

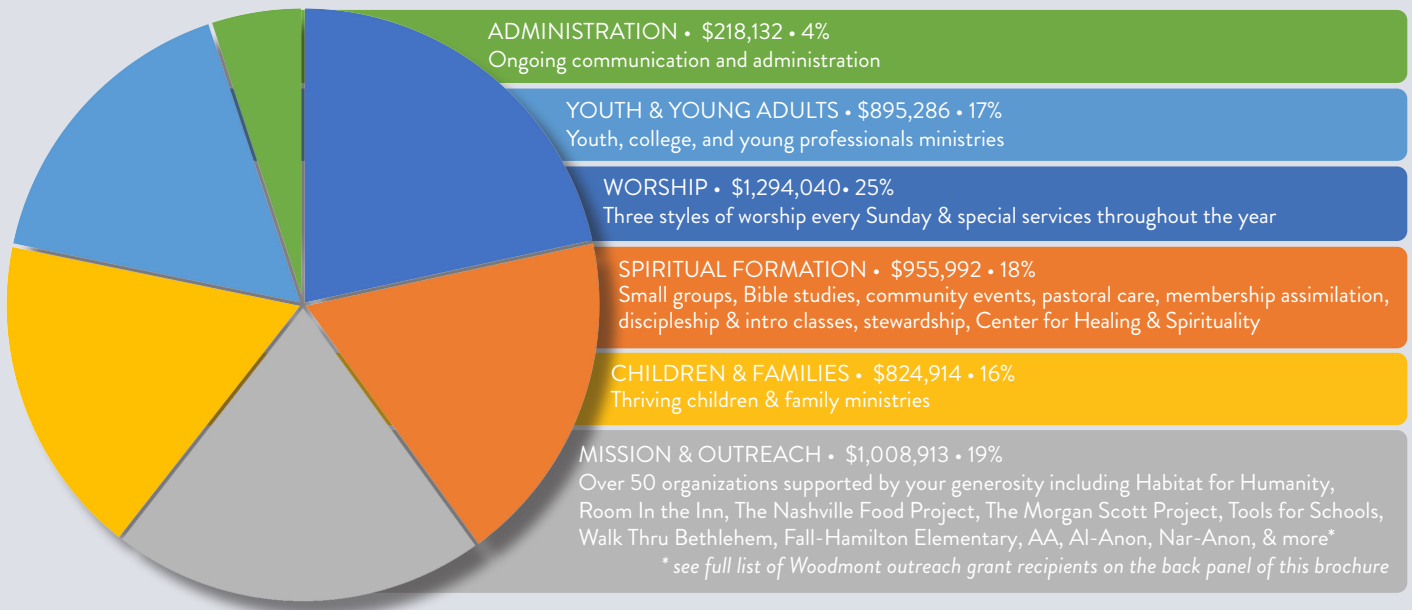
# The Spire

WOODMONT CHRISTIAN CHURCH

JUNE 3, 2025



## PROPOSED 2025-2026 BUDGET: \$5,197,277



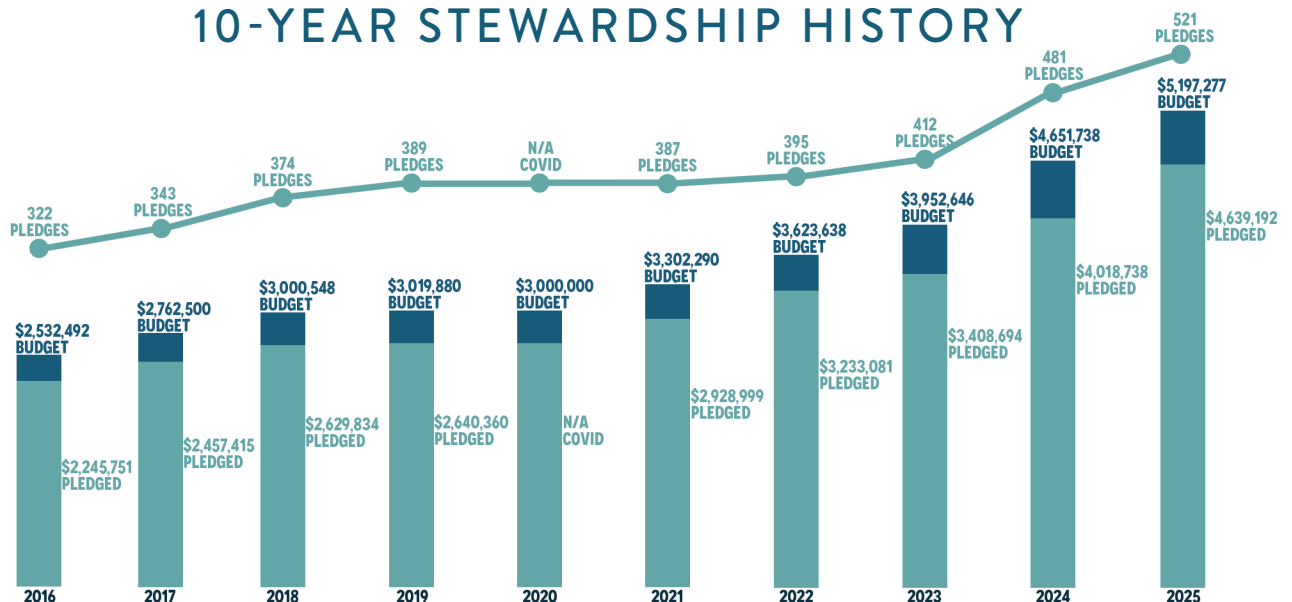
• Outreach, major components: \$160,000 awarded as cash grants to local non-profit organizations, \$36,000 for the Habitat for Humanity build, \$30,000 given directly to the Disciples Mission Fund, \$20,000 to support Walk Thru Bethlehem, \$30,000 to Mission Trip Scholarships, \$6,000 to The Nashville Food Project, \$7,500 for Fall-Hamilton Elementary, \$1,000 for Disaster Response Travel, and \$1,000 for the Green Street Homeless Ministry.

• Personnel: Three full-time ordained ministers (Clay, Jay, & Roy), two part-time ordained ministers (Farrell & Justin), two full-time Youth Directors (Katie & Abby Akers), a part-time Youth Director (TBA), Children's Ministry Director (Abby McLean), Assistant Children's Minister (Ashley), Young Adults Director (Moriah), Music Director (Michael), Bridge Leaders (Andra & team), Business Administrator (Chris), Communications Director (Matt), A/V Director (Steven), A/V Assistant (TBA), Social Media Coordinator (Nikki), Connections Director (Tammy), Missions Director (Jerry), Center for Hope & Healing Director (Vicki), Executive Assistant (Amber), Administrative Assistant (Jan), part-time Administrative Assistant (TBA), Parish Visitor (Anne), Accompanist (Sarah), Property Manager (Sam), Custodians. Also included in this year's budget are cost-of-living and merit-based raises.

• Property facts: \$163,000 for building repair and maintenance, \$120,000 for electricity, \$100,000 budgeted directly to the Tom Mathias Reserve Fund, \$49,000 for A/C contract, \$49,000 for gas bill, \$70,000 for grounds maintenance, \$30,000 for water and sewer, \$25,000 for telephone and internet. The property budget still includes a contingency line for unforeseen expenditures.

• Your generosity and open heart changes lives and enables us to bring more people to Woodmont resulting in a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ, sends our members into mission through Hope Force's "Houses of Hope" program, Habitat for Humanity, Green Street Homeless Camp, Unbound Guatemala, The Morgan-Scott Project, Room In The Inn, Fannie Battle Angel Tree, Project Cure, Heart for Africa, and serves Nashville through The Center for Hope & Healing, DivorceCare, GriefShare, Walk Thru Bethlehem, Fall-Hamilton Elementary, and more. Your support fulfills and expands our mission to seek God, share love, and serve others.

