



PRITCHARD CHURCH MESSENGER

JANUARY 2026 | VOLUME 61 | ISSUE 1

**A NEW YEAR
A NEW YES!**

WHEN EACH OF US STEPS FORWARD,
OUR SMALL YES BECOMES PART OF
SOMETHING MUCH BIGGER...
MEETING NEEDS,
BUILDING COMMUNITY,
AND SHARING CHRIST'S LOVE.

LOOK FOR WAYS TO SAY "YES" IN 2026.

Iterate.

Every piece of life involves some level of iteration. Really, I don't know if you can improve anything, grow in any way, develop yourself professionally, mentally, spiritually, without some level of iteration.

Iteration has some origins in the math world, but it involves a repeated process with constant improvement. So you'll see companies with several iterations of phones (the iPhone stopped improving years ago, boom). You'll see sports teams with iterations of certain plays. You'll see books with iterations of various concepts.

The spiritual world and the church world are no different.

We have to embrace the process of iteration. To that end, we have quite a few things I see that we can improve upon and grow in as a church in the coming year.

We can iterate on our hospitality. We have seen some really great improvement in hospitality through the month of December. Now, let's iterate on that to take another leap! We have a huddle every Sunday morning at 8.35am in the Gathering Place. This is to help us all have a similar vision and mentality when it comes to hospitality. It helps us remember we're on a team. It helps us remember what we're doing and why. If you're on the hospitality team for the week, we hope you'll join us!

We can continue to iterate on our outreach. I've been amazed at some of the growth God has given Pritchard this past year. Am I alone in thinking He's not done? Am I alone in wondering how many people He's planning to send our way this year? It only works if we embrace new people, and that only works if we remember that Jesus set a place at His table for everyone who showed up. We're not in charge of the guest list, we're in charge of opening the doors and opening our arms.

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We can grow in our understanding of formation. This year John, who is our minister to youth but also spiritual formation, will have a couple bookshelves on campus. On each shelf we'll have a book recommendation from each minister, as well as a few other regular recommendations. We have a way you can check those out like a library, or you can buy them! But these are books that have or continue to impact your ministerial team. Check them out!

More than anything else, I would encourage our committees to continue to iterate. Pritchard grows best when our committees lead the way, so if you're on a committee we ask, no we BEG, please help lead us! We need you to help us live out our mission here in South End and to the very ends of the earth, but we can't do that if we lose sight of our specific jobs within that.

Let this be a year we see the wonders God wants to demonstrate, His grace in leading us, and His power in providing for us. Let us work together, let us grow, let us change, let us iterate.

Chris Richardson
Lead Pastor

Your Help Will Go a Long Way

In the cold winter months, it's crucial to ensure that our doors are secure. Please be cognizant when leaving a building that the door latches behind you. We have folks looking for a warm place to stay overnight. We encourage these individuals to seek shelter at Roof Above or other venues for temporary housing. Please do not prop a door open at any time. This helps prevent cold drafts and saves on energy costs. Your help makes a difference!



Beryl Campbell	1/2	John Austin	1/13
Allen Childers	1/5	Tony Canupp	1/13
Sandy Austin	1/5	Grace Sykes	1/16
Suzanne Clark	1/6	Katrina Hidy	1/17
Dale Hopper	1/7	David Crowell	1/19
Mckenzie Lemly	1/7	Martin Timmons	1/20
Meagan Crowell	1/8	John Miller	1/24
Sarah Foard	1/8	Karen Nicholson	1/24
Cindy Edahl	1/9	Jeff Stewart	1/26
Frank Merchant	1/9	Vickie Mayer	1/26
Mario Chang	1/9	Anita Taft	1/27
Stanley Eaves	1/9	David Riggins	1/27
Mark Orlick	1/10	Dan Williams	1/31
Anne Graham	1/11	Gary Huhnerkoch	1/31
Ann Duncan	1/12		

Meal Assistance Requested

If you would be interested in providing a meal for the group "More Than Conquerors" that meets on Saturday evenings, please contact Debra Huhnerkoch at 612-387-6895. It can be a homemade meal or something that is catered.

