



# VERNON ALLIANCE CHURCH 2020 ANNUAL REPORT





**Annual Congregational Meeting  
Of the Vernon Alliance Church  
7:00 pm Jun 18, 2019  
(in the Fellowship Hall)**

**1. Welcome & Prayer by Ryan Young**

**2. Adopt Agenda**

- Motion to adopt – Darren Kroeker
- Seconded by Dwayne Boyd
- Motion carried

**3. Approval of Minutes**

- Moved by Janice Winkelaar
- Seconded by Trudy Kemper
- Motion carried

**4. Lead Pastor Report: Stuart McKnight**

**5. Approval of Reports**

- Moved by Evan Winkelaar
- Seconded by Gary Hertgers
- Motion carried

**6. Presentation and Approval of Financial Statements**

- Dwayne Boyd presented and reviewed the statements then moved that they be approved
- Seconded by Heather Wyman
- Motion carried

**7. Appoint External Financial Review**

- Motion by Dwayne Boyd for “VAC to engage KPMG as our Independent Review Practitioners for the purpose of reviewing our annual financial statements for the July 2018—June 2019 fiscal year.”
- Seconded by Shelley Reeves
- Carried

**8. Presentation of Budget 2019/2020**

- Moved by Dwayne Boyd “To approve the VAC General Fund Budget of \$1,341,000.00 for the 2019/2020 fiscal year.”
- Seconded by Evan Winkelaar
- Motion carried

**9. Nominating Committee Report**

- Stuart McKnight/Len Wedel

**10. Vote on Elder Candidate and the Next 3 Year Term of the Board of Elders by Ballot**

- Glenn Lewis as new candidate to the Board of Elders
- Gary Hertgers for a second term to the Board of Elders

**12. Selection of Nominating Committee for 2019-2020**

- Nominated from the floor were Wendy Smith and Colleen Edgar
- Jan Thiessen moved “That the nominations cease”
- Seconded by Len Wedel
- Motion carried

**13. Looking Ahead:** Ryan Young/Stuart McKnight

**14. Announce Results of Elder Candidates Votes**

- Glenn Lewis and Gary Hertgers both affirmed

**15. Commissioning Prayer for the New Elder by Stuart and Elders**

**16. Adjournment at about 8:15 pm**

## VAC BYLAWS

DEXCOM approved September 15, 2011

### **ARTICLE I - NAME**

#### **BYLAW 1**

This church shall bear the corporate name of the Vernon Alliance Church of the Christian and Missionary Alliance in Canada.

### **ARTICLE V - ORDINANCES**

#### **BYLAW 1**

Baptism - All Candidates for baptism will be approved by the Board of Elders.

### **ARTICLE VI - MEMBERSHIP**

#### **BYLAW 1**

The Membership roll shall be kept in two parts:

Active Membership - Active members are resident members in good standing who are actively attending and supporting the church.

Associate Membership - Associate Members are: (a) Persons who are under age or (b) Non-resident members who desire to retain their membership in the church. These may be (1) Missionaries and (2) Others that are so situated that they cannot be active members in this church, but desire to retain their membership in an Alliance Church, thus preserving membership in the Christian and Missionary Alliance. Associate membership does not confer the privilege of voting in the local church.

#### **BYLAW 2**

The membership list will be reviewed by the Board of Elders and posted annually at least three months prior to the Annual Meeting.

#### **BYLAW 3**

Members wishing to resign should indicate their intentions in writing to the Secretary of the Board of Elders.

#### **BYLAW 4**

Applications for membership will be reviewed by the Board of Elders. Prospective members may be required to attend membership classes and/or provide a profession of faith.

#### **BYLAW 5**

Membership may be withdrawn by the Board of Elders if a member has not attended the church for at least one year. Prior to such action being taken, representatives of the Board will meet with the individual concerned (where possible) following which they will bring a recommendation to the Board of Elders.



## **ARTICLE VII - GOVERNMENT**

### **BYLAW 1**

The Board of Elders shall set the date for the Annual Meeting to be held during the month of June each year.

### **BYLAW 2**

Due notice of the Annual Meeting shall be either by pulpit announcement on three consecutive Sundays immediately preceding the meeting or 21 days notice in writing to each active member of the church.

### **BYLAW 3**

The agenda for the Annual meeting shall include, but not be limited to, the following: report from the pastor, provision for special reports, business from the floor, elections, the annual budget approval and the approval of the annual financial statements received from the auditor.

### **BYLAW 4**

Due notice of any congregational business meeting, except for the annual meeting, shall be either by pulpit announcement on two consecutive Sundays immediately preceding the meeting or 14 days notice in writing to each active member of the church.

### **BYLAW 5**

The process of nominations pertaining to the annual meeting shall be provided to the congregation 3 months prior to the annual meeting.

### **BYLAW 6**

A prospective Elder will have been a member of Vernon Alliance Church for at least six months prior to the annual meeting.

### **BYLAW 7**

With the exclusion of Elders, the terms of office for all elected persons will be 12 months.

### **BYLAW 8**

The quorum for any meeting of members shall consist of those members present.

### **BYLAW 9**

The Recording Secretary and the Treasurer shall be appointed as Trustees.

### **BYLAW 10**

No offerings may be solicited without the approval of the Board of Elders.

### **BYLAW 11**

The Board of Elders shall notify the members and make available the year end (June 30) the financial statement as soon as they become available from the auditor.

**ARTICLE VIII - BOARD OF ELDERS**

**BYLAW 1**

The Board of Elders shall have a maximum of twelve members.

**BYLAW 2**

An active member in good standing may be nominated for the position of Elder after the member has personally and prayerfully considered the qualifications found in scripture and allowed their name to stand.

**BYLAW 3**

An Elder shall not be eligible for nomination for one year after having served two consecutive three-year terms.

**BYLAW 4**

The Board of Elders shall consist of the Senior Pastor, Secretary, Treasurer and a maximum of nine other members.

**BYLAW 5**

The quorum for a meeting of the Elders will be a simple majority.

**BYLAW 6**

If a member of the Board of Elders is absent three consecutive meetings of the Board without due cause, the remaining members may declare the position vacant and may take steps to fill the position according to the constitution and bylaws.

**BYLAW 7**

The Board of Elders may establish standing committees with a one-year appointment. The number of committees, members and their purposes will vary from time to time as needs may demand.

# LETTER FROM THE BOARD OF ELDERS

Greetings VAC Church Family

I am writing this report in the midst of what is likely the largest worldwide cultural shift that anyone alive has seen. It has changed many things for all of us including ministries at VAC. In looking back over the last year there have been some significant events for VAC – Stuart McKnight stepping out from the position of Lead Pastor, Dwayne Boyd stepping in as Interim Lead, Carmen Kinniburgh (2019) and member/former pastor Jon Buller (2020) completing their Alliance Ordination work, Scott Cyr leaving his role as pastor of Worship and Arts, navigating the COVID season, and currently, the temporary layoff of the majority of staff. As a Board we have had to navigate new territory while going through church assessments to prepare for the formal search of a new lead pastor with the help of Daren Wride as a coach.

We as a Board have been focusing our attention on what is to come for VAC – Lead pastor, direction, purpose and how we get there. We are hopeful and expectant for what God is getting ready to do through this current season of reset and a new season.

I would like to say a special thanks to Ken Taves who came onto the Board with me six years ago. We have had the privilege of serving VAC together along with the incredible elders you as a church have appointed and our time on the Elders' Board is completed.

Recently my thoughts have been drawn to the people of Israel and how Jerusalem was conquered and many of its people were taken captive to Babylon. This one thought has become my recent focus of meditation—as their lives were completely uprooted and all normals changed, God went with the exiles. HE began to work through the lives of Daniel and several of his friends to make HIS name known. He used HIS people who continued to do life with those around them to influence the Babylonian rulers and people. I would suggest that doing life together is another way to describe church – when we enjoy his presence together with all men through everyday life situations and give Him the glory the gospel is proclaimed. This will be my continued prayer for VAC-that the community of VAC will together continue to impact the Vernon community and beyond with the Gospel of Jesus and the freedom HE brings.

