CHURCH SNAPSHOT

Nowthen Alliance church has been around since 1913 as an active part of the Christian and Missionary Alliance Denomination. That longevity has left us with deep foundations and a solid core we can always rely on. Like any church, the history here seen and ebb and flow of both styles and attendance patterns. Hopefully, this can give you a picture of what we currently look like.

After a sustained season of healthy ministry, a Lead Pastor transition in 2005 was found to be a poor fit. This hurt the health of the church as the new hire was removed shortly after joining staff. Some of the church, excited about the style and vision of the new pastor left with him and another church was born. Nowthen Alliance spent the next few years, under the leading of Craig Strawser, regaining its health. During that time, relationships were restored and reconciliation happened and the church was again healthy and whole. As he neared retirement, the focus was on hoping the church would find new strategy and vision, and not just remain healthy, but begin to thrive.

In 2015, months after Craig Strawser's retirement, Nate Kemper was hired as our new lead pastor. Alongside some other staff hires (Youth Pastor and Worship Director joining our Children's Director, Associate Pastor and Administrative Assistant) we have seen our staff grow, our ministries improve, and most importantly, people giving their lives to Christ from the community that surrounds us. Our church has grown in weekly attendance by about 35% in those two years, and that growth has been church-wide, represented in all o f our ministries and age demographics.

Currently, our church model on Sunday Mornings includes a Traditional Worship Service and a Contemporary Worship Service. While distinct in music styles, other elements all remain identical. Between those services, we have a Sunday School Hour for all ages as well as a Café that is open for those who prefer to socialize. Our current growth has made it pretty imminent that we add a third service (also on Sunday Mornings) that will affect some of these areas, but provide more room for growth.

Our hope is that all we do is "Equipping people to find life and faith in Christ."

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY AT NOWTHEN

Currently our Children's Ministry operates with distinct difference during the school year and summer. During the school year we see roughly 80 kids during the Sunday School hour involved in our Children's program. That hour is divided into age grouped classes and led primarily with volunteer teachers. Our Traditional Service has childcare available through age 5 in our Nursery, and our Contemporary Service has a nursery through age 2 and Children's Church through Kindergarten aged.

We currently place a high value on families worshipping together so there are options and engagement opportunities designed by our Children's Director for kids who are in the service as well.

On Wednesday Night's during the school year we run the AWANA ministry and find that 125-150 kids regularly attend. Again, staffed by great volunteers we hope to see this ministry equipping children to find life and faith in Christ.

During our summer months, AWANA breaks, and Sunday School continues but often with a new group of volunteers. As AWANA is on hold we utilize the mid-week time to outreach to our community, running a sports league for the months of June and July. We often see 200 kids come out, playing soccer for girls and baseball for boys. This takes place at the park and fields across the street from our church and finds many who aren't connected with our church involved.

Our Summer VBS follows this in the first week of August with a hope that many of those families would then trust us with their kids that week as well. We often have right around 200 kids at that VBS (for ages Kindergarten through 6th Grade).

FIND OUT MORE

While this is a brief snapshot of both our church and our Children's Ministry, it is likely that you still may want to find out more. Our website is found at: <u>www.nowthenalliance.org</u> and you may find some of your questions answered there. If you have more interest, or more detailed questions, feel free to reach out to our Lead Pastor: Nate Kemper via e-mail: <u>kempern@nowthenalliance.org</u> or phone: 651.338.6323

To Apply: E-mail your resume to: kempern@nowthenalliance.org