Dear Village Church Family,

The 2018-2019 ministry year was a year unlike any other in the history of our church! But in other ways, this past year was just like every other year in the history of our church. Allow me to explain....

Following 36 years of faithful ministry, Pastor Todd Habegger retired this past June. We have so much to be thankful for as we celebrate God’s faithfulness which was shown to us through both Todd’s and Marti’s lives and ministries! Their devotion to the Lord and to his Church was an example to us all – and while we were sad to say good-bye to them, we did so with deep gratitude and appreciation for all the ways that God blessed us through them!

This unprecedented transition brought us an unprecedented opportunity to assess what we sensed the Lord wanted to do in and through Village Church during this next season of our history. One way this discernment process unfolded was through the Elder Board and the Lead Pastor Search Committee investing countless hours throughout the year in seeking God’s will for who would eventually be called to serve as our church’s new Lead Pastor.

But another way this assessment unfolded was through the ministry of Rick Foster, who came to Village Church in June to serve as our Interim Pastor. Along with his wife, Lucy, Pastor Rick led our church through an intentional process which provided many opportunities for our church family to give input on how they sensed God wanted to move in our congregation. From that process, Rick presented us with a number of insights and recommendations, providing us with important guidance that will help us move forward as a church in the months and years to come!

However, in the midst of these unprecedented times of change and transition, the work of Village Church remained unchanged. Just as has been the case throughout our entire history, in 2018-2019 our church sought to be faithful to the work to which Jesus has called us: to faithfully proclaim biblical teaching, to make the Gospel message known through our words and actions, to make disciples who love God completely and who love others fully...the list could go on and on. The more things change, the more they stay the same, don’t they?

As you read this annual report, my hope and prayer is that you will be encouraged by reading stories about how God has been at work during this past ministry year. He has indeed been faithful to Village Church! And just as God has been faithful to us through the past 36 years, we move forward into the future with trust and confidence that this same God will continue to do a good work in us and through us...in ways that will bring great glory to the great name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

Serving Jesus with you,

Brandon Smith
Executive Pastor

From Christ the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

Ephesians 4:16, NIV
**ATTENDANCE**

**SUNDAY SERVICES**

**AVERAGE 834 people**

Average # of adults - **693**

Average # of kids - **141**

**THANKSGIVING SERVICE**

754 people

**CHRISTMAS EVE - 3 SERVICES**

1,577 people

**YOUTH MISSIONS FUNDRAISER**

380 people

**ASH WEDNESDAY - 5 SERVICES**

260 people

**GOOD FRIDAY - 3 SERVICES**

895 people

**EASTER - 3 SERVICES**

1,401 people

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

386 kids

**LIFESPORTS**

300 kids

= 25 people
WORSHIP

Village Church Worship Ministries exist to plan and facilitate life-changing worship environments for the members, regular attenders, and guests of our church.

Over 70 volunteers serve throughout the worship ministry in the areas of technical support, choir, orchestra, band, vocalists, drama, special music, planning and design. We give thanks for the contributions of everyone on our team! Recruiting and training volunteers for the technical support team will be an area of focus in the upcoming year.

Village Church worship volunteers and staff members successfully planned and executed several special worship services through the ministry year – including the Thanksgiving Celebration, Christmas Eve, Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday.

In December, Village Church sponsored a Christmas concert featuring Selah. The event was a complete sellout, as people from the church and community came together to celebrate the birth of Jesus. Much work was invested behind-the-scenes in the months and weeks leading up to the concert, as well as the night of the concert! We are thankful as well for the support provided by WMBI Radio (90.1 FM) throughout the planning process.

In May, the auditorium (along with other parts of the building) experienced a power surge which damaged a good amount of our technical equipment. It took several months to diagnose the full scope of the power surge – as well as to have damaged equipment repaired or replaced. Thankfully, we had a very positive experience partnering with our church’s insurance carrier, Brotherhood Mutual, as well as our equipment vendors as we rebuilt our systems.

For several years, Pastor Jason Carter had been sensing that the Lord was leading him into a new season of ministry, in which he could serve a church in a preaching/leadership role. In July 2019, Jason resigned from his role as Pastor of Worship Ministries at the Elders’ request, as the Elders sought to allow Jason to more fully pursue this new ministry calling. We thank Jason for the many contributions which he made in both public and behind-the-scenes ways during his 12 years on staff with our church. We fervently pray that God would watch over Jason, his wife Melanie, and their three children as they seek God’s leading for this next season of their lives and ministry.

Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord, let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation. Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song. For the Lord is the great God, the great King above gods.
Psalm 95:1-3
“Nobody ever outgrows Scripture; the book widens and deepens with our years.”

- Charles Spurgeon
Pastor Todd taught the bulk of our sermons throughout the year, but we were blessed to learn from other great teachers who are listed below:

Brandon Smith, Executive Pastor  
Dan Hays, High School Pastor  
Dr. Steve Jones, President of Missionary Church  
Dr. Wayne Johnson, Trinity Professor  
Tim Wise, Former Village Church Pastor  
Ken Snyder, Missionary Church Regional Director  
Wayne Okamoto, Former Village Church Pastor  
Jeff Van Etten, Former Village Church Pastor  
Paul Brandes, Former Village Church Pastor  
Leif Anderson, Former Village Church Pastor  
Rick Foster, Interim Lead Pastor
Missionaries we supported in FY 2019: 25 missionaries & 3 organizations

Where our missionaries serve: Spain - Russia - Philippines - Ireland - China - Malaysia - Kenya - Rwanda
U.S. - Indonesia - India - Nigeria - Middle East - Guatemala

Ministry Partners
During 2018-2019, our Global Outreach Team kept in contact with each of our missionaries, finding ways to come alongside of them and support them in their ongoing ministry - especially through prayer.

