

# WILLAMETTE COMMUNITY CHURCH

ANNUAL REPORT  
JULY 2025-JUNE 2026

## GROWING CLOSER TO GOD, HELPING OTHERS ALONG THE WAY

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### Jesus is KING

In 2025-26 we experienced a GREAT REVEALING. It was a joy and honor to work through the Revelation of Jesus Christ.

Jesus, the KING of kings and the Lord of lords is coming again, and for Him we eagerly await.

And because Our Lord is coming again, our mission of Growing Closer to God and Helping Others along the Way is as relevant as ever.

I thank God for this ekklesia who relies on God and is committed to God's Word and to relying on the Holy Spirit.

As you read through this annual report, may you rejoice with us in the many ways God has blessed our church family with grace received and extended, healthy people and healthy ministries, growing in relationships, in excellent service to our God and KING for our good and His glory. - Scott Miller on behalf of the elders

## WCC/ACS GROWTH PLAN/VISION

More than 60 years ago, the people of WCC (formerly known as Albany First Baptist Church) had the vision to expand our disciple-making efforts by purchasing our current building with the hopes to start a Christian school.

In recent years, we have seen the fulfillment of that vision in that we cannot add any more students to our Preschool - 8th grade enrollment of 400.

We have also seen a numerical (and spiritual) growth in our church body (more than 800 people call WCC, "home.") Our average Sunday attendance in the past year was 543 people, which is an 11% increase from last year.

Thus, our Elders, this past year, have stated that...

In light of God's recent blessings, His unchanging calling, and having reached capacity in our current location, we desire to see God continue to grow Willamette Community Church and our ministry, Albany Christian School.

### **Our VISION:**

We will expand our disciple-making efforts and Christ-centered education in the greater Albany area.

Specifically, we are looking for a short-term place in the nearby area to move part of our school, with the long-term plans for purchasing land and/or property where we can plant another church and grow our school.

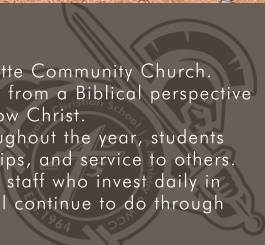
## ALBANY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Albany Christian School completed its 62nd year as a ministry of Willamette Community Church.

Our mission to partner with families in educating students with excellence from a Biblical perspective continues to shape hearts, strengthen families, and equip students to follow Christ.

This year, our theme was "Let Your Light Shine" from Matthew 5:16. Throughout the year, students were encouraged to reflect Christ through their words, actions, relationships, and service to others.

We are grateful for God's faithfulness and for the dedicated teachers and staff who invest daily in the lives of our students. We look forward with anticipation to all God will continue to do through this ministry. - Laura Elliott, Principal, on behalf of the ACS Board



## MEN'S MINISTRY

WCC's Men's Ministry serves our men, helping them grow closer to God and while helping others along the way. We are doing this by providing events that bring men together, iron sharpening iron. We gather monthly at Men's Breakfast, where it's become normal for 100 men to attend, fellowship, and hear how God is working through our various speakers. We're seeing more men bringing their friends, family, co-workers, etc. to Men's Breakfast. The men join service projects to show God's love and share their gifts. The men of WCC have been traveling to Triangle Lake in the spring and fall to help and care for a small church in that community. Weekly Bible studies happen in the fall, winter, and spring. Guys meet once a week to pray and encourage each other. We have established an annual destination in the Ochocho Mountains for our Men's retreat in June. Fifty-nine men attended that weekend last year. God continues to work in this ministry.

## WOMEN'S MINISTRY

The WCC Women's Ministry Team is honored to plan and prepare opportunities for our ladies to connect with one another. Over the past year, in addition to our usual events (coffee connection, walk and talk, game and craft nights, Thursday morning prayer) we have added more opportunities to connect and to include a broader age spectrum of ladies. These opportunities included, in November, a Drop & Shop for moms; a Christmas celebration in December; a Winter Walk and Talk; a women's conference at Salem Heights Church in March; and a ladies tea in May. In September, we also had a ladies retreat, "Made to Relate", at NW Christian Camp in Turner, with Kim Rettmann as our speaker.

In our fall and winter Bible studies the ladies of WCC demonstrated their care for others through the community outreach projects, Every Child and Options Pregnancy Resource Center, and donated and contributed practical items and raised nearly \$13,000.

