ANNUAL REPORT



Transferming into a community through whom God's love flows

LOVE GOD
LOVE PEOPLE
MAKE DISCIPLES



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AMESSAGE FROM OUR LEAD PASTOR

"...we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us." - Romans 5:3-5

One word stands out above all others in 2021, grief. We suffered significant loss and, in the process, learned what it's like to be blessed mourners (Matthew 5:4). We lost our hopes that things would "get back to normal," we lost 25% of our membership, and we lost cherished friends and loved ones to COVID-19, tragic accidents, and terrible illness. It was a lot to manage.

When experienced alongside the eternal God who watches over us, suffering has a fascinating effect on us. Suffering produces endurance. Lauren MacConnell said, in an interview with our Gary Towner for the Country Courier in Warsaw, that her grief didn't shrink, but her capacity to endure grew around it. I think the same has happened for our community as a whole; our endurance has increased. We have found new abilities to sit in suffering without giving up or running away. We learned that we could rest in the middle of it without fear.

But beyond our ability to endure difficulty, our character has grown with it. I keep hearing more and more stories about transformed lives. Our community is not only surviving this season of pain, but we are growing at an exceptional rate. We've had almost 200 first-time guests this year, and more than 40 people have started worshiping with us in person regularly. God is on the move, and people are drawing closer to him every week.

The movement of the Holy Spirit is undeniable. It turns out that "transforming into a community through whom God's love flows" involves us carrying our cross and following Jesus through suffering toward hope. And I am sensing that hope will be an important word for us in 2022. As our community processes the suffering of the past two years, I have hope that we will find new ways to serve others who have suffered. I hope that as changes continue and we relearn what ministry looks like in a post-COVID world, we will be able to shift our strategy to best align with the movement of the Spirit of God. I hope that our work will come from the deep well that God has dug in our community, a well that will not run dry because it flows from Jesus himself who conquered death and suffering and rose to be seated at the right hand of the father.

I am looking forward to serving alongside you all this year!

Tastar of

WHAT ARE WE

As Christians we are one part of the one body of Christ. We embrace our <u>mission</u> to...

LOVE GOD
LOVE PEOPLE
MAKE DISCIPLES

As Free Methodists, we elevate the <u>values</u> that give us a unique role in the church...

The **Free Methodist Way**





Love-Driven Justice







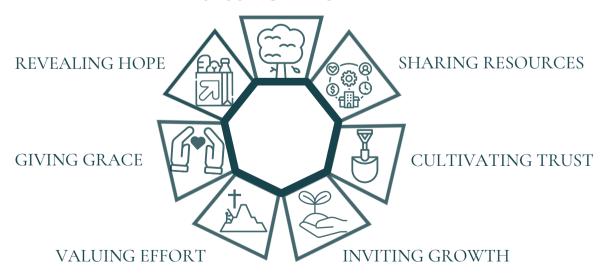
ALL ABOUT?

As a local church, our <u>vision</u>, the future we see God leading us toward, is that we are...

Transforming into a community through whom God's love flows

To do this and draw closer to God and one another, we practice these habits...

PURSUING MATURITY



OUR LEADERS

The Ministry Leaders and Staff provide direction and coordination of all our church's ministries. If you want to connect by serving at Valley Chapel, these folks are here to help.













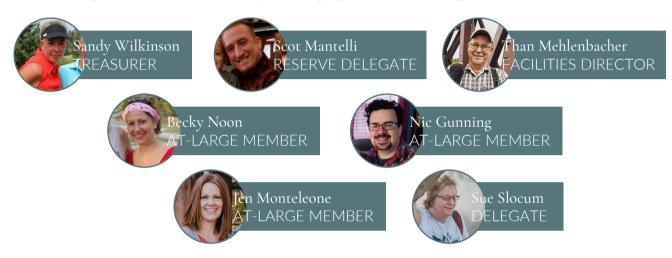






The Board of Administration

The BOA exists to take care of the temporal business of the church as an organization to empower and equip us for the work of ministry. The individuals who serve here are nominated by the Nominating Committee and elected by the congregation's membership.



The Pastor's Cabinet

The Pastor's Cabinet serves as the church's Human Resources Department. They pray for and advise the Lead Pastor and interview and oversee the paid staff of the church. The individuals who serve here are nominated by the Nominating Committee and elected by the congregation's membership.





The Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee nominates individuals for election by the membership of the church to serve in elected roles. The Lead Pastor and four at-large members serve on this committee.





Transforming into a community

FIRST CONTACTS

194

RETURNING GUESTS

42

FIRST TIME GIVERS

6

NEW MEMBERS 530

FIRST TIME GUESTS

91

NEW ATTENDEES

17

BAPTISMS

5

MEMORIALS

Remembering those who await the resurrection

Gerogia A. Burek (02/02/2021)

Gila M. VanValkenburg (07/30/2021)

Patricia A. Weiser (08/28/2021)

Stephen L. Baker (10/05/2021)

through whom God's love flows

FREE MEALS
GIVEN AWAY

447

PEOPLE IN SMALL GROUPS

121

CHILDREN ATTENDED VBS

30

SMALL GROUPS AND CLASSES 3144

FAMILIES SERVED BY FOODLINK

142

VOLUNTEERS

91

FIRST TIME VOLUNTEERS

20

2021 HIGHLIGHTS

A FLOOD OF NEW FACES

On an average Sunday, half of the folks sitting in our pews for in-person worship had never visited Valley Chapel before 2019. People have come from all walks of life, some from other churches, some never meeting Jesus before, some impacted by our ministries, and others new to the area. New faces are a vital sign of health in a Christian community. Our mission to make disciples is about helping existing disciples grow in maturity and introducing new people to the gospel of Jesus. Thank you, long-term members, for welcoming these new folks with open arms, and if you consider yourself new, then we're so glad you're here and can't wait to see how God will continue to use you as a part of this community.



VBS TREASURED

We had a blast teaching the children in our community that they are priceless treasures to God. It was another BIG VBS event, and our volunteers had a ton of fun! A couple of highlights were Dr. Digginstone (played by Steve Baker), the Cardboard tunnel, and the 91 kids who came to VBS for the first time. Thank you to Becky Noon and all the volunteers who gave their blood, sweat, and tears to make it happen for these kiddos.

GRIEFSHARE

After the tragic death of her husband Todd due to COVID-19, Lauren MacConnell started to attend a group at Northgate FMC called GriefShare. Loving the way the program helped her, she listened to God's call to have her bring the program to Valley Chapel to serve those grieving here. GriefShare has already made a profound difference in the lives of the 16 people and shows no signs of slowing down.



SHIFT TO HYBRID WORSHIP

Last year, we knew that moving from Online-only to some form of Hybrid worship gathering would be essential moving forward. We've learned a TON about how to make a high-quality presentation of our Sunday morning in-person worship. Our Tech team has adapted, learned, and improved their skills along the way.



YOUTH GROUP RESTART



Both Bonnie Kirkland and Becky Noon sensed that God was inviting them to start a group for teens at Valley Chapel in the fall. Becky volunteered to lead the program with the help of a team of adult volunteers. They are off to a beautiful start, focusing on learning to be disciples of Jesus by revealing hope through serving the community. They made Thanksgiving meals, decorated cookies to give to gas station workers, volunteered at Lighthouse Station, and so much more!

OUR NEW CONNECT CENTER

Thanks so much to Al Roth, Larry Almeter, and Dave Schute, who collaborated to build us a beautiful connect center that helps us provide a warm and helpful welcome to everyone who enters our building. Also, a huge thank you to all who donated to fund the project; it wouldn't have been possible without your faithful stewardship of God's resources. It has proven to be an essential tool for our hosp[itality team every Sunday.



DRAWING CLOSER DRAWING CLOSER MARIE CHOCK

A NEW "SEASONAL" PUBLICATION

Sometimes it's tricky to know what's happening and when. For those of you who love to look ahead and make plans, this year, we started a seasonal publication that will serve as a check-in on where we are as a community and as a "save-the-date" for upcoming events. The three seasons will run from the start of the new year until Easter, Easter until Labor Day, and Labor Day until the end of the year.

COFFEE ON SUNDAY MORNING

Our Outreach & Missions team, led by Sue Slocum, kicked off a new Coffee station on Sunday morning to help us show hospitality and to highlight our desire to reveal hope to our community by supporting local businesses. It has been a joy to share a hot beverage as we gather for worship.



