



CICERO CHRISTIAN CHURCH



where God's love flows like a river



Cicero Christian Church is not built on programs, personalities or gimmicks. It is built on the eternal purposes of God. We believe a *Great Commitment to the Great Commandment and the Great Commission* will grow a great church. We use five words to summarize Christ's five purposes for His church.

- Magnify***: We celebrate God's presence in worship
- Mission***: We communicate God's Word through evangelism
- Membership***: We incorporate God's family into our fellowship
- Maturity***: We educate God's people through discipleship
- Ministry***: We demonstrate God's love through service

These key words, representing our five purposes, have been incorporated into our mission statement. We have developed our Core Statements (Mission Statement, Core Beliefs, Core Practices) to describe Cicero Christian Church.

Core Values

Cicero Christian Church strives to equip members for the ministry at home and in the mission fields, in order to magnify God's name.

Core Mission

As Spirit-led citizens of the kingdom of God and in grateful submission to Christ, the members of His church purposefully live to extend God's love and grace to others.

Therefore, in obedience to Christ's directions, the members of Cicero Christian Church will always endeavor to:

1. Reach and teach by our words and deeds each person in our community who is outside of Jesus Christ, and reach out worldwide by our mission supported endeavors;
2. Help believers obtain spiritual maturity in Christ through Bible study and personal application.
3. Provide for joyful worship of God and fellowship with His family; and
4. Maintain an effective influence in our community by practicing Christ-like love.

Summary Mission Statement

Cicero Christian Church wishes to bring people to Jesus and **membership** in his family, develop them to Christ like **maturity** and equip them for the **ministry** in the church and life **mission** in the world, in order to **magnify** God's name.

Core Beliefs

Cicero Christian Church:

- † Believes that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God.
- † Believes the Gospel plan of Salvation as taught in the New Testament is:
 - FAITH: To believe that Jesus Christ came in the flesh as the Son of the Living God and our personal Savior.
 - REPENTANCE: To repent of all past sins and turn from them.
 - CONFESSION: To confess before man that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God.
 - BAPTISM: To be immersed in water for remission of sins, being thereby buried with Christ that we may put on Christ and rise to walk in the newness of life.
 - FAITHFULNESS: To be faithful to Christ, His Church, and His teaching for our daily living until He calls us home to live with Him for eternity.
- † Believes both the Old Testament and New Testament are the inspired Word of God and are profitable for doctrine, reproof, correction, and instruction in righteousness.
- † Recognizes that the New Testament contains the only authoritative rule of faith and practice for the church today.
- † Regards its people not as the only Christians, but as Christians only, seeking to avoid sectarianism and denominationalism.
- † Keeps the Lord's Supper weekly as a testimony to Christ, offering each Christian the opportunity to accept Christ's invitation to partake after self-examination.
- † Exercises a spirit of love toward all men, irrespective of differences, theological or personal.
- † Invites into its fellowship all who will commit themselves to the lordship of Christ by the terms of His New Testament.
- † Contends for Christian liberty in all areas where the Lord of the Church has not spoken.
- † Hopes that its congregation can help restore the truth and simplicity of the Church as established by Christ and organized by His inspired apostles, as revealed in the Word of God.
- † Welcomes the inquiries of any who seek the way of God in an atmosphere of reverence and freedom

Core Practices

Cicero Christian Church believes the Body of Christ is made up first and foremost of families, home fellowships, community gatherings and a strong worship setting. Therefore, we will adhere to the following core practices:

