



*2014 Report For
The Tomlinson Run
Church Of Christ*

2014 Was A Less Difficult Year Than Past Years Have Been

- We saw a modest decrease in our attendance
- We had a quite large increase in the contribution
- In 2014, we struggled with some discouragements and setbacks, including the passing of five dear souls and longtime members of this church: Edith Nuzum, Mary Lloyd, Ken Berdine, Pansy Ice, and Taby Allison.

Ongoing Works Engaged In By This Church

- We increased support sent to preachers toward the end of the year and will continue to increase our support efforts this year.
- We had a meeting with the men of this church and have used their input to begin making changes

2Corinthians 8:1-5

- The work of the Lord is supported by the freewill offerings of Christians, as instructed in the Word
 - 2Cor. 8:1-5 - “Moreover, brethren, we make known to you the grace of God bestowed on the churches of Macedonia: that in a great trial of affliction the abundance of their joy and their deep poverty abounded in the riches of their liberality. For I bear witness that according to their ability, yes, and beyond their ability, they were freely willing, imploring us with much urgency that we would receive the gift and the fellowship of the ministering to the saints. And not only as we had hoped, but they first gave themselves to the Lord, and then to us by the will of God.”

Matt. 6:1-4

- The members of this congregation do so with purpose of heart pleased to do the will of God without public acknowledgement
 - Matt. 6:1-4 - “Take heed that you do not do your charitable deeds before men, to be seen by them. Otherwise you have no reward from your Father in heaven. Therefore, when you do a charitable deed, do not sound a trumpet before you as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory from men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. But when you do a charitable deed, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, that your charitable deed may be in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will Himself reward you openly.”

The Uses Made Of The Contribution As Instructed In The New Testament:

- Evangelism, teaching the gospel to the lost
- Edification, building up Christians through preaching and teaching (includes providing and maintaining a place for worship and Bible study)
- Limited Benevolence, ministering to the physical needs of poor saints

Supporting Evangelism

- Phil. 4:16-17 - “For even in Thessalonica you sent aid once and again for my necessities. Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that abounds to your account.”
- 2Tim. 2:2 - “And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also”

Supporting The Preaching Of The Gospel

- But how are we to fund the preaching of the gospel?
- What are the scripturally authorized means and methods of supporting the work of the church?
 - 1Cor. 16:1-2 - “Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given orders to the churches of Galatia, so you must do also: On the first day of the week let each one of you lay something aside, storing up as he may prosper, that there be no collections when I come.”
 - 2Cor. 8:1-12

Supporting The Work Of The Church

- But who is to support this work and who is to do this work?
- Do the scriptures supply a plan?

Supporting The Work Of The Church

- Every member of a local congregation has a Christ-ordained role and purpose
 - Eph. 4:11-13, 16 - “And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ... 16 from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.”

Supporting The Work Of The Church

- Do the scriptures authorize a public report of the work of the local church?
- Should we keep these matters hidden or speak openly of them?

- Acts 14:21-23, 26-27 - “And when they had preached the gospel to that city and made many disciples, they returned to Lystra, Iconium, and Antioch, strengthening the souls of the disciples, exhorting them to continue in the faith, and saying, We must through many tribulations enter the kingdom of God. So when they had appointed elders in every church, and prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord in whom they had believed... 26 From there they sailed to Antioch, where they had been commended to the grace of God for the work which they had completed. Now when they had come and gathered the church together, they reported all that God had done with them, and that He had opened the door of faith to the Gentiles.”

2014 Attendance

- Average attendance was 115 on Sundays
- A decrease in attendance of 5 per week over 2013
- Highest attendance was 133 on July 20th
- Lowest attendance was 98 on December 14th
- Represents a decline in attendance average of 33 over the past 9 years (2005); however, we would have to go back 12 years (2002) to find lower attendance.

2014 Attendance

- Average attendance for past years:
 - 2013 -- 120
 - 2012 -- 130
 - 2011 -- 138
 - 2010 -- 130
 - 2009 -- 125
 - 2008 -- 138
 - 2007 -- 133
 - 2006 -- 142
 - 2005 -- 148
 - 2004 -- 135
 - 2003 -- 127
 - 2002 -- 112
 - 2001 -- 113
 - 2000 -- 114
 - 1999 -- 106
 - 1996 -- 101

2014 Contributions

- 2014 offerings = \$177,445.87 -- Average weekly = \$3,412.42
- 2013 offerings = \$111,423.69 -- Average weekly = \$2,142.76
- Representing an increase of \$66,022.18 from 2013
- Our weekly average contribution has never been this high
- 2012 offerings = \$161,777.57 -- Average weekly = \$3,052.41
- 2011 offerings = \$144,419.49 -- Average weekly = \$2,777.30
- 2010 offerings = \$122,898.88 -- Average weekly = \$2,363.44
- 2009 offerings = \$112,671.89 -- Average weekly = \$2,166.77
- 2008 offerings = \$114,845.55 -- Average weekly = \$2,208.57
- 2007 offerings = \$114,609.13 -- Average weekly = \$2,204.02

2014 Contributions

- Past years:
- 2006 -- \$2,393.45
- 2005 -- 2,295.19
- 2004 -- 2,218.73
- 2003 -- 1,936.90
- 2002 -- 1,936.79
- 2001 -- 1,808.98
- 2000 -- 1,616.97
- 1996 -- 1,238.37
- Contributions = \$177,445.87
- Expenditures = \$135,921.47
- Difference = +\$41,524.40 (+\$798.55 per week)
- The Lord has richly blessed us and the disciples who were abundant in their giving.