WORSHIP

2021 was another challenging, growing year! While we continued to face fluctuations in team availability due to coronavirus-related and other concerns, we also had increased participation by younger team members, helping them grow in confidence, responsibility, and skill. We continued to introduce new music by diverse writers and performers and introduced new elements like electronic pads to help fill out the sound and a new synth keyboard to offer an easy entry point for aspiring musicians. Teamwork with the tech team enhanced our ability to offer a seamless musical experience as they were invited to explore their own musical instincts to select and engage the electronic pads. As Hilary prepared to step down as worship leader, Shannon was integrated into the team and offered her skill and expertise in anticipation of her incoming role. The year ended with a light-filled Advent leading to an Advent choir that incorporated old and new church attendees alike and a Christmas Eve service focused on immersive and impactful music and storytelling.

Hilary Gunning

21 WORSHIP LEADER

Shannon Blankenship 2022 WORSHIP PASTOR



I dream of inspiring new heights of relationship with God for my team and the entire congregation. An environment where they long for encounters with God and can't wait to spend more and more time with him (A dream for myself too). I hope to accomplish this through spiritual teachings in rehearsals and between songs during service. My second dream is to build both musically and relationally into my current team and future team members. I also want to cultivate an atmosphere for people to engage in worship fully, where we create space for the manifest presence of God to be made known in the church, where healings and knowing God more will occur.

Lastly, I want to encourage more people to join the worship team. Talk to me on Sunday morning or message valleychapelfmc@gmail.com to be in touch.

TECH

Well, we made it! If 2020 taught us anything, it is always to expect the unexpected and be prepared! 2021 was another year full of change, adjustment, and learning! The tech team has been shaping into a solid and cohesive group that has tackled a few challenges! We have also expanded technology-wise, replacing our handheld cameras with fully automated PTZ (Pan, Tilt, Zoom) cameras mounted to the back and sidewalls of the sanctuary. In addition, we have replaced our building Wi-Fi with a more robust system better to serve our staff, congregation, and guests.

We have been extremely fortunate to have been able to have in-person services this entire year. But also, we have not lost focus on providing an immersive online experience for those who cannot return, choose not to for other reasons, and most importantly, reaching new people! Our website allows us to see unique views and their relative location, and it has been exciting to see that people have watched our worship across the country!

While last years' technology improvements were well received, we have also found some areas for improvement. The TV in the foyer will be an actual, live view of the sanctuary, as the stream is on enough delay to be distracting. In the sanctuary, we are using "multi-track" music playback to enhance our worship experience while searching for additional band members.







I would like again to recognize Austin Kirkland for his genuine serving personality. His knowledge and experience have been crucial to more than one project. He is rapidly becoming proficient in the "driver's seat" in the tech booth running the live stream and service elements. He is an irreplaceable member of our team, and I thank God for him!

DISCIPLESHIP

Children ask one of the most profound questions of all time, "WHY?" Why is there the color blue? Why do dogs bark? Why do I HAVE to pick up my toys? Why does thunder follow lightning? Sometimes we have an answer, and sometimes in exasperation, our answer is "Because I said so!"

This past year, we've had a lot of "WHY" questions as adults too. Some questions came with answers; some came with "Because I said so!" Or "Because the Bible says so!" As our world, and by our world, I mean our circles of influence, came to us for answers, we gave them, in most cases, good, solid, Biblical answers. How many found that not enough for a world that often believes the Bible to be a book of fairy tales?



As we recall 2021's singular moments and our community efforts, both within the church walls and without, we learned much. Most of us have learned how to use technology in new ways to connect; some have just discovered the basics. Some have become more isolated, some have connected in new and creative ways. Some small groups have found a way to continue, like the quilting group. Some found ways to start new groups like To Walk, GriefShare. Becky Noon had a burden for the youth and started a youth group up again, new, fresh, alive, to name a few!

As the above examples confirm, we, as Christ-followers, are pretty good at figuring out "WHAT" to do. I've heard it said, "People will do the WHAT, but they'll give their lives for the WHY." Let's dig deep into our faith in Jesus Christ and commit to defining our WHY this coming year. The world needs us to have the answer!

In 2022, we will learn how to put words to our stories of tragedy, redemption, and victory, and we will find creative ways to connect and share them. There will be fresh training for leaders of small groups, which will be refined and developed throughout the year. Let's dig deep into our faith in Jesus Christ and commit to defining our WHY this coming year. The world needs us to have the answer!