Also this past year, the Global Outreach Team decided to phase out our partnership with Pete & Lori Smith. This decision took place in the light of changes which transpired in the Smiths’ relationship with their sending agency. We thank God for the Smiths’ heart for serving God and serving others, and ask the Lord to continue using them in the years to come.

Visits
As our ministry partners pass through town, our Global Outreach Team found ways to engage in conversation with them - and provide opportunities for them to engage with people of Village Church. Our conversations with our ministry partners reminded us of the need to pray for them - not just for their ministry work, but also for them simply as people and as families. The challenges and pressures of serving cross-culturally are significant.

Thanksgiving Offering
Once again, the people of Village Church responded generously to our Thanksgiving Offering. Your contribution of over $48,000 allowed our church to make these kingdom investments:
• build a church in India, through our partnership with India Rural Evangelical Fellowship
• purchase a boat that will be used for medical and construction ministry among a least-reached people group in Indonesia, through our partnership with Christ For The Island World
• reach our neighbors as we considered what it means for us as a church to minister to those closest to our church - specifically, Woodland Intermediate School and Northlake Farms Apartments.
Hello! My name is Jen Davenport, and I had the pleasure of joining the Co-ed Summer Mission Team to Guatemala.

Our first night in Guatemala brought us to La Limonada to sit in on a scholarship meeting. La Limonada is the largest slum in Central America. Many ministries do not come to La Limonada because of the dangerous conditions. There is heavy gang activity that can be very dangerous to people trying to come in and serve the people in this area.

Over the last 10 years, Hope Renewed has been able to build relational bridges that are reaching people by providing educational opportunities to broaden their chances that they avoid gang activity and can provide a stable life for their families.

The scholarship program is available for kids and adults interested in continuing their educations. The Guatemalan government only pays for schooling through the 6th grade and many families cannot financially provide for their kids to continue school past 6th grade. Hope Renewed is able to provide scholarships, through people like you, who graciously sponsor children and adults, by providing the financial resources to allow them to further their educations.

The weekly scholarship meetings are held at the home of a Hope Renewed staff member. During these meetings the participants are able to receive academic help and support. I was able to meet one very special little girl named Angely. Angely currently attends a school through the Chinese Embassy. She is 12 years old, and the same age as my oldest son, Brady. Her smile lit up the room when she walked in. Even though I didn’t speak Spanish, God made a way and we connected immediately. Angely is a gifted dancer. Our family is now providing resources to allow the financial burden of her dance needs to be met.

Because of Hope Renewed, we are caring for people, giving them a hand up and not a hand out, and equipping them with the skills to be able to rise above their circumstances. Many of these scholars in this program wish to attend university and return to La Limonada to help others in their community.

Thank you for your prayers and your support of our team’s ministry!
Once again in 2018-2019, we saw the Lord do many good things through the Local Outreach Ministries of Village Church of Gurnee - and we thank him for what he has done!

**Partner Ministries & Agencies**
Village Church was pleased to work alongside of Love INC and Kindred Life Ministries again this past year; volunteers committed to serve on a regular basis in a variety of capacities, such as delivering furniture and mentoring & discipling teen moms. Both of these ministries continue to impact the lives of others in the community in positive ways and we are excited to partner with them.

**Collection Drives**
Village Church participated in two church-wide collection drives (Food Drive - September; Backpack/Teacher Supplies - July/August). The average teacher spends hundreds of their dollars on supplies for the classroom each year, and it was our hope to assist with that need. We had 16 teachers from Waukegan and Gurnee school districts come through the Teachers’ Store. We had additional supplies and were able to send 52 backpacks, filled by our Thrive ministry, to schools in need. We had 27 Village Church people volunteer in various phases of this program and over 70 families donated. For our annual Food Drive we collected approximately 110 boxes of food and paper products and nearly $1,700 for Northern Illinois Food Bank. It is such a blessing for us as a church to be able to help meet tangible needs in our community.

Thank you to all who have contributed to God’s work in Local Outreach!

**PRAYER**

**Events**
- Led 5 Hour of Power prayer gatherings (November, December, March, April, May)
- September 2018: Led a Prayer Walk inside and outside of Village Church to bathe the ministries of Village Church in prayer as we began the new ministry year
- October 2018: Gathered with other churches in Gurnee to pray for the Explore God Chicago emphasis
- August 2019: With Pastor Rick, initiated a 21 Days of Prayer emphasis for Village Church as we entered a pivotal time of the transition process
- Special calls to prayer were given to the congregation throughout the year as part of the Lead Pastor search process
- 132 prayer warriors were engaged through the church’s email prayer chain

*Prayer should not be regarded as a duty which must be performed, but rather as a privilege to be enjoyed, a rare delight that is always revealing some new beauty.*

E. M. Bounds
Baptisms
Fiscal year 2019: 15
Total-to-date: 1,155

Celebrating Todd’s Ministry

In June 2019, Pastor Todd Habegger retired from his role as Senior Pastor following 36 years of faithful ministry serving not just at Village Church, but also in different capacities within the Gurnee community and within the Missionary Church. In the Sundays following Easter, the Village Church family entered into a season of celebration as we gave thanks to God for the faithful ministry of Pastor Todd and Marti.