## 10-YEAR STEWARDSHIP HISTORY





# Proposed Operating Budget

BY CLAY STAUFFER

The Woodmont Board met on Thursday evening, May 29, and approved the proposed operating budget that the finance committee has been working on. Our spring stewardship campaign was the largest and most successful one that we have ever had. We had **521 commitments totaling \$4,639,192.**

Thank you to the Barretts and Harrisons for their leadership. The details of the proposed budget can be found in this edition of The Spire. We are proposing an overall budget of \$5,197,277, which is a 12% increase over this past year.

Thank you for your generosity and support that allows Woodmont to keep living its mission and changing lives. Collectively, we are doing big things as a church. The congregational meeting will be held on Sunday, June 22, at 10:40 a.m. in the sanctuary, and Installation Sunday for our new leaders will be on Sunday, June 29, at the 11:00 service. On Sunday, June 15, we will honor all of our fathers and grandfathers at each service.

The Board continues to talk about the future and the priorities identified by our visioning committee. Here are the key areas where we know we have “good challenges” as a church:

**DEMANDS ON DROWOTA HALL** – basketball, pickleball, practices, preschool, breakfasts, dinners, special events, and much more. This space is being used in demand.

**YOUTH MINISTRY GROWTH** – As our youth ministry continues to grow and kids move up, the current space that they are in is limited in many ways.

**CHILDREN’S MINISTRY GROWTH** – Our children’s and family ministry continue to thrive. Many Sundays, we have way more children in these classrooms than we should. Again, a great problem. Grateful to the many teachers and volunteers we have every week.

**WORSHIP SPACE LIMITATIONS** – Many Sundays throughout the school year, both the 9:30 and 9:40 services are very full. We are continuing to brainstorm the possibility of adding a fourth service and what that might look like. Congregational input has been very important. The livestream has clearly been a way for us to expand our reach and is utilized heavily every week. Woodmont has certainly grown through its media ministries even when space is tight.

**PARKING** – Simply put, we don’t have enough parking during the year. Thankfully, Campbell West gives us a place to park 40-60 cars on Sunday and that has become a life saver. We realize that this cannot be a long-term solution.

**CAMPUS FLOW** - with so many people on campus, it can feel crowded and congested. We are very aware of this and are grateful for the shepherds who help us navigate these things every week.

Bottom line, many of Woodmont’s challenges are “good” challenges to have. Summer provides a slower pace, and with people traveling, some of these things are alleviated to a degree. Addressing these challenges requires intentional thought, planning, and financial resources. That is what we have been working on in recent months.

Steve Vining, chair of our property committee, has done a great job of identifying upcoming projects that we will need to address over the next one to five years, many sooner than later. This includes the flat roof of Drowota Hall, upgrades to the Gathering Hall, the very outdated restrooms under the sanctuary, and feel of the Narthex. All of these things were discussed by the Woodmont board last week and recommendations have been made. We are making progress in each of these areas.

Thank you for your ongoing support of Woodmont! Thank you for being a part of the church family. Enjoy the slower pace of summer and the renewal that it can bring. We will keep you informed as we continue to address many of these topics. In the meantime, let’s all be thankful that we have many of these challenges to solve.

Blessings,



## Words of Wisdom

WOODMONT CHRISTIAN CHURCH 2025

## “WOW” celebration this Sunday, June 8

You are invited to celebrate and honor the members of the “Words of Wisdom” group on Sunday, June 8, from 10:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. in the Gathering Hall. A few months ago, Laura and Bryan Sargent invited all Woodmont members who were 80 years or older to participate in a 6-week small group. The purpose was for individuals to share their “words of wisdom” by answering a series of questions.

The answers have been compiled in a booklet and copies will be available for everyone at this celebration. These words of wisdom are truly inspirational and you’re invited to join in honoring these true treasures of Woodmont!

# Operation Backpack for Sponsored Friends in Guatemala



3. Clearly mark the letter with your sponsored friend's full name and Unbound CH# as well as your name so that this will be delivered correctly.

5. Add \$15 cash. We will be purchasing backpacks made by fathers in the Unbound sustainability program. Your gift will go in a backpack and be delivered by Unbound staff in Guatemala.

