



Additional Minister Need

The elders have discussed off-and-on for a couple of years about our need for staff, but have held off largely due to financial considerations. But we now have an opportunity before us to add staff and we believe this is the right time.

Some reasons for our thinking this way:

- The recent losses of Micah Wakeman, Teresa Montgomery, Kevin Letterle, Wally Kautz, Tom Stephens and others has left a lot of work to be done. We have volunteers that have stepped up, but we see a need for a coordinator and overseer of the facilities and volunteers. We are grateful that Teresa has stepped up to fill this role temporarily. We also have some other areas that need help besides the facilities management, namely evangelism, outreach, men's ministry, and event programming.
- Other churches in similar situations as ours have more full-time staff:
 - Athens (a little smaller than us) 4 full time ministers
 - Moweaqua (a little larger than us) 5 full time ministers
- We would like to have someone on staff who is at a stage of life where he can relate to families with young children.
- We knew we would eventually need to fill Mark's role as senior minister, and we believe the best transition would be to have someone work alongside Mark for a few years to learn the church and the town, and then become the senior minister. It is possible Mark would stay on in an associate role.
- We are unique in that we are an "in-between"-sized church. We have both small-church attributes and large-church attributes.
 - A small church requires a lot of pastoral work: Visitation, being with people, etc.
 - A large church requires quality programming: Administration, recruiting, etc.Thus, in order to provide both quality pastoral work and quality programming, we believe an additional minister will raise the level of our effectiveness for the Kingdom.