During this time of celebration, we were overjoyed to welcome back to Village Church special guest speakers including Wayne Okamoto, Jeff Van Etten, Paul Brandes, and Leif Anderson; and special worship leaders including Ted Wilson, Matt Walberg, Brenden Frank, and Nathan Brand. During these worship services, other people shared how the Lord had used Todd and Marti to be a blessing to them through the years – and while all of these testimonies were special, the most special words of tribute were shared by Todd and Marti’s daughters, Erin and Kristin, and their families!

On June 2, Pastor Todd preached his final sermon as our Senior Pastor from Revelation 22, calling attention to the last words of the Bible as his last words to our congregation. Following those services, nearly 1,000 people (including many who traveled back to Gurnee for this historic Sunday) enjoyed a catered picnic celebration lunch, highlighted by the presentation of several gifts to Todd and Marti.

We thank everyone who worked so diligently behind-the-scenes to arrange the special services and other events connected with this celebration season. Most of all, we give thanks to God for the ways he has used Todd and Marti to be a blessing to us all – and we look forward to how God will continue to use them to bless others as they enter into this new chapter of life and ministry!
In August 2018, Pastor JP Mertens announced that he would be stepping down from his role as Adult Ministries Pastor at Village Church. JP was sensing God’s leading to pursue new avenues of ministry, and enrolled in a master’s program in Christian counseling through Colorado Christian University.

We were thankful that Pastor JP was able to continue serving at Village Church throughout the fall of 2018, helping us prepare for this leadership transition. One of JP’s primary areas of focus during this time was to encourage small groups to participate in the “Explore God Chicago” emphasis, which took place during January-February 2019.

Following JP’s departure, Groups Ministry entered into a holding pattern of sorts. While this area of ministry is very important to Village Church, the way in which the church approaches small group ministry must be fully aligned with the church’s overall mission, vision, and ministry philosophy. One of the “Big Rocks” identified in Pastor Rick’s church assessment summary called attention Village Church’s need to clarify its ministry vision – a need which Village Church leadership wholeheartedly affirms.

While Village Church enters into this season of seeking God’s will for our future, members of the church office work together to help people connect with the dozens of small groups which continue to meet on a weekly or bi-weekly basis. These groups provide vital support for people throughout Village Church, offering ways for people to practice the one anothers of Scripture in community with one another.

We look forward to seeing what God will do through the Groups ministry of Village Church in the years ahead, as we align ourselves with the vision that we sense the Lord Jesus is placing before us!
MEN

Men's One-Day Retreat - October
About 40 men gathered at Camp Hickory for a one-day retreat. This year we featured a panel discussion led by Pastor Todd Habegger and included Edward Jackson, Sr. and Joe Streeter. In addition to the great teaching, the men enjoyed a day of fun activities, team building and a steak dinner.

Men's Breakfast - November
For the second year we saluted our veterans and active service people. Dads were encouraged to bring their sons (6th grade and older). We were blessed to have General Charles “Chuck” Whittington as our guest speaker again.

No Regrets Conference - February
As in past years we have joined with men from many other area congregations at Gurnee Community Church for the No Regrets conference, which is streamed live from Elmbrook Church near Milwaukee, WI.

No Man Left Behind Conference - March
Village Church hosted a Man in the Mirror (MIM) Ministries live-streamed conference that provided great leadership training. We had 8 men from our leadership team along with about 70 men’s ministry leaders from Illinois, Wisconsin, and Indiana.

Dads & Kids Adventure Breakfast - May
About 60 dads and kids attended this event that was aimed at giving the dads & kids something fun to do while moms were at the Women's Spring Retreat. We had a great breakfast and had fun doing an egg drop.

Father's Day - June
This is always a great opportunity to let men know that Village Church values them. This is the 2nd year we gave away a cold can of Dad’s Root Beer.

Bags & BBQ - August
It was our 5th annual Bags & BBQ! The purpose of this event is to get men to connect and encourage our men to invite a friend, neighbor or coworker. This year we had around 90 men show up to play team bags (corn hole) and enjoy outstanding food from Mission BBQ.

Weekly Study Groups
Our 4 regular weekly groups are going strong and helping men get connected and grow in God’s Word. The men who lead these groups are to be commended. They love the men they serve and effectively lead them closer to Christ. There has been significant growth and transformed lives in these groups.

Pure Desire
This program is focused on sexual addiction. Stats say over 60% of men in Evangelical churches are struggling with pornography. The men in this group are committed to doing the hard work to overcome this addiction. More men have come to this group and there are plans to start another.

The Team
Each of the men on this leadership team understands what it means to be the loving spiritual leader in their family, church, and community. Each of them is actively discipling other men and serving at Village Church. We have seen a trend toward a greater diversity among our men...from millennials to retirees and men from nearly every race are connecting and growing together in Christ.
WOMEN

Study Groups
God’s Word is alive and active, drawing us to become more Christlike wherever we are in life. It’s been a joy to see God used faithful women to lead studies and encourage women to be a light to the world for Christ.

• We have so many gifted leaders invested in helping women grow in study of God’s Word while connecting with other ladies and doing life together
• There were 5 different groups, each consisting of 12-24 women at a time, meeting throughout the year.