KIDZ MINISTRY

Valley Chapel Kidz in 2021 met some definite ups and downs. We were excited to meet in person again with the kids. We safely followed Covid protocols with masks, hand sanitizer, and creating appropriate spaces for the kids to sit. After a few "trial runs," we established a reasonably successful check-in and check-out process for our volunteers and the children. We entirely staffed the Toddler room for the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Sundays with amazing volunteers. The toddlers had a lot of fun, and they learned to share and get along with others. In 2022, we are planning on revamping the Toddler room. Many old toys and books were thrown out or donated. We plan to develop a vision for the space and are considering a registry for items we need. Our other goal is to fully staff the Toddler nursery so it can be available every Sunday.



We used the Roots curriculum in the Kidz room. We were able to do a small Palm Sunday program that the kids enjoyed and a wonderful Christmas play that went amazing. The kids love being a part of these. We gained new children in our Kidz room after VBS. We had a co-leadership change during the year with Janelle Baker taking over for Reagan Phillippi.

Unfortunately, we lost a fantastic member of our congregation in Steve Baker, and Janelle had to step away to take care of her family. We continue to pray for Janelle and her family.

In the Kidz room, we aim to welcome at least four volunteers each Sunday that we are available, two teachers and two helpers. This way, we can open up another room during our Kidz programs to accommodate our growing attendance. We plan to change the room, find a curriculum that works for our needs and schedule, and prepare for our Palm Sunday and Christmas programs. We are excited to see what 2022 brings for Valley Chapel Kidz!

There are several ways to volunteer in Valley Chapel Kidz: teacher, helper, and substitute. Stop in any Sunday for more details or visit VALLEYCHAPEL.ORG/SERVE.

Toddler Spotlight--Fran Carl. Fran is a retired teacher who has helped in the Toddler room for many years now. She has such an amazing, giving heart, and helps out in many other ways in the Church and the community.







Kidz Spotlight--Bella Noon. Bella is a teenager who has a love and passion for helping our kids know who Jesus is. She is a fantastic example for the kids, has a compassionate heart, and is a graduate of our Creator's Kidz program.



OUTREACH

Valley Chapel participates in programs that support our local community. Our congregation supplies gifts for a designated family at Christmas through Angel Action. We donate food items to the Snack Pack program during the school year, which sends food home with school children on the weekends.



The monthly Foodlink distribution has moved back into the Ministry Center, a change from the drive-through process that happened during the worst of the pandemic. The new floor layout has been working so well that Foodlink made a video of our approach to train other sites, complete with interviews with Pastor Ryan, Fran Carl, and Lisa McCrary, our Foodlink Coordinator.

We have continued to work with St Michael's Parish a few more times to distribute the Free Lunch program. The community can drive through to pick up fresh, homemade meals for themselves and/or deliver to others. We are excited to have four dates set up in 2022 to continue this partnership.





MISSIONS

Our support of missions, both locally and internationally, include Light House Station Maternity Home here in Warsaw, El Shaddai Church in Rochester, NY (a congregation of first-generation refugees), the Leon family in Costa Rica, and the Crouse's in Ecuador. We are also considering the possibility of a missions trip to visit and help the Crouse family in 2023.



Diesmy Garcon's orphanage in Mountrois, Haiti, benefited from our 2021 Advent Conspiracy Project. We raised enough funds to replace the orphanage roof and provide some needed beds and bedding. Thank you for your generous giving this Advent Season!



We look forward to the opportunities the Lord brings us in 2022.



HOSPITALITY

Hospitality is an exciting ministry to be a part of at Valley Chapel. A dedicated ministry leader was officially appointed beginning at Easter 2021.

Our team of volunteers has grown in each role of hospitality, both for Sunday morning volunteers and for our teams that handle special events like luncheons. Sunday mornings are focused on welcoming each person into our church.

The Usher/Greeter team does a wonderful job of warmly welcoming folks into the building and assisting with folks around the building. Those at the Connect Center help connect people to events or classes, helping with gifts and other special occasion tasks. The Connect Center was graciously created and built by Larry Almeter and Alan Roth is an accessible information station that looks and works beautifully.