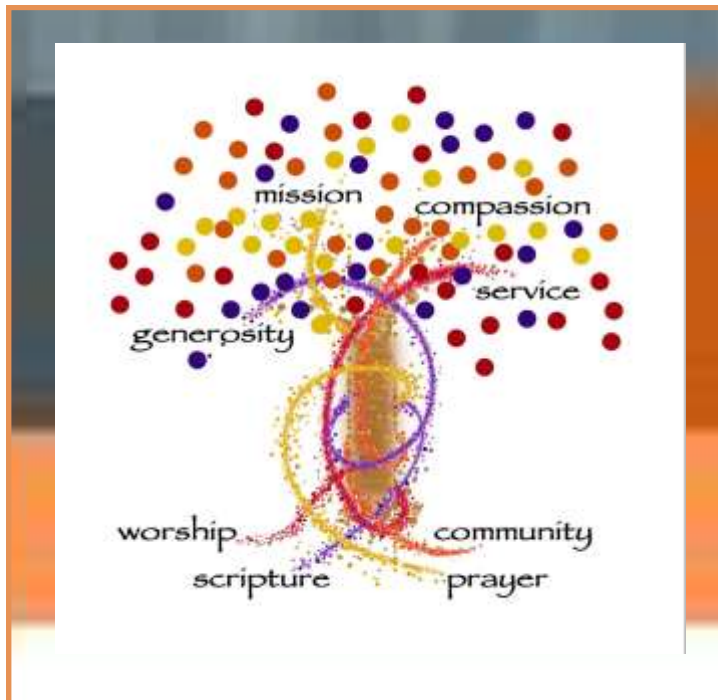
Ryan Young

On behalf of the Board of Elders-Ken Taves, Len Wedel, Gary Hertgers, Darren Kroeker, Shelley Reeves and Glenn Lewis



# OUR MISSION AND VISION

*Helping people discover Jesus Christ  
and become His followers.*



*The Vision Prayer of the Christian and Missionary Alliance:*

*O God  
with all our hearts we long for You.  
Come transform us to be Christ-Centered,  
Spirit-Empowered, Mission-Focused people  
multiplying disciples everywhere.*

# MINISTRIES



## INTERIM LEAD PASTOR DWAYNE BOYD

This has been a year of transition and it continues to develop as time moves on; July 2019 seems so long ago. We started the year like any other year: Staff were anticipating summer; ministry plans were being tweaked and we were beginning to set our hearts toward kick-off in the September. In August, all of that changed. Our Lead Pastor of 15 years, Stuart McKnight, informed our Board of Elders of his intention to resign. So began the journey.

November 1, 2020, in keeping with our Board Governance Policies, I began my tenure as the Interim Lead Pastor. A transitional coach, Daren Wride was hired to help guide our Board of Elders, Staff and Church through the transitional period projected to be anywhere from 6 – 18 months. We moved through the fall and into December, navigating a season of turmoil and transition as each of us (congregation and staff) processed the loss and changes ahead.

As we moved into January, we started a series called “2020 Vision” which focused on discovering the character and true meaning of being a follower of Christ. In January, our transitional coach also led us through a staff survey and a Church Health survey as part of the transitional process. Our Board of Elders identified and affirmed four Key Result Areas to be addressed as a result of those surveys.

Then the COVID-19 pandemic occurred, and everything changed. Our strategies, ministry plans and eventually our ability to gather in worship were removed. “Pivot” became the word of choice as plans that were carefully crafted and formulated became obsolete overnight. Our world turned upside down and as time passed and restrictions increased, it became obvious that our paradigms had changed dramatically. This was not a short-term thing but rather an extended event that changed our normal and continues to influence the way we approach life.

To date, our buildings remain closed, most of our staff have been temporarily laid off. A core “skeleton” team is focused on providing online content throughout the week and our weekend services. We are continuing our Lead Pastor transition and are currently in search. What we don’t know is the timeframe and what the next horizon will bring. However, we are certain of a few things. We know that our God has not changed and He is not worried. We know, that as the body of Christ (The Church), we have not been shut down, but we have been re-deployed. We have been challenged to move out of our comfort zones, challenged to re-evaluate the possibilities ahead and challenged to accept a new normal beyond our control. Paul told the Philippians 3:13-14, *“Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.”* We do not know where this is going to end, nor do we have a complete picture of the road ahead. However, we know that our call has never been to remain hidden behind the walls of a building. Our call has always been found within the mission of VAC which is *“helping people discover Jesus Christ and become His followers”*. Regardless of the current realities, our call is to continually live our lives in such a way that we become “salt and light” toward those who are around us. That is our goal and that is what we must “press on” toward.

We know that what we have understood to be normal will never fully return and so we are faced with evaluating how we do ministry, to whom we minister, and what part each of us is called to play in the days ahead.

I think we all intuitively know that things are never going to be same, but the larger question is, to what degree are we willing to step beyond our own comfort zones to explore the horizon and ministry opportunities God has in store? Our response will determine our growth.

In the days ahead there will be challenges but I am grateful for a church that supports the staff, the Board of Elders and each other. I am grateful for the hard work and support of the Board of Elders over this most difficult season. I call the people of VAC to prayer for this leadership group as they continue to discern the future of this church. I want to extend my appreciation to the core team who have willingly committed to ensuring the ministry of VAC continues as we navigate the days ahead. A good portion of our staff are temporarily laid off and I would ask the Church to pray for them as they navigate their own journeys during these days. Pray that they would find peace and rest as the days ahead unfold.

As we move into the future, we know that change will an ever-present companion and it is so important that we hold all plans, both past and future with open hands. These are challenging days and I covet your prayers for wisdom as I navigate the ever-shifting changes within our organizational landscape. Please pray for strength, wisdom and discernment, as I fulfill the responsibility of leading in uncertain times while preparing us to receive a new lead pastor.

Regardless of what may come, may we all find confidence in the words of the Psalmist, *“Your faithfulness continues through all generations; you establish the earth, and it endures. Your laws endure to this day, for all things serve you.”* Psalms 119:90-91. Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow, God’s faithfulness endures, His plans continue through all generations and He invites us to participate. Let’s step in together.

# MINISTRIES

## VAC KIDS

### CARMEN KINNIBURGH, MELISSA BONGALIS & MATTHEW YOUNG



Our year at VAC Kids started out just as we were hoping it would, with a summer full of great ministry to children and families through Power Up Wednesdays in the month of July that complemented the discipleship track of weekend ministry at VAC Kids, and our third year of FLO Soccer Camp in August. We had 79 kids participate in FLO camp, with 20 of them being

sponsored through a community grant from Canadian Tire Jumpstart Foundation. FLO camp is such a fun week that focuses on building confidence and soccer skills in the kids while sharing the love of Jesus. Thank you to all our volunteers and sponsors who make this amazing week of camp the highlight of the summer for many children in our community!

Some other highlights from VAC Kids this year include the VAC Kids Christmas Choir (thank you to Keiryn Young for leading the choir again this year), small group Faith Skills Pizza Parties, and KidWorship, a monthly group for kids in Grades 4-6 that runs throughout the year.

Much of the focus of our ministry is spent on facilitating a discipleship-oriented ministry during the weekend services at VAC for elementary-aged children. Each weekend we strive to create an environment at VAC Kids where children can discover Jesus and become His followers through creative Bible teaching, fun activities, worship stations, and ministry/serving opportunities. The basis of our learning is to grow as Jesus grew in Wisdom, Faith and Friendship (Luke 2:52). We do this by learning about different characteristics of God that He is working to develop in our lives. This year we focused on: the Fruit of the Spirit, Trust, Courage, Honour, Joy, Knowledge, Love, Forgiveness, Humility and Determination.

The two key reasons that I have loved pastoring in children's ministry for the past ten years at VAC are the kids/families, and the volunteers that I have the privilege of serving alongside. VAC Kids volunteers are a beautiful representation of the Church with young and old serving together, speaking into one another's lives, encouraging and discipling, leading and learning. Thank you to all our volunteers, in all the ways you serve, love and build the Kingdom amongst children and families in Vernon. In particular, I would like to say a HUGE thank you Matthew and Melissa and to all the VAC Kids volunteers as they allowed me the opportunity to take a four month sabbatical from January to May this year. Not only that, but in my absence they stepped up and led VAC Kids creatively and without missing a beat as the world grappled with the COVID-19 pandemic. So far 2020 has been a year of surprises, but we keep trusting in God's goodness and faithfulness. Even though much has changed, He never changes. All of this is for His glory.



## VAC TOTS DIANE GUZY

As I sit on reflect on this past year, my heart overflows with gratitude.

- our classrooms overflowing on weekends, with anxious little ones, eagerly joining their peers to learn more about Jesus and His love for them.
- many families dedicating themselves and their little ones to God.
- Moms coming on Thursday mornings with their tots, to enjoy each other and build new friendships and have their little ones play and enjoy making new friends.
- many welcome packages given out to newborns. These packages include a fleece blanket with the child's name lovingly embroidered by Lola Knopf and a children's bible story book to help the little ones learn about their Heavenly Father.
- blessed with dedicated and faithful volunteers, teachers and helpers alike. They come faithfully to love and teach our little ones on the weekends. A big shout out of thanks to all of you.
- a great evening in December of fellowship and fun with the ladies, building evergreen swags ,followed with visiting and forming of new friendships. A lovely snack was provided by Amber Taves and her team. THANK YOU!!
- thank you to both Lola Knopf and Heather Wyman for being such an important part of our team, for your devotion and faithfulness despite your health concerns.

Once again, we have had a great year at VAC Tots.



## STUDENT & YOUNG ADULT MINISTRIES CHETT FITCHETT

It has been a tremendous pleasure to serve as the Pastor of Student Ministries this year, especially when doing so alongside such an incredible team of staff and volunteers. Student Ministries was supported by the staff team of: Raedene Hayes (Leader Care and Development), Elaina Young (Worship and Admin), Sam Reeves (Route 6 and Reign Programing), and Emily Gunning (Reign Intern). This team, with many gifted volunteers, were able to lead a year of strong ministry and engagement - even throughout the limitations of the Covid 19 pandemic.

Throughout this year we collectively appreciated both the joy of fun and the strength that comes from a sincere commitment to faith in Jesus. Both the elements of fun and faith remained front and center the entire year.

