

2016 Ministry Plan

Why a “Committed To” & “Called To” budget?

Having a ministry plan that contains a “*Committed To*” line is a way to budget with our basic ministry commitments in mind. In other words we feel these are the things we must do. Our *Committed To* line is based on a conservative financial amount that is slightly less than last year. It is a helpful process for the Elders to sit together and ask the question, “*What are we committed to no matter what?*” It takes our core convictions and moves them to solid financial commitments. It demonstrates that we can be faithful without “more.”

Having a ministry plan that contains a “*Called To*” line is a strategic way to highlight where we believe God is calling us in the near future – recognizing that we are not there yet. Our *Called To* line is based roughly on an 8-10% increase that has been Eastside’s reality from the beginning. Having a *Called To* line is also a strategic exercise to ask ourselves, “*If God continues to give us more – what would we do with it?*” In many ways it equally highlights our core convictions for growth, direction and strategy. Our commitment is to be faithful to the Lord if we again experience an

What are we doing?

Our total budget is divided into 2 sections:

Committed To – \$213,200

Called To – \$39,128

Total budget – \$252,328

Our *Called To* ministry plans contains the costs associated with Seeking Christ; Serving the community together; Teaching others and Joining in worship.

We are *Called To* create a benevolence fund that allows us to respond to needs in our community when Eastsiders see a need and make us aware. We want to support mission organizations like Virginia Mennonite Missions and YoungLife that seek Christ, serve, teach and worship Him. We also believe we are called to start a new Kids Club ministry in an additional location. We feel called to join in worship with “United” Churches as well as to maintain and/or repair our won operating equipment.

We don’t see a finish line; we believe we are called to multiplication of disciples, small groups and worshipping communities. We are actively seeking networks and connections with others who share our passions. We are asking all Eastsiders to join the mission. Come learn about what we believe and why we believe it. As you learn, we ask that you join us in the ministry.

Our “*Committed To*” ministry plan contains the costs associated with Seeking Christ; Serving the community together; Teaching others; and Joining in worship.

As we serve the community together we are *Committed To* supporting internal staff members, the local Kid’s Clubs, ReNew Camp (A week long summer service camp), contributing toward the education of future leaders, and to participating in local organizations. As we serve the community, we love to support the individual and group efforts that Eastsiders are involved at: Mercy House, Patchwork Pantry, YoungLife and a local community Christmas meal. We also love to support our long term mission assignments at New Creation, Kid’s Club, 264 OSH and an orphanage in Nicaragua. “*We are committed to seek the welfare of the city where we find ourselves.*”

As we teach others we are *Committed To* support internal staff members, to creatively teach our children in Real Kids, to train and develop individuals through internships, to provide learning opportunities for others, to equip the congregation to teach, and to participate in broader teaching opportunities/resources for Eastsiders. We are actively multiplying and strengthening our relationships within our varied bible study groups, which focus on teaching, growing, supporting, and sustaining the faith and life journeys of Eastsiders. Additionally, much work and support is happening within our ongoing discipleship relationships, and Eastsiders continue to form meaningful, encouraging partnerships with one another as they process life together. Small groups are vital to carrying out our mission. We are excited to help launch a small group that meets in Charlottesville and look forward to launching new locations. Seth & Teresa Crissman are leading five other congregations’ Kid’s Club ministry in Harrisonburg, Waynesboro and McGaheysville. As our Real Kids ministry continues to grow it leads the way in welcoming families and creating a culture that values children’s discipleship. “*We are carrying out a great work*”

As we join in worship we are *Committed To* supporting internal staff members, to intern individuals for training, to participate and help fund community worship, to assist the broader church, and to provide worship space for our different weekly gatherings. Eastside worships weekly through our corporate worship service at Skyline Middle School each Sunday, monthly at 264 Old South High and regularly in small groups. This year we also participated with a community worship called “United” with Grace Covenant Church and Divine Unity Community Church, and we look forward to continuing this joyful relationship. We hope that the number of participants in worship services increases every year. We value participation and invite a broad base of people to develop their abilities to facilitate and lead corporate worship which honors God. We will continue to call people to repentance, prayer, celebration of the Lord’s Supper and believer’s baptism in our worship services. “*God deserves and demands to be glorified.*”



Seeking Christ is an umbrella that covers who we are and who we strive to be. In serving, teaching and worship we seek to glorify God. It is our hope that our actions serve, teach and are worshipful all at the same time. We believe we are successful when our lives point to Christ, serve the community, teach others and join in worship.