Events
Each event is designed to bring women together both formally and informally to build friendships with the intent to strengthen our relationship to God. Over 250 women came together to be encouraged, to strengthen their walk, sharpen their disciple-making skills, and just have fun together.

• Ladies S’mores Night
• Christmas Gathering - a HUGE thank you to the men who helped serve the women that night. The service project was creating gift packs for the young men of One Hope United. Secret Sister was also introduced with 30 women participating throughout the year.
• IF: Gathering Simulcast: Women from the area came together for teaching on disciple-making to faithfully and lovingly serve a world in need of knowing Jesus
• Bunco Night
• Spring Retreat: Almost 100 women, ages 16-84, attended at Conference Point Center on Geneva Lake in Williams Bay, WI.
• Women’s Scholarship Note: over $1,000 was given to help women attend retreat and other activities, including lowering the costs for our 2 amazing high school ladies who joined us at retreat.
• Women’s Campout: Women enjoyed connecting, being encouraged, and having fun with activities and a scavenger hunt at Riverbend RV Resort in Watertown, WI

Single Moms
This group of about 8 women and their kids met weekly to share a church-provided dinner and Bible study. The time was divided between study of Scripture and The Unseen Companion by Michelle Lynn Senters, drawing on Scripture to see God at work in the single mother’s journey.

God is and continues to be faithful in the lives of the women of Village through his servant leaders. We are truly in awe and gratitude and can’t wait to see what he does in the new year.
WOMEN

MOMS (Making Our Mothering Significant)

In its 29th year, MOMS continued to serve the women in our church and community by teaching scriptural truths, fostering friendships, and enriching families. 85 women met weekly in morning and evening groups to study God’s Word and encourage each other. The women were challenged and grew by reading Pierced & Embraced by Kelli Worrall and studying the book of James in Mercy Triumphs by Beth Moore. One participant said, “I am growing closer to God through these studies.” Another noted, “I have been able to apply what I’ve studied and learned to my family.” Praise God!

36 children learned about our loving Father in the Kid Town child care program. Having their children cared for by an amazing team of volunteers allows these moms to refuel so they can continue to pour into their families and other people God has placed in their lives.

Recharge

In its 6th year, this community of women continues to be a place where moms found connection and support.

- About 55 women met twice a month for presentations and crafting
- Over 65 children were cared for by 24 volunteers.

Recharge was a safe place for moms in our community to be encouraged, find parenting perspective, and enjoy a short break from mothering. We launched an Alpha course in the fall and were thrilled to have 12 moms attend.

Events:
Over 120 community family members participated.
- Family S’mores night
- Packing meals at Feed My Starving Children
- Date night
- Kenosha Kingfish baseball game
- Christian Youth Theater - Wizard of Oz
- Open Gym events

Thank you for your support of Recharge. It is the leadership team’s desire to build trust among community moms so that we can build relationships, for it is through relationship that spiritual fruit can grow.
We’ve had a great year helping kids come to faith in Jesus and follow him more so that more follow Jesus. Our creative staff and volunteers served faithfully to provide kid-friendly programs and events that taught biblical truths. Here are some of the ways Kid Zone Ministries have had an impact for kingdom building in Gurnee, surrounding communities, and around the world.

**Kid Zone Sundays**
Kids nursery-5th grade met at 9 & 10:45am. Each Bible truth was taught creatively and was followed up with application and connect activities in a small group format intended to bring them closer to God as they deepened their knowledge of the Bible and came to understand the character of God and person of Jesus Christ. Our kids made beaded bracelets for children in the Philippines; Christian children will give them to friends who do not know Jesus and share the gospel message using the bead colors. **19** children accepted Christ as their personal Savior.

**Kid Town**
This ministry boasts **35** childcare volunteers and staff who provided childcare for the following ministries:
- MOMS, Recharge, Single Moms
- Kid Trek, volunteers’ children
- Groups, outreach events, and special services

**Kid Trek**
This ministry met on Wednesday evenings for two 10-week sessions. Over **90** children chose one of three age-group programs (Explorers, Voyagers, Adventurers) or excursion class (Primary Praise or LifeSteps).

We had **2** special events this past year for our Kid Trek families where over **250** people attended:
- Kid Trek Christmas Celebration
- David Caine, Juggler for Jesus

**More Than A Snack**
**5** children and their parents explored the what, where, when, who and why of communion and then participated in the Village Church Good Friday communion service.

**HomeGrown: Home School Ministry**
HomeGrown met on Mondays, September to May. They ministered to **22** families throughout the year, offering small and large group activities. They also participated in **2** service projects, **2** field trips, and several mom encouragement times.

**Western Bonanza**
Kid Zone hosted Western Bonanza, a wonderful outreach event for Village Church family and the community. **250** kids and parents attended. This was a fun event providing games, prizes, farm animals, face painting, inflatables, crafts, a Vacation Bible School character hunt, treats, hayrides, and a Kid Zone hoedown.
Kid Zone Summer

- Big Blast Ministries kicked off our summer in June with a fabulous show filled with illusion, balloons, music, puppets, and Bible stories.
- Vacation Bible School (VBS): The Knights of the Lord’s Table took place in June. 207 VBS volunteers served 386 children. 41 kids gave their hearts to Jesus. VBS kids raised $3,772 to help fund preschool supplies for the underprivileged served by Hope Renewed International in Guatemala and to Stephen Bahago’s Word of Life youth camps in Nigeria, Africa.
- LifeSports Camps were held over two weeks in July and 300 campers attended. Camps offered: backyard games, badminton, baseball, basketball, cheerleading/poms, flag football, OPS, soccer, Step it Up, t-ball, team sports, track & field, and volleyball. Kids raised $1,415 for preschool supplies for Hope Renewed International in Guatemala.
- We hosted Christian Youth Theater Camps in June and August.