Our purpose and goal, as always, is to help the ladies connect and grow closer together and to help others along the way, as we all grow closer to God. May He receive all the glory and the honor!

## COMMUNITY GROUPS

The purpose of Community Groups is to provide a place where we make "big" church small in order to better grow closer to God and help others along the way. Fostering relationships at a deeper level is more practical in smaller groups. These small groups are where our values of Grace, Health, Relationships, Excellence, and Service are lived out in a practical way. This last year we had 21 different Community Groups and about 260 people attending the different groups. Our Community Group leaders were: Steele; McCoy & Colliander; Pannunzio; Pierce; Eick; See & Martin; Taylor; Spivey; Miller; Rettmann; Penner; Lesmeister; Cruce & Sievers; Phillips; Crawford; White; Rice; Persons & Dubois; Acord; Braten; Haury

## WELCOMED NEW MEMBERS

KRISTEN & URIJAH ACEVES; VALERIE BACH; GREG & TONI BALCK; VICKI BALCK; JAKE BANEY; KORY & ANGIE BATES; RYLIE CORNELL; ZACK CUSTODIA; BRIAN & MORIAH DIETRICH; ELIJAH & FAITH GERIG; EMILY HAILE; JOHN & JOYCE HARKINS; KEN & CHERYL HAURY; ETHAN HAURY; GRACE HOTRUM; DOUG & LAURI KISOR; JIM KLEIN; ABIGAIL & DUSTIN KUHN; GREG LONG; TERRI LOVE; JUNE MANNING; TERRY & SHARON MCCOY; ASHLEY MILLER; PAULA & GLEN OSBORN; BILL PICKERD; ALEC & AMANDA POWELL; CADEN RANDOLPH; ANGEL RODRIGUEZ; WES & MAJA SCHELER; EMMA SMITH; ROBIN SPARKS; BEN & AMANDA STIEHL; ALICE & RANDY STRUCKMEIER; DONALD & SANDRA STUFFEL; ERIQ THOMPSON; LYNN VANN; BEN & PAMELA WATTS; CHAD & BETTE WILSON; MAROLYN YARD



## LOCKING ARMS



## BAPTISMS

Alice Geomans; Lydia Geomans; William Elliott; Mikaela Huffman; Peter Bagg; Rylie Cornell; Summer Bowman; Isaac Spivey; Geraldine Bagg; Richard Bagg; Britta Ferguson; James Steele; Lily Barker; Lynn Vann; Jake Ours; Kyra Enovijas; Taliyah Tells; Sophie Withee; Emma Smith; Eriq Thompson; Anna Haile; Kaila Miller; Amanda Stiehl; Grace Stiehl; Oliver Wilson; Ryan Hubert; Alicia Hubert; Melissa Schulze

## STUDENT MINISTRY

Student Ministry has continued to offer many opportunities for students to grow closer to God while helping others along the way. We saw this through our weekly youth group gatherings, where we had 40 students on average. Many of those students stay or show up early for discipleship groups. We have seen an increase in students over the past year and have served 125 unique middle and high schoolers. God has graciously matched our increase in students with an increase in leaders. We have an incredible team of 17 leaders who make everything happen. We are excited for the opportunity to return to Gleanings for a youth mission trip after a 2-year hiatus. We are also excited to continue some of our annual traditions, like the rafting trip, for the 14th year in a row. We are thankful for what God has done and are trusting in Him for this next year.



## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

The Children's Ministry continues to provide Sunday School classes for children 5th grade and under, as well as the Nursery, during both services. We serve an average of 60 to 70 children each week! We started a new cycle of The Gospel Project curriculum by Lifeway that took us back to Genesis and continued through the Old Testament. Classes are currently learning about the time of the Judges. The Children's Ministry team consists of 70 volunteers. Each Sunday requires at least 15 volunteers to serve. We are extremely thankful to our volunteers as they care for children and their families! Some special moments this past year include the Kids Christmas Choir, where we had our biggest group yet perform, and the Ice Cream Social for families, which happened this past week!