1. We believe every member should be encouraged to participate in a home fellowship. *Hebrews 2:11, Hebrews 10:24-25, Romans 12:10*
2. We believe that the family is the foundational unit of the Body of Christ, and we wish to focus our efforts on strengthening the family first. *Ephesians 6:1-4*
3. We believe that the edification of the Body of Christ requires the type of community fellowship we see described in the Book of Acts, with the home as the foundational structure. *Acts 2:42, 46*
4. We encourage every attendee to become a member of a ministry team and promote the “every member a minister” concept. *1 Peter 4:10, Ephesians 4:11-13*
5. We require every member to participate in a believer’s membership class. *II Timothy 2:15*
6. We believe that Biblical thematic teaching and preaching is an effective way to teach God’s Word through a family based ministry model and therefore will encourage our preaching minister to coordinate with Community Gathering and Home Fellowship leaders to facilitate teaching along a central theme each week. *Philippians 2:2*
7. We are fully persuaded that the gospel is to be spread locally and around the world by every member of the Body of Christ and that it is the duty of the elders and ministers to equip the saints for this work. *Ephesians 4:11-13*
8. We believe all believers are gifted by God to serve others to build up the Body of Christ. *Ephesians 4:15-16*
9. We seek to equip the heads of households and teach them how to effectively lead and nurture the family unit. *I Timothy 3:5, Ephesians 5:22-6:4, Deuteronomy 6:6-7*

Vision

Cicero Christian Church exists to build a dynamic community of Christ followers. Whatever the starting point, regardless of circumstances, individuals are encouraged to confront the struggles of life with the provision of Christ. This mission is fulfilled through:

- The effective living of individuals committed to Christ who are intentional about their influence on the world around them.
- Creative church services and special events that cut through the religious traditions to the heart of the human dilemma.
- Culture appropriate programming that matures Christians and channels them into life-related ministries.



Cicero Christian Church has experienced phenomenal growth in the last 8 years. Its attendance more than tripled between 1994 and 2000. The average attendance on Sunday mornings is over 600 worshippers in two services and over 150 children. Wednesday evening programming also brings in adults and children with its various class offerings during the year.

With God's people come ministry programs. These programs are developed by people, inspired by God. Here is a glimpse of some of the people and programs.

Staff

Full Time Ministers

Tim Lueking, Senior Minister

Bill Bergstrom, Involvement Minister

Dr. Steven Hancock, Adult Discipleship Minister

Ben Radant, Children's Minister and Youth Coordinator

Doug Wiggers, Interim Worship & Music Minister

Youth Minister: *accepting applications*

School

Jenni Roosa, Jesus and Me Child Care Director

Beth Rutan, Director of Crosslight Christian Montessori Preschool & Kindergarten

Other Staff

Full time: office manager, financial secretary, custodian

Part time: multiple workers that facilitate the ministries and operations of Cicero Christian Church

Elders

Our eldership is comprised of 7 men with an additional two in apprenticeship training and one emeritus. These men are affirmed by the congregation in light of their meeting the scriptural qualifications seen in the New Testament, especially 1 Timothy 3:1-3 and Titus 1:5-9. They are elected for a three year term and may serve successive terms.

Our Elders are dedicated to providing spiritual leadership and serve as the “overseers” of the congregation (1 Timothy 3:1, Acts 20:21, 1 Peter 5:1-7). They are set apart to help individual believers fulfill their purpose by making sure that all functions, programs, and activities of the church enhance, reinforce, further, or otherwise contribute to the spiritual and/or organizational purposes of the church (Colossians 3:15-17, Acts 20:28-30, 1 Peter 5:1-4).

Team Ministry – “Every Member a Minister”

The activities of Cicero Christian Church operate through ministry teams. We teach that every Christian is a minister with individual gifts that should be contributed in a manner that builds the body of Christ. Members are encouraged to take a survey that helps them discover the ministry best suited for him or her to serve God. Our Team Ministry concept is based on several New Testament scriptures that acknowledge that individual Christians are created, saved, called, gifted, authorized, commanded, prepared, needed, accountable, and rewarded for his or her ministry. We currently have 15 ministry centers and more than 75 active ministry teams. Team Ministry is overseen by the Eldership and a ministry cabinet consisting of coaches of teams and managers of team ministry centers.

