



VCC Quarterly

Hello Vineyard!

I have been thinking and praying (and discussing and discussing) about the topic of church communication for quite some time. This email is one result of that work. **As we continue to move toward a more empowered community, it raises the importance of communication – in all directions.** My hope with this email is to keep you in the know about what's going on around the church...and to invite you into the conversation as well!

New All-Church Gathering: Community Check-In

To that same end, we are working hard to create an all-church gathering to check in with each other. Our first **Community Check-In** to "share food and what God's up to" will be **Sunday, November 20 from 5:00pm – 7:30pm**. We'll be sharing more about that in the weeks to come, but if you consider this your church, we'd love you to be there.

This is my first stab at what to include in this VCC Quarterly. But, if there is something else you'd like to know, [please ask!](#)

In this Quarterly:

- Ministry Area Check-Ins
- The "numbers" section
- Upcoming this quarter
- Vineyard USA Happenings

Ministry Area Check-Ins

VCC Kids

What a blessing to serve and walk alongside the youngest at VCC! As we look to the holidays, we are actively exploring ways to help our children understand the importance of Christ's birth and look for opportunities to serve those around us both at VCC and our broader community. **Please be praying** that our kids can grow in their knowledge and experience of Jesus, in addition to forming greater community with one another.

Youth Group

We're really excited that God is raising up student leaders in our group! This semester, we're exploring and refining a new format (every other Tuesday & Friday) as the youth continue to take ownership and leadership. **Please pray** for the continued work of the Holy Spirit on our Friday night gatherings, building community on our Tuesday nights, and also for Reverb (February youth conference.)

Compassion & Justice

God is leading us more and more into relational engagements with our C&J partners, creating opportunities for a more personal ministry. We're working on ways to follow His lead with our holiday outreaches (see the "upcoming this quarter" section below) and building that into how we engage with our partners in 2023.

Please pray for La Vina and Bluefields. The situation in Nicaragua continues to be troubling as the aging dictator is tightening his grip on the country. The school has lost a third of its students over the past three years (330 to 220 currently) as people have had to flee the area for safety or for opportunity (jobs).

Worship

God continues to deepen our relationships on the worship team as we work (and play!) together. It feels like God is deepening and freeing up our worship space on Sundays, and our worship together continues to be such an honor and joy for those of us on the team. **Worship Circles** are done for the year due to the holiday season coming up in November and a December, but we will have a Christmas Caroling evening in December, date TBD. **Please pray** for our continued renewal in the Holy Spirit as we keep leading worship on Sundays, running rehearsals and leading and working with the kids and youth in worship as well. Everyone on the worship team leads busy lives and puts in a lot of time for the church. It's easy to get caught up in busyness and miss the quiet, calm pace of our God.

Leadership Structure Assessment Team (LSAT)

This team was formed last year to assess our current leadership structure for where God is taking us next as a church. In the past year, they have reviewed the current structure and are looking at proposed leadership models. To learn more about discerning together, they are currently working through the book, "Pursuing God's Will Together," by Ruth Haley Barton. *A more thorough update will be given by LSAT members, including a time for Q&A, at the upcoming Community Check-In on November 20.*

