

Community of Christ

GATEWAY USA Mission Center



Annual Fall Conference & Business Meeting



Pre-Conference Packet

November 15, 2025

10:00 am – 3:00 pm

Annual Mission Center Conference

Kirkwood Community of Christ

830 N. Kirkwood Road, St. Louis, MO 63122

and on Zoom

Gateway USA Mission Center “Pre-Conference Packet”

Gateway MC 2025 Annual Fall Conference And Business Meeting “As the Spirit Leads...”

Date: Saturday, November 15, 2025

Location: Kirkwood Community of Christ,

Time: 9:30 Gathering

Worship & Business 10:00 am – 3:00 pm
(Lunch will be Provided)

Proposed Agenda Items

Sustaining Mission Center Leadership Team

The following officers will be presented for a sustaining vote of the Mission Center Conference for 2026:

Presidents Team* (MCP) – Cheryl L. Saur (Team Chair)
Julie Mahoney
Travis Harder
Craig Ward
Kathy Nichol

Financial Officers Team (MCFO) – Ron Saur (Team Chair)
Susan Dayton
Bob Nichol

Mission Center Invitation Support Minister – Ruth Richardson

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Sustaining Mission Center Recorder

The following person will be presented for a sustaining vote of the Mission Center Conference for 2026:

Recorder – Cheryl L. Saur

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Sustaining the Mission Center Council*

The Mission Center Council consists of the Mission Center Leadership Team, a pastor or pastor designee from each congregation as a congregational ministry representative, Youth Ministries Co-Coordination, and a Camp Woodland Hills Board Representative. Also invited to attend is a member of the Evangelist Team who has membership within Gateway Mission Center. This body is presented to the Conference for a sustaining vote for 2026.

MCP Team: Cheryl L Saur, Julie Mahoney, Travis Harder

MCFO Team: Ron Saur, Susan Dayton, Bob Nichol

MCISM: Ruth Richardson

Congregational Ministry Representatives: Pastor or designee from each Gateway Congregation

Camp Woodland Hills Rep: To be appointed by CWH Board

Youth Ministries Coordinators: Lindsay Gleeson and Melissa Thomas

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Sustaining the Youth Council Members*

The Mission Center Youth Council consists of the Youth Ministries Coordinator as Chair, Mission Center Camping Committee Co-Chairs/Designees, and four members as appointed by the Youth Ministries Coordinator. This body is presented to the Conference for a sustaining vote for 2026.

MC Youth Ministries Co-Coordinators: Lindsay Gleeson and Melissa Thomas

MC Camping Committee Co-Chairs: Cheryl Saur or Designee and Ron Saur or Designee

4 Members appointed by MC Youth Ministry Coordinator:

- Deann Leonard
- Vacant
- Vacant
- Vacant

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Sustaining of the Mission Center Camping Committee*

The Mission Center Camping Committee consists of a Mission Center President/Designee as Ex-Officio and Co-Chair, Mission Center Financial Officer/Designee as Ex-Officio and Co-Chair, Youth Council Team Lead, Camp Woodland Hills Board Representative, one Member appointed by the Mission Center President, Communications/Event Registrar as a non-voting member and the Reunion Director(s). This body is presented to the Conference for a sustaining vote for 2026.

MCP or Designee as Ex-Officio & Co-Chair:	Cheryl Saur or Designee
MCFO or Designee as Ex-Officio & Co-Chair:	Ron Saur or Designee
Youth Council Lead:	Lindsay Gleeson
CWH Board Rep:	To be appointed by CWH Board*
Communications/Event Registrar (non-voting):	Melissa Thomas
Reunion Co-Directors for 2026:	Corrin Sherman & Erica Ballantyne

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Sustaining of the Mission Center Functional Areas of Ministry*

The Mission Center Functional Areas of Ministry Chart consists of many volunteer leaders in various areas of ministry on behalf of the mission center. This body is presented to the Conference for a sustaining vote for 2026.

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Election of Camp Woodland Hills Board of Directors*

The terms of office for *Jeremy Braun, Lindsay Gleeson, Deann Leonard, and Aaron Williams* expire on December 31, 2025. The Conference will elect four (4) persons to serve three-year terms (January 1, 2026 – December 31, 2028).