Sam Reeves, who is a gifted leader and a brilliant event programmer, ensured that each Route 6 event was not only well organized, but also loaded with fun. Most of the year we enjoyed hosting between 15-25 Grade 6 students every second Friday. Our volunteer leaders did an excellent job, making all feel welcomed and working hard to match the students' enthusiasm.

Reign also found this dual focus of fun and faith on Wednesday evenings. We placed an emphasis on how students are greeted and connected each week. With this goal in mind, Emily took leadership of our Hospitality Team and ensured that every new student was introduced to a small group leader and was well stocked with candy. Worship continued to be an important part of our Reign culture. Elaina continued to serve this area so well through both her musical talent and focus on supporting new worship leaders and musicians. Small groups remained strong and all our volunteer leaders were once again absolutely incredible. Focused on supporting our leaders, Raedene built a healthy and strong team culture through her wisdom, thoughtful planning, and remarkable care. One of our goals for our leadership team was to continue to see leaders from a broad range of ages involved, and we were encouraged to see diversity in this way continue to grow.

Our Young Adults were once again served so well by Dwayne and Donna Boyd. The Boyds opened their home each Tuesday evening to our young adult community. The space they provided was one of great teaching and spiritual growth, all facilitated by an incredible sense of community. The Boyd's home in many ways was truly their home too, a place for community, prayer, honest conversation, and of course, fun.

As we consider the fall, we invite your prayers for the coming year. In all likelihood, we will be working with a new model of youth ministry. One that focuses less on our larger corporate gatherings and more on small groups. This is a change that has a measure of loss, but also opportunity. We are praying that the opportunities will provide even closer community and deeper levels of engagement in the discipleship process. In all of this what we trust the faithfulness of God as we grow in our faith and have lots of fun along the way.

# MINISTRIES



## FACILITY MIKE HOYLAND

Facilities this year has completed all projects approved by the board including hall window replacement, upstairs carpet in hallways and stairs, repainting of the interior of the building, and replacement of the last 3 old rooftop hvac units. The main lobby floor has also been repainted to match the new colour scheme. We have also repainted the interior of the Arbour. Since the Covid-19 lockdown and curtailment of all events, we have had to temporarily lay off two facility staff. As we navigate our way through the pandemic and the changing health guidelines and look ahead to when we can reopen, we are looking at ways to encourage social distancing and to keep everyone safe.



## WORSHIP & ARTS DWAYNE BOYD

The Worship & Arts department is one of those areas that has established itself as part of the DNA of VAC. Over the years, our faithful volunteers have served our church well, even in the midst of turbulent changes. This past August, our Worship Pastor, Scott Cyr resigned from his role following a medical leave. Scott's desire to see music and the Arts used within our weekend services was evidenced by his passion to engage his teams and young leaders in developing their skills and abilities within our weekend services. There are many young leaders who have been enriched by Scott's team building skills and mentorship and he has been missed.

This year, with the resignation of our Lead Pastor and our Worship Pastor, it was decided to not run our annual ODE event. An increased focus was placed on an Advent series called "Home for Christmas" that included special creative pieces, integrated with our sermon topics. This series culminated with a Christmas Eve service with special musical guest Raquel Cole, a creative children's moment led by Pastor Dwayne, and the message given by Pastor Jeremy. There were many positive responses to this series and our Christmas Eve services.

Our teams were once again thrown into another change as COVID-19 continues to change the way we are providing worship experiences. We have moved to pre-recorded worship sets that have been staged in living rooms, campfire pits, front decks and of course, our sanctuary. We are grateful to our volunteers for their ongoing faithfulness, flexibility and care as they continue to provide these important moments of worship during challenging times.

A special shout out to Kim Severson for her steadfast approach and care for our teams as she has endured seemingly constant change. Her faithfulness and passion to see the Arts engaged as a way for people to discover Jesus Christ and become His followers is clearly evident and I am grateful for her consistency in this role.

As we move into a new season, we are eagerly anticipating the search for a new Worship Pastor once a new Lead Pastor has been called. Our teams continue to serve our church during this time, and I want to say a huge thank-you to all leaders, musicians and vocalist who have continued to serve with tenacity and grace during this unprecedented season. Your contribution to the work of the Kingdom through the Worship and Creative Arts department is so greatly appreciated.

The Psalmist said it best *"Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth. Worship the LORD with gladness; come before him with joyful songs. Know that the LORD is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture. Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name. For the LORD is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations."*  
Psalms 100:1-5

As we move through this season and look toward the horizon, my prayer is that our gladness and joy will be evident through the worship experiences we provide, so much so, that it will provide moments where those around us will be drawn into the very presence of God.

Blessings in the journey.  
On behalf of Worship & Arts  
Pastor Dwayne Boyd  
Interim Lead Pastor



# MINISTRIES



## DISCIPLESHIP JEREMY KINNIBURGH

This has been quite the year. Much has changed and yet God has been so incredibly faithful to us. As is often the case, I am so blessed and feel honoured to be given the opportunity to bring leadership to the area of discipleship at the church. As I come to the end of my 15<sup>th</sup> year at the church, I continue to be excited to see God at work in people's lives transforming and healing hearts and drawing people into the deeper life of Jesus! It has been such a tremendous blessing to partner with so many incredible volunteers in so many areas again this year. It takes such a

strong and committed group of leaders and servant-hearted people to help people to discover Jesus Christ and become His followers. Thank you to the many of you that help make these ministries a reality each season!

I want to say a special thank you to Marni Rogers who I have had the privilege now of working with for several years. This year marked her tenth year on staff at VAC and I want to acknowledge the significant role that she has played in helping connect people, bring oversight to Women's Ministry, and loving the church well. Marni you are a gift to the church and a joy to work with. Thank you.

This year we had a few key components that helped to build a foundational disciplined life in Christ at VAC. These include, but are not limited to Alpha, Soul Care, and the VAC Ministry College to name a few. There are many other venues of discipleship that happen in the church throughout the year and we want to thank all of those who bring leadership to these areas.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Rev. Jeremy R. Kinniburgh

## PRAYER MINISTRY JEREMY KINNIBURGH

Prayer is such a foundational part of who we are as followers of Jesus. This year, as has been the case in the last few years, we have seen the prayer ministry team grow in depth, authority, their gifting and also their ability to be used by God in people's lives to bring freedom, healing and renewal. We have teams and individuals that are trained to be able to be used by God in various situations and to minister to people's woundings, needs and spiritual care. This year we have seen so many people set free of spiritual oppression, people healed of physical ailments and pains, and people experiencing inner healing from spiritual and emotional wounds that they have carried for far too long. This has been a year of great growth for the prayer ministry with new people added to the team and actively serving. We have been pleased to offer regular altar ministry after each service and also for a number of different kinds of events. We are blessed to have a committed group of individuals that pray before services each week and come to help prepare the building for ministry. Thank you to each of you that serve in this ministry and who faithfully pray for the work of God in the church! We so appreciate you and it is an honour to lead you, bring pastoral direction and be counted among you as a part of this team. We have enjoyed prayer groups, monthly Prayer Gatherings, a week of prayer in fall and on-going ministry throughout the year. Prayer continues to be a valuable part of the community life of this church and even in the COVID-19 season, God's people continue to pray and intercede for the church. I encourage you to continue on in this next season to press into all that God has for you and to intercede and pray for the church! God's call to His people in 2 Chronicles 7:14-15 is good for days like these... *"if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land. Now my eyes will be open and my ears attentive to the prayers offered in this place."*



# MINISTRIES

## MINISTRY COLLEGE JEREMY KINNIBURGH

This was the tenth year of Ministry College at VAC. Ministry College continues to be a venue of discipleship and deeper life growth for those who choose to enter in. This year we were pleased to have Dan Draht join the faculty of the Ministry College teaching two classes. The first was a course on the book of Daniel looking at living as a believer in a secular world. Dan's content called people into deeper life and into a place of increased reliance on God, as well as giving attenders tools for how to live well as a person of faith in an increasingly hostile and challenging world as a follower of Jesus. The second course that Dan taught was on Apologetics and engaged with questions and objections that are often raised in our culture today regarding the Christian faith.

We were so pleased to have Gerry Malnis and the GAP team teach a new course on living the Christian faith outside of the church walls called "Living the 99 Fully Alive." Roughly 1% of our waking hours is spent at a weekly church gathering where we celebrate and worship God. The other 99% is spent on our normal everyday routines. This course helped to equipped attenders with life-giving resources through the Spirit, and encouraged them to imagine the outcome of a Spirit-led life that welcomes God at the centre of the 99.

This fall I had the privilege of leading a group of attenders and volunteers through the "Soul Care" class by Dr. Rob Reimer. We are so grateful for his ministry and agreement to allow us to use this great resource to help people to live healthy, spirit-filled, whole and free lives in Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit. In winter I taught a new class that I wrote called "Life in the Spirit: looking at what it looks like to live the life that Jesus promised us in the Word when we are filled with the Spirit!

Thank you again to Dan, Gerry and the GAP Team for your partnership in this year of Ministry college! I am excited for the next season of Ministry College as a venue for discipleship for the church.