Early Learning Village (ELV)

ELV is an early childhood, Monday-Wednesday-Friday mornings program for children ages 15 months through pre-kindergarten. In the 2018-2019 school year, we had 90 children registered (78 families); 37 families attended Village Church, 20 families are affiliated with local Christian churches, and 21 children’s church affiliations were unknown. Early Learning Village employed 6 lead teachers and 8 assistant teachers. Jean Earhart served as the director and Amy Smith as the administrative assistant. 8 people served on the ELV Committee. Many ELV families attend Kid Zone events and 2 families have begun attending Village Church on a regular basis.
STUDENTS

Salt & Light Middle School Ministry

Tuesdays
We focused on helping students follow Jesus more...so that more follow Jesus. Our theme for the year was UNIQUE: God made you on purpose! Together we focused on valuing the unique way we are each created and using that uniqueness to be a blessing to others. We also joined the church-wide Explore God emphasis as we explored some of the big questions of faith and life. We averaged around 50 students and about 25 leaders. Accountability and depth was encouraged in all small groups which provided our students with transformational relationships. We had several Breakaway nights where students spend time together with their small group doing an activity. Students also learned how we can use our unique gifts by serving at Love INC and Feed My Starving Children.

Sunday Mornings
We fulfilled our mission and took a more in-depth biblical study approach than we do on Tuesday nights. We split into a 6th/7th grade group and an 8th grade group. Both groups focused on diving deep into the Word of God and finding application for it in their lives.

Winter Retreat
In January, our students attended the WinterXtreme camp at Timber-lee Christian Center. It was an amazing weekend of winter activities, friendship, and chapel sessions where we focused on the theme Remain. We had 46 students and 13 leaders attend this life-changing weekend. This is a huge bonding experience for our students and solidifies a trust that is being developed between peers and leaders.

8th Grade Retreat
The goal of this retreat is to help students see how God was faithful to them in middle school...and look forward to the adventure he is calling them to in high school. The retreat was hosted locally and included an opportunity to serve at Love INC. We had 24 students and 8 leaders in attendance.

CDYC (Central District Youth Convention)
37 students and 13 leaders attended this life-changing event at Bethel College in Indiana. This year our theme was Collision. Through the week we were thrilled to see our students challenged in their faith, take key steps in their walk with Jesus, and build relationships with one another. Students signed up for tracks where they participated in activities based on their interest: basketball, volleyball, nerf, serve, and art. We have so much to celebrate on the great work the Lord did at CDYC!

SUMMER EVENTS
During the summer months, our middle school students enjoyed a number of special activites: Frisbee golf, art night, water fun night, and a beach party at Jones Island Park. Pastor Aaron also led several morning gatherings at Chick-fil-A called Bible & Biscuits.
STUDENTS

24/7 High School Ministry

Sunday Night Ministry

Our theme for the year was THRIVE! We focused on living out a full, fruitful, life-giving faith. In the fall, we looked deeply into what it means to really love Thy Neighbor. In January, we joined the all-church journey of Explore God, as we dove into some of the deep questions of faith. We finished the year challenging our students to THRIVE in the face of the many wildfires raging against us. Small groups are a core element of our ministry; students ended the night in one of our 7 small groups to discuss the message and walk through life together. We also had several special focus nights, including Christmas in Chicago, where 60 students and mentors spent time together in the city.

Sunday Morning Ministry

Sunday mornings present multiple opportunities for our high school students; they can attend worship services, serve in some capacity, and attend our weekly Sunday Morning Ministry class, where we focused heavily on discipleship and studying the Bible.

Fall & Winter Retreats

Last October, we continued the exciting tradition of teaming with other area youth ministries for our annual Fall ONE Retreat! In total, 75 students and leaders from three churches attended the retreat, held at Expeditions Unlimited in Baraboo, WI. We focused on the theme Breathe, and challenged students to place a high priority on their one-on-one devotional life with Christ.

Our Winter Retreat was held in January at Silver Birch Ranch in Wisconsin. We had 45 students and leaders who experienced a fun-packed and heart-moving weekend. We were blessed to have a former student, Brock O’Dell, as our retreat speaker. Brock led our students through the theme, Planted, as we walked through key passages in Colossians.

Youth Missions

77 students and leaders served on our three youth mission teams: Love Thy Neighbor (Waukegan), Camp Barnabas (Missouri), and the Navajo Nation (New Mexico). In preparation, teams participated in the annual Youth Missions fundraiser, a service retreat at Conference Point Center in Wisconsin, mentor meetings, and spiritual growth opportunities. There is much to celebrate in all the students’ stories.

CDYC (Central District Youth Conference)

45 students and leaders attended our annual summer camp, CDYC, held at Bethel College. The theme was Wonder, together we celebrated the wonder of God and encouraged students to approach life and faith with wonder. Pastor Dan continued serving on the CDYC Planning Committee, providing oversight and direction.

Youth Missions

45 students and leaders who experienced a full-packed and heart-moving weekend. We were blessed to have a former student, Brock O’Dell, as our retreat speaker. Brock led our students through the theme, Planted, as we walked through key passages in Colossians.

