



THE vineyard CHURCH 

# 2024 MINISTRY IMPACT REPORT



## A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR MARK

As I consider the ministry of God, there seem to be at least two distinct types of activities. On one hand, there are large group events—like God freeing his people from slavery, Jesus teaching “crowds” on a hillside, or feeding 5000 hungry people. On the other hand, there are one-on-one encounters, where God calls an individual into a leadership position, Jesus gently touches a single leper and heals his skin, or protects a lone woman from being attacked by a mob.

Those are my thoughts as I consider the ministry at The Vineyard in 2024. In the following pages, you will see how God moved through dozens of people getting baptized, hundreds of people joining together to serve on a team, or thousands of people attending our weekend celebrations. But you will also read a few stories that dive deeply into the lives of individuals who have had a very personal experience with God through the ministry of this church.

As you read, I hope both types of stories stir your heart. Please take your time—don’t rush through them. We are so grateful to share a glimpse of God’s activity with you, whether within large gatherings or in precious, intimate moments.

Lastly, I want to express my heartfelt gratitude for your role in serving, sacrificing, praying, and inviting God’s presence into our church. Your dedication makes a difference ... and I am so deeply grateful.

It is an honor to seek and serve the Lord beside you!

**MARK** Mark Pope  
Lead Pastor



# MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

## IN 2024...

**108** people were baptized

**OVER 1,400** average weekly onsite attendance

**OVER 2,100** adults attended Chasing God

**161** individuals graduated NEXT by completing all four classes

**690** Team Vineyard Members

**424** unique individuals participated Vineyard Groups

**19** Vineyard Classes & Workshops

**198** hours of Open Prayer and Worship

**5** mission trips served Kentucky, Oklahoma City, Honduras, Uganda, and India



# IMPACT STORY

## *Kaity Badowski*

When I first came to The Vineyard during high school, I never imagined how much this church would shape my faith. Robert and I started attending together in February 2022, and it immediately felt like home. We were introduced to Pastor Steve through friends, and as we got more involved, we saw how much this church was built on community. The weekend messages spoke to us, and joining groups helped us form deep and meaningful relationships.

Before moving here, we were somewhat involved in a small church in Texas. But when we came to The Vineyard, we realized we needed more than just Sunday mornings—we needed fellowship, accountability, and real connections. Through groups and serving, we started understanding the importance of walking alongside others in our faith.

Over the past year, serving has been a huge part of my growth. I have served with the Community Center, the Prayer Team, the Tech Team, and the Cleaning Team. Balancing work, kids, and serving hasn't always been easy, but having a strong network of relationships has helped us stay connected and on track.

One of the biggest things for us in 2024 has been stepping into leadership. We've felt God calling us to grow in this area, and He's been shaping us as leaders—not just at church but also at home and in our businesses. Robert completed the Vineyard School of Ministry (VSOM) Leadership Track last year, and it gave him the tools to lead throughout his life. I saw how much it impacted him, so I also decided to go through VSOM. It has given me a stronger foundation in my faith, a deeper knowledge of the Bible, and helped me discover my calling.

Through leadership opportunities like leading a team for 24 Hours to Love Our City and a message series group, we've grown in confidence regarding sharing our faith and leading others toward Jesus. It has pushed me out of my comfort zone, but in the best way—it has strengthened my connection with God and my willingness to step into what He has for me.

Looking ahead, we plan to continue plugging into groups, as well as take what we've learned inside the church and bring it into the world wherever we are.



# THE NEXT GENERATION

## VINEYARD KIDS

- OVER 210** kids averaged on weekends
- 169** volunteers serving in Vineyard Kids
- 57** 3rd-5th graders attended Connexus

## VINEYARD STUDENTS

- 68** students averaged on Vineyard Student Night
- 41** students averaged in Middle School Core Class on weekends
- 99** students attended Middle School and High School Camp
- 48** volunteers serving in Vineyard Students

## VINEYARD YOUNG ADULTS

- 51%** increase in attendance at Vineyard Young Adult Gatherings



# IMPACT STORY

## *JoAn Crozier*

When I first started attending The Vineyard, I was blown away by how many opportunities were available here—so many classes and groups to be a part of! However, I didn't fill out the Connect Card right away, and until then, I wasn't really known and wasn't sure where I fit into the church. The membership class changed that for me. I realized I was waiting for open doors. Once I said yes to taking classes, participating in groups, and serving on teams, connections with people soon followed. Later, as a group leader, I enjoyed the freedom to choose the material for the group and find my own people. As a volunteer on the Office Support Team and Celebration Prayer Team, I have enjoyed getting to know staff and being stretched. Praying for people is a high calling, and I know I have my own issues, but I am encouraged to know the Lord can still use me.