MISSIONS FAIR

LEARN ABOUT SEVERAL MINISTRIES, BOTH WITHIN PRITCHARD
AND BEYOND, WHERE YOU CAN GET INVOLVED.

JANUARY 11 | 9:00 AM - 10:15 AM | FELLOWSHIP HALL

THERE WILL BE NO CONNECT GROUPS SO ALL CAN ATTEND!

A Summary of the Pritchard Church Monthly Generosity Report: NOVEMBER 2025

2025 ANNUAL BUDGET: \$1,541,438

WEEKLY NEEDS TO MEET BUDGET: \$29,643

A copy of the full report is available on request.

	<u>NOVEMBER</u>	<u>YEAR-TO-DATE</u>
Generosity (Tithes & Offerings)	\$118,820	\$1,000,945
Other Income	<u>\$21,132</u>	<u>\$210,160</u>
Total Revenue	\$139,952	\$1,211,105
Expenses	\$123,410	\$1,351,770
Net Income	\$16,542	-\$140,665

Last month, in addition to your time and talents, I encouraged you to give of your treasure (finances) to support Kingdom work through your church because when we do, God will do a transforming work in your heart. Let's think about that a little more.

We've all heard the saying, "Put your money where your mouth is." That expression is often used when the desire is for words to be backed up with action. We want someone to put

some skin in the game. If someone is willing to do that, we know they are not just blowing smoke; we know they believe what they are saying and are willing to back it up. They are invested. They want good things to happen. They are all in!

In Matthew 6:21, Jesus said, "Where your treasure is, there the desires of your heart will also be." Jesus pointed out the fact that where we put (spend) our money is where our heart is. Whether we admit it or not, what we treasure the most (and where we put our treasure), in a very real sense, controls us. It bends our desires. If we spend money on ourselves, our desires are the most important thing to us. If we are "others-focused" with our money, "others" will be what is important to us. If we commit to supporting Pritchard's missions and ministries financially, God has orchestrated it so that our hearts soon follow.

What do you desire? If you say you want to obey what scripture teaches, are you putting your money where your mouth is?

Saved to Serve, Rusty Thomaston
Executive Pastor

SAVE THE DATE!

JANUARY - MAY 2026

JANUARY

- 1 Summer Camp Registration Opens (Rec, Kids, Youth)
- 4 Committee Kick-Off Breakfast & Orientation (9-10:15AM)
Women's Ministry Launch Lunch
- 11 Missions Fair (9-10:15AM) No Connect Groups
All On The Table (5-7PM)
- 12 Deacon's Meeting
- 16-19 Winter Retreat (Youth)
- 17-19 Camp Caraway Winter Camp (Kids)
- 18 New Connect Groups Begin
- 23 CMS Teacher Workday Camp (Rec)

FEBRUARY

- 8 Basketball Recognition Sunday & Party
All On The Table (5-7PM)
- 9 Deacon's Meeting
- 11 Sweet Spirits (Senior Adult)
- 14 Hearts of Hope Dinner (6-8PM)
Parents Night Out
- 15 Church Council (12-1PM)
- 16 CMS Teacher Workday Camp (Rec)
- 18 Ash Wednesday Self-Guided Prayer Time (12-8PM)
- 27 -3/1 Men's Retreat

MARCH

- 3 CMS Teacher Workday Camp (Rec)
- 8 All On The Table (5-7PM)
- 9 Deacon's Meeting
- 11 Sweet Spirits (Senior Adult)
- 15 Women's Ministry Fellowship Lunch
- 20 CMS Teacher Workday Camp (Rec)
- 22 Spring Fling & Easter Egg Hunt (12-2PM)

