

KALKASKA CHURCH OF CHRIST

2015 Annual Report

January 17, 2016



CONNECT AT KCC

LIFE GROUPS

SIGN UP TODAY IN THE CHURCH LOBBY

FUELED BY GOD'S POWER

Garden of Readin'

Storytime for
Preschoolers every
Tuesday at 10:00am



2015 Year in Review

Andy Bratton - Senior Minister

Dear Church Family,

What a great and blessed year we had! It was a very personal year for me as it was my first year as the Senior Minister here at KCC. It was personal because with every step I was looking for affirmation from God that picking up my family and moving seven hours north away from the place we called home for the last 20 years, was the right thing to do. And nothing affirms you more in ministry than to witness dozens of people profess their faith in Christ. The average attendance is fun to look at, the giving number is encouraging to see, and the record-breaking Easter attendance is a great goal to shoot for. However, none of those numbers matter without decisions being made by people to surrender to Jesus.

The leadership of the church and the staff of the church are poised for a breakout year. We are confident that the programs we have in place will provide the Discipleship environment we need to challenge our body to not be content with where we are in our relationship with Christ. And we are confident the message we have in our programs will be one of action and taking the message of Christ to our community.

The phrase we are working under for the upcoming year is: Christ inspired. As we have been working through the book of Mark, we have witnessed Jesus resist temptation, teach the Word with authority, and have compassion for the people. Our desire is to live Christ inspired lives, following the message and method of Jesus to pursue righteousness by loving God and loving our community. As we focus in on those two things, we too will resist the enemy, witness our body living and teaching God's Word, and showing love to a community in desperate need of a Savior.

My prayer over the upcoming year is that you find your place to plug in. If you aren't in a discipleship relationship, join a Life Group. If you don't know any unchurched people, take some cookies to your neighbors and build a relationship. If the only place you are hearing from or reading from the Bible is Sunday morning, start a Bible reading plan. And if you aren't serving anywhere, assess your gifts and get started where God is leading you.

Let's make 2016 the best year in the life of our church by asking the Lord of the harvest to do miraculous things in our community to turn the hearts of people toward Him.

For His glory,

Andy



Annual Report 2015 to the Congregation

Tim Severance- Associate Minister

"Who is like the LORD our God, the One who sits enthroned on high" Psalms 113:5

God was working mightily at the Kalkaska Church of Christ in 2015. What stands out this year are the opportunities again and again to be part of people's spiritual lives as they take steps to grow closer in relationship to Jesus Christ. Whether it be a phone call, home visit, or an office consultation, hearing story after story of the human heart longing for a healing only God can give made 2015 a special one indeed.

The Kalkaska Church of Christ marked a record breaking year as near 50 people crossed the line of faith by being baptized in Jesus Christ! Simply sharing the Gospel of Jesus and witnessing people's responses through repentance & baptism never gets old.

The addition of new minister, Andy Bratton, and children's minister, Sara Blasko, gave us the opportunity to reflect both backward and forward as a church. We spent much time this year involved with strategic planning with staff members as well as discussing and planning for the future. A highlight was the church conference attended by staff called Rechurch at Indian Creek Christian Church in Indianapolis, Indiana. The Elders weekend retreat, attended by both Andy and myself was a great opportunity to look at past, present, and future of KCC.

My title, "Associate Minister," is a broad term, allowing me to be involved in many aspects of church life. Some of my duties this year included preaching, teaching Faith Training classes, Class 101 (Discover KCC), acting in Family Stuff, serving as a Vacation Bible School director and serving on several Leadership committees.

I get to work closely with people in these areas: Sunday morning servers, Children's Check-in, Worship Technical Team and the Children's Technical Team. One of my favorite areas of involvement is Information Technology. My responsibilities include: maintaining the church's internal Network, IT purchasing, monitoring online giving, upkeep of computers & printers, creating weekly Bible Live for Sunday worship, as well as keeping our social network pages (Facebook, Twitter, Youtube, Vimeo, etc.) fresh.

