



## **APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

Westridge Church of Christ (referred to as “Westridge” in this document) members, regular attendees and people in our local community may apply for short term financial assistance from the Benevolent Fund. Priority for assistance will be given to members of Westridge first, however, consideration will also be given to regular attendees and others living in Pocahontas, Arkansas and surrounding communities with financial needs.

The Benevolent Fund only assists with short-term and emergency needs. We do not provide long-term or repeated assistance. We will not assist with bills more than 60 days in arrears, child support, medical bills, unsecured loan payments, taxes, legal expenses, or any expense that is not an objective verified need.

Applications are available in the church office or online at the Westridge webpage:  
[www.westridgechurchofchrist.org](http://www.westridgechurchofchrist.org)

### **WESTRIDGE CANNOT PROVIDE IMMEDIATE HELP.**

\*Allow up to 1 week for processing and please understand that we cannot guarantee anything.

\*Any bill submitted must be due in the current month.

\*We cannot accept original bills—you must provide copies.  
Westridge will make a copy of your driver’s license.

\*Westridge will not process an incomplete application.  
Please check to be sure that you have completed every page.

### ***Steps in Applying for Financial Assistance***

Follow these steps to apply for assistance. The process may take up to one (1) week.

#### **1. Complete the Benvolence Application.**

- a. Read the all pages before filling out application.
- b. Gather all documentation to accompany the application before submitting.

Incomplete applications will not be processed. If you omit any information or documentation, the application could be delayed or not processed. All personal and financial information obtained by Westridge will be kept in the strictest confidence.

#### **2. Return completed application along with required documentation to the church office.**

- a. Bring a government issued photo ID for identification

- b. Bills in the same name of the person providing identification

The church office is located at 3954 Hwy 62 West, Pocahontas, AR. Westridge will make a copy of your ID for inclusion with the application. Only bills that are in the name of the person providing identification will be considered.

### **3. Waiting Period**

- a. No questions can be answered during the processing time.
- b. Allow a week to review and verify the information you provided.
- c. A member of the Benevolent Fund Team will contact you using the contact information from your application
- d. Primary means for contact is by phone.

You must provide a telephone number where you can always be reached. If we cannot contact you after 2 attempts, we will not process your application.

### **4. Instructions**

Applicant may be asked to meet with:

- a. Budget coaches or others to assist with financing planning
  - b. Benevolent Team member(s) as part of the consideration process
- Please be on time for any appointments. If there is a need to cancel please attempt to give a 24 hour advance notice.

### **5. Notification to applicant**

Notification to applicant will be made by a Benevolence Team Member by the primary phone number listed on the application.

If the Benevolence Team determines at any point in the process that they cannot provide assistance, you will be notified that “the Benevolence Team cannot assist you at this time.” No further information may be given.

At no point in this process to Westridge promise or guarantee that assistance will be provided to you. All assistance will be in the form of a check made out to the vendor, landlord, or other service provider—not to individual or applicant. No cash will ever be given.

The benevolence interview process often requires probing, detailed, difficult, and potentially uncomfortable questions and analysis of the applicant’s personal situation and spending habits. Applicants should be prepared for this possibility.

### **Have Questions?**

If you have more questions about financial assistance, call the Westridge Church of Christ at 870-892-4705.

If you have an urgent need for pastoral care call the church office and request to talk with the minister.