LIFE Small Group Ministry

This is a newer ministry at Cicero Christian Church but one which we believe will be instrumental in maturing believers in their relationship with Christ and building community with other believers. LIFE Ministry is people of all ages gathering according to the instructions given by God in Acts 2:42-47. There are various LIFE groups in which one can become involved, including Community Gatherings, Home Fellowships, and Care Groups. We believe that this ministry, based on a connected church model around a small group philosophy, will greatly impact our church and community. In LIFE Ministry, people:

- L*ove each other
- I*nvolve themselves in spiritual growth
- F*ellowship with each other
- E*ngage in service

Adult Discipleship

The Christian life is a journey, a journey that involves continual growth in the knowledge and ways of Christ. For this reason, there are numerous educational opportunities for adults at Cicero Christian Church. The purpose of these ministries is to educate men and women in their roles as disciples so they can become more Christ-like in character and lifestyle. Some of these various opportunities are available through Community Gatherings, Adult Bible Fellowship classes, ATOMIC Men’s Ministry, Women’s Ministries, Crown Financial Ministries, and Family Foundations.

Children and Youth Ministries

Our children and youth ministries are committed to spiritually nourishing children and youth so that they will grow strong in their faith in the Lord and experience His love. Our children's ministry, with the help of numerous volunteers, has a Sunday morning program that includes Bible classes for all ages and a special worship services geared for those 4 years old through Kindergarten and grades 1-5. A Wednesday evening program and several special events throughout the year keep this ministry alive and active.

Our junior and senior high youth ministry program is also active. There are Sunday morning classes, small groups, a Wednesday evening youth service, and several special events. This ministry has various teams within it that encourage youth to get involved and grow in their walk with Christ.

Music and Drama Ministries

Our music ministry is bustling with activity. There are numerous opportunities available for people to exercise their musical talents—including praise band, orchestra, large choir, worship teams, choral groups, and hand-bell choirs. Instrumental and voice lessons are offered through the Academy of Fine Arts. There are over 100 people involved in the music ministry, which plays a significant role in our worship services and several special events yearly.

Our drama ministry hosts a free Broadway-style musical each Christmas at a local high school with a full live orchestra. It is one of our many outreach efforts to the community. Multiple behind-the-scenes volunteers help complete our active music and drama ministries.

Missions

Ten percent of the giving to the general fund is contributed to several missions (local, national, and international) as well as local benevolence. All missions are considered worthy; however, there are some missions in which many of our members are personally involved. Some of those include the following.

Dunamis Ministries, a mission to the White Mountain Apache nation based in Show Low, Arizona

Hope Family Care Center, a free medical clinic open twice monthly on our grounds with many of its volunteers from our congregation

Mephibosheth Ministries, description follows

Mission Jamaica, a church providing spiritual and physical needs of the Jamaican people

Kulpahar Christian School, accredited Christian school in India

Wings of Compassion, providing air transportation on behalf of people in need of access to medical care or for reason of compassion or mission service

Damou Christian Mission, a Christian school in Haiti

Rainbow Camp, a Christian camp in Indiana

Weekly Programming

Office Hours Monday - Thursday 9am-4pm, Friday 9am-1pm

Jesus and Me Child Care Ministry We offer a safe and secure child care environment for children ages 6 weeks to 12 years old. Biblical principles are taught and children are exposed to the love of God through the loving care of dedicated teachers. It operates from 6am to 6pm, Monday through Friday.

Crosslight Christian Montessori School This ministry provides an academically advanced and enriched learning environment with each child progressing at his maximum pace. A school board, who reports to the eldership, governs Crosslight Christian Montessori School and Jesus and Me Child Care. Currently, CCMS offers Preschool for children ages 3-6, Kindergarten, and will offer First grade in 2006.

Mephibosheth Ministries This ministry is directed toward meeting the spiritual, emotional, and physical needs of individuals with disabilities. It is our sincere desire to empower individuals who have disabilities to live within their community just as King David did with Mephibosheth according to 2 Samuel 9:1-13. This ministry enables the individual who has a disability to discover their God-given talents with opportunities to use them for His Glory in their community. Included in this ministry are a Monday enrichment program, Tuesday evening worship/fellowship time, summer camp experience, and Sunday morning class, along with integration into the Sunday morning worship service.

Family Night A free-will offering meal is served every Wednesday evening (11 months per year) followed by Bible education for adults, children and youth as well as adult choir.

Other Additional weekly events include support groups, Bible studies, sports, men's Friday breakfast, and LIFE groups.

Sunday Morning Schedule

8:00am Adult Bible Fellowships (no child care)
9:00am Worship Service
Worship for Toddlers, Children and Youth
10:30am Sunday School/Adult Bible Fellowships for all ages,
Community Groups

Multiple Worship services are the norm, however during the transition of bringing on a new Senior Minister, we are using a one service format temporarily.



History of Cicero Christian Church

Founded in 1837 as a non-denominational congregation, the members of Cicero Christian Church worshipped in private homes and schools until a modest wooden structure was erected as their first church home. The congregation steadily grew in number through the years, creating the need for relocation and several building expansions since its humble beginning.

In 1998, the congregation felt God was calling them to step out in faith and embark on its largest construction undertaking to date. A new 44,000 square foot facility was constructed on 18 acres on the south side of Cicero, Indiana. With this new facility came the space to expand existing programs and initiate new ones which have faithfully ministered to the Cicero area and beyond. The House of Prayer, a separate facility on campus, was completed in 2005. It is accessible 24 hours a day and is dedicated solely to the purpose of prayer.

2006 promises to be a year of new beginnings for Cicero Christian Church with the coming of Tim Lueking to fill the pulpit as our Senior Minister. Tim's coming was precipitated by the death of Dr. Larry Wiseman, who ended his battle with cancer and went to be with the Lord in February 2005. He faithfully served Cicero Christian Church for nearly 10 years.

Cicero Christian Church strongly feels that its property should be used to its maximum potential. Almost all areas of the current facility are in use on a daily basis. Since 1998 the campus has grown to encompass over 90 acres, thus allowing ample room for further expansion to evangelize and minister to God's people. Some of that expansion is projected to take the form of several ministry outreaches which are outlined in a long-rang plan called the 20/20 Vision. It is our hope to see these outreach ministries (a youth center, special needs center, free medical clinic, and school to name a few) completed by the year 2020. The following page offers a glimpse of our present campus.



CICERO CHRISTIAN CHURCH



500 SEAT SANCTUARY



HOUSE OF PRAYER



FAMILY LIFE CENTER



CHILDREN'S WORSHIP



ADULT CLASSROOM



YOUTH AUDITORIUM



CAFE



CHOIR PRACTICE

The Area

Cicero Christian Church is located in a growing community 18 miles north of Indianapolis on Morse Lake. It is located in Hamilton County, the #1 county in income, population growth, and educational attainment in the state. From 1990 to 2000 the population in Hamilton County grew over 67%. It is estimated that it has grown 102% when compared from 1990 to 2005 with the current population estimated over 200,000. In 2004 the American City Business Journal ranked Hamilton County #8 in "quality of life" among all counties in the US.

Located in northern Hamilton County, Cicero is a small town that has easy access to "city" amenities. In 2002 its population was estimated at 4,303. It is projected to be 5,153 in 2008. It is undergoing significant growth at the present time. New home construction is underway in many areas with a subdivision of 160 homes currently being built adjacent to the church. There is a good public school system, Hamilton Heights School Corporation, which includes primary, elementary, middle, and high schools with total enrollment over 2200. Christian schools are also available in neighboring areas.

The cost of living is very reasonable. Housing is extremely varied with both rural and suburban locations.

For more information on Cicero and Hamilton County, please visit the following web sites.

Hamilton Heights School Corporation: www.hhsc.k12.in.us

Cicero, Indiana: www.city-data.com/city/Cicero-Indiana.html

Hamilton County: www.hccvb.org, www.co.hamilton.in.us

Indiana: www.in.gov





The body of Christ at Cicero Christian Church is committed to the Great Commandment and is using its resources toward that purpose. It is our prayer to realize our total vision by the year 2020. With the ever presence of Christ's direction, we are well on our way to fulfilling the first phase of laying the foundations for His presence in our community, state, nation, and world for the 21st century. If you share in this vision please accept the challenge of *His purpose*, *His people* and *His property* and join Cicero Christian Church in this noble task on behalf of His Kingdom.

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