Supporting Evangelism in 2014

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Monthly</u>	<u>For 2014</u>
• Jeremy Diestelkamp	Toronto, Canada	300.00	600.00
• John Gibson	West Lafayette, Ohio	200.00	2,400.00
• Joel Williams	Eshowe, South Africa	200.00	2,400.00
• Mike Vierheller	East Cambridge, Ohio	200.00	2,400.00
• Ethan Longhenry	Venice, California	150.00	1,800.00
• T Munesh	Kurnool, India	51.67	620.00
• -----			
• Total Support for 2014			\$10,220.00
• Total Support for 2013			\$14,376.40

Supporting Evangelism in 2014

- Total preachers' support decreased last year by \$4,156.40
- Total for 2014 = \$10,220.00
- Average Monthly for 2013 = \$1,198.03
- Average Monthly for 2014 = \$851.67
- As a percentage of 2014 total expenditures = 7.5%
- Compared to 2013 = 11.2%

Supporting Evangelism in 2015

- Jeremy Diestelkamp Toronto, Canada 300.00
- Ethan Longhenry Los Angeles, CA 150.00
- John Gibson West Lafayette, OH 200.00
- Mike Vierheller East Cambridge, OH 200.00
- Joel Williams Eshowe, South Africa 200.00
- T. Munesh Kurnool, India 101.67
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- Total Monthly for 2015 \$1,151.67
- As a percentage of 2015 estimated expenditures = 8.2%

Supporting Local Edification in 2014

- Two Gospel Meetings (Dan Petty, Spring and Joseph Casimier, Fall)
- A Sunday presentation by Joel Williams on the work in South Africa
- Six TR men who preached here 15 times by appointment - \$75.00 per sermon
- Gary Berdine preached 9 sermons, Zach Rhodes - 1, Theron Smith - 1, Heath Baker - 1, Rick Tuttle - 1, and Ken Fleeman - 2
- Paul R. Blake's salary as evangelist plus medical insurance
- Bible class books and teaching supplies

Supporting Local Edification in 2014

- Total for 2014 = \$75,427.34
- As a percentage of expenses = 55.5% (Decreased by 4% over 2013)
- Combined with support for preachers elsewhere, the amount going directly for evangelism and edification is \$85,647.34
- As a percentage of total expenses = 63% (decreased by 8% over 2013)

2014 Expenditures

- Total expenditures = \$135,921.47
- Total for preaching and teaching = \$85,647.34
- Scheduled expenses = \$48,274.13 (35.5% of all expenses; increased over 2013 by 6.5%)
- Scheduled expenses: building maintenance and cleaning labor and supplies, lawn care, snow removal and salt, insurance, heating oil, electric, telephone, postage, bank fees, furnace repair, building, property, and parsonage repairs, and miscellaneous purchases.
- Our largest maintenance expense in 2014 was installing heat pumps in the auditorium - \$20,074.00 (Kell)

2014 Expenditures

- Benevolence: There were two benevolent efforts, one collective one on an individual basis, in 2014.
 - \$2000.00 was given from the treasury to a needy saint
 - \$600.00 was given by individuals to help the victims of the Huddud Tropical Cyclone in India

2014 Expenditures

- Policy of Financial Disclosure
 - David Dulaney, Sr., the deacon who serves this congregation as treasurer, generates a monthly financial report posted on the bulletin board in the foyer for all to read. The elders wish for all to be informed of the fact that all uses of the offerings are limited to scripturally authorized activities for the church

Upcoming Meetings

- Mark Copeland - Spring 2015
- Doug Roush - September 13-18, 2015
- Edwin Crozier - Spring 2016
- Jason Hardin - Fall 2016
- Donnie Rader - Spring 2017
- Andy Diestelkamp - Fall 2017
- Jason Longstreth - Spring 2018
- Doy Moyer - Fall - 2018
- Gary Wilemon - May 12-17, 2019
- Tony Mauck - Fall 2019

The Deacons

- Paul B. Blake
- Dave Dulaney, Sr.
- Ken Fleeman
- Adam Berdine
- Steve Gorby
- Jeff Rhodes
- Heath Baker

