

VINEYARD NEWS

L I V I N G J E S U S ' L I F E T O G E T H E R

Homecoming Sundays

Sunday morning August 5th, Matt and Laura Gravelle, pastors of our Denver church plant,



will be with us, leading the morning service—Matt and Laura speaking, Laura leading worship. Matt and Laura were on staff with us before leaving in 2010 for Denver, Colorado with a team of young

adults. They're eager to share fresh stories of God at work, to show us some new video clips of the team at work, and to renew their friendships with us.

Back when Vineyard North was just a church plant, Terry and Darlene Wildman served on staff with our pastors—Terry as a worship and administrative pastor and Darlene as an office administrator. Today Terry and Darlene make their home in Arizona and are involved in a wide-ranging ministry to Native Americans. Terry and Darlene make up the award-winning Native American musical team, RainSong. They'll be with us on **Sunday morning, August 19th**, sharing their original music as well as their heart for the often overlooked 1% of our neighbors.



The Right Stuff



Everyone wants to be part of great church—a church that is fun, fruitful, full of authentic friendships, and filled with a sense of God's presence and power. And, most of us realize that a pastor or two can't deliver these qualities. It takes a team—a whole church—each person giving more than he or she is taking, each member being faithful to fulfill his or her part.

When each of us decided to join this church—our church!—we made several specific, good-faith commitments. ❶ **First**, we said that we'd serve on one ministry team. Whether we gave an hour a week or up to ten hours a week, our church family would see us giving the best of our effort, experience, and gifts. ❷ **Second**, we all committed to tithe (give 10% of our income) to our church. And, ❸ **third**, we said that we'd participate in a small group. We'd take the initiative to go beyond Sunday morning church attendance to share our lives with other men and women. Remember?

Church membership matters—that is, if we remember our part in the mission and are faithful to give the best of ourselves. Summer is a good time for remembering and renewing our commitments to bring the Right Stuff to church!

Getting Ready for Take-Off

Sunday morning, August 5th, we're inviting everyone to come early at 8:30 am for coffee and donuts and a fast-paced congregational meeting. Our pastors want to brief everyone on our anticipated course toward international missions and our own mission to launch a SE side church plant. Many of us are already thinking about our church involvement and church planting like missionaries. We're eager to bring everyone into this conversation.



Who is in the Pilot's Seat? Over the last two years, Pastor Mike Befus has been stepping into significant organizational leadership at Vineyard North. He's now functioning effectively as VN's lead pastor. Yes, he's young! Though he's older than Jesus was when Jesus stepped into his public ministry. VN's founder, Ray Befus has already been stepping aside to serve under Mike's leadership. Ray is now serving as a teaching pastor and ministry coach. All of this is part of an intentional, gradual leadership transition. From day to day, Mike is already guiding the church, drawing wisdom and support from a pastoral advisory team that includes Ray and Carol Befus. If you've ever been tempted to ask, "Does Ray know what's going on?" you can be sure Ray knows and is lending his support to a new generation of pastors.

Fall Sunday Service Schedule
Two Services @ 9:00 & 11:00 am
Beginning September 9th

We're Taking Church to the Neighborhood

Sunday morning, August 26th we're hosting a family church service at Richards Park, just across the Beltline and down the hill from the VN facility.



All summer long we've been hearing from the neighbors at Hidden Valley, "We really ought to try out the Vineyard." So, we're going to make it easy on them! We're bringing church to the park. That's right – the whole church. On August 26, we'll gather as usual at 10am at Vineyard North. But that's where things get wild: we're asking each adult— young and old—to sign up for a service team. (If you've got young children, we'll just ask one parent to serve.) So, at 10:00 am we'll break into teams and start serving, setting up food for a free pig roast, kids carnival, and a 45-minute outdoor church service. Neighbors will get a bite to eat and a "taste" of Vineyard North worship, preaching and community life. Immediately after, we're planning over-the-top fun & games, bounce-house and prizes for kids.

Signup sheets will be passed around on Sunday mornings the whole month of August, we're hoping everyone in the Vineyard can get a taste of serving like Jesus. Jesus was a life-of-the-party sort of guy, and we're *Living Jesus Life – Together*.

Fall Sunday Series: Acts!

Thinking ahead to a new SE side church plant, our pastors are eager to step into this timeless revelation of what a Spirit-Filled Church can look like when hundreds of men and women devote themselves to the apostles' teaching, to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and prayer, and to thinking and living like missionaries in their world. Acts is the template for Jesus' church, the church he's called us to be.



