





Thank you to all of the 618 volunteers who offered their time, abilities and love to help build the kingdom of Jesus this last year!

Scott Madson • Robyn Klotz • Melanie Corrow • Frank DeMarco • Tom Nelson • Angie Thayer • Bobby Wade • Lac Pham • Mark Davis

Donna Johnson • Trinh Tranberg • Tim Yang • Steven Burmeister • Judi Johnston



## **Our Last 12 Months**

Last year at our annual gathering, we shared a few specific, broad-reaching goals that we planned to pursue. Here are brief updates about each:

### **WEDNESDAY TOGETHER**

This new initiative collected several ministry events on one night of the week. Since the fall, we've been hosting Cultivate classes, Growth Groups, our weekly prayer gathering, and our Echo student ministry all on Wednesday nights. In addition to these weekly ministries, we've held four meals that have been very well-attended. Fewer trips to church make family schedules more manageable, and there has been an extra level of energy on Wednesdays with so much activity!

### **NEW ON-SITE PARTNERSHIPS**

Walking With A Purpose works alongside the chronically homeless in the St. Paul area by building compassionate relationships and providing food, clothing and camping supplies. As the weather warms and cold weather shelters close this time of year, the number of people camping out more than doubles and WWAP has been busy with the increase! They are raising funds to purchase a used shuttle bus to expand their ministry and better service unsheltered friends in bad weather. WWAP was also contacted to help the 2020 census locate the unsheltered community in St Paul. They appreciate their partnership with Woodland Hills and look forward to their future with our church!

### **Voice In The Wilderness**

**Organization** is a non-profit that helps Congolese refugees achieve stability and healthy integration in Minnesota, and gives aid to humanitarian efforts in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). In the past year, VWO has experienced an increase in their clientele through an influx of Congolese refugees and through word getting out about their services, as they are now accessible at a physical location. This increase is a mixed blessing—VWO is reaching more people, but also need more resources to keep up with the expansion! Last summer, Woodland was able to help VWO send a group of Congolese kids to camp for the first time and we plan to do so again this summer. VWO also connected with our Missions ministry, who is helping to facilitate their first mission trip to the DRC later this year. They are grateful for the partnership with Woodland and for their offices here.

The Congolese Church that meets in our North Commons is a space of worship where all are welcome, no matter their background. They are passionate about serving and helping others. As more refugees arrive from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the church is growing and has doubled in size since November 2018.

An overview of all our on-site partnerships is available on pages **16-17** of this booklet.

### **OSHETA MOORE**

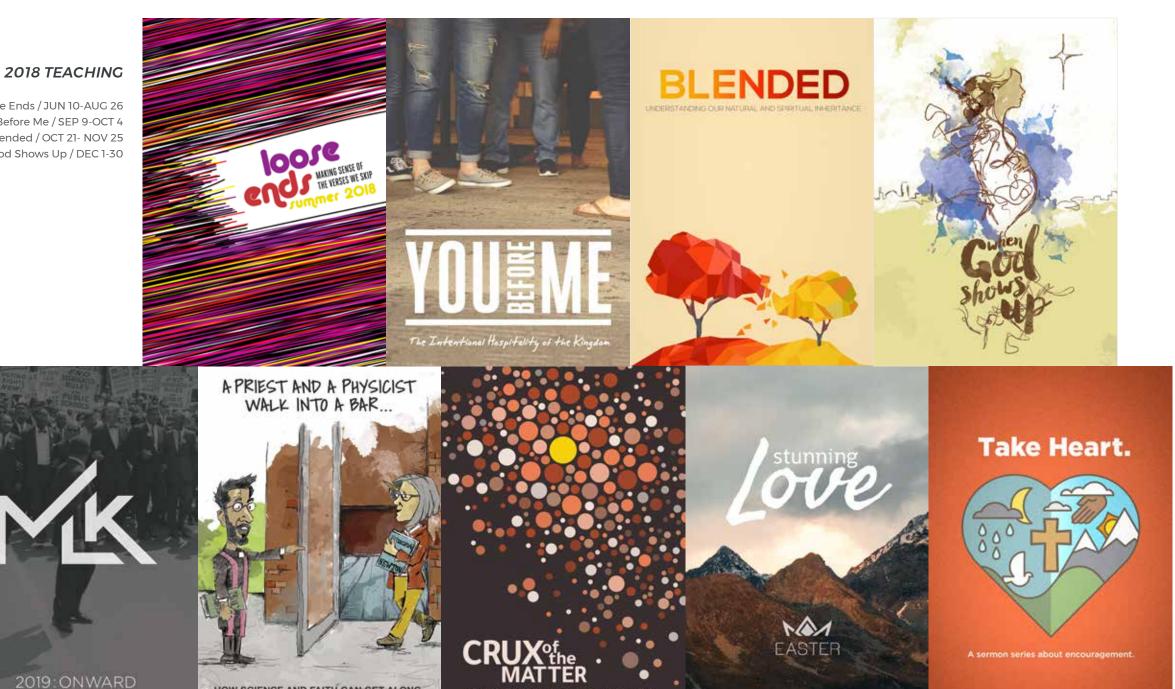
Osheta joined our staff as our new Outreach and Teaching Pastor! In addition to helping to fill in as a speaker when Greg is gone, she's hosted outreach and community-building events this year, and is currently establishing a leadership team to lead a new Women's Ministry. Osheta has also taught at our School of Missional Apprenticeship (SOMA) and helped lead their Justice Trip where students travelled to museums and historical sites related to the Civil Rights Movement.