APRIL

- 2 Maundy Thursday Service
- 3 CMS Teacher Workday Camp (Rec)
- 5 Easter Sunday
- 6-10 Youth Event
- 8 Sweet Spirits (Senior Adult)
- 12 All On The Table (5-7PM)
- 13 Deacon's Meeting
- 17 Creation Night (6-8PM)
- 18 Women's Ministry Bowling
- 26 Family Lunch at Capishe (Kids)

MAY

- 3 Park, Picnic & Pictures (Kids)
- 8 Muffins with Mom (CDC)
- 10 Mother's Day
- 11 Deacon's Meeting
- 11-15 SummerFest (Senior Adult)
- 14 Family Picnic (CDC)
- 17 Church Council (12-1PM)
All On The Table (5-7PM)
- 20 Sweet Spirits (Senior Adult)
- 29 or 30 Thrift Store Gala
- 31 Graduation Sunday



Thursday, January 1...NEW YEAR'S DAY

CHURCH OFFICE/CAMPUS CLOSED

Friday, January 2

CHURCH OFFICE/CAMPUS CLOSED

Saturday, January 3

5:00pm-7:00pm—More Than Conquerors

Sunday, January 4...COMMUNION

9:00am—Children and Youth Programming

9:00am—2026 Committee Kick-Off Breakfast and Orientation

9:15am—Connect Groups

10:30am—Worship

12:00pm—Ridgecrest Team Meeting

12:00pm—Women's Ministry Launch Lunch

Monday, January 5

6:00pm—Facilities Forward Meeting

Tuesday, January 6

10:30am—Women on Mission

12:30pm-3:00pm—Pickleball

2:00pm—Afternoon Bible Study Group (Spence home)

Wednesday, January 7

6:30am—Men's Prayer Breakfast (Tryon House)

10:00am-4:00pm—Thrift Store open

6:30pm-8:00pm—Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, January 8

6:30am—Men's Prayer Breakfast (Jonathan's in Matthews)

Friday, January 9

Saturday, January 10

5:00pm-7:00pm—More Than Conquerors

Sunday, January 11

9:00am—Children and Youth Programming

9:00am—Churchwide Missions Fair

CONNECT GROUPS WILL NOT MEET

10:30am—Worship

5:00pm-7:00pm—All On the Table

Monday, January 12

6:30pm-7:45pm—Deacons Meeting

Tuesday, January 13

10:00am—See 'n Sew

12:30pm-3:00pm—Pickleball

Wednesday, January 14

6:30am—Men's Prayer Breakfast (Tryon House)

6:30pm-8:00pm—Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, January 15

6:30am—Men's Prayer Breakfast (Jonathan's in Matthews)

Friday, January 16

Youth Winter Retreat Weekend

Saturday, January 17

Pritchard Kids Camp Caraway Weekend

5:00pm-7:00pm—More Than Conquerors

Sunday, January 18

9:00am—Children and Youth Programming

9:15am—Connect Groups

10:30am—Worship

Monday, January 19...MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY

CHURCH OFFICE/CAMPUS CLOSED

Tuesday, January 20

12:30pm-3:00pm—Pickleball

Wednesday, January 21

6:30am—Men's Prayer Breakfast (Tryon House)

10:00am-4:00pm—Thrift Store open

6:30pm-8:00pm—Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, January 22

6:30am—Men's Prayer Breakfast (Jonathan's in Matthews)

Friday, January 23

Saturday, January 24

5:00pm-7:00pm—More Than Conquerors

Sunday, January 25

9:00am—Children and Youth Programming

9:15am—Connect Groups

10:30am—Worship

Monday, January 26

Tuesday, January 27

10:00am-12:00pm—Volunteers to Crisis Assistance

12:30pm-3:00pm—Pickleball

Wednesday, January 28

6:30am—Men's Prayer Breakfast (Tryon House)

8:30am—Women's Prayer Breakfast (Tryon House)

6:30pm-8:00pm—Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, January 29

6:30am—Men's Prayer Breakfast (Jonathan's in Matthews)

Friday, January 30

Saturday, January 31

5:00pm-7:00pm—More Than Conquerors