**5. Drop off your package in the Gathering Space or outside the Bridge on Sunday, June 15th, 22nd or 29th. You can also drop off at the Church office no later than Sunday JUNE 29th.**

6. Your friend will be so happy to receive this. There is no mail, no Amazon, no UPS in most areas of Guatemala so receiving a gift and a letter is truly an exciting event. Our last backpack project was in March 2024, so your friend will be happy to hear from you again.

Tips for sending gifts:

- Send items that your friend would like based on their age and gender. Items from Nashville are fun and appreciated.
- Include a letter from your family and a photo. This is received as a special treasure.
- Small gift ideas include: pens and markers, baseball cap, small games or toys, craft items, comb, toothbrush, bandaids, chapstick, socks, purse, earbuds, yarn, work gloves, reading glasses, sports team t-shirt, stickers.

**No liquids, toothpaste or candy that melts. It must fit in a one gallon baggie!**

**Thank you for sending your love and well wishes via the Woodmont Youth!**

If you would like the **Woodmont Youth Team** that is traveling to Guatemala on July 5th, to deliver a gift to your Unbound sponsored friend, it's as easy as:

1. Package the items you want to send in a **one gallon zip lock baggie**. Gift suggestions are listed below. Please choose light weight items as we will be carrying about 75 of these gifts with us!

2. Add a letter and a picture of you or your family.

## "Moms with Young Children" group June 9

Come enjoy fellowship with other Woodmont moms over dinner at Tres Hermanos in The Nations (4500 Charlotte Avenue) on Monday, June 9, at 6:30 p.m.! This group is designed to build community and support among moms with younger children/babies. Let the group know you're coming so they can reserve enough tables! For more info or to RSVP, contact Catherine Schoerke at [catherinercamargo@gmail.com](mailto:catherinercamargo@gmail.com)

## New women's Bible study series continues June 12

"Journey to the Heart" Women's Bible Study is continuing their weekly study on *Ephesians: Growing in Christ (Flourish Bible Study)* on Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. in the boardroom all summer long! This is a gathering for women of all ages and life stages who come together to cultivate relationships, foster spiritual growth, and promote Bible literacy. Contact Char Hummel for more [charhummel@icloud.com](mailto:charhummel@icloud.com)

## Farewell to Sarah Andrews



Sarah Williams Andrews has been our beloved piano player at The Bridge since its inception 15 years ago. She and her musician husband Joe were married here at Woodmont, and their children have been faithful members of our Children's

Ministry and Grace Notes. The Andrews are moving to Virginia to be closer to Sarah's family this summer. Next Sunday, June 15, we'll host a farewell reception honoring Sarah's ministry and music at Woodmont immediately following The Bridge in the chapel atrium. Join us to celebrate this wonderful family and send them off with a loving farewell.

## Sound Bath session June 22



Join our Bridge community for a Sound Bath session on Sunday, June 22, at 1:30 p.m. in Room 200, led by Mary Clare Pyron. Explore spiritual healing and deep relaxation. There is no cost for this experience. Please come dressed comfortably in loose clothing.

## Singles Fellowship July 6

The Singles Fellowship Group will be meeting at Fat Bottom Brewery (locally owned by one of our members) on Sunday, July 6, from 6-8 p.m. This is a gathering for singles in their 40s, 50s, and 60s who share a common interest in serving God and growing in community together. Questions? Contact Todd Pachey at [toddpachey@gmail.com](mailto:toddpachey@gmail.com)

## Six new Stephen Ministers commissioned Sunday

On Sunday, June 1 six Stephen Ministers were commissioned. They have been training for five months (50 hours) and are ready to begin their caring ministry among us here at Woodmont Christian Church. They will minister to Woodmont members who are experiencing life crises such as hospitalization, job loss, divorce, loneliness, grief or any of a number of difficulties people face in daily living. We thank God for their gifts of caring and listening. Please keep them in your prayers as they carry the love of Christ to their care receivers.



