

FRANKLIN COVENANT CHURCH
BENEVOLENCE FUND POLICY 04/02/09

The benevolence fund of FCC is a fund established to bless people who are in a financial hard place. There is a committee that helps the administrator determine the distribution of these funds. It is our desire to administer this fund to the glory of God.

The fund is funded as a percentage of the tithes and offerings made to the general fund of FCC. Periodically, a special offering may be taken for a particular need. In administering the fund it has been determined that the distribution of funds to church members should be treated separately from non-members.

Funds to help church members are distributed based on the advice of either small group hosts or the elders. If a member is experiencing a difficult time, financially, and a host or elder is aware of the situation, they should gather the appropriate information (form provided) and pass this on to the church secretary or administrator. The host or elder is likely to be aware of more that is going on in the individual's life than the administrator. Therefore, it is preferred that the host or elder not send the member directly to the administrator for the help as they do not have all the information necessary. The administrator would then contact the committee to determine if there are any other issues and to get final approval.

Then, based on the balance in the fund and the advice of the committee and/or elder, funds are distributed. These funds are always paid directly to the creditor and not to the church member.

Church members who continually find themselves in need will be encouraged to seek financial counseling and any other counseling the host and/or elders determine is advisable. If the member is not participating in a small group they will be encouraged to do so.

Funds to help non-church members are distributed based mainly on information provided by the person asking. Forms are available in the church office. The information gathered is to determine if the non-member is a member of another church and what other help they have sought prior to coming to FCC. It is also a means of reaching out to the un-churched. A non-member, unless there are exceptional circumstances, should be limited to receiving \$50 (which is the local church average)... AFTER the client shows that they are receiving enough help from other resources to help alleviate the emergency. The administrator takes the information and consults with the committee and/or the elders and then, based on the availability of funds and their direction, distributes the funds directly to the creditor (landlord, Duke Energy, Ingles, etc.).

At this time Chris Wilson is the administrator and there are 4 people on the committee.

**FRANKLIN COVENANT CHURCH
BENEVOLENCE FUND
MEMBER REQUEST**

To be completely filled out by the member requesting help:

Date: _____

Name of member (Please print): _____

Address of member: _____

Phone Number (s) of member: Home _____ Cell _____

Employer name and phone number: _____

Describe the specific need and the situation causing the specific need:

If approved who should the check be written to and for how much: (landlord, Duke Energy, Ingles, etc.)

Have you contacted Social Services? _____ Yes _____ No

Have you contacted CareNet? _____ Yes _____ No

What is your payment record with the local utility companies?

Always on time _____ Sometimes Late _____ Usually Late _____

Can the police department, utility companies and local ministries verify that the information in this application is correct?

_____ Yes _____ No

Signature _____ Date _____

What is the name of your church contact? (Small group leader, elder, etc?) Name: _____

Please give this application to your contact who may interview you to fill out the remainder of this form.

To be completed by church contact: Name of Contact: _____

If there is a need for ongoing help...

Is the member willing to receive counseling? _____ Yes _____ No

Is the member a member of a small group? _____ Yes _____ No

If no, are they willing to become a member of a small group? _____ Yes _____ No

Do you recommend the benevolence fund meeting this need? _____ Yes _____ No

Please submit this completed form to the church secretary or administrator.

Benevolence Fund Use:

Check written: _____ Yes _____ No

To: _____ Date Written: _____

Check endorsed by: _____

NOTES: