OVERVIEW

Westwood

Church

Westwood is a congregation of about 400 families who call our church home with about 500 people in attendance each week. Westwood desires to love and serve our community well and is a welcoming place to worship. We have committed to 3 core values that inform our ministry efforts.

- 1. We believe authentic, *transformational relationships* hold the greatest opportunity for spiritual growth and encouragement –essentially, discipleship.
- 2. We believe God has designed and **empowered** each person with spiritual gifts and abilities to benefit others and glorify God.
- 3. We believe **engaging** in the things that matter to God in our spheres of influence changes lives, communities, and the world. As a result of prioritizing engaging our community, both our church family and our city should experience the love of God through our presence, service and efforts to be His ambassadors.

Westwood also believes in shared leadership. Shared leadership means we don't simply follow a top-down model of leadership; rather, as a staff we all own the things God is calling us to under the direction of our board of Elders. We highly value open and honest dialogue and collaboration.

Saint Cloud and the surrounding area hosts a population of nearly 100,000 and has a growing multiethnic population, largely because of an influx of Somalia refugees. Westwood is always aspiring to connect with our community, especially as it changes. We understand our leadership needs to diversify and better reflect the richness of our community. Our motto at Westwood is, "We are Unlikely People, Pursuing an Uncommon Good." We believe we will pursue the uncommon things Christ calls us to as we see ourselves as "sinners saved by grace."

Currently, Westwood's staff consists of 3 full-time staff (Teaching and Connections Pastor, Worship Pastor, Finance/Office Manager). We are in the process of hiring both a full-time Children's Minister and a Youth Minister. We also have 7 part-time staff (community, care, communications, women's, and a children's ministry coordination team).

Financially, Westwood's annual operating budget is about \$840,000 and our church is debt free.