Seniors ONLY

Our seniors are in a strategic place in their lives; and our Seniors ONLY ministry has sought to pour into them. We held 4 meetings seeking to equip them to remain strong in the race of faith and propel forward into a thriving, life-long journey of following Jesus.
This past year, the Congregational Care Team has taken action and provided assistance on a number of different occasions. The generous giving of the Village Church family allowed the team to address needs such as providing assistance with mortgage and rent payments, utility bills, emergency home repairs, gas and grocery cards, and other tangible needs.

As we look to the future, we hope to find ways to continue making people aware of the opportunities that exist for Congregational Care. We are thankful for the ways that small groups are stepping up to care for people within their groups! — and are interested in exploring ways we can build the partnership between our small groups and our Congregational Care team.

We thank the people of Village Church for their continued faithfulness in giving to this vital ministry!
Welcome

• As was the case in many areas of ministry throughout Village Church, the 2018-2019 ministry year was a year of transition in Welcome Ministry. In March, Cara Bruinius stepped down from her role on staff overseeing this ministry area, though we were thankful for her willingness to continue serving as a volunteer with our team!

• Due to financial considerations, an attempt was made to give leadership to this area of ministry by delegating different tasks and responsibilities to different staff members in the church office and different volunteers. It became quickly evident, though, that this approach would be insufficient to meet the needs and opportunities present in this area of ministry!

• This need was magnified even further in the late summer, as Pastor Rick’s church assessment summary called attention to better caring for our first-time guests. As FY19 drew to a close, steps were already being taken to give needed attention to our newcomers ministry – from a staffing standpoint, from a work flow standpoint, and in other ways as well!

• Throughout this time of change, dozens of faithful people continued to serve in volunteer roles as ushers, greeters, welcome/information center representatives, in the coffee shop, with the Kid Zone security team members, as hospitality workers, and in our church library. We appreciate the dedication that each of these people have shown to providing all our church attenders with a warm, welcoming experience every time they join us for worship services – and at other times as well!

Safety

Village Church of Gurnee promotes safety for several reasons. For example, abiding by safety guidelines in ministry provides the best possible environment for protecting children, youth, and vulnerable adults. In addition, providing regular safety training equips volunteers to know what to do in the event of an emergency. Also, Village Church promotes safety so ministry can be done in a way that is above reproach - thus protecting the church’s reputation, and even more importantly, the reputation of Christ in the community.

In 2018-2019, Village Church sponsored several separate events in which safety training was provided for a combined 165 staff members and volunteers. Our large group training called Equip brought together many volunteers for safety & ministry training. It was a time to energize and equip our volunteers for a safe ministry season.

Also during the 2018-2019 ministry year, we trained 10 ushers and several other volunteers in AED/CPR/First Aid training. In addition, the safety status of approximately 500 people was monitored.

It requires a lot of work on the part of many people to provide a safe, supportive environment for the people and ministries of Village Church. We thank everyone for their cooperation this past year as we pursued that goal, and we thank everyone in advance for their continued cooperation during the new ministry year!
ELECTED LEADERSHIP

Deaconesses
We are thankful for the faithful service the Deaconesses played in preparing elements for the corporate observance of the Communion, and assisting with the female baptism candidates. Deaconesses also provided care for women who were homebound or were in the hospital; discussions are underway to involve the deaconesses even more in this ministry in the future.

Executive Committee
The Executive Committee is responsible for the annual budget and to make recommendations to the Elder Board for major financial matters of the church. We thank them for providing financial leadership and oversight. Further information is available in the Financial Report.

Trustee Board
The Trustees are charged with maintaining the facilities and grounds where Village Church begins its ministries – and then moves out into the world. Examples of the Trustees’ ministry include:

- Served each Sunday to support facility-related needs throughout the morning
- Replaced the auditorium roof over the summer
- Provided lawn care and snow removal as well as lawn/snow equipment maintenance
- Completed significant parking lot repairs
- Lead team for the Fall & Spring Work Days

Elder Board
The Elder Board oversees the spiritual health and doctrinal fidelity of Village Church. During 2018-2019, much of the Elder Board’s work centered on the Lead Pastor search process and the Interim Pastor search process. Also, the Elder Board began interacting with the findings and the recommendations emerging from the church assessment summary which Pastor Rick Foster prepared throughout the summer. Additional issues related to the church staff and the congregation were addressed as well.

ELECTED LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Elders
Tom Mattingly
John Clemens
Gerry Frank
Jim Fabrie
Brad DeJong
Edward Jackson II
H. Wayne Johnson
Larry Wolfgram
Tom Guenther
Brandon Smith
Todd Habegger

Executive Committee
Kristin Bos
Cynthia Cobb
Dave Goles
Steve Mengyan - Treasurer
Jaime Robles
Bryan Dean
Additional Members:
Brad DeJong - Elder
Marlon Hagen - Trustee
Todd Habegger
Brandon Smith

Trustees
Marlon Hagen
Ron Mika
Tom Wolfgram
Tuck Badgley
Jolene Portegys
Jeremy Talbot
Kevin Duray
Scott McLeod
Dan Null

Nominating Committee
Amanda Mika
Jim Pellitteri
Megan Twadell

Deaconesses
Kelly Moberg
Joni Spears
Sue Frank
Heather Robbins
Jen Bean
Linda Evans
Sandy Mattson

Carol McGill
Martha Roberts
Mary Jo Keller
Dawn Schwartz
Joan Okamoto
Marianne Getz
FINANCIAL FAQ’s

WHERE DO MY DONATIONS GO?