## COMMUNITY LIFE HOME GROUPS JEREMY KINNIBURGH

Community Life Home Groups are an integral part of the larger church life in a large church. It is so easy in a larger body like ours to not feel connected and a part of the community. Our hope would be to see every person in some form of a community group at the church. In Community Life Home Groups people have the opportunity to go deeper into community, but also to get connected and to be known in a more intimate setting. Community Life Home Groups become places where, in a safe, caring environment, we can investigate Jesus and explore our faith. We are created for and need vital life-giving relationships with a few key people. It is also a place to be known and continue our discipleship journey as we come into a deeper relationship with Jesus.

This year we were pleased to have Rick and Lynn O'Dwyer come on in a more key capacity as Small Group Coaches to help support and bring additional leadership to the more than 30 Home Groups that meet around the city and in the surrounding area. Rick and Lynn are passionate about Jesus and about seeing His people connected in Home Groups. It has been such a tremendous honour to serve with them this year. Thanks to Rick and Lynn!

Each week we create a home group resource that is based on the teaching from the weekend service. The hope is that the Community Life Home Groups will take the weekend into the mid-week and seek to create conversations and opportunities for deeper growth and community relationships. Each Tuesday over noon hour during the year we meet to pray for our Home Groups and Home Group Leaders. These continue to be special times of insight, intercession and connection. We are grateful for all of our Home Group Leaders. Thank you for sacrificing your time and for opening your hearts, journeys and homes to help people discover Jesus Christ and become His followers. You are so appreciated!

## ALPHA MINISTRY JEREMY KINNIBURGH

Alpha continues to be an amazing on-ramp to both the Christian faith and also to the discipleship journey at VAC. Each season that we run Alpha at the church we have a diverse group of people that come to "try Alpha" and investigate Jesus. Some are brand new to the faith conversation and others have been followers of Jesus for some time but want to build a more solid foundation with good teaching and community. Alpha is an 11 week course that gives people the opportunity to, in a safe environment, discover the basic foundational truths of the Christian faith.

This year we had over 30 people register for the course with people making decisions to lean into faith in a more intentional way. We were privileged to see a few people receive a physical and emotional healing with God this year. I want to say thank you to our 18 table hosts, dessert makers, and leaders. A special thank you to our greeter and kitchen boss Chris Reeves, and also to our team leaders Kurt Johnson and Glenn Lewis. We are looking forward to the future of Alpha at VAC and making it even more available throughout the year down the road!



## PASTOR OF CHURCH LIFE WILL WIENS

It should go without saying but the COVID pandemic upended and changed a lot of how ministry was happening at VAC. By the time the changes landed for us in mid-March we were starting to look towards the finish line of the ministry year and yet many things were halted suddenly while still in full swing. So while I cannot ignore the impact on this ministry year my focus in this report will be on what was accomplished prior to 'lockdown.'

I continued to support people and families through funerals, hospital visitation, recovery conversations, weddings, baptisms and membership processes. Since last July we had 19 people who outwardly expressed their commitment to Jesus in the waters of baptism. They represent beautiful stories of transformation and commitment. We also welcomed 11 people as new members to VAC.

The ministry of Common Threads continued to provide resources like food and clothes, as well as care and support to both guests and volunteers. In 2019 we had almost 8000 guests and gave away approximately 25,000 articles of clothing. These were both slight increases over the year before, showing that we are continuing to fill a need in our community. The approximate 50 volunteers it takes to run this ministry are a strong heartbeat of compassion at VAC. They have become my dear friends and I love them.

My on-call volunteer chaplain role at the hospital is a sweet spot for me to provide care and support for those who find themselves, through all manner of circumstances, stuck in the hospital. I am grateful for the team of sensitive visitors I can call on to help meet the growing need of spiritual care through the visitation to those who are sick and shut-in.

Marriage ministry continues, almost under the radar. Our pastoral staff are involved in weddings but we also provide pre-marital classes, the DIY Gottman's marriage enrichment course and marriage mentorship options for couples.

The Senior Adults group continued to meet on Wednesdays for fellowship and Bible study with about 30 people making use of this opportunity to connect and grow.

A final word on COVID's impact:

- Senior Adults – connected via emails and phone calls on a weekly basis.
- The sick were reached out to via texts and phone calls as needed.
- CT had a major adjustment of just handing out supplies—our attendance suffered and we realized the missing portion of community connection is a major intangible piece (the glue, if you like) of what we provide beyond food and clothes.

Along with Stuart's departure there has been more opportunities to preach which has been an honored privilege.

Gratefully,  
Pastor Will

## TECH, SOUND and COMMUNICATIONS TYLER LEWIS, DWAYNE BOYD and KIM SEVERSON



*“The geniuses of our worship cannot be measured in decibels of sound, and although it is vital that we express our love for God vocally, He looks to see the evidence in our lives.”* Graham Kendrick

During these days, the decibels of sound are not as concerning but our expression of our love for God vocally has not lost its importance. In these days of not being able to gather and mix live sound, our Sound & Media department are figuring out creative ways to bring an atmosphere of worship and praise directly into our homes. The purpose behind that is to offer opportunities for us, as children of God, ways to continue expressing our love for God through vocal engagement.

Over the past few months, everything has gone online. We have moved from doing full worship teams and sets (in house) to intimate deck and outdoor venues. Our technical teams have had to pivot into new realities of pre-recording and pre-packaging our services for online presentation. It has meant that new skills and new technologies have been developed and deployed. We have experimented with new ways of generating online content as we navigate these uncharted waters.

Out of necessity we have increased our focus on social media presence and as a result have become more agile in our online presence. Our website has been dramatically changed and the way that we promote VAC events and meetings has been forever changed.

Our statistics provide some idea of the scope and engagement of VAC during this time. Here are some of those stats:

- between April 2 – June 28 – 680 unique viewers( unique IP addresses )
- of these viewers, our watch time is 99% (approx. 1 hour and 2 min)
- Platforms have expanded to Youtube, new website, vaclive.com and Facebook
- our followers break out in the following manner;
  - Reign Instagram: 507 followers
  - Reign Facebook page: 467 followers
  - VAC Women Facebook group: 244 members
  - VAC Men Facebook group: 75 members
  - ODE Facebook page: 231 followers
  - VAC Young Adults (Boyd’s homegroup) Facebook group: 76 members
  - VAC Young Adults page: 280 followers
  - YouTube: 104 subscribers since launching mid-April
  - Instagram: 549 followers
  - Facebook: 1319 followers

We are using these platforms extensively and we are aware that our “reach” extends beyond Vernon and we are seeing folks join us from many different countries. One such example is of an individual that began watching from a country in South America, who private messaged us after one of our online services, indicated that they had made the decision to take the next step toward God. In that instant everything crystalized, somehow, some way, over these digital platforms the message of the Gospel is still having a life changing impact on people, around the corner and around the world.

That is why we do what we do.



## WEEKEND MINISTRY MARNI ROGERS

It has been so wonderful to get back in the saddle again and connect and participate with the ushers, greeters, coffee servers, welcome desk attendants and community time servers on the weekends after performing other duties for a year. It was great to see so many familiar faces along with some new ones. It almost felt like I hadn't been gone (almost!).

I am so grateful to have so many volunteers who are like family – connecting, sharing stories, laughing, supporting and praying for each other and accomplishing the work that needs to be done together. It's so important to care for one another and the volunteers do this brilliantly all over the church as they share the love of Jesus with one another.

About 45 volunteers are needed every weekend to help people feel welcome, acknowledged and served so that's a lot of manpower! But as we each do our part it's light work and it's fun. We make new friends and we feel more like the family we are. It's especially great to see couples and families participating together in some way to bless the community. There are always opportunities open to find a place to rub elbows with someone. Usually we shake hands or hug but that changed in the current season!

At the end of October the ushers came together for training and review, including best practices to help people be safe on our campus. I'm so proud of the way they take this seriously and accomplish needed tasks with this in mind. Once again, it shows their love for Jesus and the church. The entire Hospitality Team was invited to join two Zoom meetings in May, to be encouraged by Vicki Houghton to ensure we take good care of ourselves in this season. It was so life giving to connect with these dear friends again and see their smiling faces. Special thanks to both Pastor Dwayne Boyd for planning and participating in these meetings with me and to Vicki for putting together the self-care video and ideas list.

Thank you to all the incredible volunteers who serve in every way and have continued to be the church to one another in these difficult days. May God continue to be glorified in and through you.

## WOMEN'S MINISTRY MARNI ROGERS

On Thursday mornings from fall to spring, Lectio Divina continued to be a valuable place for up to 24 women to connect and listen to what God said to them through His Word. The group was excited to see some new faces this year.

They enjoyed a Christmas Lectio and Brunch together. This season it has been led by a group of women passionate about this ministry—Sandra Blattler, Lora Fellenz, Lisette Smid, Tania Driediger and Adrienne Bailie. Once we were no longer able to meet in person, Lora Fellenz gave leadership to two Zoom meeting options on Wednesday evenings and Friday mornings, with the intent to continue over the summer.