JOHN BEARDEN, KATHY GIBSON, MARGIE MOORE, TIM PERRY, SARAH HUFFMAN AND CAROLYN THOMAS

If you or a friend/loved one is in need of some Christ-centered support, please contact [StephenMinistry@Woodmontcc.org](mailto:StephenMinistry@Woodmontcc.org) We have both male and female Stephen Ministers available.

### A message from our new Stephen Ministers...

John Bearden - "I am excited and genuinely grateful for the opportunity to be an ambassador of Christ's love and caring in this ministry. To be present and provide Christian - centered care for someone in need is truly an enabling mission in which I may put my faith to work as a humble apprentice of Jesus Christ."

Kathy Gibson - "I am really looking forward to being able to put the skills I have learned through the Stephen's Ministry training together with my faith to help others. It will be an honor to offer encouragement and support to someone who is facing a difficult period in their life."

Sarah Huffman - "I appreciate how Stephen Ministry encourages us to look outside ourselves...to offer time; compassion; a caring, non-judgmental ear; shared silence; show mercy; and to develop trust with someone whose footing/faith is presently shaken. Our purpose is to share the love of God...for God IS love."

Margie Moore - "I choose to become involved in this ministry because I know how invaluable relationships are for healing. I have personally grown so much from being seen and heard by others and having a safe place to share my story. I am grateful and honored to be a part of someone's healing journey as well."

Tim Perry - "I was aware of the Stephen Ministry program at Woodmont, and wanted to know more, but also realized it was a ministry, which existed and served in strictest confidence. Once introduced to the ministry and the

deep, wonderful Christian-centered training began, I knew for certain God had placed me exactly where He knew I could serve best: as a caring Christian who wants to listen, encourage, support, and walk with a hurting person on their journey for as long as needed."

Carolyn Thomas - "I chose to become involved in Stephen's Ministry after taking the Strengths and Spiritual Gifts Inventory. This ministry fit well with my life's callings. I believe it is a sacred privilege to walk alongside someone who is going through a vulnerable time in their life. God is the cure giver and I will be careful to give Him the honor!"



## Woodmont Youth accepting donations for Guatemala through Unbound

If you haven't heard, there has been a flock of flamingos making its way around Woodmont families' houses in May. Although the flock has migrated, Woodmont Youth is still accepting donations to be able to build a house in Guatemala through Unbound. Any amount is appreciated to help us reach our goal; you can donate through Realm or Woodmont's Venmo, just note that it's for the flamingos!

## Beth Pattillo speaking at Brentwood UMC July 8

The women of Woodmont are invited to join the women of Brentwood United Methodist Church for a salad supper on July 8 at 6pm at Brentwood UMC. Our own Rev. Beth Pattillo will speak on "Hope, Hallelujahs, and Happy Endings." Beth is a minister, writer, coach and spiritual director. The event will support Ebenezer Pantry, Solana Apartments Pantry, and Vanderbilt Divinity School Pantry. Spend an evening in good company for a good cause! Questions? Contact Beth at [bethpattillocoaching@gmail.com](mailto:bethpattillocoaching@gmail.com)



## Engagement & Newlywed Brunch June 21

If you are a newlywed couple or engaged to be married, you're invited to join us for a brunch to celebrate this very special time in your life! Meet other young couples, enjoy brunch foods, and get to know leaders who will help support you in your new life together here at Woodmont. Reach out to Moriah Domby, our Director of the Young Professionals and Couples Ministries, at [moriah@woodmontcc.org](mailto:moriah@woodmontcc.org) or (615) 975-5579 with any questions, or RSVP at [pp.events/be5Ryr65](https://pp.events/be5Ryr65)

## - THIS WEEK -

### SUNDAY, JUNE 8

8:00 AM Prison Ministry, Boardroom  
 9:00 AM Grace Notes, Kids' Commons  
 9:30 AM 21st Century Class, Boardroom  
 9:30 AM Disciples Class, Room 105  
 9:40 AM Middle School Service, Youth Rm.  
 10:45 AM YP Sunday School, Campbell West  
 10:45 AM The Life Class, Bay Room  
 10:45 AM Reflections Class, Room 200  
 10:45 AM Connection Class, Room 232  
 11:00 AM Points of View Class, Room 105  
 3:00 PM Pickleball, Drowota Hall