This past fall, I started Vineyard School of Ministry (VSOM). At first, I had some doubts about taking that step; I had concerns about my age and ability to keep up with everything VSOM would require. Everyone I talked to was very encouraging, and one of the things I love

about The Vineyard is that “everyone gets to play.” I appreciate that there's a place for everyone—including me! Being involved in the VSOM Prayer Track strengthened my prayer life and allowed me to pray with others for inner healing. After going through an inner healing journey myself, it's been so good to be there to pray for others. I've learned God still has more for my life; He's still teaching me and using me to impact His Kingdom.

Over the past year, the Lord has been helping me become bolder and more outgoing. It's easy for me to focus on all my weaknesses and lose sight of what the Lord is doing around me. However, I've grown more comfortable talking to people and asking to hear their stories. He has continued to place things on my heart, and I know He has more for me. I want to partner with Him in all He has in store. I'm very grateful to be part of the Vineyard family.



# NEXTGEN INITIATIVE

## WHAT IS THE NEXTGEN INITIATIVE?

In 2024, we saw The Vineyard grow in a number of ways: spiritually, relationally, and numerically—even the physical building expanded.

It was truly exciting to see what God has done in and through our church. But there were times that we had to say no to potential ministry opportunities due to space limitations.

Psalm 78:4 reads, “... we will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord, his power, and the wonders he has done.”

The NextGen Initiative will help us to keep saying yes to all the opportunities ahead, especially those that directly impact “the next generation.”

The NextGen building expansion includes:

- An expanded Atrium
- A new and larger Chapel
- Five additional classrooms
- Additional restrooms
- Larger nursing mom’s room
- A new centralized storage area

NextGen Initiative giving goal .....	\$1,350,000
Households that gave .....	466
Total amount given to NextGen .....	<b>\$1,478,961</b>
<i>Total project cost</i> .....	<b>\$3,258,000</b>
<small>Difference between the project cost and total amount given was paid for using The Vineyard’s savings</small>	

**Join us as we celebrate surpassing our goal and continue to be a debt-free church!**

## OUTSIDE THE WALLS OF THE CHURCH

10% of every dollar donated to NextGen Initiative will be sent outside the walls of the church to areas of need in our community and around the world.

In 2024, **\$96,050** was given outside the walls of The Vineyard. To see a full list of organizations & ministries being served go to [www.thevineyard.org/OTW](http://www.thevineyard.org/OTW).



# IMPACT STORY

## *Sum Kim*

Last year, I had my first real encounter with the Lord. He showed me that He has been healing the hollowness, the emptiness, and the depression. The Lord is piecing me together without me even realizing it. After the night of the encounter, I was talking to one of my friends who attends The Vineyard. He asked me if I was ready to really follow the Lord. I knew it was time to get serious about my relationship with Christ. He told me if I was ready, he was going to push me beyond my comfort zone. He invited me to attend Open Prayer and Worship at six o'clock in the morning. When I agreed to go, I wasn't planning to go regularly, but I enjoyed that time with the Lord so much that I started going almost every Tuesday morning. Since then, I've been able to build community and get more involved around the church by serving in Young Adults, Vineyard Kids, and hopefully soon, the Community Center. I felt called to serve the people around me, and it's encouraging to see how the Lord has worked in people's lives around the church.

While becoming more involved in Young Adults over the past year, I've begun serving on a team, meeting people, and even doing the headcount to track how many young adults show up on Tuesdays. We've been praying over the empty chairs and the people who don't yet know the Lord. And the Lord is answering those prayers! I've seen the group grow and people come to know the Lord. It has been encouraging as we continue to pray for the Lord to keep moving in people's lives and for the Holy Spirit to continue showing up in our community during Tuesday night gatherings. Being surrounded by people who love the Lord and are trying to serve him with their lives has helped me grow in my faith and walk with the Lord. I'm excited for the future opportunities to do ministry, share my faith, and live out my love for the Lord.