## SOUL CARE MINISTRY

We are thankful this year to have contributed to God's Kingdom by serving about 30 people through Soul Care at WCC. God has been faithful to use Soul Care to comfort, encourage, and disciple people from our congregation, as well as some from the greater community. We also just finished our sixth class of ETC. In September, we plan to launch our seventh class of Equipped to Counsel. Our team continues to engage in learning opportunities such as team trainings and conferences (a group of us traveled to Texas in April for the Association of Biblical Counselors' annual conference).

It has truly been a blessing to Grow Closer to God and Help Others Along the Way.

## MISSIONS

We continue to support many people and groups who are embodying growing closer to God and helping others along the way globally. Our global ministry partners are: Church Venture NW; Mike Silva; Mid-Valley Fellowship; Agua Viva Church in Mexico; our Africa Partners: Pastor Francis Lamin, Pastor Patrick Coker, and Peter & Emily Sheriff; LovelINC; and the Navigators. In conjunction with financial support, in March we were able to take a small team to Mexico in April to encourage and support our partners there.

More locally we had 4 Neighborhood. Serve. events where we sent WCC people into the neighborhood of WCC to share the love and light of Jesus by raking leaves and inviting them to join us at our services. We also participated with ServeINC last July doing landscaping and painting at Takena Elementary.



## 2ND STREET PROPERTY

For the past 16 years, we have been blessed to be ministry partners with Adult and Teen Challenge (Super Thrift), as they have rented our 2nd Street property from us. This past year, they gave us their notice of leaving; but God has provided us with another tenant. Furniture Share that will open a thrift store in July 2026. This will continue to give us ongoing income as well as our largest parking lot.

## FINANCES

God continues to show His faithfulness. Financially, we finished the fiscal year (end of June) in the black for both the church and school: WCC at +\$49,117 and ACS at +\$58,431. In addition, we were able to bless dozens of families through our Fellowship Fund, as \$34,611.62 was given out during the past 12 months. We also received \$41,144 in our Mission Special Offering, which helps support God's work through God's people in Sierra Leone, Mexico, and in our local community. These numbers reflect finances, but they represent God's provision that we use to impact people. We thank God for you and your faithful giving that sustains and grows the ministries of Willamette Community Church. Your faithfulness to give time, energy, and resources allows us to have a building in the heart of the city where we continue to grow closer to God and help others along the way.

## WHO WE ARE

### STAFF

**Jake Bates** - Student Ministry Director  
**Scott Braten** - Men's Ministry Director  
**Ashley Dubois** - Ministry Support Staff  
**Laura Elliott** - ACS Principal  
**Leiah Greene** - Women's Ministry Director  
**Jennifer Hutsell** - Ministry Support Staff  
**Trena McMahon** - Bookkeeper  
**Scott Miller** - Lead Pastor  
**Lindsay Renfro** - Children's Ministry Director  
**Cyrus Rettmann** - Executive Pastor  
**Kim Rettmann** - Soul Care Director  
**Megan Rodriguez** - Ministry Support Staff  
**Brian Rowson** - Business Manager  
**Chris Spivey** - Music & Media Pastor

### ELDERS & WIVES

**Scott & Stacy Braten**  
**Larry & Leona Crawford**  
**Lee & Vicki Eick**  
**Dylan & Katherine Ferguson**  
**David & Diane Lesmeister**  
**Scott & Angela Miller**  
**Larry & Sharon Penner**  
**Greg & Pat Pierce**  
**Cyrus & Kim Rettmann**  
**Brian & Katherine Rowson**  
**Dustin & Amy Withee**



## OUR CORE VALUES

### GRACE

We have undeservedly been lavished with God's favor and, in turn, we humbly unleash the same grace to all.  
[2 Cor. 8:9]

### HEALTH

We have been given "life to the full" and, in turn, we passionately pursue becoming everything God has called us to be.  
[2 Ptr. 3:18]

### RELATIONSHIPS

We have been included into God's family and, in turn, we lovingly embrace others that they may be part of the family.  
[John 13:34-35]

### EXCELLENCE

We have received God's best and, in turn, we gratefully offer our best efforts to God in every way.  
[1 Cor. 10:31]

### SERVICE

We have been sacrificially served and, in turn, we enthusiastically and tirelessly serve others.  
[Rom. 12:1-2]

Rooted in God's Word   Led by God's Spirit   Reliant on God through Prayer  
We proclaim Jesus and work to present everyone mature in Christ.