Note: Current Board Members, the date that their terms expire, and Congregation:

Jeremy Braun (2025) (Arnold)
Lindsay Gleeson (2025) (Cross Street, Shiloh, IL)
Deann Leonard (2025) (Cross Street, Shiloh, IL)
Aaron Williams (2025) (Bel-Nor)
Erica Ballantyne (2026) (Kirkwood) Craig Snethen, MCFO appointed Ex-Officio
Corrin Sherman (2026) (Kirkwood) Mike Thayer, MCP appointed Ex-Officio
~~Angela Sudduth (2026) (Kirkwood) – RESIGNED EFFECTIVE 9/2/2025~~
Melissa Thomas (2026) (Cross Street, Shiloh, IL)
Dennis Andrae (2027) (Kirkwood)
Manda Macias (2027) (Twin Rivers)
Eric Tripp (2027) (Columbia Fairview)

Current Nominations for 5 Open Positions for the 3-year term:

1. Jeremy Braun
2. Andrew Dayton
3. Lindsay Gleeson
4. Deann Leonard
5. Aaron Williams
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____

Election for Finance Committee Members*

The Finance Committee consists of the Mission Center Financial Officer Team, a Mission Center Council Representative, and four elected members. Two members will be elected at each annual Mission Center Conference.

The Terms of Craig Brawley and Craig Ward expire on December 31, 2025. The Conference will elect two (2) persons to serve two-year terms (January 1, 2025 – December 31, 2026).

Note: Current elected committee members, Congregation, and the dates their terms expire

Craig Brawley – Kirkwood (2025)
Craig Ward – Jefferson City (2025)
Gloria Crull – Fairview Columbia (2026)
Tony Fantini – Cross Street, Shiloh, IL (2026)

Nominations for two (2) Open Positions:

1. Craig Brawley
2. Craig Ward
3. _____

Election of East St. Louis Community Camps Board of Directors*

The East St. Louis Community Camps Board of Directors consists of ten members elected by the Mission Center Conference and up to two Gateway MC President Team or MC Financial Officer Team Ex Officio member or their designee. The Conference will sustain the three (3) persons who are nominated by the ESLCC Board to serve a three (3) year term (January 1, 2026 – December 31, 2028).

Note: Current Board members and the dates their terms expire:

DeAndre Taylor (2025)
Darwin Walker (2025)
John Williams (2025)
Ramon Fultz (2026)
Lana McCarty (2026)
Corrin Drones Sherman (2026)
Antoinette Culp (2027)
Jeanne Murphey (2027)
Cindy Reed (2027)
Rodrick Howard Jr. (2027)
Rick McKane, GMC MCP Designated Ex Officio
Ron Saur, GMC MCFO Ex Officio or Designee

Nominations for three Open Positions (Term January 1, 2026 – December 31, 2028):

1. Darwin Walker
 2. John Williams
 3. DeAndre Taylor
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Ordination of High Priest

World Church Leadership upon the recommendation of the Apostle and the Mission Center Presidents Team have approved the calls of *Travis Jay. Harder* and *Dennis Gregory Andrea* to the Office High Priest. The Mission Center is asked to approve these two calls on behalf of the church.

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Ordination of Seventy

World Church Leadership upon the recommendation of the Apostle, Council of Presidents of Seventy and the Mission Center Presidents Team have approved the call of *Ruth Maellen Richardson* to the Office Seventy. The Mission Center is asked to approve this call on behalf of the church.

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2026 Camp Woodland Hills Proposed Budget