We launched a new & updated kccwired.com in January 2015 using Wordpress. It includes a calendar of events, sermons online, photo galleries, a blog, and much more. I hope to see our website expanded in the coming year utilizing online sign-up for groups and events as well as creating an online pictorial directory.

Finally, I can't say enough about my wife, Anita, and her partnership in ministry. She is a wise, Godly woman, able to counsel, encourage, and teach. She mentors younger women; she works with me in countless activities with the church including hosting a Life Group in our home, attending staff meetings, creating stage decorations, hospital visits, and much more.

Blessings,

In Him,

Tim Severance



2015 Youth Ministry Year in Review

Jody Terrell - Youth Minister

2015 was a great year for FUEL youth programs here at KCC. We saw increased attendance in every area of our ministries including Faith Training, Middle and High School youth group, Game on! and Ignite small group at my house.

We started a High School small group this year that has been wonderful. We have seen tremendous spiritual and numerical growth as a result. The summer of 2015 saw lots of activities outside the church building for both Middle and High School students. We went to people's homes and to various places around the area in hopes that students would be able to invite their friends who may have an aversion to the "church" building. As a result, many relationships were made and strengthened over the summer.

We also had our normal events such as CIY Move, CIY Believe, Senior High camp, Fusion, Michigan Statewide Teen Conference, and the New Years Eve lock-in.

The High School youth group has become like a family who want to be together even outside of official church events. They also are growing closer to Christ and are making a difference in their schools and with their peers. They are bold and spur one another on to make a difference in their community. We have seen several people commit their lives to Christ this year and be baptized.

Our Tuesday Game On! event is seeing around 25-30 kids per week, many of whom have never been in church before. This year I am striving to teach Christ to that group, which is composed mostly of Middle School students.

God did amazing things last year in the hearts and lives of our young people, and I am excited to see what he will do this year. This congregation has been blessed with wonderful youth who I believe God is going to use to do amazing, wonderful things for His glory.



2015 Children's Ministry Year in Review

Sara Blasko - Children's Ministry Director

I may have to change this to the 2015 6month review, as I took the position as the Children's Ministry Director in June. It was definitely an exciting and fun filled 6 months!

I started the week before VBS, and what a week it was! I spent 12 hour days up on ladders, covered in paint and using a hot knife to create an amazing set for VBS. It was by far the craziest first week on a job that I have ever had. It was very rewarding to watch everyone in the congregation pitch in and help create an environment that would make such an impact on so many kids. The second week was VBS and I got to see what all of that hard work decorating was for. We averaged around 120 kids every day. The kids were transported to Nazareth, where they learned that even in his hometown, people didn't believe in Jesus. It was the kids' job to convince the town's people of the miracles Jesus had done, and I loved watching the kids share their stories about Jesus with such conviction.

Finally September was here! I rolled out the new Faith training curriculum from Standard publishing called HEARTSHAPER. All of the teachers seemed to like it, and the kids did too. I also shifted some of the classes around, so that they would be grouped with the same grades, like they are at school.

OCTANE - Following that same thought process I changed the Wed night programming at KCC as well. I started a youth group for the 4th and 5th graders called OCTANE. Kind of a play on the Middle School and High School youth group name of FUEL. We have consistently had around twelve 4th and 5th graders here every week. We focus on learning how to look up scripture, build a relationship with Christ, through prayer, learning scripture, playing games that solidify the lesson, and service projects in our community.

Buck Denver - Our Wednesday night program for K-3rd grade is the Buck Denver series. It is a video curriculum using puppets, and was created by Phil Vischer, creator of Veggie tales. I will be the first to admit, that before I watched an episode, I was determined to get rid of this program. I thought that it probably wasn't "cool" and that they were just doing the same old bible stories, told the same way to kids....BOY WAS I WRONG!!!! I love the Buck Denver series. It really digs deep in to these bible stories, and I have learned something new every single week!!! The kids LOVE the quiz time at the end, and without the 4th and 5th graders there, they really step up and are very well behaved. It was funny, I had a sub the other day and I said oh, it's for a 2nd grade class, they are the "older kids" I really forget how young they are because they are so well behaved on Wednesday nights! We usually have around 30 kids at Buck Denver.