# **Sermon Series - What We Learned**

Listed left to right, top to bottom

Loose Ends / JUN 10-AUG 26 You Before Me / SEP 9-OCT 4 Blended / OCT 21- NOV 25 When God Shows Up / DEC 1-30



"This place nourishes my soul and leaves my heart full to carry me through the week."

HOW SCIENCE AND FAITH CAN GET ALONG.

"Thank you for last weekend's teaching on MLK and the message of Jesus. My favorite MLK quote: 'the moral arc of the universe bends toward justice.' Thanks for participating in the bending."

Merv

MLK Weekend / JAN 19-20 A Priest and a Physicist Walk Into a Bar / JAN 27-FEB 4 Crux of the Matter / MAR 10-APR 7 Stunning Love / APR 13-21 Take Heart / APR 28-MAY 26 Long Story Short / Coming JUN 9-AUG 25

2019 TEACHING

"Because of the interpretation of Christ's love that Woodland Hills teaches, through time, I was able to let go of judgmental crap I had learned my whole life ... and set MYSELF free!"

Ruth





During the Christmas season, we launched When We Show Up to raise funds for several of our partner organizations. Our goal was to reach \$50,000, but we went above and beyond - closing the fundraiser with \$72,971!

The majority of the funds will help support the chronically homeless. We're investing in the construction of a **tiny home** model to promote sustainable housing for the homeless. The display model will be on our property and moved to other locations so that other churches and city officials can get a vision for how tiny home settlements on church land can operate. We also made space in our building for Walking With a Purpose to store their supplies and regularly receive donations, as they serve and build relationships with the chronically homeless in the east metro.

We gave funds to urban church partners to further their ministry needs: Roots Covenant Church and Beacon of Hope Church.



We helped **Mennonite Disaster Service** cover some of their volunteer costs and building materials so they can continue to help individuals and families who would otherwise not be able to rebuild their homes in the wake

Inspired by God's generosity towards us, we "showed up" in a big way for our

of tragedies.

winter fundraiser!



# Taking a new look at how we give

We started 2019 with our offerings \$91,500 behind budget. This was much better than in late 2018, when our budget gap was almost \$180,000, but it still wasn't sustainable. We were concerned that we might have to make significant ministry cuts, so we asked our congregation to take a fresh look our giving.

We hoped to raise \$3,800 per week in new or additional scheduled donations, and ended the campaign with \$4,125 per week! Because of the increases in scheduled giving, we were able to keep our budget for this coming year roughly the same, and don't need to worry about ministry cuts for next fiscal year.

Thank you to those of you who participated in Refresh!

# SUSTAIN

Sustain is an online campaign we run each spring. We ask our "podrishioners" to consider regular, ongoing financial support for Woodland Hills. Sustain will be wrapping up shortly after the Covenant Partner Gathering, and our goal is to have 400 Sustainers by the end of the campaign. These people from all around the world help supplement Woodland's annual budget by around \$225,000 each year. We love our podrishioners, and the global impact we're able to have through them!



# **Mission Trips and Missionaries**

### **ECHO MISSION TRIP**

In August, 20 Echo students spent a week in West Virginia working alongside Mustard Seeds and Mountains, a Christian community development organization that has been building relationships in hill communities left behind by the modernization of the coal mining industry. Highlights included: chatting with families and playing with kids in the community, worshiping with others from very different backgrounds and lifestyles, rafting down the New River and experiencing some of the natural beauty of West Virginia.

