

LVC NEWS

 lakeshorevineyard

JULY 2026

Community

CHURCH FAMILY HIGHLIGHT



Kathy Brown has been part of Lakeshore since the first services held at Pine Creek Elementary. Raised in Kalamazoo in a family deeply committed to church life, she later became part of a house church with her husband, Bob, where close relationships and freedom in worship were central. When they moved to Holland, they were drawn to the vision of this new church plant, and came to love it more than what they had!

Kathy's understanding of God's love and goodness has deepened through difficult seasons. As a naturally quiet, behind-the-scenes person, she often struggled to feel seen, and she experienced several losses, including her hearing. In these trials, she encountered God's faithfulness in new ways. Even as her hearing diminished, her love for worship grew stronger. Now, whether or not she sings on key doesn't matter because she praises God with all she has!

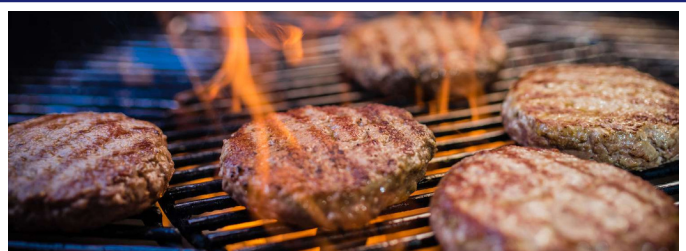
Kathy loves LVC's authenticity, worship, and encouragement to step into what God is calling people to do. Both Vineyard Leadership Essentials and School of Kingdom Ministry helped her discover that God truly speaks through her, affirmed gifts she had never fully recognized, and pushed her beyond her comfort zone. Sometimes she needs "a kick," and she appreciates being part of a church that lovingly provides it. She also treasures the sense of community at LVC. After the recent loss of her sister, the care of a couple people who intentionally reached out made an impact.. She values simple acts of presence that remind someone they are seen and loved.

Kathy is excited by the ways she sees God moving through the church through healing, miracles, and transformed lives. LVC is a place where people can be genuine, accepted, and encounter Jesus through His people; and her hope is to continue growing, serving, and doing the things Jesus did.

UPCOMING EVENT

Courtyard Cookout Sunday July 19

After the Sunday service, we'll serve burgers, hot dogs, and ice cream. Bring a friend, a chair, and a side to share!



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MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT

An anonymous donor in our congregation gifted each small group funds for the purpose of fellowship and celebration. Both men's groups gathered for breakfast at Southside Inn. The women's Bible study & the prayer group enjoyed food from Bowerman's on 8th Street. The Alpha group spent an evening at Captain Sundae, inviting families to join in the fun, and after enjoying their treats, they played mini golf. The donor shared the following letter, explaining this gift:

You may be wondering why I gave this gift. Last summer, we had a sermon series on fellowship, and I realized I hadn't seen much of that taking shape. So I wanted to be proactive, creating an opportunity for you to experience it and, hopefully, to spark a desire for more.

You might think, "I don't have the time or money for this." But I would gently say — you don't have time not to. Gathering with other believers strengthens your faith, even when faith isn't the main topic of conversation. Simply being together helps keep your focus where it belongs and encourages your heart in ways you may not even notice. And fellowship doesn't have to cost anything. There are so many simple ways to connect: Taking a walk on one of the many local trails, sitting at the beach, sharing a picnic (even PB&J sandwiches!), gathering on a porch with a cool drink, or relaxing under a shade tree. You could play yard games, cards, badminton, or even a casual game of catch; or host a movie night — there are endless possibilities. What matters isn't the cost, but the time spent together. These simple moments help people feel seen, wanted, and loved — like they belong to a family. In many ways, our parents and grandparents understood this well. They may not have had much, but they knew how to open their homes, share what they had, and enjoy life together. Laughter came easily - and laughter, as we know, is good medicine. I know times have changed, and people can feel more private now. But perhaps we can rediscover something we've lost.



God of our mothers and fathers, fill our hearts with love for one another. Draw us together. Make us into a new wine of fellowship — a sweet gift that brings us closer to You and to each other. Only You can do this, Father. Shape us into people who truly love You and, in turn, love one another well.



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www.lakeshorevineyard.org



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