



November 2017

Dear North East District Family,

The calendar has turned to November and the season of being thankful and celebrating Jesus' birth is almost at hand. I want to write and ask your church to consider doing something during this season that could have a profound kingdom impact. Normally, I use this space to write about leadership and church transformation. In reality, what I have to share is about both of those things, but it's also an "ask" for resourcing.

Campus to City Wesley Foundation ("CCW") is the North East District's campus ministry. It currently is doing ministry at the University of North Florida, Jacksonville University, and Flagler College. This past August, CCW also began an online presence called The Gathering to further its mission of reaching college students and young adults for Jesus. The Gathering includes podcasts, blogs, videos, and other resources that are already being used by many. You can check it out here: www.cwggathering.org.

Many of our faith communities in the North East District struggle with ministry to college-aged and young adults. I frequently visit with churches where people tell me that their congregations are mostly seniors with very few people under 50. I am writing because I want to encourage you to think about CCW as your ministry to college-aged and young adults. I'd love for you to begin thinking, "We ARE in ministry with younger people because our district's campus ministry is robust and reaching many of them for Jesus." I assure you that you can be humbly proud of CCW and the ministry that they do.

CCW is partially funded by your apportionments dollars through the Florida Conference. Truly, however, the funding is only partial. Each campus ministry in our Conference is responsible for raising multiple thousands of dollars every year to sustain itself.

I'm writing to ask you to consider supporting CCW. Recurring gifts of \$5 or \$10 a month are helpful. To give those recurring gifts, click here: <https://www.patreon.com/CCW>.

Another idea to consider is for your church to use Advent as a time of supporting CCW. When I was serving a local church, every Advent we would choose one domestic and one foreign ministry to support. We would take a special offering each Sunday of Advent and on Christmas Eve. We would split those monies 50/50 between the two ministries. I want to encourage you to consider doing something similar and perhaps making CCW the domestic ministry you choose to support. This is a great way of using the season of celebrating Jesus' birth to be about something more than consumerism and spending. You can know and trust that dollars given to CCW will help people right here in northeast Florida and will pay kingdom dividends. Here's a link about churches helping to support CCW: <http://campustocity.org/yegchurch/>.

CCW is bringing college-aged and young adults into relationship with Jesus. They are doing excellent leadership development with a robust program for interns and ministry assistants. The ministry now has two houses (one in Jacksonville and one in St. Augustine) with interns living in them. Moreover, CCW has

students graduating and going to seminary to become United Methodist pastors. The dividends from the investment you make are huge, eternal, and too numerous to know fully on this side of heaven.

Whatever you choose do to for the Advent season, I'm sure it will be a blessing to many. Thank you, in advance, for considering supporting CCW. Should you have questions, you can always reach out to me. I know CCW's executive director, Derrick Scott, would also be glad to talk to you. His email is derrick@campustocity.org. If you'd like to check out CCW's website, it's www.campustocity.org.

Lastly, I want to say how truly grateful I am to serve as your district superintendent. Northeast Florida is a special place. My family and I are honored to be in ministry with you. When we gather around our Thanksgiving table and talk about our blessings (something we do every year!), serving alongside all of you will be at the top of our list. Happy Thanksgiving and God bless you!

All God's love,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jay Therrell". The signature is written in black ink and is centered on the page.

Jay Therrell
Superintendent