Ben & Teresa Pothier Homeless youth outreach **United States** 

**Grant & Danielle Hoel** Campus ministry Duluth

Matt & Jenni Halseth Student mission trips Twin Cities

### **JESUS KITCHEN**

In June and July, Jesus Kitchen will serve meals to homeless and traveling youth at an annual peace gathering deep in the woods that attracts anywhere from 5,000 to 40,000 people. They will provide meals for people who have fallen through the cracks of society and come not only out of physical hunger, but also emotional and spiritual starvation.



Jerry & Susy McNally Youth home and education Mexico

### **AWOL MISSION TRIP**

In May, the AWOL team (A Work of Love) will travel to Veracruz, Mexico to serve alongside the Nahuatl Indian community in building and construction projects. AWOL has been doing this mission for over 20 years. One of their main projects this spring is to build a small church for a growing community of Christ followers there.



### **COSTA RICA MISSION TRIP**

In January, Woodland sent two teams to Camp Penuel, Cost Rica. Camp Penuel offers a safe place for children, ages 7 to 11, with challenging family situations to get away from the inner city and experience what it means to just be a kid. The teams helped 296 children encounter Jesus through creative means including crafts, songs, games, and meals together.





# Honduras



Haiti

Heidi & David Onken Missionary training Orlando, Florida

Nick & Madeleine Avignon

Community development

Melinda Cathey

**Kevin & Kathy Johnson** Church planting

Dan & May Workman

France

Orphan care training and consultation Mexico, Russia and United States

Technology and creative arts ministry

Adam & Hanni Campus ministry Orlando, Florida

### Family in Eastern Europe

Discipleship and leadership development

### Mark Cathey

Staff care and development Europe, Russia and Middle East

### Karl & Kristen A.

Bible translation and education consultation Southeast Asia

### Dr. Huyen & Dr. Tim Bartholomew Medical missions West Africa

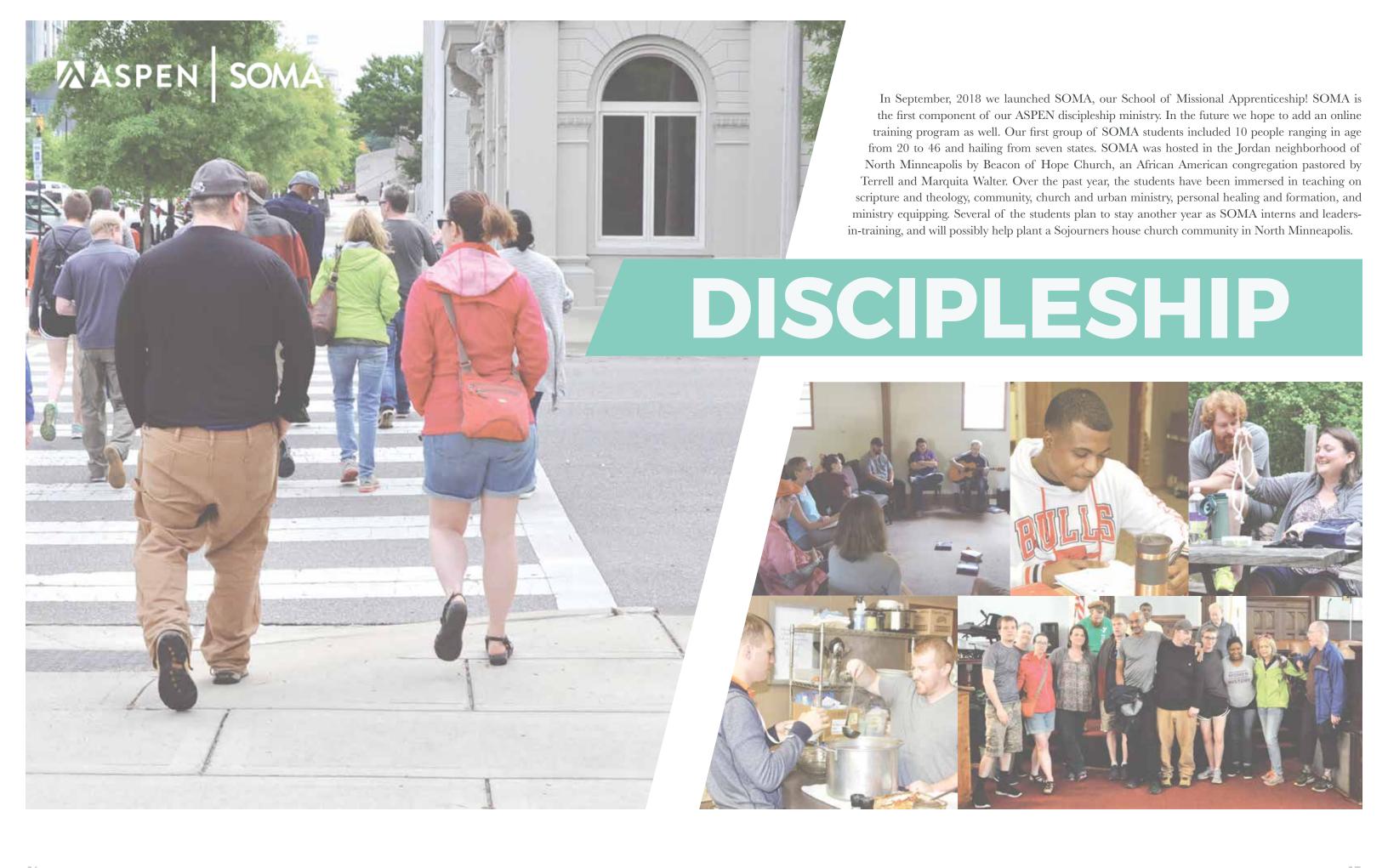
### Joanie Peterson

Church planting and education Burkina Faso

### **CAMBODIA MEDICAL MISSION TRIP**

In January, a Woodland medical mission team traveled to Cambodia. Each day they set up a mobile clinic in new locations: indoors and outdoors, urban and rural, churches and classrooms—even a floating barge! As a team, they saw 731 people, consisting of 215 adults and 516 children, and were able to pray over each patient and share the gospel with those who were open to hear.





# **Sharing Our Building**

This year we added two new on-site partners, **Walking With A Purpose** and **Voice in the Wilderness Organization**. But there are six other non-profits that call Woodland Hills home; here's a refresher on who we share our building with to serve the surrounding community:



### **WALKING WITH A PURPOSE**

works alongside the chronically homeless in the St. Paul area by building compassionate relationships and providing food, clothing and camping supplies.