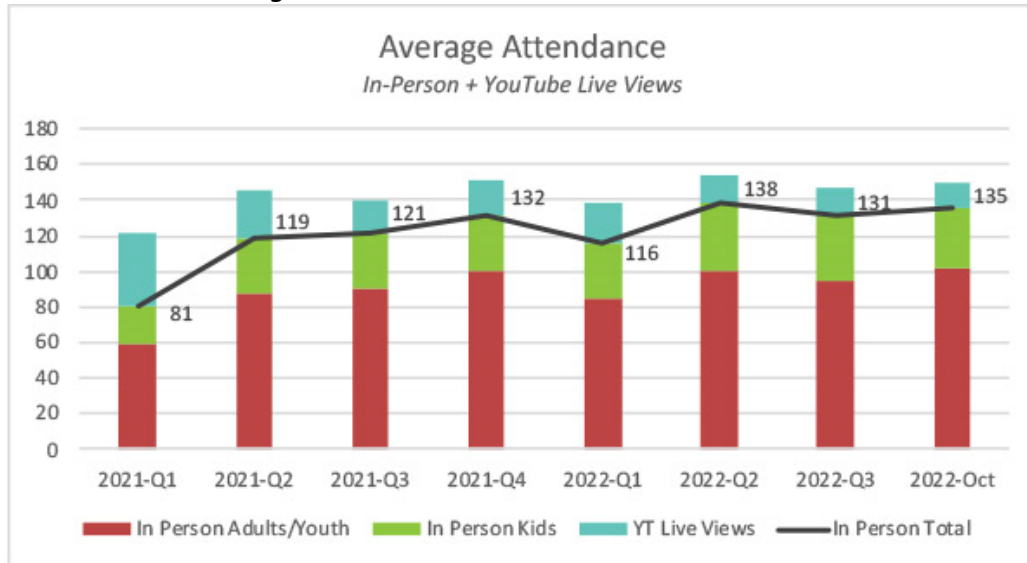
The "numbers" section

Giving vs. Expenses

Our 2022 financial goals are to fund our operating expenses and pay down \$100,000 on the building loan. **We are \$38,645 behind** the pace on reaching this goal as of Sunday, October 23rd. *The VCC Board plans to send a more thorough financial update in late November.*

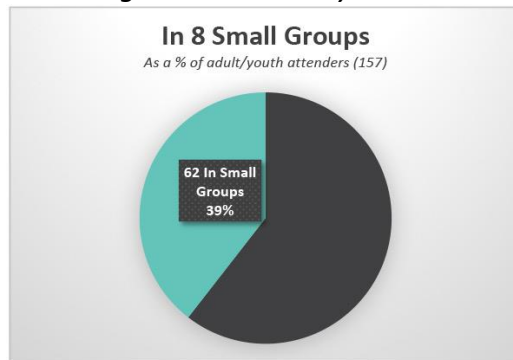
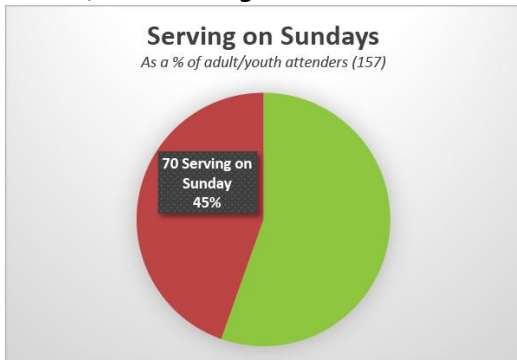
Attendance Averages by Quarter:

This chart shows our quarterly average of in-person adult + youth, in person children, and YouTube views during the Livestream.



Serving and In Small Groups

Both of these charts show these numbers as a percentage of adult & youth who regularly attend, which is higher than our attendance average since not everyone attends every week.



To note:

- Of the 70 people [serving on Sunday](#) mornings, 11 of those serve on more than one team.
- The 8 [Small Groups](#) includes the Youth Group.

Upcoming events this quarter

November:

- **Waymakers Pantry Drive** – October 30 – November 13
- Men's Retreat – November 4-5 at Camp Mihaska
- **Community Check-In** – Sunday, November 20, 5:00pm-7:30pm – an all-church gathering to share food and what God's up to
- **Gift Drives: Oasis & Waymakers**– November 20 – December 11

December:

- **The Global Village Project: Student Sponsorship** – December 4 – 31
- **Christmas Eve Service** – Saturday, December 24, 5pm
- **No Service on Sunday morning, December 25**

See all of our [current announcements and events](#).

Vineyard USA Happenings

As a part of the worldwide Vineyard movement, our church is a member of Vineyard USA. I hope to keep you updated on what's going on in the WHOLE Vineyard, not just ours.

2023 Vineyard National Conference:

All are invited to **join us in Estes Park, CO the first week of August, 2023**. We don't have much info on this yet, but we know the summer fills up fast and wanted to get the date to you. We do know they are planning to have kids and youth programming, similar to the national conference in the summer of 2019.

Vineyard Midwest Central Region:

Vineyard USA is made up of 9 regions. Our region, Midwest Central, is overseen by regional leaders, Mike & Julie Yoder, as well as a Super Regional Leader, Joel Seymour. We were honored recently to have Mike and Joel come have dinner in St. Louis with leaders from the churches in our area. Our region also recently [released a website](#) with resources specific to churches in our region.

If you want to learn more about how Vineyard USA is now structured and governed after the [recent reorganization](#), follow these links: [National Team](#), [Regions](#), and [Associations](#).

If you have any questions, or have an additional area you'd love to know more about, let me know! You can always use the [ask page](#) on vcclife, or email me any time.

It's an honor to serve and be in community with all of you,

Emily McCall

Pastor of Equipping & Operations