

**2023** VOLUME 33

**REPORT** 



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# **Letter From Lead Pastors**

## **BUILDING BRICK-BY-BRICK**

2023 at VFC marked the 31st year of our church history, but in many ways marked the 1st year in the new story God is writing in and through this local church. This past year, we really sense that God moved powerfully to help us have a successful transition, rebuild the walls after Covid and establish a firm identity as a church community to bring us into the future.

We shared our new mission, vision and cultural values. We poured into our staff at our first ever staff retreat. We created a Valley Girls culture, brought Love Week back with a new passion and model, saw our kids, middle school, youth and young adult ministries thrive, revamped our small group model to better serve people, added a second Sunday service and so much more. We've heard countless stories of lives being changed and transformed by Jesus, we've met so many new families that are joining us on the journey and we've seen growth in the church at large – and for this, we give God all the glory.

These pages are a testimony of God's hand on VFC and the assuredness that Jesus is building His Church! Brick-by-brick. One person at a time. All it's going to take is all of us! Let's keep building.

**ERIC & ALEXA JONES** 

Elic & Alexa

LEAD PASTORS, VALLEY FAMILY CHURCH

# **Mission & Vision**

THE CHURCH WE SEE



So we cared for you. Because we loved you so much, we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well.

1 Thessalonians 2:8

#### **MISSION**

Our mission is simple: to know Jesus and make Him known.

#### **VISION**

We see a Jesus-centered church changing the world one person at a time through evangelism, discipleship and community.





# **Cultural Values**

## THE CHURCH WE SEE

#### **WORSHIP**

That we would be people who reserve the greatest affections of our hearts for Jesus as we offer our whole lives to Him alone in worship and prioritize His presence in all we do.

#### **WORD**

That we would be people who love the Word of God, believe in it in its fullness and allow the Bible to shape and frame our lives in every way as we follow Jesus.

#### **FAMILY**

That we would build nuclear families and participate in the family of God in a way that helps us to thrive in Christ and pass the faith effectively from one generation to the next.

#### **FAITH**

That we would live with audacious faith, pray bold prayers and believe God for the impossible as we hold tightly to God's power and promises.

#### **PURPOSE**

That we would live with audacious faith, pray bold prayers and believe God for the impossible as we hold tightly to God's power and promises.

#### **SPIRIT**

That we would learn to rely on and experience the Holy Spirit's power at work in our lives and embrace all the gifts of the Spirit that are alive and active today.

#### **GENEROSITY**

That we would live with open hands and open hearts as we generously give to others from what God has graciously given to us.

#### JOY

That we would know how radically loved and forgiven we are and in response, live with joy that overflows beyond our circumstances as a testimony of the goodness of God to our world.

# Year In Review

## **MONTHLY MILESTONES**



BATON PASSING



STAFF RETREAT



VISION SUNDAY



PALM SUNDAY + EASTER SUNDAY



VALLEY
GIRLS SOCIAL



SUMMER CAMP



LOVE WEEK



SOUTH HAVEN BAPTISM



HEARTBEAT WEEKEND



TWO SERVICES LAUNCH



FALL RETREAT



CHRISTMAS EVE

# **Message Series**

## **WORSHIP & THE WORD**

#### FEED THE FLOCK

This past year, the Word went forth through a 11 unique message series that helped to feed the flock and unite people to the heartbeat of the House. We spent time each month digging into the Word of God together, growing in discipleship, and sharing the good news of the gospel. And each Sunday, we created space for intentional connection and community in the atrium.

# 1,653 DECISIONS FOR JESUS 1,385 AVERAGE WEEKLY ATTENDANCE

**O1 JANUARY**The Upside Down

**O2 FEBRUARY**Strong & Courageous

03 MARCH Seek & Find



**07 JULY**The Names of God

**08 AUGUST**Into Faith We Go

**09 SEPTEMBER**The Daniel Dilemma





**04 APRIL**Too Good & So True

**05 MAY**Wisdom In The Way

**06 JUNE**Family & All The Things



10 OCTOBER
As It Is In Heaven

11 NOVEMBER
As It Is In Heaven

**12 DECEMBER**Prepare The Way

# **Church Growth**

## **SUNDAY MORNING**

#### SALVATION DECISIONS

We give God all the glory because this year, 1,653 people made the decision to confess Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior! In October, we took an obedient step of faith to broaden our Sunday services to two gatherings. We saw great momentum from adding another service and God continues to bring new people to join the journey.