Garden of Readin' - I wanted to have a place where moms could come and have their kids get to hear either a Bible story, or a story with a strong moral lesson. I also wanted moms to be able to visit and fellowship with other moms. We have a coffee bar outside of the library for moms with a "devotion to go", that follows along with the theme that we have for the kids. Our theme for the Garden of Readin' is based on a book that I found about the fruit of the spirit. So each month we have a theme of a fruit of the spirit. I also have a puppet side-kick, Sir Barkley Galatians the 5th, 22nd in line for the throne, to help the kids remember where the fruit of the spirit is found in the bible. We average about 10 kids a week, with an average of about 4 moms a week.

We held Trunk or Treat indoors for the first time this year, and it was a great success. We had over 1,000 kids and their families come through our doors, and find warmth, and some candy! I was pleased to see a spike in attendance the next day at church. We've had several new families start coming to KCC after Trunk or Treat!

There were a lot of baptisms this year in our congregation but I wanted to recognize that 13 of our new brothers and sisters in Christ are in 5th grade or younger! Thank you to our parents that are not only bringing their kids to church, but teaching their children in their homes about the bible, and how to build a stronger relationship with Christ. 2015 was an amazing year and I'm looking forward to an even better 2016!

2015 NUMBERS

48

• Baptisms

- 23 - Baptisms in 2014
- 30 - Baptisms in 2013

10

• Memberships Transferred

- 3 - Transfers in 2014
- 4 - Transfers in 2013

191

• 1st Time Guests

- 94 in 2014
- 157 in 2013

405

• Average weekly attendance

- 370 in 2014
- 365 in 2013

GIVING

\$425,266

- 2013 General Fund Giving

\$495,573

- 2014 General Fund Giving
- +\$70,307 from 2013

\$516,340

- 2015 General Fund Giving
- +\$20,767 from 2014

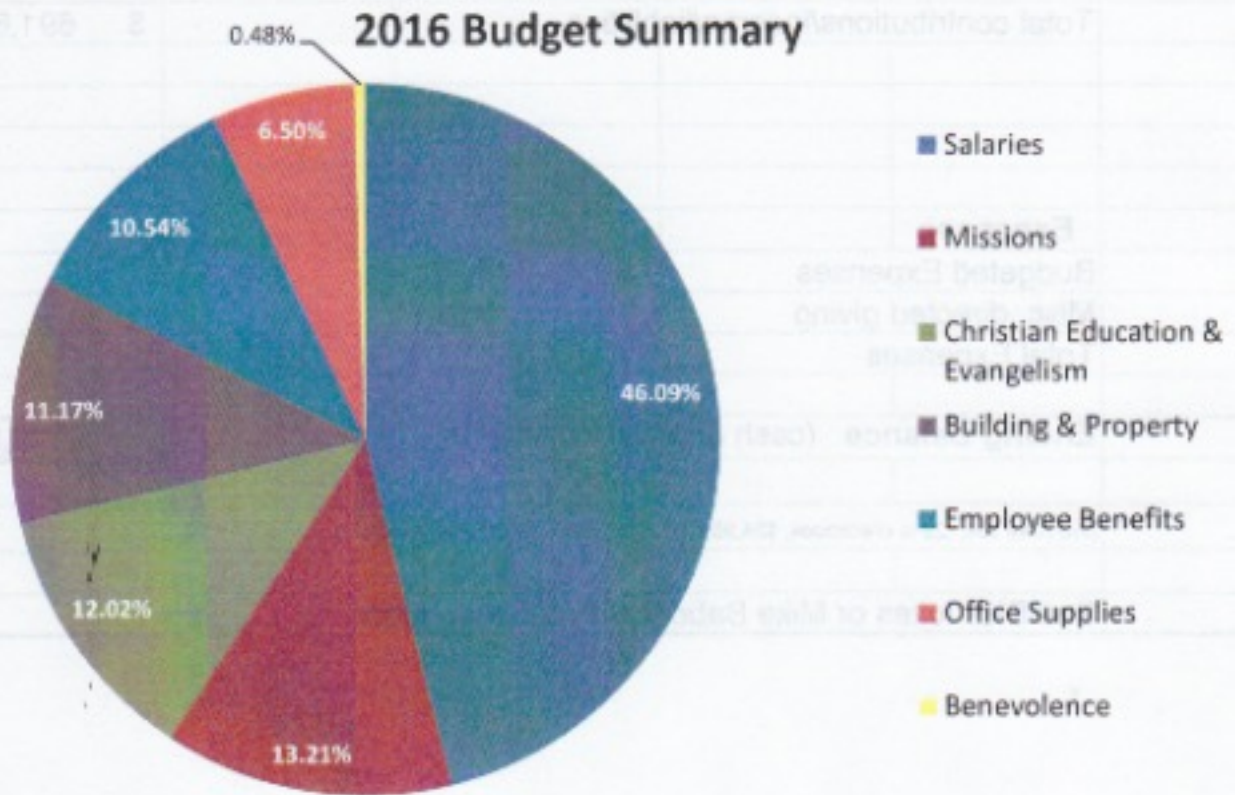
Baptisms in 2015 at KCC

- | | |
