

Next Generation Ministries

\$191,714



Here at Crossville First, we believe in investing in our future! Each week, our staff and volunteer crew leads meaningful ministry with 150 children and youth at least 4 times across a typical week. We also provide a well-staffed nursery with some of the most wonderful nursery workers you can find! This careful attention to detail helps parents feel welcomed and at ease when they visit our church for the first time.

Ultimately, the people of Crossville First believe the discipleship of our children is a partnership between home and church. We seek to provide meaningful, formative, deeply Christian experience for our kids of all ages. In 2019, we are thinking about how to bring important benchmarks to our work ensuring that all our kids are well equipped to live and share their faith in Jesus by the time they graduate from High School and head to college or work. Additionally, we are working on ways to help our parents feel more equipped in this work of faith-formation that is so important. We all want the same thing. *We just want them to know Jesus!*



Finally in 2019, we hope to invest another \$15,000 in our After School / Summer School Program. This is a state-licensed, 3-star childcare program that currently meets the affordable childcare needs of about 70 families. The children who attend receive excellent care, Christian education, and much needed love and encouragement. At any given time, our ASCP/SSCP staff is caring for 8 to 10 children with special needs, some of whom have been asked to leave other programs. It is hard to capture the impact this ministry is having on our community, but 20 years from now, we'll be able to look back and be amazed!

Here's the whole plan in summary form! Pray about how God will use you to make it happen, and think about how you will respond on Stewardship Sunday, November, 28, 2018. An estimate of giving card is enclosed for your convenience.

Crossville First United Methodist Church Ministry Investment Plan 2019

Ministry Area	Lives Touched 2019	People At Work	Dollars Invested
Finding Hope	1,585	250	\$494,719
Sharing Hope	4,000	300	\$357,857
Caring With Hope	850	90	\$161,890
Next Generation	450	125	\$191,714
Totals:	6,885	765	\$1,206,180

** A line-item budget with detail is available upon request.*

DISCIPLES

MAKING A DIFFERENCE...

TRANSFORMATION

**LOVING THE WORLD
BACK TO LIFE
ONE HEART AT A TIME!**

Finding Hope

\$494,719



As followers of Jesus, we believe in a lasting hope that sustains, nourishes, and drives us ever closer to the life God dreams for us. Much of this work happens as we gather together around God's Table! It looks like worship, Bible study, Disciple Groups, Sunday School classes, and a thousand encouraging conversations with sisters and brothers in Christ which happen any time we are together. In 2018, we added the Pathway to Discipleship to our scope of ministries to make it easy for folks

to connect with the Gospel in a very non-threatening, real way. That Pathway starts with Alpha, moves to a study called Becoming a Disciple, and culminates in an experience called Journey 101. It helps answer the question, "How do we make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of Crossville and the World?"



In 2019, we will be offering three full cycles of this Pathway with our larger community! We will be *going out* to invite folks into this journey of hope. For many generations, we've been happily loving and serving our community. Now, we hope to be able to share the deeper WHY behind all that good work. That WHY is Jesus! We hope you'll pray with us for 100 or more people to connect or reconnect with the Good News of Jesus Christ. Imagine the impact as people meet Jesus for the first time!

Sharing Hope

\$357,857

So much of our life as a community of faith is built around *sharing* the hope we find in Jesus. We could fill 10 pages with all the good things which happen through the faithful lives of the Christians who call Crossville First their home! Ultimately, what we are talking about is being a part of God's loving the world back to life one heart at a time.

In 2019, we are praying about how we can deepen our connection with Martin Elementary through support for teachers, reading buddies for the children, supplies and work, making sure all the children have what they need to succeed, and feeding the kids who might go hungry over the weekend.



We are praying also about what it means to love our neighbors at Wyndridge Nursing Home through resident love and support, by caring for the staff with prayers, special gifts, our presence, helping maintain beautiful grounds for the staff and residents to enjoy, and providing a special Christmas celebration!

We continue to think about the Clothing Closet and its important role in helping us love our neighbors. For \$80,000 we could build a facility specially designed for accessibility, handling of inventory, and deeper ministry with the folks who come to us in need. In

the meantime, we seek to provide the Clothing Closet volunteers with everything they need to provide a warm and loving experience to those who come and shop.



There are so many other ministries which happen in this place: the Soup Kitchen on Wednesdays, Scouting throughout the week, the Good Neighbor Fund for those in need, our partnership with the Cumberland Hispanic Ministry which provides spiritual support to a part of our community struggling to keep things together along with life-skills and English training for Hispanic families, and our wonderful 127 Yard Sale crew which raises thousands of dollars each year for college scholarships.



Finally, there is our unfolding Veteran and Active Duty Ministry. A devoted couple of lay leaders provide the guidance and energy behind this quiet ministry making a deep impact in the lives of veterans, active duty personnel, and their families. Sometimes, this work is as simple as cards of encouragement and prayer. While other times, we find ourselves working to resolve complicated and expensive issues of housing, sustainability, and access to proper healthcare.

For 2019, our guiding question is *how can we move beyond band-aids and begin getting at the source of some of our community's greatest struggles?* God is helping us, and we are seeing a way forward! Our community is asking us to share our successes with the Martin Elementary School Partnership. The hope is that every school in Cumberland County might have a deep partnership with people who are willing to stand in the gap and help love our children well. When we talk about *Breaking the Cycle*, this is one of the most effective ways to do it! It takes time, years, and lots of patient work; but it works so very well. As the quote goes, the presence of one caring, consistent, loving adult can change the trajectory of a child's entire life! That's something we have to offer - a whole church full of *caring, consistent, loving adults!*

Caring with Hope

\$161,890

Some of the most important work in our church happens through the ministries of caring. The bulk of this work is shepherded by our incredible Nurture Team and our Associate Pastor, the Rev. Dr. Louis Davis. At our 2018 Charge Conference, several people mentioned the overwhelming love they felt from this church family as they faced health and family crises. It is simply part of the DNA of this congregation to care for each other and to care deeply for each other. There are exceptionally trained Stephen Ministers to walk with you through difficult seasons of life, Barnabas Ministers who provide presence and encouragement to our homebound persons, Silent Servers who do so much work behind the scenes that we couldn't begin to capture it all, and a faithful team of prayer warriors who pray fervently for each and every prayer request shared by the congregation or the community.



In 2019, in addition to the great work these folks are doing, we hope to train a new class of Stephen Ministers and to send a few folks to Stephen Leader training so that we are prepared for the growth we anticipate in this ministry. This is a valuable \$5,000 investment in our wonderful people.