### THE LIFT

empowers young people from the East Side through a variety of programming, including the life skills training and job skills program at The Plaza Theater.



### **VOICE IN THE WILDERNESS**

is a non-profit that helps Congolese refugees achieve stability and healthy integration in Minnesota, and gives aid to humanitarian efforts in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC).



### **ANEW BAM**

runs an after-school program for K-8 students focused on developing young scholars who can be change agents in our world.



### **CLOSE TO MY HEART**

is a non-profit early childhood center that provides an affordable, inspiring, encouraging and enlightening environment for all learners.



### MERRICK COMMUNITY SERVICES

works to empower individuals and strengthen families in East St. Paul and Maplewood. Since 2011, Woodland has been a permanent home of Merrick's Food Shelf services.



### THE TAP

is an organization bridging the gap between our friends with disability labels and their communities through fun events where people of all abilities can connect and build relationships.



# COORDINATED ACCESS TO HOUSING & SHELTER (CAHS)

works in collaboration with Catholic Charities and Ramsey County to connect families with emergency shelter and supportive housing programs. For many years, we've been able to offer space in our building for a number of congregations to hold their services. Currently we're hosting three:



### **CHRIST FELLOWSHIP CHURCH**

focuses on building strong families and marriages through prayer and fellowship. They also emphasize missions and evangelism.

### THE CONGOLESE CHURCH

is a space of worship where all are welcome no matter their background. They are passionate about serving and helping others. As more refugees arrive from the DRC, the church is growing and has doubled in size since November 2018.

### **HMONG MENNONITE CHURCH**

is a multi-generational church that values their inheritance of faith and the richness of Hmong culture. As a congregation, they study scripture, worship, serve different ministries and grow together in fellowship.





with many of our friends around the country and the world.

### Countries with 5+ sermon downloads per week, ranked:

United States, Canada, United Kingdom, France, Australia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Japan, Norway, Sweden, Germany, Vietnam, South Africa, Ireland, Spain, Switzerland, China, Finland, Mexico, Austria, Reunion, Ukraine, Thailand, Turkey, South Korea, Russia Federation, Indonesia, Singapore, Brazil, Philippines, Kenya, Faroe Islands, Haiti, Costa Rica, Belgium, Denmark, Nigeria, Jordan, Hong Kong, India, Israel, Uganda, Chile, United Arab Emirates, Italy, Romania, Gambia, Morocco, Dominican Republic, Kazakstan, Lebanon



"The messages coming out of Woodland Hills church are radical. revolutionary and emancipating."