At Sacred Spaces in October, Amy Hayward encouraged us to love one another well and lay down the things that hinder us from that. Sherri Johnson, Keiryn Young, Sarah Pawluski and Hanlie Schuch led us in worship. The event was facilitated by Audrey Matties and 75 women attended. There was also a Zoom Sacred Spaces on June 11<sup>th</sup>. There are 29 mentor pairs in the Women's Mentoring Program led by Sandy Caryk, Leah Isaak and Donna Gilchrist including the addition of 6 new pairs in the fall. The Newcomers Tea hosted 6 women who shared their stories, which really helped with matching. The new pairs are excited about their new relationships. The team was pleased that there was an even amount of mentors to mentees this season. Seventeen attended the Mentorship breakfast in fall and they gathered for another breakfast in January. The pairs of women were able to remain connected when meeting face to face was not the best option.

On Monday nights in the fall, the Entrusted DVD study by Beth Moore was facilitated by Laura McIntyre and Bev Gayan who are passionate about Bible study and bringing women together to learn and to encourage one another. Up to 74 women attended and in winter the Living Beyond Yourself study by Beth Moore hosted 50 women. A planned third study for the spring was cancelled.

Up to a dozen women gathered weekly on Tuesday mornings to walk the Rail Trail together with the Women's Walking Group, with Kathy Laudon as point person. The group met once in February and once in March to snowshoe together before putting their walks on hold til the spring.

Thank you women leaders for offering these spaces for women to connect, do life together and encourage one another to know Jesus better!



# MINISTRIES

## COMPASSION & CARE MINISTRY GWEN BILODEAU & VICKI HOUGHTON

***“Helping people discover Jesus Christ and become His followers”.***

Thank you for praying; your prayers have made a difference! We have seen and heard of healing life change! Our hope is that no matter what the circumstances are, we respond in love. We believe that love is eternal and can change hearts and make a difference. The love of Jesus giving hope and reconciliation!

This has been a challenging season; our faith gives us courage to make the decisions we must make in a crisis and the confidence to leave the results to God!

We are so blessed to have dedicated volunteers who give of their time and talents serving in Compassion Ministry. Thank you! Care Ministries promotes health and wholeness, pointing people to God as our Great Physician. These ministries of caring seek to give nurturing through: Shame Resiliency, Journey of Hope, Aware, Aware aftercare, (meeting on line during Covid-19) Divorce Care and Hope4kids, Shiva, and 12 Steps programs.

Prayer Shawl ministry provides prayerfully knitted shawls to comfort people. The Living Room group continues to be a safe place for people to share their journey of faith with one another.

We continue to offer a Flu shot clinic in the Arbour each fall for the guests at Common Threads. We financially assist volunteers who wish to take the “Food Safe” program to serve at Common Threads or to enhance their job skills.

Benevolent fund meets the ongoing needs at Common Threads. Food, toiletry items, underwear, diapers and other specific needs are supplied. During Covid-19 we purchased supplies for pre-packaged bags that were given out weekly.

We also supported Salvation Army, Live Well Clinic, NOYFS, Boys & Girls Club, Bill’s Place, Archway Society (formerly Women’s Transition House), Vernon Jubilee Hospital, and the Upper Room Mission with funding for their support to the community during the pandemic. Covid-19 changed the look of the ministry; online, email, and phone requests were responded to.

Counseling, medical needs and assistance through our “in-take” process is ongoing. We also have food on hand and some basic staples to give out as needed.

Our sympathy during bereavement is expressed by offering reception and sound services for funeral and memorial services.

We have the opportunity to encourage Lake Country Alliance Church as their Compassion’s ministry continues to grow, and just recently Kamloops Alliance was inquiring about our Compassion ministry.

School fees in the fall and regular monthly financial assistance is given for snack programs at several schools and seasonally, camp sponsorship. The Christmas Eve offering went to support Hospice Society with end-of-life care, and also to support marginalized teens through Teen Junction and North Okanagan Youth and Family Services.

We continue to work closely with various social agencies and schools; Neighbourlink, VJH Chaplaincy, Live Well Pregnancy Outreach, Hospice Society, Community Dental Clinic, NOYFS, Christmas Dinner Campaign, Street Nurse, Bill’s Place, Community soup days, Teens Count Too, Interior Health, North Okanagan Mental Health, and Turning Points Collaborative. We provided \$12,000. to Eagle Bay Camp sponsorship. We often partner with many Interior Health workers to provide individual care.

This past year we have been connected with BDO who provides debt solutions. We are able to refer people requiring budgeting for their debt. BDO are working remotely and set up to assist debtors and creditors during Covid-19. Also, some restrictions are lifted temporarily during these times.

The last 8 years we have provided free shopping for approximately 100 children, providing over 600 gifts for Christmas through our Gifts & Goodies Project. Leftover gifts from this project provided Christmas gifts to Residential Services for children in care over the holidays, as well as gift bags to those in treatment at Bill’s Place during the holidays.

Every time we are touched by the hand of friendship, every time we are supported by the hand of help, every time we are directed by the hand of guidance – these are the hands of God. Mother Teresa said that *“God has only our hands with which to bless the world.”*

*“We hold, we help, we feed, we greet, we applaud, we support, we console-all with our hands. Yet in every action of such love, God’s hand is involved. God is love, and when love is present, so is He. He hands us His love to handle with our hands.”*

–A. Philip Parham

We are grateful for the generosity of our Church-the love, care and provision. Your support helps carry the message of love and compassion to those in need!

*Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we received from God. 2Corinthians 1:3-4*

# AROUND THE CORNER...



**VAC MISSIONS**  
**GERRY MALNIS**

***To belong to Jesus is to embrace the Nations with him.-John Piper***

The tag line, "Around the Corner, Around the World " is an indication of a passion toward embracing the Nations. Under the banner of VAC Missions, GAP will continue to give oversight to our support of Global Advance Fund, our Canadian Ministries and non-CMA partnerships as well as the Refugee



Sponsorship Ministry.

This past year, the Refugee Sponsorship Committee has received some distressing news as the family that they had been working so hard to bring to Vernon has had their application rejected. It has been especially difficult emotionally especially understanding the condition that the family is living in and the seemingly arbitrary decision. After much prayer and discussions with several stake- holders a decision was made to seek legal help. A lawyer has been hired to represent the family and at the moment the case is proceeding through the several steps necessary to reach a place for a ruling to determine if they can attend another hearing. At the moment the team are prayerfully waiting for the result. In the meantime, the committee has decided to pursue bringing a family from Syria through the Blended Visa Office Referred Program (BVOR). In this program the families have been preapproved therefore the length of time for the family to be relocated is reduced dramatically. Also, the Canadian Government contributes funds to the families for the first year. By pursuing this avenue, the Committee hoped to have the family here by early summer. Again, due to the ban on travel and the complexity that the response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the exact dates as to when we can expect the family to arrive is uncertain.



I would like to thank the committee for their diligent and faithful work in these particularly trying times over the past year. Thank you for your perseverance and for not giving up to the struggles that this endeavour has had to face.

## **GAP( Global Action Partners )**

Over the past year, we have again seen the faithfulness of God's people to give generously in supporting the work abroad.

As we all know not every year is a banner year with regards to mission activity. There are events where we have no control that impact what we do and how we do it. This year has been one of those years. VAC is undergoing large changes with our Lead Pastor resigning from his position. The COVID-19 pandemic has caused us to pause and rethink and listen to how God would have us continue in His work during these times. One of the missionary families that we support were travelling while the borders closing. They are now in an in-between country waiting. This is what he said in his most recent communication. *"In this waiting, we find that we aren't as central to His plans as we have assumed. This might sound like a negative perspective but in reality, it is an important acknowledgement that God is central to the work we do. We can be assured that even though we may be sidelined God is still actively at work where we are and around the world. One of the verses that I keep going back to when I start to doubt this is Isaiah 9:7 It talks about God establishing His kingdom in an ever-increasing measure and that He will reign forever. It also says that the zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this. We can rest assured that there is nothing that can stand in the way of His zeal!"*

Please pray for our missionaries that they may be able to hear where the Lord is leading them. Pray that they will be encouraged as they see the Lord working even though they may feel that they are not able to contribute to the work as much as they would like. Please pray that they have assurance that they are right where they need to be right now and the wisdom to know what their next steps might be.



# ...AROUND THE WORLD

## **Nepal:**

Our International workers, Travis, Erin, Nicolas and Olive were part of our bi-yearly Mission's weekend. It is so exciting to be part of the work that is happening in Nepal. Our multi-church Seamless link is also being signed and will become part of the support that Travis and Erin can count on as they plan their return. VAC has been foundational in this work. The GAP committee has decided to expand our scope of support to include all the CMA people that work with the "T" peoples in the area. We look forward to greater opportunities of care.

## **Caribbean Sun:**

Steve and Heidi Maskell, after much prayer and discernment, have decided to resign from their work with the C&MA in the Caribbean Sun region. They were very successful with establishing Samuel house in Paraguay. Thank you Steve and Heidi for serving so well. May God bless you in your future endeavors as He leads.