#### 1.653 PEOPLE GAVE THEIR LIFE TO JESUS.



#### FIRST TIME VISITORS

We welcomed 1,041 first-time visitors through our doors this past year. Our biggest need for an additional service was to make room for the new influx of young families and the next generation seeking God and looking for a church home.

#### 1,041 FIRST-TIME VISITORS.





#### WATER BAPTISM

Not only did we see people inwardly confess that Jesus is Lord, but 93 people publicly declared their faith in Jesus through water baptism! That is nearly triple the amount we saw in 2022 (33). In August, we went mobile and gathered at Lake Michigan for a Worship & Water Baptism night in South Haven.

#### 93 PEOPLE WERE WATER BAPTIZED.



#### **VALLEY STARTING POINT**

Following Jesus is a journey that happens one step at a time. 275 people took their next step to get more connected to the life and community of our church through Valley Starting Point.

275 TOOK THEIR NEXT STEP AT VSP.

# **Church Engagement**

## **EVANGELISM & COMMUNITY**

#### **VCREW**

All year, we built into "the team, the team, the team." We are apart of something bigger than the part we play and have the privilege to serve others. On October 1, we launched two services at 9am & 11:15am to make room and reach more people to hear the message of Jesus. In anticipation of all of those to come, our church jumped in to serve and make this happen.

#### 651 VCREW VOLUNTEER TEAM MEMBERS.







#### **VGROUPS**

This past year, we revamped our small group model to better serve the needs of our church. With four different VGroup types we have seen an influx of growth in both those getting in on community and those stepping up and into VGroup leadership.

11 VGROUP COACHES. 78 VGROUP LEADERS. 471 VGROUP ATTENDEES.







# Church Engagement, Cont.

## **DISCIPLESHIP & PRAYER**

#### **VALLEY NIGHTS**

This year, we continued to build upon the momentum of our Wednesday discipleship classes, Valley Nights. We hosted a litany of classes throughout the year like: Basics 101, Christian Ethics, Kingdom Laws, Financial Peace University, Gospels Deep Dive and The Authority Of The Believer. We loved seeing the passion of our church family as they grew deeper in their knowledge of God's Word.

#### 344 VALLEY NIGHTS GRADUATES.







#### MONDAY MORNING PRAYER

In March, on the heels of our first Vision Sunday since the transition, we launched Monday Morning Prayer. We gathered every Monday morning all year long to pave the path God was calling us to walk on all year. We loved seeing a consistent group of 50 people turn up every Monday to cover our church, city, nation and world in prayer.

#### 42 HOURS OF CORPORATE PRAYER.









# Women's Ministry

## **VALLEY GIRLS SOCIAL - NEVER WALK ALONE**

We continued to form and invest into our Valley Girls Social identity and culture. We hosted a free spring gathering for women of all ages in our church in 2023. We keep sensing the felt need for the women of the House to gather and grow in discipleship, community and be equipped for evangelism as we build history with Jesus and one another. We can't wait to come together in 2024 with three events on the horizon.

#### 484 WOMEN GATHERED IN THE NAME OF JESUS.



# **Family Ministries**

## PRESCHOOL, ELEMENTARY & MIDDLE SCHOOL

#### A CHURCH TO GROW UP IN.

The Gospel is for everyone and His church is for every generation! We are committed to being a church that maintains the faith from age to age and generation to generation. We count it a privilege and a responsibility to come alongside young families and assist in raising a generation of children to know and walk in a relationship with Jesus.

659 FAMILY MINISTRY KIDS MADE A DECISION TO FOLLOW JESUS.



# preschool

## Kidamazoo Junior

- 90 average Sunday attendance
- 159 first time visitors
- 38 child dedications
- 132 kids & adults at father-daughter dance



## elementary

#### Kidamazoo Studios

- 100 average Sunday attendance
- 170 first time visitors
- 517 decisions to follow Jesus
- 26 elementary kids at summer camp



# middle school

## Valley Youth JV

- 50 average Sunday attendance
- 91 first time visitors
- 142 decisions to follow Jesus
- 43 middle schoolers at summer camp

## **Next Generation Ministries**

## **HIGH SCHOOL & YOUNG ADULTS**

#### THE FUTURE IS BRIGHT.

We saw a great hunger grow for God in the hearts of high schoolers and young adults this year at VFC. Our youth group nearly doubled in size and had marked God moments throughout the year through retreats, summer camps and weekly Sunday night services. We also launched our young adults ministry that is focused on college students growing in Christ and finding community.