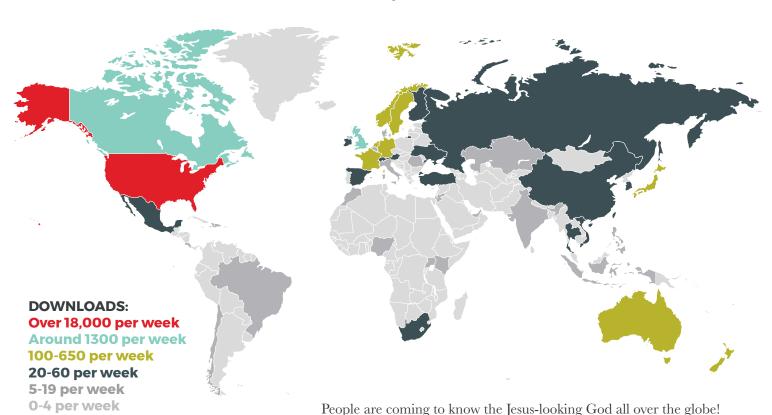
Ken

"WOW! I sobbed most of the way through this message, but it was so healing. Next time, put a disclaimer on for your podrishioners;) I might be in public the next time you pull a tear jerker, lol!"

"I read just all 1400 pages of vour book [The Crucifixion of the Warrior God]. I'm not sure about all that, but it's a hell of an effort.'

Noel

Melody





"WH totally changed my life - not just retrieving me from my lost depression, but reorienting my entire Christian history around the infinitely beautiful and inspiring center of Jesus Christ and a kingdom that looks like him. We broke out of the lies of nationalism and violence, and have found such healing and life in Christ."

Tom, from Massachusetts

"A friend of mine shared Woodland Hills Church and your sermons with me. I really have no words to express how much it means to me to know you and your teaching through those podcasts. Every time I listen to them, I am moved to tears. It has changed everything for me."

Regina, from Germany



[\$154,844]

\$93.054

[\$2,769,747]

### **ORIGINAL BUDGET FOR 2018-2019**

**CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND** 

**SURPLUS** 

**SURPLUS** 

INCOME (OFFERINGS \$2,900,000 / OTHER \$9,946) \$2,909,946

EXPENSES (HR \$1,949,058 / MINISTRY \$805,150) [\$2,754,208]

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### WHERE WE EXPECT TO LAND JUNE 30, 2019

INCOME (OFFERINGS \$2,888,806 / OTHER \$10,042) \$2,898,848

EXPENSES (HR \$1,878,448 / MINISTRY \$772,502) [\$2,650,950]

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND [\$154,844]

NEXT FISCAL YEAR - PROPOSED BUDGET

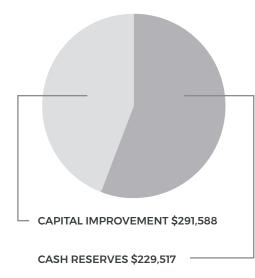
INCOME (OFFERINGS \$2,915,000/ OTHER \$9,946) \$2,924,946

EXPENSES (HR \$1,973,040 / MINISTRY \$796,708)

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND [\$154,844]

SURPLUS \$35

### CHURCH SAVINGS BALANCE



**TOTAL SAVINGS BALANCE \$521,105** 

### **PLAZA THEATER JUNE 30 FORECAST**

REVENUES (TICKETS \$250,152 / CONCESSIONS \$295,830)

\$545,982

EXPENSES (GOODS \$228,239 / OPERATING \$324,428)

[\$552,667]

[DEFICIT]

[\$6,685]

Our main goals at the Plaza are to support the job skills program that we run in cooperation with The Lift, keep the theater open for the community, and break even financially. We expect that some years we'll see a slight profit, and others we'll see a slight deficit. We've made adjustments to next year's budget that we believe will result in a better end-of-year financial position.

# LAY COUNSELORS



Woodland's Lay Counseling ministry grew quite a bit this year. We have many attendees in need of ongoing counseling, but they have limited finances and lack insurance coverage. Our volunteer team provides them with the care and resources they need for free. For over five years, we have had eight trained lay counselors. This year, we saw an influx of ten new volunteer counselors. Each of them trained for nine months meeting weekly. They then commit to two years, or more if they wish, of counseling people from our church.