## **Xonca, Guatemala:**

Our relationship with Food for the Hungry continues to provide a wonderful journey of partnership and service to those in other parts of the world. This year, we have had to cancel our planned trip to Xonca. The annual desert auction that is held to raise money for Xonca was an astounding success. A record amount of money was raised...way to go team!! As we look to the future, our partnership is drawing to a close as "graduation" is planned for 2021. We are beginning to explore what the future may hold. We look toward the future with anticipation but also with a small degree of sadness as our commitment to the small community of Xonca draws to a close. Our formal relationship to Xonca may be ending but the friendships and the love shared will continue for many who have had the privilege of meeting the wonderful people we partnered with. FH is an incredible organization so we will continue to pursue potential partnerships with them in the days ahead.

## **Zihua Roofs:**

Zihuarooft is a ministry that VAC supports in Zihuatanejo Mexico. Andy and Mo have been putting roofs on people's homes protecting them from the weather, sun and rain, and giving them shelter for several years now. They always say it is not about the roof but rather to share God's love with the folks here. Here is an excerpt from their last newsletter. *Just last week we realized we have put on over 300 roofs in this area above Zihuatanejo and that means there are over 300 John 3:16 plaques dispersed throughout the various colonias. There are usually between 4 and 10 people who live in these homes who receive this message on a daily basis. The plaques are always placed on the doorway of the home, a reminder to the family every time they enter the building that "God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life". What a promise, thank You God.*

## **Wellspring Foundation for Education**

Wellspring continues to serve the people of Rwanda by being catalyst for transforming education for hundreds of thousands of children and fostering vibrant communities that address poverty in all its forms. This year Wellspring was asked to take on the task of transforming education in Rubavu, one of the most difficult districts in Rwanda. The program was well received and was making a profound difference in the community. Then Covid-19 struck. The country has ground to a standstill with strict restrictions enforced harshly. Wellspring's response has been amazing. The Wellspring Rwandan trainers have been asked by the Minister of Education to compose lessons that can be broadcast on the radio for the children that are at home and don't have any access to the internet. In the Rubavu Wellspring have purchased 15 metric tons of food to be distributed to the most vulnerable! One of the annual events that had to be cancelled due to the virus has been the Wellspring Gala...a major fundraiser for Wellspring. It was decided to hold a three day "Stay at home Gala" the monies raised exceeded all expectations. God is indeed in control and is providing for the work in Rwanda.

## **Interserve:**

Mike and Bonita Dirk continue to serve in Egypt where they too have had to make huge changes to their plans. They were to have travelled back to Canada but because of travel restriction have stayed in Egypt. In Mike's last update he says *"Things in Egypt are OK and luckily our work is still continuing although we are doing a lot over the phone and with video conferencing. I'm still working on a project that we visited at the end of Jan in a desert area of Egypt (Wadi Natrun) that has some of the first monasteries from the 4th century. We are helping a ministry there with the design of a house of prayer, continuing in the ancient tradition. Bonita has been busy organizing new classes and training for the Sudanese students and trying to figure out a way to do classes remotely (can be a challenge for those without reliable internet)."*

Thank you again for being faithful in giving of your time and resources towards the expansion of His Kingdom. I want to thank the GAP committee members, the Refugee Sponsorship committee, and others that help to provide leadership to VAC Missions.

# NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

This year’s Nominating Committee consisted of Len Wedel, Darren Kroeker, Colleen Edgar, Wendy Smith and was chaired by Dwayne Boyd, Interim Lead Pastor.

In our meeting(s), we reviewed all relevant documentation related to elders, including the key Bible passages, Alliance documents and board best practices. We also had a season of prayer and discernment.

Our bylaws stipulate that an elder can serve for two consecutive three-year terms before being required to step down, for a minimum of one year.

Elders stepping off due to fulfillment of two 3-year terms:

- Ryan Young
- Ken Taves

Elders at end of three-year term but eligible to be nominated and re-elected:

- Darren Kroeker

Continuing Elders:

- Glenn Lewis – first term (2<sup>nd</sup> year)
- Shelley Reeves – first term (3<sup>rd</sup> year)
- Len Wedel – second term (3<sup>rd</sup> year)
- Gary Hertgers – second term (2<sup>nd</sup> year)

This year, there are two positions that are to be filled this year. Those nominated by the Nominating Committee are:

- Wilford Haak
- Roy Bouman

The following Elder has agreed to allow his name to stand for re-election to a second, three-year term;

- Darren Kroeker

From the Alliance Manual re: Elections:

“In preparation for elections at the annual meeting, the nominating committee shall present and post, at least three weekends prior to the annual meeting, one name for each space to be filled. Any procedures for receiving additional nominations from the membership shall be specified in the bylaws. Elections shall be by ballot and, in order to be elected to the Board, a nominee must receive at least a majority of the ballots cast.”

Please note that our local church bylaws do allow for further nominations however they must be vetted through the accepted nominating committee process. The next Nominating Committees will be selected at the Annual Meeting on June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2020 through a nomination process.

Respectfully submitted,

Dwayne L Boyd

Chair of the 2020 Nominating Committee

<b>New Nominees (1st Year)</b> Roy Bouman Wilf Haak	<b>(2nd Year)</b> Glenn Lewis	<b>(3rd Year)</b> Shelley Reeves
<b>(4th Year)</b> Darren Kroeker	<b>(5th Year)</b> Gary Hertgers	<b>(6th Year)</b> Len Wedel

# NEW ELDERS' BOARD NOMINEE



**Roy Bouman**

Caroline and I have been married for 35 years and have been attending VAC for approximately 25 years. Over those years I served as an elder for 6 years, and have involved in ushering, youth and young adults ministry and see more of myself in the role of “shepherding”. The church is in a pivotal time in history and I’m anticipating new direction for us as a church and looking forward to that new direction through His word and through His Spirit as we continue to learn to hear His voice.



**Wilford Haak**

Vernon Alliance Church has been my church home for over 50 years. Being part of this church’s history has shaped my life. I have many memories of good times and some more difficult times. These days of pandemic have yet again brought a new chapter to the life of our church. My wife, Kathleen and I have been married for 18 years and have two children. Over the years I have served in different ways and now look forward to this new opportunity as a church elder.

*For in Him we live and move and have our being.  
Acts 17: 28a*



**Darren Kroeker** has agreed to allow his name to stand for re-election to a second, three-year term.

# WITH GRATITUDE



On behalf of the Board and congregation, we want to acknowledge and extend our appreciation to **Ken & Amber Taves** and **Ryan & Elcita Young** for their selfless service and care for our church over their six years on the Elders Board. We have appreciated their heart for the ministries and people of VAC and their passion for seeing the church fulfilling its mission of *“helping people discover Jesus Christ and become His followers”*.

# VISIBLE RESULTS

September 2019-February 2020 average attendance: **1006**

In the past 12 months we have:  
Baptized **19** people  
Welcomed **13** people into membership  
Served **nearly 8,000** clients at Common Threads

## New Members

Lisa Stanley  
Michael Stanley  
Lars Glimhagen  
Norma Glimhagen  
Rob Penner  
Daisy Penner  
Kevin Gutknecht  
Helen Gutknecht  
Angus MacInnes  
Janet MacInnes  
Andrea Parkins  
Mel Reimer  
Charlene Reimer

## Baptisms

Felicia Schwabe  
Annika Bovenkerek  
Robert Bradley  
Lisa Geary  
Eva Jeffcott  
Mathias Fellenz  
Mike Klassen  
Jasmine Klassen  
Pat Bonin  
Sarah Gabriel  
Dick Linde  
Lucy McInness  
Elaina Stein  
Zac Dubland  
Michelle Austin  
Aria Kinniburgh  
Roscoe Kinniburgh  
Devon Martin  
Cheryl Scheer



# FAITH AND VISION



## DEVELOPMENT FUND DWAYNE BOYD

The Development Fund is the fund designated for the purpose of paying off our mortgage and the incurred interest payments. Our previous mortgage agreement expired in May 2019. Over the last year, we have been able to make accelerated payments on our mortgage (without penalty) as part of last year's negotiated renewal. At the time of writing this report, our outstanding balance is \$156,260.88, our amortization has been reduced to 8.5 years and our next renewal date is May 2021. Our current rate is fixed at 3.79%.

## INTERIM FINANCIAL REPORT DWAYNE BOYD

### Fiscal Year 2019/2020

This fiscal year began with an indication of strong giving toward our various funds. Over the first 8 months of our year, the indications were that we would surpass our General Fund budget long before our fiscal year end. No one could have predicted the financial impact of a global pandemic. In March 2020, we begin to see the first impact on our giving as the ramifications of the COVID pandemic began to have an impact.

For the first time in a few years, we did not meet our approved General Fund budget of \$ 1,3410,000. We ended the year with a budget deficit of approximately \$49,000. As March, April and May began to unfold, it became clear that our giving patterns were going to change dramatically as restrictions on gathering were (and still are) implemented. As a result, a spending freeze was implemented, personnel dramatically reduced and application for any government funding programs available were all ways in which our expenditures were reduced to accommodate the decrease in giving. This strategy has enabled us to decrease budgeted General Fund expenditures by approximately 18%.

We continue to see the impact on our giving as indicated by the graph below. There are many unknowns as we move into our new fiscal year for 2020/2021 however, we are confident that the plans we have implemented, will allow us to continue to navigate this season in a positive position. We are grateful for the flexibility, faithfulness and generosity that you have shown over this last year and we are encouraged by those who continue to support the ministries of VAC during this trying period.