Creative Team Our pastors are hoping to stir up the best of the creative abilities within the VN community to make the Acts series more than an exceptional teaching experience. They'd love to highlight the arts—from dance to drama, display art, video, music, stage sets, and whatever other abilities church members might be hiding under a bushel! Pastor Mike and Ray are already communicating with some VN artists. If you're one of them, please reveal yourself and get in on the conversation.



American Heritage Girls

Kurt and Daile Zink and their AHG team ended their first year with a Court of Honor on June 7th. Many of the girls who participated in the troop's very first year graduated to the next level. This opens up opportunities for new girls and new families to join the troop. This fall there will be plenty of openings for young girls, 5-6 years old.

Troop leaders will be hosting a family kickoff event at the VN facility on Thursday evening, September 6th for new and returning families. If you would like to investigate seeing your daughter or daughters participate in AHG this fall, please put this date on your calendar. For more detailed information on AHG, please contact either Kurt Zink (874-5092) or Deb Cook (447-8875). They're eager to tell you about the good things God has done in their own daughters' lives through American Heritage Girls Troop 2010.

Summer Weather Cancellations

All VN activities at the 4700 East Beltline facility will be cancelled in the event of a tornado **WATCH**. Church sponsored events at other locations will be cancelled in the event of a tornado **WARNING**. As time allows, cancellations will be announced on the church phone recording, on the church website, on WCSG radio (FM 91.3), and on WOOD television (TV 8).

Summers are for Praying and Dreaming and Planning

At least that is what our pastors spend their summers doing!

Carol has taken on the vision to plan and host a winter marriage retreat for VN couples—the kind of on-going event that could be hosted at least every other year and address common sticking points in every marriage, provide couples with a creative, fun weekend away, provide an environment in which younger couples can develop friendships with couples who've been married forever.

Mike will have his hands full providing supervision for our SE side church plant. He'll be working closely with Amos and Alison Groenendyk and their core team this fall and winter to help lay a foundation for an expanding network of W MI Vineyard churches.

Ray is going to work to establish a parent-led ministry to teens. Rather than separate teens from their parents during these vital and sometimes volatile years, parent-led teen ministry seeks to help parents of teens partner with each other and with their teens to see their teens step into an adult faith, a Jesus-centered lifestyle.

EVENING OF WORSHIP AND PRAYER—Amos and Alison Groenendyk, Amanda Harrison, with Tom and Carol Sprague will be leading an evening of worship and intercession for our nation as well as a Spirit-filled fall of ministry . . . our SE side church plant, our Church in the Park service, our Hidden Valley Outreach, Community Recovery, and on and on. **Friday evening, August 10th, 7:00-9:00.**

Want to Help our Neighbors in Need?

Our food pantry is regularly in need of laundry soap. You can support our food pantry team by purchasing an extra box of laundry soap on your next trip through the grocery store. You can drop off your donation any Sunday morning.



Community Recovery

We've all got issues. We've all got baggage. We all get stuck from time to time. Sometimes its addictions; other times it's relationships. If you don't come out on a Wednesday night and give Community Recovery a try, how will you know whether or not God might meet you there with freedom and forgiveness, along with new friends?

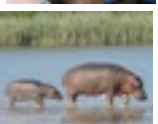


Every Wednesday Evening
6:00—Dinner 6:30 Main Meeting 7:30-8:30 Support Groups

Focus on Zimbabwe



Through our Vineyard Church planting partnership in Zimbabwe, the seeds we've planted over many years and trips are growing toward harvest! Last month Ashley Emmerson left to spend three months in Harare, supporting Operation Trumpet Call.

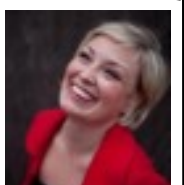


This month we'll be hosting Pam Shaw, the widow of the Vineyard's first church planter in Zimbabwe. Pam's husband Andy was murdered 17 years ago, shortly after planting the Vineyard in Harare. Pam carries a torch for her nation and for planting new Vineyard churches there. Pam will be with us the weekend of September 2nd.



Next month Martin and Margaret Emmerson will leave for Zimbabwe for up to a month. Their objective is to start laying the relational groundwork for implementing a 24 month, structured training process for training church planters. Partner churches in North America will support this training effort by joining together to send teams throughout 2013-2014,

Later this fall, Ray and Carol Befus hope to return to Zim with several other VN ministry leaders to begin the process of training prospective church planters. This is the breakthrough for which our Zim teams have prayed, traveled, and worked for many years!



Don't Forget Costa Rica



Last month a large team from VN and several other Vineyard churches traveled to Costa Rica to help host a camp for poor teens from Los Anonos. Each one of our team members raised enough money for their own expenses and the camp registration fee for one Costa Rican teen.



David Platt, author of the book *Radical is right*: going is better than just sending money. Those who go, leave fingerprints of faith, hope, and love all over the world.



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