Upon arrival, guests are checked in or have their attendance taken. Check-in ensures that each individual is acknowledged as they come in for service, offering a warm and welcoming environment. It also allows the information of each new guest (first time to church) to be collected so that we can reach out and thank them for visiting. These new guests have a short period of information tracking that helps our volunteers provide an atmosphere of belonging and offer comfort and safety when they could otherwise feel like a stranger in a strange place. Our process includes a checklist of items, receiving a gift; getting a tour; being introduced to others; and being invited back to service, event, or group.

Sunday mornings are essential for hospitality, but it doesn't end there. Connecting the members of our congregation to information about special events or volunteer opportunities happens all the time. This year we were able to provide funeral luncheons as well as host the Genesis Conference on our campus. We offered small gifts, celebrated holidays and events like Mother's Day and Father's Day, and created a photo booth for Christmas. In the coming year, we are excited to continue to grow our list of volunteers so that more members of our congregation can experience the joy of showing hospitality. Meaningful fellowship can genuinely be found by following God's love to those around us. We intentionally created the hospitality system to help us care for every individual, whether they have never been here before or come every week. It is in place to ensure that our community feels safe and welcome while we build connections and friendships.



Paul Zoeller is a dedicated greeter who will hold the door open for you, whether it is freezing rain or 100 degrees out. Along with happy hellos, he is always first to offer to move heavy signs or tables. We are so grateful for the gift of your presence on Sunday mornings. Thank you for the work you do in the ministry of hospitality.



CARE TEAM

In 2021 Care Ministry continued to become aware of concerns by utilizing physical and virtual connect cards and word of mouth. We responded to many concerns with get well, encouragement, sympathy cards, and phone calls. We appreciate those who responded personally to our needs. Covid-19 somewhat limited visitation. A weekly prayer list was provided online to encourage participation in this vital ministry.

In the spring, a group of volunteers sent friendly notes to Valley Chapel members/attendees who had not returned to in-person worship. We did see several return or at least express appreciation for the care extended to them. There are several who provided rides both to worship services and other church events and various appointments.

As we enter 2022, there is hope that the pandemic will end, and we can respond to spiritual and physical needs with increased personal involvement. We are excited to see many new faces and those who have made their spiritual home at Valley Chapel for many years. Visits may again be possible, and phone calls and texts will be encouraged. Cards will be sent and perhaps expanded to communicate with our missionary families. As drivers make themselves available, the provision of rides can expand. Those who volunteer with specific talents, training, and experience are always appreciated to meet the needs of a diverse congregation. We will explore a greater emphasis and participation in prayer. Ideas to expand care are welcomed and encouraged.

There are several ways of getting involved for those interested in Care Ministry. You can contact Ann Towner personally, and she will clarify the current needs and honor your boundaries for service. Often when we develop relationships in small groups, for example, we learn about needs and find ways to respond, or sometimes by responding to a need in the body, we then develop a relationship. Therefore, it helps us to be alert and sensitive to others in our body. Although Care is a specific ministry of Valley Chapel, everyone is encouraged to care for those who attend here spontaneously, or if this is impossible, let the church office learn of the need.



Linda Larson has joyfully and faithfully been responsible for the card ministry. Thank you, Linda.



Fran Carl provides transportation to services as well as to appointments. We refer to her as our Uber driver! Thank you, Fran.

n Towner

FACILITIES

FIRE/SECURITY SYSTEM

This year's most consuming project has been our security Alarm & Fire Alarm System. Our system had not been functional for at least two years, and despite efforts to work with our provider, we were unable to get it up and running. At the beginning of the year, we paid to have the security reporting system updated, and we changed providers from Amherst Alarm to Doyle Security. The whole project cost about \$6,500.

Shortly after installing the Security communication panel, we found a problem with our fire alarm panel. We believe the issue existed before the change, but the new system remains non-functional until we repair the fire panel. We were quoted another \$6,500 for that update and have been working on a less expensive solution since. Our goal is to have the project resolved early in 2022.





PROPERTY SALE OPPORTUNITY

This year our Mowing Team decided not to mow the southeastern acre of our property as often as the rest. The area was not being used and was challenging to navigate due to the state of the soil. Noticing this, our neighbor reached out with interest in purchasing the 1.02-acre section. We will discuss the sale at our January 31st, 2022 society meeting.

ROOF LEAKS REPAIRED

We discovered several minor leaks in the ministry center and main building rooves. Our Facilities Director, Than, successfully investigated the problems and cleared them up. The problem stemmed from the flashing around our HVAC units rather than a mistake from our roofers.