The Work of the Deacons

- Treasurer, count offering, make deposits, pay salaries and expenses
- Count Bible class attendees
- Keep Insurance policies and inspections current
- Maintain baptistery garments
- Purchase cleaning and paper supplies
- Oversee well, plumbing and septic maintenance
- Schedule Deacons in rotation to count offering
- Assist with building security
- Records maintenance/shredding
- Maintain fire extinguishers
- Assist in opening and closing the building in the janitor's absence
- Maintain fire and carbon monoxide alarms
- Schedule teachers for classes
- Conduct annual fire drill
- Keep a roster of teachers and students
- Maintain First Aid Kit and safety supplies
- Order all class materials
- Taking Bible class attendance
- Taking attendance
- Schedule readers, waiting on the table
- Prepare minutes of elder's meetings
- Record sermons and Bible classes
- Oversee lawn, cemetery and tractor maintenance
- Assist with building security
- Maintain communion preparation schedule
- Monitor and order heating oil for the building and parsonage
- Maintain communion supplies
- Oversee furnace and air conditioning maintenance
- Schedule song leaders
- Assist with building maintenance outside scope of janitorial duties
- Direct themed song services
- Assist counting offering
- Select scriptures for Sunday readings
- Maintain emergency call list
- Add prayer list and notifications to Facebook page
- Escort elderly and disabled in and out of the building
- Assist visitors to find seating and amenities
- Participate in emergency notifications
- Assistance during power failures and fire drills

TR Website

- Over half million visitors in 2013; it was down twice in 2014 for various reasons
- Over 2100 study guides, outlines, charts, bulletins, audio sermons, reference works, classbooks, search engine, links, contact information, etc.
- At present, there are 9 people the taking correspondence courses from the website
- I receive emails every week about the website
- Updated every week

TR Website

- New and upcoming features:
 - Sketching the Scriptures; page with single panel copy and paste Bible themed jpegs that can be inserted into a bulletin
 - Online Bible Correspondence courses; seven courses of six lessons written by Tim Fleeman; up as soon as we can get a fillable format template
 - Children's Bible Study page; initially set up with Bible pictures drawn by the children here, with a fillable format answer sheet; will be similar to Alvin's children's Bible drill.

Caring for the Building

- The Jeff Rhodes family takes care of the building. Be certain to encourage them in this.
- Eric, Sheila, and Devin Martin take care of the lawn.
- Dan Snider snow plows the parking lot.

Plans for 2015

- Implementing the ideas and concerns from the 12/21/14 meeting with the men.
- Giving you copies of the minutes from that meeting and the 1/12/15 meeting of the elders and deacons where we enacted those ideas.
- Scheduling similar meetings on an annual basis for the foreseeable future

Plans for 2015

- Training David Dulaney, Jr. and Theron Smith to teach the adult Bible class
- Teaching the combined teen classes using multimedia Bible study materials
- When Gary and I finish our material this year, David Dulaney, Jr. and Ken Fleeman will teach for two quarters.
- Gary has agreed to share fifth Sunday preaching duties with the other men here who can preach or are learning to preach. One of our goals as elders is to prepare men to become elders, and teaching and preaching is a great way to do that.

Plans for 2015

- We will be inquiring to see if there is an interest in returning to the men's and women's classes that used to meet for 4 to 6 weeks before each meeting.
- We have selected material for a men's training class and Ken Fleeman will teach that class. It will meet here at the building during our regularly scheduled Bible classes. The elders will be giving specific invitations to the men we believe will profit from it.
- The elders will begin visiting every member of this congregation to become better acquainted and to learn if there are needs you have that we as elders can serve.

Plans for 2015

- We are changing our scheduled time for weekday gospel meeting services from 7:30 to 7:00 PM
- The elders will see to it that the teaching on moral concerns expressed in the 12/21/14 meeting are addressed in sermons and classes
- The elders wish to encourage more interaction among the disciples apart from worship and Bible study. We are encouraging as individual efforts apart from the work of the church, in home gatherings for various groups here

Plans for 2015

- Continue the indepth adult Bible class
- Encourage an in home gathering on marriage enrichment
- Encourage a teens gathering
- Encourage a gathering for sisters who are alone
- Encourage groups to sing and read scripture at nursing homes

Plans for 2015

- Encourage more gatherings of everyone, i.e. picnics, etc.
- These all fall under the NT instructions for Christians to be hospitable. While this will not be a work of the church, nor will it be directed by the elders, it is a work that all Christians should take joy in hosting and participating.
- Being a sound church is not about what you are not doing. Just because we don't have fellowship hall, don't get the idea that necessarily makes us sound. A sound church has members who practice hospitality, not just condemn fellowship halls.

Plans for 2015

- It is important to avoid crossovers in these groups; it dilutes their purpose and impact
- Invite everyone who needs to be part of the group; exclude no one; make personal invitations; don't assume they know they are welcome.
- Dismiss no invitation on the basis of who made it; discrimination will undermine this.
- These things will not only increase our family love for one another here and give every member a chance to be a part of the whole, but it often leads to opportunities for personal evangelism.



Psalm 133:1 - “Behold, how good
and how pleasant it is For brethren
to dwell together in unity!”