Camp Woodland Hills 2026 Proposed Budget

Camp Woodland Hills Income		Budget For 2023	Actuals For 2023	Budget For 2024	Actuals For 2024	Budget For 2025	Actuals For 2025	Proposed Budget For 2026
Receipts			(YTD as of 12/31)				As of (9/30)	
	Congregation Pledges	\$ 38,298	\$ 39,397.34	\$ 41,528	\$ 41,558.34	\$ 39,213	\$ 26,573.50	\$ 39,213
	Contributions	\$ 14,000	\$ 10,572.00	\$ 9,000	\$ 9,293.00	\$ 9,000	\$ 3,881.00	\$ 9,000
	Memorials	\$ -		\$ -	\$ 523.76	\$ -	\$ 180.00	\$ -
	Rent	\$ 60,000	\$ 56,310.02	\$ 66,000	\$ 58,600.69	\$ 68,500	\$ 39,429.80	\$ 60,000
	Other Income	\$ 1,000		\$ -	\$ 18,193.77	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	Fundraising	\$ -		\$ 3,000		\$ 3,000	\$ -	\$ 3,000
	AIP Earnings/Transfer from	\$ 5,000	\$ 4,585.34	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 29,901
	Income from Operating Fund	\$ 18,474		\$ 5,450	\$ 2,290.43	\$ 5,500	\$ 4,557.79	\$ 5,500
	Projects Carried Forward	\$ 5,000		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Income		\$ 141,772	\$ 110,864.70	\$ 124,978	\$ 130,459.99	\$ 125,213	\$ 74,622.09	\$ 146,614
Camp Woodland Hills Expenditures		Budget For 2021	Actuals For 2023	Budget For 2024	Actuals For 2024	Budget For 2025	Actuals For 2025	Budget For 2026
Operations							As of (9/30)	
	Utilities	\$ 16,500	\$ 22,411.02	\$ 19,000	\$ 24,705.95	\$ 19,000	\$ 22,831.42	\$ 28,000
	Telephone & Internet	\$ 1,600	\$ 1,016.65	\$ 1,300	\$ 1,164.15	\$ 1,300	\$ 941.04	\$ 1,100
	Staff Expense	\$ 65,500	\$ 48,098.33	\$ 48,000	\$ 42,790.16	\$ 50,400	\$ 38,061.59	\$ 50,000
	Ministry Reimbursement -Caretaker			\$ -	\$ 239.94	\$ 1,200	\$ 500.00	\$ 857
	Ministry Reimbursement - Scheduler			\$ -	\$ 239.94	\$ -	\$ 449.97	\$ 575
	Office Supplies	\$ 200		\$ 50	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	Postage & Mailing	\$ 100	\$ -	\$ 50	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	Facility Maintenance	\$ 10,000	\$ 13,552.22	\$ 10,000	\$ 12,616.75	\$ 14,000	\$ 16,970.83	\$ 14,000
	Projects	\$ 5,000	\$ 843.77	\$ 1,000	\$ -	\$ 500	\$ 146.46	\$ -
	Playground Project	\$ -	\$ 674.27	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	Equipment Maintenance	\$ 3,000	\$ 678.40	\$ 2,000	\$ 684.71	\$ 1,000	\$ 6,421.47	\$ 5,000
	Insurance	\$ 38,000	\$ 37,582.00	\$ 35,000	\$ 42,879.00	\$ 39,750	\$ 31,506.40	\$ 46,110
	Kitchen Supplies	\$ 1,100	\$ 1,379.39	\$ 1,000	\$ 451.00	\$ 800	\$ 492.36	\$ 500
	Janitor Supply & Serv	\$ 800	\$ 441.33	\$ 700	\$ 222.01	\$ 700	\$ 191.38	\$ 250
	Miscellaneous	\$ 100	\$ 192.00	\$ 50	\$ 281.85	\$ 50	\$ 97.21	\$ 50
	Weather Damage / Insurance					\$ -	\$ (23,662.97)	\$ -
	Canteen/Ice	\$ 100	\$ 389.40	\$ 300	\$ 260.64	\$ 300	\$ 277.08	\$ 300
Total Expenditures		\$ 142,000	\$ 127,258.78	\$ 118,450	\$ 126,536.10	\$ 129,000	\$ 95,224.24	\$ 146,742