### MONDAY, JUNE 9

3:00 PM "Geezers" Group, Boardroom  
 5:30 PM Racial Bridges Group, Boardroom

### TUESDAY, JUNE 10

6:00 PM Young Professionals Dinner & Discussion, Campbell West  
 6:30 PM Alateen (ages 12-19), South Hall  
 6:30 PM Parents Al-Anon Group, 105  
 8:00 PM AA Meeting, South Hall

### WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11

6:00 AM Roy's Men's Group, Room 105  
 7:00 AM Clay's Men's Group, Boardroom  
 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study, Room 105  
 5:15 PM Gospel Sing-Along, Room 105  
 6:00 PM Potluck Supper, Drowota Hall  
 6:00 PM GriefShare, Campbell West  
 6:00 PM DivorceCare, The Bay Room  
 6:15 PM Women's Bible Study, Room 200  
 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary

### THURSDAY, JUNE 12

10:00 AM Sit & Stitch, Gathering Hall  
 10:30 AM "Journey to the Heart" Women's Bible Study, Boardroom  
 1:00 PM Mahjong Group, Gathering Hall  
 5:30 PM Handbells, Choir Room  
 6:30 PM Andra Moran Virtual Vespers, Zoom  
 6:30 PM Nar-Anon, Room 105  
 8:00 PM AA Meeting, South Hall

### FRIDAY, JUNE 13

3:00 PM Pickleball, Drowota Hall

### SATURDAY, JUNE 14

10:00 AM Al-Anon, Drowota Hall

# SUNDAY, JUNE 8

- 9:30 & 11:00 -

## **“HELLO, HOPE!”**

REV. FARRELL MASON  
ROMANS 5:3-54

- 9:40 THE BRIDGE -

## **“PENTECOST! EMBRACING THE OTHER!”**

REV. JAY HUTCHENS  
ACTS 2:1-12; 43-47

## SUNDAY SCHEDULE

9:30 A.M. INFORMAL SERVICE

9:40 A.M. THE BRIDGE SERVICE

9:40 A.M. MIDDLE SCHOOL SERVICE

11:00 A.M. TRADITIONAL SERVICE

*Please note that our weekly  
breakfast is taking a break for  
the summer and will return on  
Homecoming Sunday, August 17*

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## CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

SUNDAY, JUNE 22

10:40 AM IN THE SANCTUARY

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## GIVING

MAY 11: \$35,814

MAY 18: \$55,228

MAY 25: \$65,960

JUNE 1: \$119,270

## PRAYERS FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY

### SYMPATHY TO:

- Bob Ligon and family on the death of his daughter, Liz Ligon Papapietro

- The family of Edith Johnston, who passed away on May 27. Visitation is Tuesday, June 10, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in the chapel, and Wednesday, June 11, from 11:00 a.m. to noon in the Gathering Hall. Service is Wednesday, June 11, at 12:00 p.m. in the sanctuary.

### NEW CONCERNS:

- Savannah Bolton (daughter of John & Courtney Bolton) - brain surgery
- Ellen Anderson - surgery May 30
- Heather Dwyer - cardioversion procedure
- Angela Powers
- David Dyer - recovering from back surgery
- Nicole Herndon's son, Keith Herndon
- Anne Arney's husband, Steve Gilpatrick - heart bypass surgery May 16
- Dudley Warner - knee surgery May 20

### CONCERNS:

- Mary-Kate Hopper's father, John Hopper - broken pelvis from fall
- Dara Howe - breast cancer - surgery May 15
- Kathy Parolini
- Chip Phinizy's son, John Phinizy
- Gail Reese

### CONTINUING PRAYERS FOR:

- John Carpenter
- Emily Bond Leaman
- Cass Meeks
- Lee Moss
- Connie Schmutz



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# The Spire



Worship Night, May 27  
PHOTOS BY NIKKI ALVARADO