# OUTSIDE THE WALLS

## VINEYARD COMMUNITY CENTER

**100** children and adults served every week

**75** volunteers serving at the Community Center

**17** individuals committed their life to Jesus

## BAG HUNGER FOOD DRIVE

**OVER 5,600** pounds of food & toiletries collected for Hope Ministries

## 24 HOURS TO LOVE OUR CITY

**OVER 500** volunteers served at **25** outreaches

## HURRICANE RELIEF

**OVER \$14,000** given to support areas in the southeast United States impacted by hurricanes in 2024

## ADOPT-A-KID CHRISTMAS

**121** kids' Christmas gifts and stockings given



# IMPACT STORY

## *Taylor Davis*

The past year has stretched me to trust in God and lean on Him and His plans rather than my own. I came to The Vineyard for the first time during Chasing God 2023. I was attending another church but noticed I wasn't growing spiritually and felt like my spiritual life had plateaued. Around that time, I continually asked the Lord to give me a strong community. One night during that season, I was feeling really depressed; I was sitting at home alone, scrolling through Instagram, when I saw a post that my friend Makayla shared about Chasing God. It was only about an hour before it started, but I decided to go anyway. That night, I was surrounded by a strong community of young adults. After that experience, I decided to start attending the Young Adult Gatherings.

Over the past year, I've had many opportunities to build community while serving the Lord. As I got involved here at The Vineyard, it was important for me to find an area to serve in. I had previous experience leading worship and knew I wanted to get involved with the worship teams here at the church. Being involved in this team has grown my faith and

given me a fresh view of the Lord. I've built a great community with people on the worship team. Leaders like Leah and CarolAnn have helped me shift my focus from myself to the Lord. I've also gotten to serve the Lord through Vineyard School of Ministry and a mission trip to Uganda in 2024. Since attending The Vineyard, I have grown closer to the Lord; I feel like my plateaued faith has begun to grow again.

The past year has stretched me to learn how to trust in God and lean on Him and his plans. Hearing testimonies from others has helped to encourage and grow my faith. Having a community to lean on that builds each other up creates a desire to live up to the example of Jesus. I'm not sure what the next step will look like for me, but I know it will be all about being the hands and feet of Jesus. I hope to go out and do "the stuff" freely, trusting that God's plans will be great.



# PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS



Brickyard Healthcare



Hello Gorgeous



Center for the Homeless



Hope Ministries



Christ Child Society



Kingdom Closet



Christ for India



Mishawaka Food Pantry



City of Mishawaka



Rescue, Release, Repeat



City of South Bend



Ronald McDonald House



Cultivate Culinary



Voices for Life



Emmons Elementary



World Compassion Network



Hannah's House



# IMPACT STORY

## *Duane McFarland*

I first came to The Vineyard about six years ago. I started coming with my daughter and her grandmother. The first message we heard from Pastor Mark mentioned “church shopping,” and I realized that was what I had been doing. I had fallen away from the church for a while and was doing my own thing. When my daughter was about to be born, I decided it was time to get back into church. It’s important to me that she grows up with a biblical foundation. When we started looking at churches, I was worried about receiving judgment for having a child out of wedlock. But I didn’t experience that when I came here; instead, I received encouragement and continued attending. The pastors were there to talk me through things in my life, and others would ask me, “What’s your story?” Through men’s groups and retreats, I’ve built healthy and strong connections with people in this community. It was easy for us to get involved. Although scheduling was a problem initially, we made it work. It’s been good for me to grow and become a better example for my daughter.

The past year has been all about consistency and thankfulness. I knew who God was before, but I didn’t have a connection with Him through consistent prayer or Bible reading. Now, I’ve been able to get more consistent and grow that connection with the Lord. The community and connections were a big part of why I decided to do Vineyard School of Ministry (VSOM). Hearing other people’s stories and seeing how VSOM affected their lives encouraged me to try it myself. It has been a big part of the growth in my consistency and prayer life. Before, I never really knew that God could answer prayers or that I could hear the Lord talking to me. But I am thankful He does. I’ve gotten into the habit of writing down things I’m grateful for and putting them on the door to read before I leave the house. I hope to continue strengthening my prayer life and grow my confidence in sharing my story and telling people about Jesus.



# FINANCIALS

## INCOME

**TOTAL** ..... **\$2,888,170**  
includes tithes, offerings, and investment income

## EXPENSES

ministry operations ..... \$149,806  
staffing & benefits ..... \$1,746,043  
administrative ..... \$445,523  
facilities ..... \$147,162  
**TOTAL** ..... **\$2,488,534**

## CHANGE IN NET ASSETS

**TOTAL** ..... **\$399,636**

## ASSETS & LIABILITIES

total assets ..... \$7,183,951  
total liabilities ..... \$147,319

*The Vineyard Church performs an annual voluntary audit working with an external accounting firm. The financials provided in this report are based on pre-audited information from the previous 12 months (January 1– December 31) in alignment with our fiscal calendar year.*