Last summer, our Board of Elders approved a one-time, capital expense of \$100,000 for the purpose of facility upgrades. I am pleased to announce that the following projects were completed, under budget by the watchful eye of our Facility Manager Mike Hoyland;

1) Hall Windows Upgrade: This venue has been in need of new windows to improve energy efficiency and lighting.

This was accomplished as part of the last Extreme Makeover campaign

2) Our rooftop HVAC units have all been upgraded

3) New carpet installed in the upstairs hallway and stairs

4) A prayer room was established and carpeted

5) An AED system was purchased

6) The roof over our sanctuary was replaced and upgraded



# FAITH AND VISION

## INTERIM FINANCIAL REPORT continued

### Other notable finance updates:

- Our General Fund investment of \$ 150,000.00 in the C&MA-CPD Loan Development Fund continues to show strong performance generating steady growth for future investment.
- A new budget presentation to account for the ever-evolving normal caused by the COVID pandemic.
- A new Board mandate to address the growing challenge of salary costs
- Continued strong Missions & Benevolent giving, allowing us to continue to make an impact around the corner, around the world
- Finally, the introduction of a new website, incorporating a new giving platform (Tithe.ly) and the establishment of e-transfer as a method for giving.

In the past we were seeing a gradual adaptation to more online/mobile giving platforms, with the advent COVID, this shift changed overnight. We are still seeing some cheques and cash being dropped off, but our primary source of income is through our website and app. Tithe.ly has become our primary giving platform as we have moved away from our old website provider and giving platform.

To provide a picture of the financial journey to date, we will look at the following information;

### COVID-19 Impact

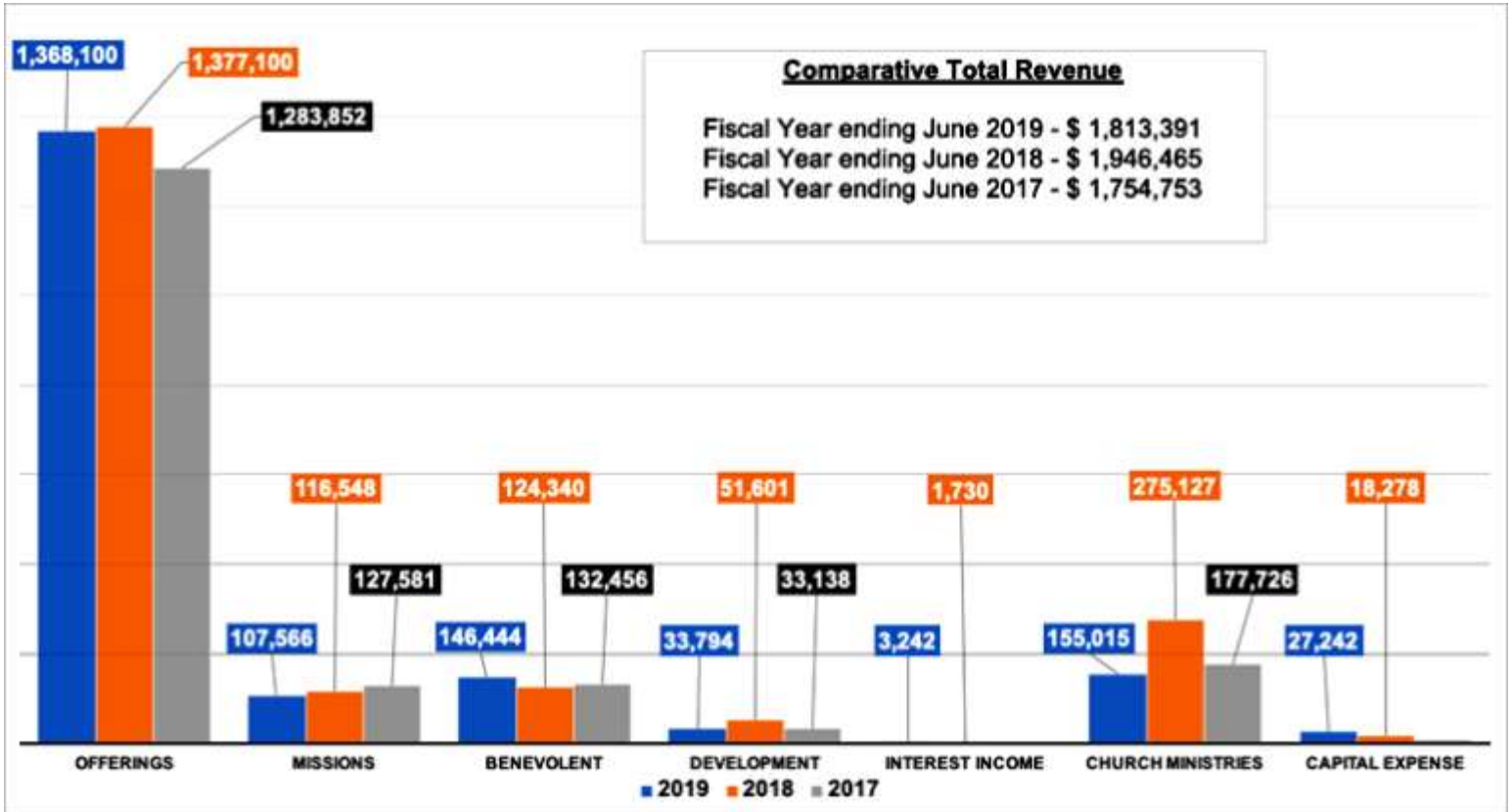


As you can see, prior to March 2020, we were on a positive trajectory in total giving (i.e. all funds). The impact of COVID-19 started to appear in March and has continued through to the end of this year. We had one small blip in May, however, that can be accounted for by the difference in the number of weekends in the month of May, year over year.

# FAITH AND VISION

## Vernon Alliance Church – Statement of Operations – Revenue

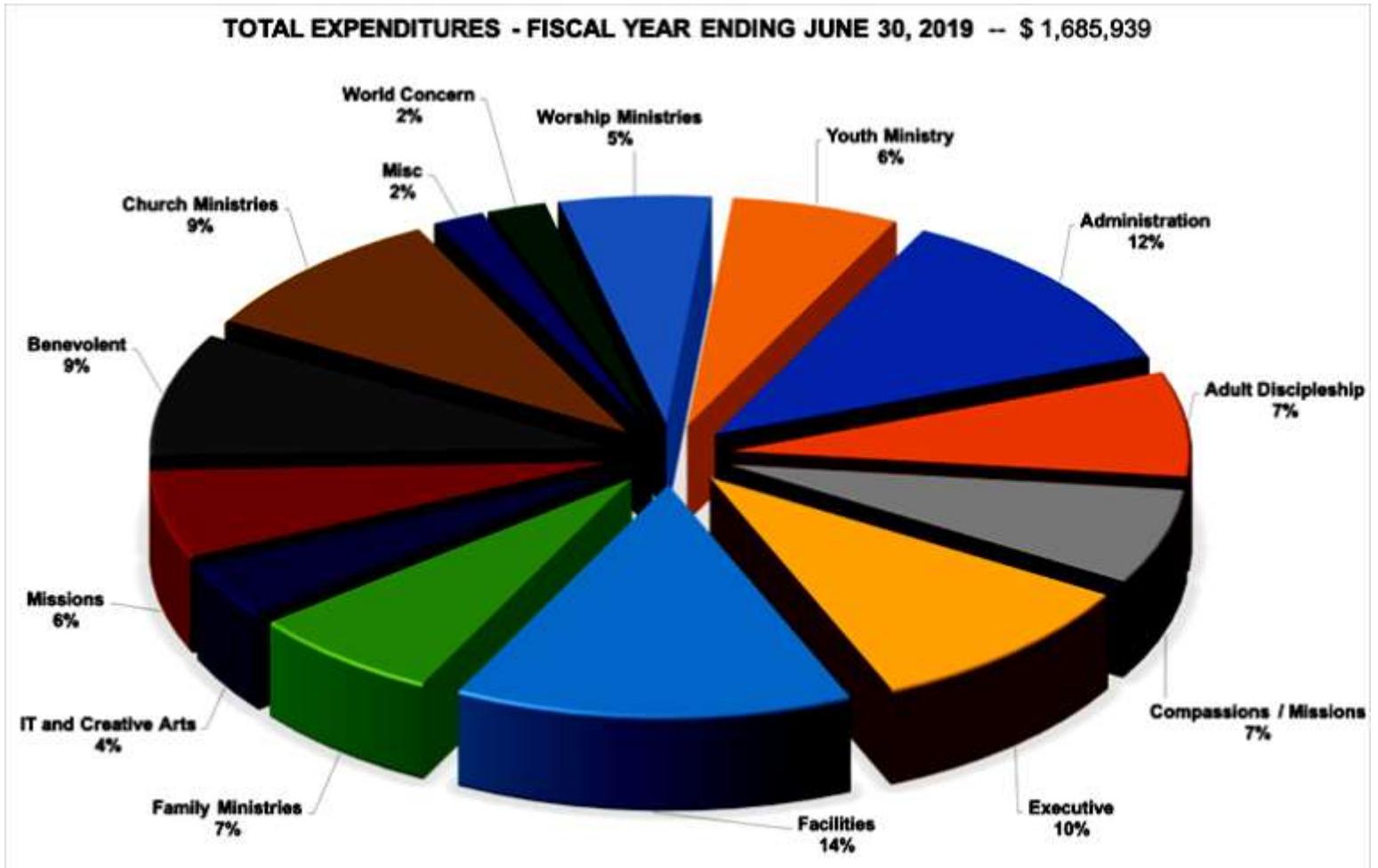
Years Ended June 30, 2019, 2018, 2017



Over the last two years, the giving has remained more or less static with the exception noted in “Church ministries”. This department accounts for funding realized by registration and ticket sales for programs or other fundraising initiatives that are offered throughout the year.