2026 Gateway USA Mission Center Draft Budget – Revised^

2026 Gateway USA MC Draft Budget							
	2023 Approved	2023 Actuals	2024 Approved	2024 Actuals	2025 Approved	September 2025 Actuals	2026 Draft Budget
Income							
Congregational Pledges	\$ 53,602.50	\$ 53,611.50	\$ 45,990.00	\$ 45,990.30	\$ 38,396.00	\$ 26,350.75	\$ 38,396.00
Mission Center Contributions	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 9,538.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 6,422.00	\$ 4,173.00	\$ 2,895.00	\$ 5,000.00
Other Income	\$ -		\$ -	\$ 678.00		\$ -	\$ -
Operating Reserves - see note 1	\$ 36,349.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 24,224.00	\$ 15,918.58	\$ 26,834.00	\$ 15,386.22	\$ 35,658.00
Income from Future Need Reserve	\$ 14,113.50	\$ -	\$ 27,215.00	\$ 15,918.58	\$ 953.00	\$ -	\$ 12,611.00
Income from Maintenance/Equipment Reserves	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	not in 2025	\$ -	\$ -
Unused Oper Res & Future Needs from Previous Year			\$ -	\$ -	\$ 35,462.00	\$ 35,462.00	\$ 19,602.00
Total Income to Support Mission Center	\$ 106,565.00	\$ 78,149.50	\$ 100,929.00	\$ 85,927.46	\$ 105,818.00	\$ 80,093.97	\$ 111,267.00
2% World Church Contribution - see note 2	\$ 19,661.00	\$ 19,661.00	\$ 6,345.00	\$ 6,345.00	\$ 9,352.00	\$ 9,352.00	\$ 2,847.00
BOH Fund Contribution	\$ 14,092.00	\$ 14,092.51	not in 2024	not in 2024	not in 2025	\$ -	\$ -
Total Income to Support World Church Contributions	\$ 33,753.00	\$ 33,753.51	\$ 6,345.00	\$ 6,345.00	\$ 9,352.00	\$ 9,352.00	\$ 2,847.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 140,318.00	\$ 111,903.01	\$ 107,274.00	\$ 92,272.46	\$ 115,170.00	\$ 89,445.97	\$ 114,114.00
Expenses							
Staff	\$ 77,100.00	\$ 61,967.08	\$ 74,000.00	\$ 63,923.27	\$ 78,173.00	\$ 49,335.62	\$ 80,091.00
Volunteer Ministerial Reimburesment	\$ 5,400.00	\$ 401.76	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 235.98	\$ 1,500.00	\$ -	\$ 1,050.00
Communications	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,157.86	\$ 1,700.00	\$ 2,133.07	\$ 1,700.00	\$ 348.97	\$ 1,425.00
Jotform Subscription; Website Security; Secure Give Subscription; Domain Registration; Zoom License; OneLicense							
Office Supplies	\$ 700.00	\$ 582.01	\$ 700.00	\$ 569.86	\$ 700.00	\$ 400.65	\$ 650.00
Dropbox; LastPass; Deposit Slips							
Postage & Mailing	\$ 300.00	\$ 2.46	\$ 200.00	\$ 29.20	\$ 200.00	\$ 5.26	\$ 100.00
Audit	\$ 525.00	\$ -	\$ 225.00	\$ -	\$ 225.00	\$ -	\$ 200.00
Equipment	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 53.68	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,465.07	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	\$ 500.00
Insurance	\$ 1,525.00	\$ 1,546.00	\$ 1,754.00	\$ 1,603.00	\$ 1,929.00	\$ 2,151.00	\$ 2,501.00
Mission Programming	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 168.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 3,296.28	\$ 6,500.00	\$ 4,110.45	\$ 5,750.00
Leadership Dev/Education/Training/Women's Events/Reunion- See Note 3							
Children & Youth	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 7,435.52	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,075.05	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 8,500.00	\$ 15,000.00
Missionary Outreach - GMC Oblation Assistance	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 593.79	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 446.68	\$ 1,741.00	\$ 1,354.52	\$ 1,000.00
Interfaith Partnership	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00
East St. Louis Community Camps	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
Misc.	\$ 165.00	\$ -		\$ -			
Total Mission Center Expenses	\$ 106,565.00	\$ 76,058.16	\$ 100,929.00	\$ 85,927.46	\$ 105,818.00	\$ 68,206.47	\$ 111,267.00
2% World Church Contribution - see note 2	\$ 19,661.00	\$ 19,661.00	\$ 6,345.00	\$ 6,345.00	\$ 9,352.00	\$ 9,352.00	\$ 2,847.00
BOH Fund Contribution	\$ 14,092.00	\$ 14,092.51	not in 2024	not in 2024	not in 2025	\$ -	\$ -
Total Expenses for World Church Contributions	\$ 33,753.00	\$ 33,753.51	\$ 6,345.00	\$ 6,345.00	\$ 9,352.00	\$ 9,352.00	\$ 2,847.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 140,318.00	\$ 109,811.67	\$ 107,274.00	\$ 92,272.46	\$ 115,170.00	\$ 77,558.47	\$ 114,114.00

Notes for 2026 Draft Budget

1. PROPOSED for 2026 - The amount of Mission Center Operating Reserves available to support the budget is based on the average of the balance of the last 5-years (Dec 31, 2020-2024) multiplied by a portion of the current recommended spending rate by the Presiding Bishopric of 4%. This is outlined in the Mission Center Operating Reserves Resolution. The portion of the spending rate used for income from Operating Reserves is 3.865%. When applying this formula to the current 5-year average of \$922,593.49, we are able to provide \$35,658 of income to the budget.

2. PROPOSED for 2026 - The amount of income from the 2% World Church Contribution line item is based on our proposed resolution, "Annual Giving to World Mission Tithes" which designates a contribution to World Wide Mission Tithes not to exceed 2% of our 5-yr rolling average of: Operating Reserves (\$922,593.49) and Missionary Grant Fund (\$45070.25) in 2024. We are able to provide .135% of the rolling average from Operating Reserve or \$1,246.00 From the Missionary Grant Fund we will provide 1% or \$451.00. Because of additional pledge commitment by congregations beyond the projected amount needed, the excess of \$1,150.00 will be added to the contribution. The total World Church Contribution will be \$2,847.00.

3. Mission Programming includes \$4,000.00 available for use by the reunion in 2026.

^Budget was revised to include additional increases in the projected Insurance and InterFaith Partnership line items and final congregational pledge information.