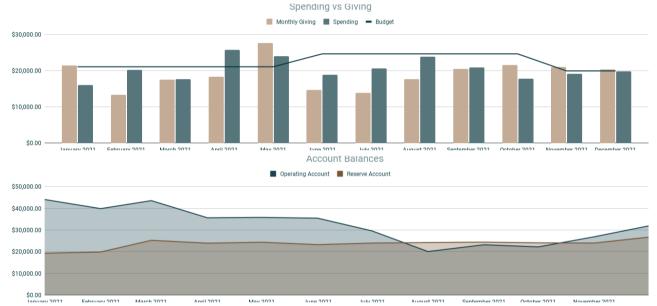


FINANCIAL SUMMARY

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We entered 2021 with some financial margin. Years of wise stewardship left us with almost two full months worth of "buffer" in our operating accounts on top of some necessary emergency savings. These kinds of margins help us weather challenging seasons. 2021 was challenged by the re-settling process after our pastoral transition in the middle of a global pandemic aligned with one of the most significant shifts in church attendance in decades. If that doesn't count as a challenging season, I have no idea what does.

In December 2020, we saw a dramatic drop in giving that matched the approximately 25% of our members who left when we returned to online-only worship in response to the COVID-19 surge. That drop in giving sustained until after we returned to in-person worship in March. In May, we started our big push to fund a full-time associate pastor (increasing our budget accordingly), and despite a surge of giving in that month, the summer returned to similar levels. (see charts)



Nonetheless, the BOA and Ministry Leaders got creative. We did our best to cut our spending down, considered inexpensive ways of continuing ministry, and focused on being faithful with what we had. The Pastor's Cabinet continued to pursue an Associate Pastor in the hopes that things would shift, but by the time the fall came around, we recognized that God had other plans for us.

There has been beautiful stability and faithfulness from our community. Folks who regularly gave before the pandemic kept doing so throughout the year. Many even increased and made special donations to help us complete vital projects such as the connect center. This fall, we've seen a noticeable increase in newer families starting to give for the first time.

Thank you for navigating this challenging financial year with us. You shared resources, and because of that, we could love God, love people, and make disciples. Despite the challenges, we are starting 2022 with some margin remaining, ready to fulfill our mission and realize our vision.

FINANCIAL PLAN 2022

2020-2021 reminded us that we are not in control of this world. So, we make all of our plans and goals with the caveat, "The good Lord willing, and the creek don't rise." This year, we plan to establish financial stability in preparation for some big dreams in 2023. To do this, we will work toward the following goals.

AVERAGE \$5100 PER WEEK IN OFFERINGS

In 2021, our weekly average was \$4,385, but in the final four months, it was \$4,911. \$5100 per week is a challenge, but we trust that God will provide if we all share his resources faithfully. If five new families begin to give \$200/month, we will reach this goal. Christian Stewardship doesn't come naturally to us, though many in our congregation have learned the joys of putting God first in our finances. We will regularly talk about giving in our services, not to be pushy, but in the hopes of providing sound, helpful, and gracious teaching to folks who are still learning the art of Christian Stewardship.

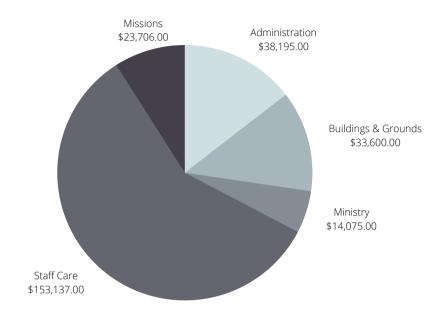


3-MONTHS OF EXPENSES & A FULLY FUNDED EMERGENCY FUND

By keeping our expenses down, we will be working toward three months of expenses (about \$66k) in our operating account and a fully-funded Emergency Fund (\$15k). These goals will help us recover from our losses due to the chaos of 2020-21 and start 2023, ready to make significant strides in our mission.