Undesignated Giving: Undesignated gifts to Village Church support the church’s ongoing ministries and operations.

Debt Reduction Fund: 100% of dollars received for this fund pay down the existing mortgage of the church building. At our current rate of giving, we anticipate the mortgage to be fully paid off sometime in the spring of 2020.

Special Funds: From time to time, opportunities are available to designate a contribution to a specific ministry opportunity.

HOW DOES VILLAGE CHURCH UPHOLD FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY?

Boards: Both the Elder Board and Executive Committee are comprised of individuals with qualifications listed in the church bylaws, and are nominated and voted into their respective roles during the annual business meeting by official church members.

Budget: In accordance with the church bylaws, the Executive Committee helps the treasurer and church staff prepare the proposed ministry year budget consistent with the approved strategies, goals, and objectives of the church. A quorum of no less than one-fourth of the voting membership (including absentee votes) is required for final approval of the annual budget.

Major Purchases: The Executive Committee meets regularly and makes recommendations to the Elder Board regarding the purchase or sale of property and the borrowing of money.

Staff Compensation: The Human Resources Committee establishes specific compensation packages for each employee of the church, in conjunction with general parameters determined by the Elder Board and Executive Committee.

Audits & Reviews: In the fall of 2018 Village Church conducted a full audit, working once again with Capin Crouse. Based on Capin Crouse’s recommendation, Village Church may choose in the future to do full audits less frequently than every two years; in years where a full audit is not done, an external review will still be performed.

GROW Finance

We are thankful for God’s generous provision for our church during this past ministry year - and we are thankful for the generous giving of God’s people, which helps make our ministry possible!

We seek to be good stewards of the financial resources God has entrusted to us, aiming to strategically invest these funds for Kingdom-building work. The staff members who oversee different aspects of our ministry budget are to be commended for the diligence they have shown in managing these resources during the 2018-2019 ministry year.

Undesignated giving for 2018-2019 was less than what was forecasted. The first four months of the fiscal year (September-December) lagged far behind giving in the previous year, but the final eight months rebounded somewhat. Overall, FY19 undesignated giving finished at just over $1,953,000, which represents a $99,000 decline from the previous fiscal year.

Mid-year adjustments were made to the spending plan, in an effort to help the church function within its reduced means. We are thankful that, even in the midst of receiving lower undesignated giving, we have been able to taper off use of our Storehouse funds earlier than anticipated! We are also thankful that donor-preferenced giving to specific projects and accounts (such as Thanksgiving Offering) continues to be strong.

We were once again encouraged by the results of our Fall 2018 external audit which was performed by Capin Crouse, a highly-regarded accounting firm which specializes in working with churches and other non-profit entities. Their audit, combined with a report card providing analysis of other key metrics, showed that Village Church has a solid foundation in place with both its finances and its financial procedures.

In this upcoming year, we wait upon the Lord with hope, trust, and confidence in him, asking for his continued faithful provision for Village Church. We anticipate paying off our mortgage sometime in the upcoming fiscal year, and look forward to the opportunities this will present for us. May God also give us wisdom in all the decisions we will make, so that Kingdom-building work can advance through our congregation!

Steve Mengyan, Treasurer
Brandon Smith, Executive Pastor
## VILLAGE CHURCH OF GURNEE
### FY 2019 BUDGET

