

## Wendell Christian Church Disciples of Christ



Greetings Wendell Christian Church!

This letter is to invite you to share in a big day for our church family!

We will have a meeting Sunday, September 25 after worship that will include a light lunch. We will be done by 2 PM.

Our hope is that everyone will participate as we Shape Our Future Together in Christ. Our team has been praying with you all as we ask Christ to lead us to the ministries that are ours to do. We have listened and continue to encourage you to share what you see that will help us be a healthy church living as disciples of Jesus Christ. Christ will lead us to the ways we will continue worshiping and learning together. We will also grow in how we are loving and serving one another and our community. We will do that as we share and pray and decide together.

We had a congregational meeting on Sunday, January 23 where we told and celebrated the story of how God worked to begin and grow our church. It was exciting to hear the vision and ministries that formed Wendell Christian Church and brought us to this time of opportunity!

We hosted a meeting to listen to the mayor of Wendell, Ginna Gray, share about the life of our town on Thursday, May 19. We were joined by other churches in the Wendell Council of Churches. Mayor Gray told us about the plans and the challenges town leaders and business leaders have. She let us know the ways the faith communities can serve our neighbors and help build a community of compassion and prosperity.

We had a third congregational meeting on Sunday, July 17 where we collected the assets and resources God has given us to use to serve God. We have so much from those who invested in our church over our history. We have property, money, and most of all, we have one another! We have the Spirit of Christ and our unique knowledge, gifts, talents, and passions. We could not discover them all in one meeting, but we were amazed at all God has given us to build a future together!

In addition to these meetings, we have had conversations and received emails that added to all we have heard from our leaders and fellow members. We continue to invite



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conversations and emails that help us know your hearts and hopes as we Shape Our Future Together in Christ.

We will have another congregational meeting on Sunday, September 25. This is not a meeting to do business or make any final decisions. We want this to be a time when we can all work together to identify some possible goals and ministries for the next 2 years. We cannot do everything there is to do in Wendell. We do not want to do the things that are not what God has for us to do. We want to review the assets and resources we have and use our Spirit led imaginations to create a list of what we each and together could do with all God has given to us.

After we create a list together at this meeting, our team will take that list and all the feedback we have gotten to prepare a report. We do not decide anything for our church. The reports will be given to the Elders, the Board, and the leadership of each ministry that are related to their parts of the report. It will then be up to our leadership to listen to the Spirit. They will choose any actions to take or decisions to bring to the whole congregation. We all will listen to the Spirit as we encourage, decide, and volunteer as we are led. We can trust Christ to show us, equip us, and help us shape the future Christ has for us.

If you cannot attend on September 25, please reach out to a member of our team and you will have a chance to be heard as you share your ideas and hopes that rise from your heart and prayers.

We are your servants. You help us succeed as you talk to us and pray for us. We look forward to how we will love and follow Jesus Christ, love one another, and serve together!

In the Love of Christ, Shaping Our Future Together in Christ Team

Briana Eddy, George Fuller, Marty Greer, Gayenell Gull, Tim Gull, June Phelps, Mitchell Oliver, Rachel Oliver,