PROPOSED BUDGET



CATEGORY	BUDGET start of 2021	BUDGET end of 2021	ACTUAL 2021	BUDGET 2022
ADMINISTRATION Operational costs unrelated to building or staff	15,050	15,050	17,856	38,195
BUILDINGS & GROUNDS Maintenance, Repair, Utilities, & Projects	36,800	32,100	30,761	33,600
MINISTRY Programs & Activities	15,350	12,163	12,181	14,075
STAFF CARE Salaries, Benefits & Payroll Expenses	169,440	156,173	138,413	153,137
MISSIONS Local & Global Ministries We Support	23,674	23,674	23,834	23,706
TOTAL EXPENSE	260,314	239,161	223,046	262,713
INCOME Offerings, Facility Use, Other	278,314 53 ¹⁴ F	278,314 per week	227,629 4367 per week	239661 4570 per week
BALANCE	18,000	39,153	4,583	-23,052

ACCOUNT BALANCES

OPERATING ACCOUNT

GENERAL FUND 31,880.99
PETTY CASH 50.00

OPERATING TOTAL 31,930.99

RESERVE ACCOUNT

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS	982.13
EMERGENCY SAVINGS	13,400.00
SPECIAL PROJECTS	2,866.12
BENEVOLENCE FUND	445.63
YOUTH GROUP OUTREACH	122.81
MISSION PROJECTS	1,988.02
FUNERAL DINNER	327.19
FOODLINK	315.51
ADVENT CONSPIRACY	3,200.00
MEMORIAL FUND	3,682.50
JEDREJEK MEMORIAL	235.00
COLTER MEMORIAL	150.00
HARVEY MEMORIAL	2,020.00
MACCONNELL MEMORIAL	1,277.50

RESERVE TOTAL **27,329.91**

TOTAL IN ALL ACCOUNTS 58,659.90

NOMINATIONS

THE PASTOR'S CABINET

The Pastor's Cabinet serves as the church's Human Resources Department. They pray for and advise the Lead Pastor and interview and oversee the paid staff of the church. The individuals who serve here are nominated by the Nominating Committee and elected by the congregation's membership.



DON REIMAN

Don has been an active member of Valley Chapel since 2007. A retired Pharmacist and life-long Free Methodist, Don spends much of his time with his wonderful wife, Velda. If elected, Don will bring valuable wisdom and discernment flowing from a deep well of faith to our team.

THE BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION

The BOA exists to take care of the temporal business of the church as an organization to empower and equip us for the work of ministry. The individuals who serve here are nominated by the Nominating Committee and elected by the congregation's membership.

This year, the "Facilities Director" role on our BOA is open. A lack of nominees willing and able to commit to a 3-year term means that we'll have a vacant seat on the BOA. The BOA recommends we change the position to an "At-Large" member. The role of "Facilities Director" would be similar to a "Ministry Leader" though appointed by the BOA instead of directly by the Lead Pastor. This change will be discussed and presented for a vote at our society meeting.



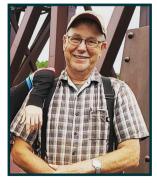
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE!

Appreciating those completing terms of service.



LORA MOROZ

Lora has served on the Pastor's Cabinet since before there were term limits. Thank you for going above and beyond for our community!



THAN MEHLENBACHER

Than graciously completed our previous facilities director's remaining term. Thank you for helping us out in a pinch!

MEMBERSHIP

Everyone who worships alongside us belongs, but some in our community decide to take it one step further and commit to being partners in our mission. They have committed to attending, participating, and sharing their resources to help us love God, love people, and make disciples.

NEW IN 2021

Kathy Cowie
Rita Ertel
Austin Kirkland
Tammy Ferris
Paul Zoeller

LESS THAN FIVE YEARS

Jacob Hoffman Karen Almeter Reagan Phillippi Larry Almeter Diane Horn Sam Prinzi Kristina Copeland Janet Lampke Sue Prinzi Warren Goodenow Jen Monteleone Jennifer Raplee Sue Walton Hilary Guning Sam Monteleone Nic Guning Andy Phillippi

FIVE - TEN YEARS

Bryan Adams	Heather Joy	Than Mehlenbacher
Terri Adams	Carol Linsey	Becky Noon
Grace Compton	Don Linsey	Mike Noon
Rachel Fox	Lauren MacConnell	Chris Shute
Jamie Hare	Chelsie Mantelli	Dave Shute
Matt Hare	Scot Mantelli	Kelly Wilson
Chris Joy	Deb Mehlenbacher	

