

Summer 2025 Quarterly Update

This document provides a snapshot of CRC Council goals and initiatives, ministry focus areas, budget details, and upcoming opportunities to serve as we enter the summer season. This quarterly update supports the goal of improved congregational communication.



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Children and Worship:	Pastoral Update:	External Ministry:	Council Highlights:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Beginning a new grant cohort through the CRCNA and Lilly Foundation on Faith Formation at Home Wrapped up another year of programming with approx. 60 kids/youth and 60 volunteers and transitioned to summer mode at church with materials and resources for use during the service Planned and implemented intergenerational events for the Exodus series such as the Passover Meal during Holy Week Celebrating baptisms, volunteers and kids aging up in programming 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pastor Chris will be a delegate at the CRC Synod, June 13th through 19th in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada In the planning phase for the next Sermon Series and teaching theme: <i>Discipleship</i> for 2025-2026 ministry year Leading Student Fellowship and Local Pastor fellowships for Center for Pastor Theologians Celebrated 25th Anniversary with a trip to Italy with Katie 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The annual Broekhuis/CTA neighborhood clean up took place in April In May CRC hosted a ministry partner, Welcomed, who put on the "Break the Cycle" run/walk to raise awareness around foster care The Mission Team at CRC continues to work on developing a strong system of support and connection with our current and potential ministry partners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing discussions are being had around the nature and theology of discipleship: <i>Discipleship is not a separate ministry or set of programs; it is woven through the entire life of our church. Discipleship is nurtured through shared worship, teaching, and community.</i> The council is exploring how to strengthen this organic approach, guided by the Five Pillars of Discipleship: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Kingdom Mission (2) Ecclesial Belonging (3) Liturgical Formation (4) Biblical Literacy (5) Christlike Character

2024-2025 Budget Highlights

	JUL - MAY ACTUAL	JUL - MAY BUDGET	JUL - MAY v BUDGET
TOTAL TITHES	350,030	358,203	-8,173
Operating Expenses	294,272	311,563	-17,291
Mission Expenses	<u>51,280</u>	<u>52,420</u>	<u>-1,140</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>345,552</u>	<u>363,983</u>	<u>-18,431</u>
SURPLUS / DEFICIT	4,478	-5,780	10,258

BUDGET NOTES
** This excludes any expenses funded by the capital fund
** Interest Income presented as a reduction in Operating Expenses



Welcomed

CRC Ministry Partner Highlight

Welcomed, one of CRC's ministry partners, seeks to surround vulnerable children and the families who support them with caring communities. Our church has engaged in a number of these structured "Care Communities" as we've come around foster families, families who need some extra support during challenging seasons, a foster family who didn't attend CRC, and a biological parent. Our annual fun run this spring took place on May 17th at Gordon Park in Milwaukee and CRC partnered with Welcomed to make this event happen. We had 35-40 people attend this fun, community-building event, with an emphasis on raising awareness around the cycle of foster care and how this impacts children and their families. Those who attended the event learned more about the work of Welcomed while getting some fresh air and exercise and spending time with each other.

The Need.

Foster children have been torn from the most foundational of human relationships, that of a child to their parents. When this God-ordained relationship is fractured there are significant spiritual and emotional consequences. Well-meaning foster parents stand in the gap to give these children the love and support that all humans require, but they are often unequipped and unsupported in their difficult work. Most find that they are unable to continue fostering after their initial placement due to the behavioral issues these children exhibit as a result of the trauma they have experienced. There are approximately 8,000 children in the Wisconsin foster system.

We believe the Church is the answer.

Placing Christian Care Communities around these families is a proven solution to keep them fostering longer. Care Communities provide support in the areas of childcare, child mentoring, meals, and prayer. This keeps families fostering longer, and encourages others to become foster parents as they see that their fellow Christians will support them.

Partnerships.

Welcomed Family Advocacy Ministry (FAM) partners with local churches. Partnerships with churches are essential for the full impact of family advocacy ministry to be realized. When churches make a Welcomed ministry their own, they become a force for good in their local communities and are able to truly invest in the well-being of their local foster families.

Text taken from <https://welcomed.org/strategy>