

Investing Financially

Implementing the 2017/18 Ministry Plan requires \$281,000

This past year, we were able to manage our expenses and shift funds as necessary to expand ministry in the ways we had planned (and even in ways we didn't plan, but the Holy Spirit led). We believe that ministry can expand at our current level of financial investment, so our financial need remains exactly where it was a year ago. A breakdown of the expense by ministry area is given below (with comparisons to last year's expenses):

General Operations	\$ 118,410	+ 6.67%
Volunteer Appreciation	\$ 650	45.0%
Student Impact (incl. camps)	\$ 55,500	0.00%
Worship	\$ 44,450	- 10.00%
Facility	\$ 25,760	0.00%
LifeKids	\$ 27,400	3.30%
Missions & Engagement	\$ 3,470	0.00%
Benevolence	\$ 4,000	0.00%
Staff Development	\$ 860	- 65.00%
<u>Adult Ministries</u>	<u>\$ 500</u>	<u>7.00%</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 281,000	0.0%

How you can support the plan

Our church family consists of ~130 households. To completely fund this plan would require each household investing **\$41 / week** (or **\$175 / month**).

If you are not currently investing at this rate, please consider increasing your investment to this level.

If you are currently investing above this rate, THANK YOU. Please consider additional Kingdom contributions to our church family or other areas.

If you are not investing at all, you are missing out on a huge part of your own discipleship. The resources you manage are God's and He wants us all to build the discipline of making His Kingdom work our top priority. We encourage you to start with some amount and let God lead.

Don't just give to the 'budget'; instead, please prayerfully examine your own stewardship and determine what God is calling you to invest in His Kingdom, then indicate that on the Commitment Card.

Please indicate your financial commitment on the Commitment Card so we can plan as the year progresses.

2017-18 LifeBridge JM Ministry Plan



The past year brought with it many changes: some very visible, like the transition of a few leadership roles; and some rather invisible, like the development of a Discipleship Pathway that forms the backbone of our approach to ministry in the coming year.

The one constant through all the change has been the work and leading of the Holy Spirit. We believe that He's led us to be more confident and clear in His call to our church family, more deeply involved in life-changing relationships in our community, and more committed to follow His leadership into the future than ever before. That's why we are so excited to present the high-level aspects of the 2017/2018 Ministry Plan, for your review, prayer, feedback, and commitment.

You are encouraged to review this plan summary, then contact our staff to get greater detail and answers to your questions. We are available and eager to discuss this with you! Please contact us at the office: 970-660-4078.

After you've explored your questions, we ask that you state your commitment to this plan using the enclosed Commitment Card. This replaces any previous commitment card you may have given us before.

Please place your completed card in the offering no later than June 25.

Goals for the 2017/18 Ministry Plan

- » **Increase our emphasis on individual and family discipleship by**
 - enhancing our integrated and consistent teaching and study materials so families are learning the same principles at the same time
 - strengthening our small group environments for all ages so we are learning and growing in relationship
 - expanding intentional discipleship groups to accelerate growth
- » **Equip parents to be strong spiritual leaders in their homes by**
 - providing resources and training to shape their parenting
 - creating community among parents for encouragement and support
- » **Deepen existing relationships to increase our community impact**
 - by expanding middle-school mentoring program
 - by exploring and impacting specific community problems

Detailed Goals

» Place greater emphasis on individual and family discipleship

Over the past year the Advisory Team worked diligently developing a **Discipleship Pathway** that will spur each of us further along our journey of spiritual maturity. Several 'pilot' efforts have already begun in the areas of personal, marriage, and family discipleship. As we approach fall, we will communicate the opportunities available for you to more intentionally experience the **Way**, the **Truth**, and the **Life** of a Disciple of Jesus Christ.

But this goal is not just a corporate Church goal – it requires each of us to take our own discipleship more seriously and to intentionally engage in the opportunities available. We pray that you are looking toward the upcoming ministry year with eagerness and excitement, and that you are preparing your priorities to place your relationship with God at the top!

» Equip parents to be strong spiritual leaders in their homes

God has spoken clearly that discipleship is designed to begin within the family (Deuteronomy 6:4-7). That places the responsibility for discipleship on the leaders of the individual families. The Church's role is to 'equip the people for the work of ministry so the body of Christ may be built up' (Ephesians 4:12). We are planning a variety of environments and experiences for family leaders to **equip** you with the necessary discipleship skills in study groups and bi-monthly forums, **encourage** you in your own journey through personal and marriage discipleship, and **support** you through loving small-group communities.

» Deepen existing relationships to increase our community impact

We remain committed to making a difference in our local community, through our partnerships with community agencies.

We are excited about the opportunity to expand our student mentoring partnership with the school district. We were part of a great start at Milliken Middle School, and are praying the God opens the doors for this program to reach the high school.

We believe this will improve the impact we can make, and also inspire others (churches, service organizations, governments) to commit their resources as well, accelerating the benefit for our community.

We will continue to provide benevolence assistance to those within our church family (as a priority) and then to others in the community (as funds allow) to help people through difficult life transitions.

Developing a Missional Heart

Christ will build His Church to accomplish His Mission

It's important to recognize that we are the result of Missional Hearts. 11 years ago the staff and body at the Longmont Campus decided to invest finances, materials, time, and energy to start our church family in Johnstown/Milliken. As we've matured, we have striven to achieve and maintain financial independence as a family – some years successfully, others not. Your generosity in this past year has allowed us to close the financial gaps that existed from our early years. Additionally we've been able to make an "offering" to the Longmont campus to support renovations they will be doing to their facility this fall – a very biblical experience (see 1 Cor 16:1-4 for reference).

In addition to this offering, your generosity has allowed us to double our investment in Missional activity. We are setting aside 2% of our general Fund giving from 2016-2017 to invest locally, regionally, and globally. We will keep you informed as these opportunities develop and mature.

Investing on a Team

Ministry Partners are the heart of our family

One of the best ways to accelerate your discipleship is to accept God's invitation to partner on His mission. This amazing opportunity means that He trusts you, He values what you have to offer, and that He is eager to see you use your life for His purposes.

Currently, there are approximately 130 partners across our ministry teams (that's about 60% of our church family) contributing nearly 900 hours a month serving others! While this is a great investment, it also means that there is huge room to expand.

If each teen and adult in our family would invest just **3 hours a month** on one of our Ministry Teams, we could nearly **double the impact of our ministries** – that is an astounding opportunity! ***Will you step up and accelerate your own growth, and accelerate God's impact in our community, by becoming a partner on a team?***

Please prayerfully consider which team you would like to partner with, and indicate that on your Commitment Card. If you are already a partner, please indicate the team(s) on which you serve.