TEN - TWENTY YEARS

Bob Davoli Mark Merrill Anna Sndyer

Joyce Davoli Dennis Moroz Dan Snyder

Lacey Hastreiter Lora Moroz Joyce Stringer

Linda Larson Don Reiman Cheryl Volk

Beth Luvender Velda Reiman Jon Wilkinson

Doug McCrary Alan Roth Sandy Wilkinson

Lisa McCrary Shirley Safford Charlotte Wolcott

Laurie Merrill

TWENTY OR MORE YEARS

Janelle Baker Ray Cummins Sue Slocum

Vickie Baker Tina Johnson Ann Towner

Jim Bauer Becky Lane Gary Towner

Pat Bauer Linda Robb Kevin Zeches

George Clark Amy Roth Margaret Zeches

Bobby Cummins

Interested in becoming a member?
Schedule a chat with Pastor Ryan today!
WWW.VALLEYCHAPEL.ORG/CONNECT

HAVE YOU TRIED OUR APP YET?





Valley Chapel

Available in App Stores









Download the app to start being a part of what God is doing here now.

The app allows you to...

- Watch live or listen to past messages
- Download messages for offline listening
- Stay up to date with push notifications and our events calendar
- Share your favorite messages via Twitter, Facebook, or email
 - Join a small group
- Stay notified about cancellations and urgent Announcements
 - Message with friends at church
 - Follow Prayer discussions

GIVING ONLINE ONLY TAKES 6 SECONDS

Enter your amount and frequency

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It's that easy!



WHAT DOES A PASTOR DO?

I love preaching, communicating with you all, and leading our organization and leaders. Still, Sunday morning and leadership meetings are only a part of how God has called me to serve you and our community. Here are a few.

- I enjoy sitting with you for pastoral counseling during life's challenging seasons such as job loss, loss of a loved one, medical concerns, deconstruction, martial stresses, parenting, dating, or whatever season you're facing. Pastoral counseling is different from psychotherapy or mental health counseling in that my role is to join you in conversation with God, trying to draw closer to his will together.
- I love wrestling with your questions about God, faith, the Bible, theology, Christianity, and others. My hope is always to help you seek answers to your questions and fearlessly explore the doubts and spaces that may have no simple answer.
- Sometimes you would like prayer for something that's just too private to share in a public prayer request. Everything shared in my office is strictly confidential, and I would be honored to pray for and with you.
- I hope that you not only find a community here but a sense of purpose and a role in our mission. Sometimes it takes a while to figure out how to line up your gifts with meaningful work, but I am sure it's possible. Let's explore it together.

Scheduling a meeting with me is easy! In your APP, press 'Connect' then 'Meet with a Pastor.' Or you can go to valleychapel.org and click 'Connect' then 'Meet with Pastor Ryan.'





Our vision is to be transforming into a community through whom God's love flows. The Apostle Paul once said, "Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect." - Romans 12:12 (NIV)

Being in a constant state of transformation takes effort and, just like having regular check-ups with our doctors helps us stay healthy, having a routine check-up with our church helps us stay focused and healthy in our faith. The following checklist is a helpful tool to see opportunities for you to connect through the remainder of 2021. Some will apply to you, and some will not, so prayerfully consider each to see if God may be inviting you to draw closer in one of these ways.

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE Worship gatherings are something we all have an important role in, so I attend most weeks
REGULAR GIVING Everything I have is God's and so I give consistently to God's work through the church
COMMUNION I have tried to regularly participate in the sacrament of communion each month
MEMBERSHIP I have formally committed to partner with Valley Chapel through voting, attending, serving, and giving
BAPTISM I have affirmed my faith in the triune God in the presence of a community of believers
PARTICIPATE IN A SMALL GROUP Faith is best develped in close community, so I have participated in a small group this year
LEAD A SMALL GROUP Jesus has called me to be a disciple-maker, so I led, started or hosted a small group this year
BIBLE STUDY God reveals his plan for the world through the scriptures. I have spent time reading the bible this year
LEADERSHIP I have committed to carry the responsibility to lead others in my church community
PRAYER I cultivate trust in God through regular prayers of praise, confession, thanks, and request
VOLUNTEER I gave my time toward the work of the church consistently as an event volunteer or as a part of a team
TRY SOMETHING NEW I have tried to connect with God and/or others in a way I had not tried before this year

If you would like to draw closer, then let us help by sending an email to valleychapelfmc@gmail.com



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