|------------------|----------------------|
| Carly Arsnoe | Linda Napier |
| Nicholas Arsnoe | Fern North |
| Julie Bailey | Grace Paulus |
| Jeff Black | Joshua Phillips |
| Kiara Bordine | Jennifer Pieri |
| Doug Bowerman | Annie Ponstein |
| Lisa Bowerman | Cade Ponstein |
| Willow Crawford | Sarah Sexton |
| Janell Cummings | Mark Smith |
| Benjamin Curtis | Chuck Snyder |
| Holly Curtis | Rita Snyder |
| Kole Douglas | Crystal Spencer |
| Sean Drews | Amos Tanner |
| Morgan Gustafson | Jack Tanner |
| Chris Henriet | Louann Teboe |
| Lisa Herbon | Anthony Torres |
| Aria Jorgensen | Belle Tracey |
| David Jorgensen | Que Tracey |
| Lonny Jorgensen | Jonathan VandeKopple |
| Amy Kniss | Tiffany VandeKopple |
| Grace Labbate | Danielle White |
| Lisa Leidecker | Chris Zolen |
| Alison Luck | Deborah Zolen |
| Mackenzie Luck | Kathryn Zolen |

New Members via Transfer in 2015

- | | |
|----------------|-------------------|
| Dean Barnes | Letha Harshman |
| Andrew Bratton | Christine Labbate |
| Andy Bratton | Steven Labbate |
| Lisa Bratton | Ronald Meade |
| Brent Harshman | Clyde Napier |

2015-2016 Budget Summaries				
	2015	2015ytd	2016	2016
	Budget	Actual	Amount	% of Budget
Salaries	\$258,167	272,839	\$240,825	46.1%
Employee Benefits	61,751	56,885	55,054	10.5%
Office Supplies Expense	33,960	33,157	33,963	6.5%
Building & Property Expense	68,850	54,716	58,350	11.2%
Christian Education & Evangelism Expense	54,300	67,733	62,800	12.0%
Benevolence Expense	2,500	5,425	2,500	0.5%
Missions Expense	54,764	53,346	69,052	13.2%
Totals	\$532,292	544,101	\$522,544	100.0%
Weekly needs	\$10,236		\$10,049	





"We are confident, yes, well pleased rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord." 2 Corinthians 5:8 NKJV

Following is a list of people that have passed from this life in 2015

Kim Gerstenberger – January 24, 2015

Ruah Kimball – February 19, 2015

Bill Stephens – April 26, 2015

Dale Wooden – June 4, 2015

Pearl Wind – June 7, 2015

Aaron Brock – June 28, 2015

Harold Wildfong – September 7, 2015

Bonnie Campbell – December 29, 2015