The commitment is high because we want our counselors to be prepared. Before they begin counseling, they practice with one another and are mentored by our veteran counselors. After our most recent training, five of the veteran counselors were able to retire. In total, we now have thirteen active counselors, some providing care for more than one person. It can be challenging, but it's an incredible privilege to walk with people through their growth and healing!

### **Our Next 12 Months**

We're excited about the coming fiscal year for a lot of reasons! Here are a few of the many things we have planned for 2019-20:

### THE JESUS COLLECTIVE

This new network was started by The Meeting House church in Toronto, Canada. (We've come to think of TMH as a sort of "sister" church. Greg has spoken there a number of times, and Bruxy Cavey, their Senior Pastor, has been a guest preacher here at Woodland.) The network hopes to unite, equip and amplify a movement that has Jesus at its center. Several of our pastors have been in conversations with the network's and TMH's leadership and look forward to offering help to shape the network's theology. Greg participated in their launch weekend in Toronto in March, and we look forward to this coming year as we explore how we can help shape this movement and develop this network of like-minded churches.

### **DIGITAL EXPANSION**

We hope to explore new ways to equip and resource the community of Woodland Hills, both locally and internationally:

Locally, we plan to develop and launch a mobile app that will offer a streamlined communication platform, designed primarily for those who call Woodland their church home. We'll be able to provide sermon resources, an event calendar, news and updates, and an online giving platform – all organized with our local church body in mind. The app will collect all the most relevant information for people who are engaged with and committed to Woodland Hills.

Internationally, we plan to experiment with new ways we can engage and equip our podrishioners. We have thousands of people who tune in to our sermon podcast each week, and many of them have asked for additional ways to participate with our church. We've dabbled with smaller-scale initiatives in the past, but this year we will be more intentional about launching pilot projects including online/video lay counseling, online classes and Growth Groups, and live-streamed Q&A sessions. We want to equip our "extended congregation" so that they can help expand the Kingdom in their corner of the world!

### **TINY HOMES**

During our winter fundraiser, When We Show Up, we collected \$25,000 to help support an innovative solution to chronic homelessness in the Twin Cities: developing tiny home settlements on church property. The first step is to create an uninhabited "demonstration home" to introduce the concept to the community, other churches, and local officials. This is a novel idea, and it will require people to be able to see specifically how these tiny home settlements would look and operate.

Volunteers have started construction of the demonstration home, and once completed it will serve as ground zero for gaining buy-in to the concept. (It will also be mobile, and available to travel to other churches who are interested in learning more.) Chronic homelessness is a huge problem, and we'll only be able to make a significant impact if many other churches are willing to host settlements on their properties. We're hoping that over the next 12 months, we're able to work with our partners to create momentum for the concept!



# **Ministry Teams**

Names left to right, top to bottom

### **CHILDRENS**

Bethany Blick, Paula Bowlby Amanda Cremers, Ruth Richmond Karyn Carlson, Patrick Showers Kerry Rankin, Mary Van Sickle



Paul Eddy Janice Rohling Greg Boyd Shelley Boyd (not pictured)

**CARE** 

**Rob Kistler** Mary Anderson Kathy Pascale Greg Wollan



Left Danny Churchill Lauren Rostron Ketura Adam Joshua Dery

### **DISCIPLESHIP**

Right James Fischer Richard Yonker Kevin Callaghan

### **CORPORATE**

Left **Charley Swanson** Mary Van Sickle Janice Rohling Greg Boyd

### **CONNECTING**

Right Becky Cote Paul Eddy Mary Van Sickle Paige Slighter





### **WORSHIP**

Lauren Rostron Steve Wacha Greg Wollan **Ruth Richmond** 

### **ADMIN**

Laurie Preston Robin Vijums Lesley Hegstrom Jodi Cremers **Becky Cote** Debbie Heir



**COMMUNICATIONS** Charley Swanson, Erik Swenson Fritz Kinney, Mike Dougherty Emily Morrison, Sarah Cassin Paige Slighter



### **FACILITIES**

Troy Zambrano Ryan Nielsen Laurie Preston **Gary Beste** 

WELCOME Left Ryan Nielsen Mary Anderson Troy Zambrano Paige Slighter Shawna Boren

**OUTREACH** Right Laurie Preston Ryan Nielsen

Osheta Moore

**MISSIONS &** 