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>FY19 Approved</th>
<th>FY19 Final</th>
<th>FY18 Final</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>INCOME</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undesignated Gifts</td>
<td>2,060,000</td>
<td>1,953,240</td>
<td>2,152,332</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Income</td>
<td>6,000</td>
<td>8,467</td>
<td>8,298</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debt Reduction Giving</td>
<td>193,000</td>
<td>144,211</td>
<td>187,872</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment from &quot;Storehouse Funds&quot;</td>
<td>65,172</td>
<td>14,018</td>
<td>44,067</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL INCOME</strong></td>
<td>2,324,172</td>
<td>2,119,936</td>
<td>2,392,569</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>FY19 Approved</th>
<th>FY19 Final</th>
<th>FY18 Final</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SALARIES/BENEFITS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salaries</td>
<td>1,046,600</td>
<td>1,019,133</td>
<td>1,043,262</td>
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<tr>
<td>All Benefits</td>
<td>189,324</td>
<td>166,950</td>
<td>220,009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SALARIES/BENEFITS SUBTOTAL</strong></td>
<td>1,235,924</td>
<td>1,186,083</td>
<td>1,263,271</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>BUILDING</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building Operations &amp; Maint.</td>
<td>172,959</td>
<td>163,738</td>
<td>161,694</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintenance Reserve (Bldg + Worship)</td>
<td>48,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>105,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asset Additions (Capital Items)</td>
<td>27,000</td>
<td>20,910</td>
<td>44,470</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principal Payments - Debt Red. Giving</td>
<td>193,000</td>
<td>144,211</td>
<td>187,872</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principal Payments - Scheduled</td>
<td>94,660</td>
<td>95,223</td>
<td>91,016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest</td>
<td>17,676</td>
<td>16,704</td>
<td>20,915</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>BUILDING SUBTOTAL</strong></td>
<td>553,295</td>
<td>440,786</td>
<td>610,967</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>REACH</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global Outreach</td>
<td>173,620</td>
<td>166,396</td>
<td>176,919</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Outreach</td>
<td>23,460</td>
<td>23,758</td>
<td>23,521</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evangelism</td>
<td>8,710</td>
<td>7,547</td>
<td>7,668</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denominational Outreach</td>
<td>84,000</td>
<td>79,650</td>
<td>85,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>REACH SUBTOTAL</strong></td>
<td>289,790</td>
<td>277,351</td>
<td>293,108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>MINISTRIES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>66,774</td>
<td>62,185</td>
<td>53,212</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leadership</td>
<td>10,400</td>
<td>9,594</td>
<td>9,249</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comm/Bulletin/Library/Book Shop</td>
<td>21,300</td>
<td>15,948</td>
<td>18,463</td>
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<tr>
<td>Safety</td>
<td>4,050</td>
<td>3,138</td>
<td>2,828</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Worship/Tech Ministries</td>
<td>16,684</td>
<td>24,621</td>
<td>17,497</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Welcome Ministries</td>
<td>6,550</td>
<td>4,108</td>
<td>4,599</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kitchen/Hospitality Ministry</td>
<td>6,250</td>
<td>4,060</td>
<td>5,836</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Life</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>(10)</td>
<td>1,560</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children</td>
<td>24,680</td>
<td>17,222</td>
<td>17,008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kid Town - Child Care</td>
<td>17,050</td>
<td>16,664</td>
<td>15,887</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle School</td>
<td>16,600</td>
<td>16,223</td>
<td>17,638</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High School</td>
<td>21,500</td>
<td>22,348</td>
<td>22,592</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>462</td>
<td>916</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult Ministries</td>
<td>24,365</td>
<td>15,591</td>
<td>30,375</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ministry Contingency</td>
<td>5,000</td>
<td>1,763</td>
<td>5,615</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guest Speakers</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pastoral Care, Bereavement</td>
<td>1,860</td>
<td>1,799</td>
<td>1,948</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>MINISTRIES SUBTOTAL</strong></td>
<td>245,163</td>
<td>215,716</td>
<td>225,223</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td>2,324,172</td>
<td>2,119,936</td>
<td>2,392,569</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**BALANCE SHEET**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>8/31/2019 (Reviewed)</th>
<th>8/31/2018 (Audited)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ASSETS:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash and cash equivalents</td>
<td>250,269</td>
<td>418,761</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
<td>200,000</td>
<td>200,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other assets</td>
<td>35,497</td>
<td>22,211</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land, buildings and equipment, net</td>
<td>6,713,680</td>
<td>6,870,892</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets:</strong></td>
<td>7,199,446</td>
<td>7,511,864</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liabilities:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts payable and accrued expenses</td>
<td>110,212</td>
<td>105,452</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long term debt</td>
<td>256,396</td>
<td>491,829</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities:</strong></td>
<td>366,608</td>
<td>597,281</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net assets:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unrestricted:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net assets without donor restrictions</td>
<td>6,756,833</td>
<td>6,846,974</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net assets with donor restrictions</td>
<td>76,005</td>
<td>67,609</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities and Net Assets:</strong></td>
<td>6,832,838</td>
<td>6,914,583</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note:** At the August 25 membership meeting, it was announced that payment for replacing the auditorium roof would likely be reflected after the new fiscal year began. However, as we closed out FY19, and in conjunction with our external review process, the cost of the new roof is now reflected in FY19 instead of FY20, and has been capitalized as a fixed asset within this final FY19 balance sheet. This change is simply a timing issue related to the fiscal year closeout; Village Church is able to move forward into FY20 with the cost of the new roof already taken into account.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Paul Alleman</td>
<td>Men’s Coordinator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larry Burke</td>
<td>Maintenance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kay Chiappetta</td>
<td>Props &amp; Sets Coordinator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suzann Clemens</td>
<td>Music Director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jen Davenport</td>
<td>Administrative Assistant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Martha Dondit</td>
<td>Kid Zone Director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diane Durkin</td>
<td>Finance Coordinator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jean Earhart</td>
<td>Early Learning Village Director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meg Fitzpatrick</td>
<td>Administrative Assistant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rick Foster</td>
<td>Interim Lead Pastor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dan Hays</td>
<td>High School Pastor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joy Helfers</td>
<td>Recharge Coordinator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pam Jensen</td>
<td>Administrative Assistant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roger Kendall</td>
<td>Custodian Supervisor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aaron Mead</td>
<td>Middle School Pastor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shynell Newell</td>
<td>Administrative Assistant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tyler Nelson</td>
<td>Custodian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dan Null</td>
<td>Facility Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wendy Pellitteri</td>
<td>Human Resources/Office Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Craig Worrall</td>
<td>Administrative Assistant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sharon Radek</td>
<td>OSS &amp; Administrative Assistant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emily Schmidt</td>
<td>Women’s Coordinator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amy Smith</td>
<td>Early Learning Village Assistant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brandon Smith</td>
<td>Executive Pastor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sue Sperling</td>
<td>Serve Coordinator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Justin White</td>
<td>Technical Systems Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cindi Zdrinc</td>
<td>Creative Coordinator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Janice Zimmerman</td>
<td>Interim Technical Coordinator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thanks to those who faithfully served this past year</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barb Briggs, Cara Bruinius</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kristina Capps</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jason Carter</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amy Fortin</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Todd Habegger</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J.P. Mertens</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Angela Talbot</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>