Resolution: Aid to Camp Woodland Hills – 2025

Explanation:

Camp Woodland Hills (CWH) experienced two significant events that affected their ability to rent the campgrounds in the Spring of 2025. The two events were, 1) freezing of the pipes in the Lodge and, 2) very high winds from a tornado in the area close to the campgrounds. Insurance claims helped with the recovery along with many volunteers who assisted getting the grounds to an operational state. Insurance, however, did not cover the loss of rental income. The CWH Board of Directors established that the loss of spring rental income was about \$5,000.00. With this being the case, the following resolution is presented to the Gateway Mission Center Conference on Saturday, November 15, 2025, for consideration.

Aid to Camp Woodland Hills – 2025

Resolution:

Resolved, that in line with the Gateway USA Mission Center Operating Reserve Policy, that \$5,000.00 be withdrawn from the Operating Reserve, and be it further,

Resolved, that these funds be given to Camp Woodland Hills to cover their loss of rental income in 2025, and be it further,

Resolved, that the Gateway USA Mission Center Conference approve this resolution by the required two-thirds (2/3) majority.

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2026 East St. Louis Community Camps Proposed Budget*

The Board of Directors of the East St. Louis Community Camps will present their 2026 Proposed Budget to the Gateway Mission Center Conference. The body will be asked to approve this proposed budget.

(If this Proposed Budget is received prior to the Mission Center Conference, it will be forwarded to the body for review.)

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2024 Gateway USA Mission Center Internal Financial Statement & Procedures Inspection Report



Community of Christ

CHRIST'S MISSION, OUR MISSION

INTERNAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT & PROCEDURES INSPECTION REPORT

Gateway USA Mission Center Presidency and Conference
Community of Christ

The financial records of the Gateway USA Mission Center for the year ended December 31, 2024, have been inspected applying certain procedures, as described below, the purpose of which is to assist in evaluating the effectiveness of the internal controls and in identifying any areas in which the accounting functions might not have captured all of the significant financial data. Additionally, these procedures are intended to meet the “audit” function required by the Presiding Bishopric’s policies. This report is intended solely for the use of members of the Gateway USA Mission Center and the World Church Presiding Bishopric, and it should not be distributed to anyone who is not associated through these bodies.

We are required to be independent of the Gateway USA Mission Center and to meet our other ethical responsibilities related to this inspection. Among the procedures conducted were the following: 1) Confirmation of cash balances and investment balances, 2) Inspection of all asset, liability, and equity accounts as recorded in the general ledger, 3) Traced transactions through the year pertaining to cash receipts, disbursements and journal entries including examination of appropriate supporting documentation.

In all material respects, receipts and disbursements have been recorded and administered in accordance with appropriate accounting practices and approved budgets with no material misstatements noted. The accompanying statements present fairly the agreed-upon financial procedures inspected and the results of its operations and changes in fund balances of the Gateway USA Mission Center as of December 31, 2024.

Dean Caudle
Internal Financial Statement & Procedures Inspection
July 1, 2025
Shiloh, Illinois

2024 Camp Woodland Hills Internal Financial Statement & Procedures Inspection Report



Community of Christ

CHRIST'S MISSION, OUR MISSION

INTERNAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT & PROCEDURES INSPECTION REPORT

Campground Board President
Camp Woodland Hills
Community of Christ

The financial records of Camp Woodland Hills for the year ended 12/31/2024 have been inspected applying certain procedures, as described below, the purpose of which is to assist in evaluating the effectiveness of the internal controls and in identifying any areas in which the accounting functions might not have captured all of the significant financial data. Additionally, these procedures are intended to meet the “audit” function required by the Presiding Bishopric’s policies. This report is intended solely for the use of members of the Camp Woodland Hills Board and the World Church Presiding Bishopric, and it should not be distributed to anyone who is not associated through these bodies.

We are required to be independent of the Camp Woodland Hills and to meet our other ethical responsibilities related to this inspection. Among the procedures conducted were the following: 1) Confirmation of cash balances and investment balances, 2) Inspection of all asset, liability, and equity accounts as recorded in the general ledger, 3) Traced transactions through the year pertaining to cash receipts, disbursements and journal entries including examination of appropriate supporting documentation.

In all material respects, receipts and disbursements have been recorded and administered in accordance with appropriate accounting practices and approved budgets with no material misstatements noted. The accompanying statements present fairly the agreed-upon financial procedures inspected and the results of its operations and changes in fund balances of the Camp Woodland Hills as of 12/31/2024.

Tony Fantini
Internal Financial Statement & Procedures Inspection
5/14/2025
Belleville, Illinois