# FAITH AND VISION

## Vernon Alliance Church – Statement of Operations – Expenditures Year Ending June 30, 2019



The above pie chart represents an approximate total combined expenditure from all sources of ministry income within VAC for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019. When comparing revenue to expenditures for the fiscal year July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019, once again we ended with a financial surplus. Ending a year in the positive, allows us the ability to have at least 3 months of operational emergency contingency funds and provides the Board with the opportunity to make capital expenditure decisions without having to resort to a special fundraising initiative.

The faithfulness of your giving over the past few years has allowed us to build this contingency fund, because of your faithfulness, we were able to weather the immediate impact of COVID-19 to our giving. This gave the Board of Elders the time and space to consider, discern, pray and make slow decisions in regard to any cost cutting measures that we have undertaken, without this contingency money, personnel changes would have been required sooner.

# FAITH AND VISION

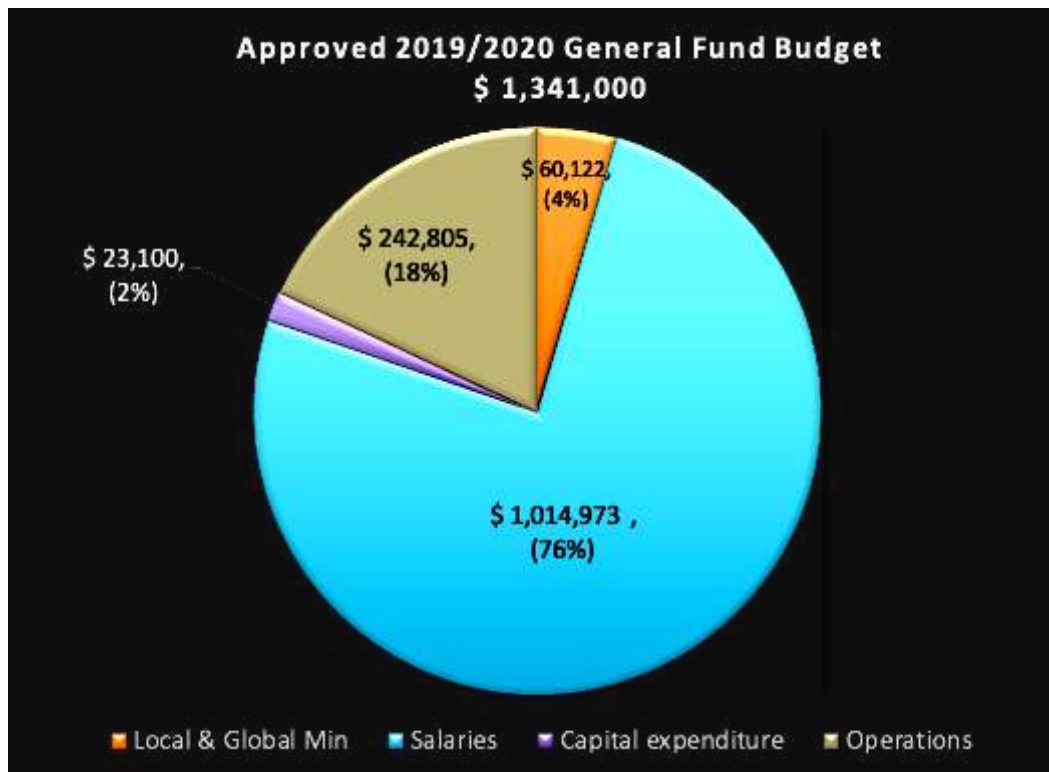
## General Fund Budget Forecast for 2019/2020

We have changed the General Fund budget presentation format for this year to reflect the uncertainty of the year ahead. We needed to create a budget that would give us the flexibility and agility to change and adapt as our realities shifted. We are currently providing 4 different accounts for giving; **General Fund, Benevolent, Missions and Development** fund. As we have evaluated our Ministry Fund, it has become apparent that we can break this fund down into 3 distinct groups; **Local and Global Ministry, Personnel and Operations** while still accommodating the agility and flexibility required

Due to the current uncertainty and an expected decrease in giving, the Board has approved a General Fund budget of \$1,341,000. This is a budget with built in buffer to help accommodate the ongoing negative impact (on giving) of COVID-19.

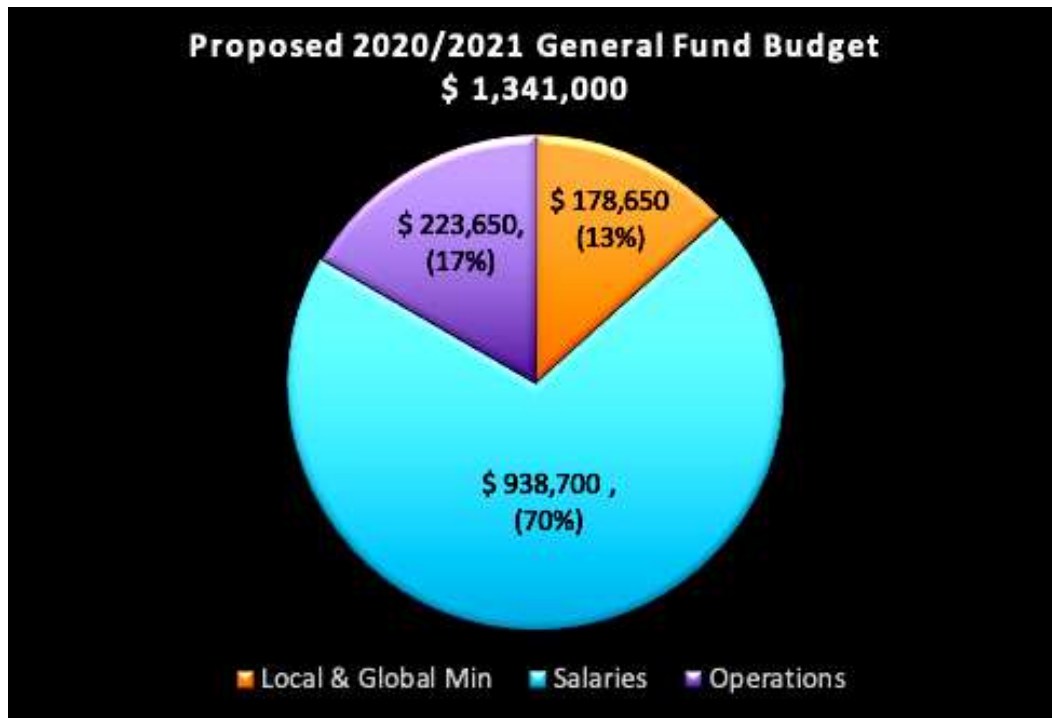
For more information on the financial health of VAC, please refer to the report produced by KPMG, posted on our new website or contact Pastor Dwayne or our Board Treasurer. Thank you for your faith and generosity in supporting the work and vision of VAC.

## Approved General Fund Budget 2019/2020



# FAITH AND VISION

## Proposed General Fund Budget 2020/2021



### **Built in Assumptions:**

This budget assumes that gathering restrictions will remain in place until the new year

- Due to these restrictions, the above budget has a built-in surplus of approx. \$150,000 to help accommodate a projected decrease cash flow (estimated at approximately 20%)

- 2020/2021 Budget process includes reviews every 3 months and possible adjustment based on evolving Government guidance and giving to-date.

- Focus areas based on reviews;
- Weekend gatherings and increased use of facilities
- Partial or full return to new staffing levels
- Ministry opportunities
- Community needs
- Projects or repairs

- This budget also takes into account that all capital improvements will be put on hold for the foreseeable future.

- Ministry Fund expenditures will remain at 80% of the previous year, adjusted as needed according to giving

### **Additional Notes:**

- Salaries have been adjusted to a max of 70% of our General Fund budget by motion of the Board
- New Lead Pastor and new Worship Leader Salaries are included in the above breakdown
- As part of the Elders discernment process, Local and Global ministries will be the focus of this budget as restrictions allow
- This scenario allows us to gradually re-engage staff over time and as funding allows.
- Additional information in regard to the breakdown of each of these categories will be available at our AGM

# Vernon Alliance Church



2601 43 Ave  
Vernon, BC  
V1T 3L1  
250-545-7105  
250-545-0421(fax)  
info@vernonalliance.org  
www.vernonalliance.org