#### 58 NEXT GENERATION MINISTRY STUDENTS MADE A DECISION TO FOLLOW JESUS.



# high school

#### **Valley Youth**

50 average Sunday attendance

146 first time visitors

56 decisions to follow Jesus

62 high schoolers at summer camp



# young adults

## **Valley Young Adults**

34 average YA service attendance

20 average YA small group attendance

14 first time visitors

**02** decisions to follow Jesus





## **Local & Global Outreach**

## **VALLEY GROCERIES & THE BASICS WITH BETH**

#### **NEIGHBORHOODS AND NATIONS**

We had a great year in the outreach arm of the life of our church locally through Valley Groceries and globally through The Basics With Beth. Every Tuesday we were able to give out groceries and share the gospel with those in our "neighborhood" and everyday we're able to share the Basics of God's Word with the nations through Pray.com which now has over 490,000 subscribers. We also brought back Love Week and supported the Haiti orphanage for another year.





## local outreach

Valley Groceries

average people fed per weekhouseholds received meals

750 households received Christmas Dinner





## global outreach

The Basics with Beth

3 languages of BWB TV aired around the world: English, Farsi, Urdu

new language translation, Tamil, of Getting a Grip on the Basics

496,000 followers on pray.com





## love week

**Large Church Event** 

5,617 Pounds of groceries given away

712 Backpacks given away

2,137 People reached





## missions

#### **Haiti Orphanage & Mission Trip**

13 People sent on a mission trip to Peru

1,259 People ministered to in Peru

\$10,700 Financially given to Kominote Orphanage



# Church Builders Campaign

## **RUN FARTHER FASTER**

In May, in an effort to raise additional funds to help us take the baton into the next season of the church with momentum and support, we started our "Run Father Faster 2023 Church Builders Campaign." We set a goal to raise \$500,000 in this "over and above" giving campaign to...

- REACH the hurting and hungry through Valley Groceries and our Love Week event.
- RESOURCE believers around the world with the preaching of the Word and The Basics With Beth global teaching outreach.
- RESTORE fathers and sons through the Primal Path discipleship program and marriages and families through pastoral care.
- RECLAIM Biblical literacy through our Valley Nights discipleship classes, Valley Groups, and men's and women's ministries.
- · REFRESH pastors and ministry leaders through the Boom Network ministry events.
- REVIVE the next generation through weekly ministry and large-scale events in Kidamazoo, Valley Youth JV, Valley Youth, and Valley Young Adults.

The buy-in and commitment of our church family toward this campaign blew us away. Because of this campaign, we were able to do more than we originally planned and step into the year of transition with strength and momentum. We not only reached our goal but went beyond it and raised \$592,277.48.

CHURCH-BUILDERS CAMPAIGN GOAL: \$500,000 CHURCH BUILDERS CAMPAIGN FUNDS RAISED: \$592,277

# **Outreach Report**

DONATIONS/BENEVOLENCE/HONORARIUMS: \$79,200

LOCAL OUTREACH: \$855,577

This includes financial gifts and the value of "gifts in kind" from Valley Groceries, free books and online courses that were given away.

GLOBAL OUTREACH: \$238,214

This includes our financial support for missionaries, TV and podcast expenses, as well as the many "gifts in kind" we were able to give away through free books, ebooks, online courses and basics resources.

OUTREACH TOTAL: \$1,172,991

This is the total amount VFC was able to give away In 2022 through financial benevolence, donations, honorariums, free groceries, books, online courses and the value of other "gifts in kind."

# Financial Report

#### **SUMMARY OF LIABILITIES & EQUITY**

**Net Income** 

Total Assets, Properties & Equipment	\$12,146,753
Total Liabilities	\$5,659,065
Total Equity	\$6,487,688
SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS	
Revenue & Support  General Offerings & Contributions	\$4,188,317
Events/Tuition/Sales/Investments	\$183,018
Total Income	\$4,371,335
Expenses	\$1,510,625
Operating Expenses (Includes: Insurance, Admin, Interest, Utilities, IT, etc.)	
Human Resources Expenses (Includes: 27 Full-time Equivalent Employees, Employee Benefits, Development, Training, Payroll Taxes, Contract Labor, etc.)	\$1,706,353
Outreach Expenses (Includes: General Ministry Expenses, ValleyGroceries, The Basics with Beth TV/Outreach, Benevolence, Honorarium, etc.)	\$544,497
Total Expenses	\$3,771,475

\$599,860

# THE BEST IS YET TO COME.

