stratton—3rd term to begin in 2025



# CCCov: Records of 2024

## Records

### **Funerals at CCCov (4)**

Doug Gingles

Jack Kelley

Jack McChesney

Emma (Mina) Purling-Burkett

### **Baby Baptisms/Dedications (2)**

Coyer Clark

Miriam Haddock

### **Baptisms (19)**

Michael Beach

Savanah Bloomdahl

Luke Gibson

Noah Gibson

Gavin Gillard

Annalea Hendrickson

LaNae Jackson

Autumn Jamison

Grayson Jump

Erica Keeler

Ella Macy

Kenya Macy

Noah Macy

Leslie Mulligan

Atticus Parry

Ariel Revell

Mazey Smith-Neet

Addisyn Stapp

Jaxson Taylor

### **Confirmands (1)**

Ella Macy

## CCCov Membership

**12/31/23 Membership Count: 216**

**Deceased: 2**

**Transfers/removals: 1**

**New members: 7**

Margaret Bideau

Jen Peterson

Matt Peterson

Wade Reh

Shelley Reh

Jennifer Stapp

Christopher Stapp

**12/31/24 Membership Count: 220**

## **Vision:**

We are a church that is working in cooperation with the work God is doing to fulfill the Great Commission in Clay County and beyond. (Matthew 28:19-20)

## **Mission/Purpose:**

CCCov desires to be led by the Holy Spirit in becoming a gospel-centered community that earnestly seeks to live into the following: To KNOW Jesus (salvation), To LOVE Jesus (discipleship), To POINT TO Jesus (evangelism)

## **Values:**

Jesus, Prayer, God's Word, Missions, Children & Youth





# Church Membership Roster 2024

## CHURCH MEMBERSHIP ROSTER EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH OF CLAY CENTER, KS

Membership as of December 31, 2024

Elby Adamson	Jason Fitzpatrick	Laura Larson	Denton Roetter
Durwin Beauchamp	Laura Fitzpatrick	Robert Larson	Gabe Roetter
Doug Beikman	Reba Fox	Diane Lenhart	JR Rosenquist
Sara Beikman	Steve Fox	Wayne Lenhart	Rhonda Rosenquist
Denise Beutler	Jean Frigon	Mike Liby	Cindy Roth
Ron Beutler	Phil Frigon	Pat Liby	Rob Roth
Margaret Bideau	Margaret Geer	Erika Lips	Brent Rundell
Lindsay Bloomdahl	Heather Germann	Matt Lips	Charlotte Rundell
Shon Bloomdahl	Austin Gillard	Josh Lloyd	Jerrod Ryals
Gailyn Boeschling	Michelle Gillard	Tammy Lloyd	Stephanie Ryals
Sandy Boeschling	Bob Gilmore	Allie Lohrmeyer	Joyce Salava
Rebekah Brandt	Linda Gilmore	Jacob Lohrmeyer	Arlyn Sanneman
Phil Brown	Darrell Gingles	April Lyon	Linda Sanneman
Robyn Brown	Jane Gingles	Travis Lyon	Jan Schurle
Kenneth Carlson	Deena Green	Briana Macy	Kevin Schurle
Jan Carver	Josh Green	Josh Macy	Gary Schulze
Beth Catlin	Aaron Greenawalt	David Macy	Cody Schwartz
Maury Catlin	Sylvia Greenawalt	Rebecca Macy	Laura Schwartz
Julie Chestnut	Lynn Greenlee	Emily Macy	Kerri Spielman
Merlin Chestnut	Grant Griffiths	Nathaniel Macy	Christopher Stapp
Laurie Clark	Tina Griffiths	Deb Martin	Jennifer Stapp
Grant Clay	Marsha Habluetzel	Shauna Martin	Justin Sternberger
Suzanne Clay	Greta Hadduck	Carol Michaud	Kate Sternberger
Larry Clemons	Perry Hadduck	Dean Michaud	Bob Stratton
Vicki Clemons	Chad Haden	Doreen Milligan	Linda Stratton
Arlyn Close	Melissa Haden	Jarold Milligan	Kari Stratton
Jo Close	Michael Haden	Dorinda Morrissette	Shawn Stratton
Greg Close	Tami Haden	John Morrissette	David Thompson
Kathy Close	Jason Hall	Gloria Newell	Susan Thompson
Christina Colson	Kris Hanson	Joe Newell	Hilary Thompson
Dawn Cook	Ed Haselwood	Becky Olson	Matt Thompson
Joe Cook	Tonia Hedman-Edwards	Carol Parker	Nick Thompson
Melissa Cortner	Jerrilyn Hendrickson	Lonnie Parker	Tammy Thompson
Michael Cortner	Ron Hendrickson	Cheryl Payne	Derrick Tiers
B.J. Cott	Delores Henry	Mick Payne	Susan Tiers
Kinzey Cott	Daton Hess	Lori Penner	Maureen Toll
Jana Cott	Liana Hess	Tim Penner	Alexander Ukrazhenko
Robert Cott	Traci Hoover	Kim Peterson	Valentina Ukrazhenko
Jody Cott	Julie Hughes	Tim Peterson	Esther Varner
Richard Cott	Lon James	Mark Peterson	Kendell Varner
Kyle Cott	Pat James	Sara Peterson	Dee Wait
Sarah Cott	Becky Keim	Matt Peterson	Fred Wait
Heath Craig	Jan Keim	Jen Peterson	Larry Wallace Jr.
Mikhaela Craig	Jerry Keim	Mike Peterson	Tracy Wallace
Jim Cramer	Laura Keim	Vicki Peterson	Jim Wenger
Phillene Cramer	Anne Kelley	Troy Pfizenmaier	Pam Wenger
Mark Cringan	Dana Kelley	Barbara Platoff	Joyce Woltje-Wirrick
Gary Davies Jr.	John Kelley	Jane Reasoner	Josh Wisner
Jennifer Davies	Julie Kelley	Lundee Regier	Melissa Wisner
Clint Decker	Margaret Kelley	Nick Regier	Krista Wiss
Kathe Decker	Mike Kidwell	Shelley Reh	Eve Wright
Laura Desrosiers	Tom Kidwell	Wade Reh	Sharon Yarrow
Judy Dreeszen	Dale Larson	Brian Rieger	
Norm Dreeszen	Kim Larson	Janelle Rieger	
Jeff Edwards	David Larson	Jeff Riffel	
Nicole Edwards	Laurie Larson	Kim Riffel	