

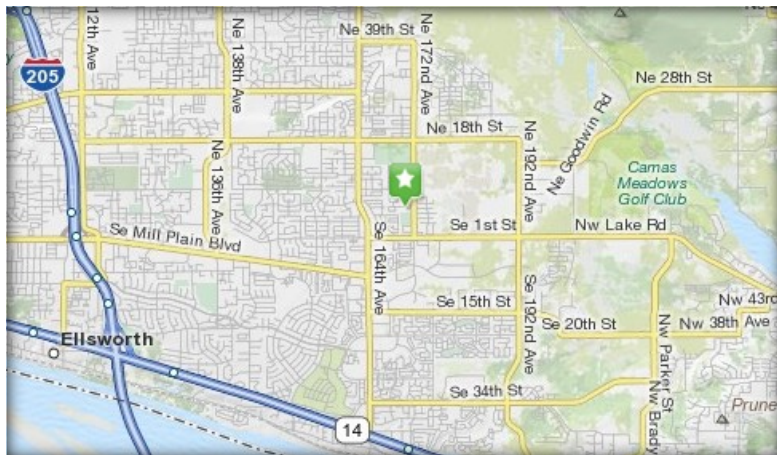


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PLEASE  
PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

# Annual Report

## 2015-2016



Contact us at 360-892-1060 www.laurelwoodbc.com

Inside >>>

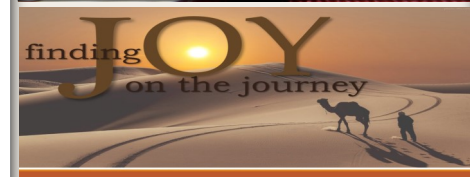
State of the Church  
Ministry Highlights  
Treasurer's Report  
Missionary Pictures



Annual Report 2015-2016



A look back >>>



## State Of The Church

### Pastor Mike Wilde

It was a year ago last May when we shared the news that "the posts were rotten and the rafters were rickety" in Fischer Hall. The Elders first heard the news at our Elder retreat as we were seeking God's leading and setting goals. How timely! So, what were we going to do? We did the two things that our church is known for; we started praying and we made a bookmark! Remember? Just in case you left your copy in your other Bible, here are the items we prayed for and a brief comment on each of them.

**Unity-** Pray that our church will remain united as we face the challenges of repairing and renovating Fischer Hall.

We have enjoyed such a sweet spirit in our fellowship this past year, more than ever before. Challenges bring out the best in us and we all displayed a "Spirit of unity in the bond of peace." We prayed more than we have in the past, we experienced greater joy despite ongoing delays in the permit process.

**Wisdom-** God's wisdom and direction for the Elders, Site Development team, Finance team, Lisa Slater, our structural engineer, and H&A Construction as they

work together to make key decisions, coordinate with the County, and deal with the permit process. Thank you Lisa! Thank you Don and the Site Development Team! Thank you, finance team! Thank all of those who have given such great counsel as we have navigated through the County permit process! Where some would get critical and complain, we let our light shine in such a way that they saw our good works and glorified God in heaven.

**Flexibility-** That our pastors, staff, ministry leaders, and the body will be able to adapt schedules, events, and the needs of the church family to continue the current work of ministry within the limitations of our facilities. Do you realize that over this last year close to 50% of our congregation has been involved in at least one ministry at this church, that we have done as much if not more ministry in half the space? Thank you for the creative ways we did ministry "outside the four walls" of the church and made our witness for Christ known.

**Creativity-** To use our time, talent, and treasures effectively for His kingdom purposes. To discover new

opportunities to partner with God, to meet current and future needs, and do ministry more creatively.

There are so many examples of this but let me share just one. When Pastor Kevin heard the news that we would have to abandon Fischer Hall and start doing our worship service the following week he didn't panic but worked with one of the Elders while they borrowed sound equipment, strung cables, picked up lights, and in a matter of days transformed our fellowship hall into where we have been worshipping since then! There are countless stories of the

sacrifice and creativity of our members to do God's work.

**Stewardship-** Pray for the Finance Team as they seek God's unexpected provisions, determine what is appropriate for this undertaking, and to help all of us give sacrificially.

You prayed and you gave, generously and sacrificially. In the midst of a quickly put together Capital Campaign, you have not only contributed to the building but met and exceeded the current budget amount required to do ministry. Thank You Laurelwood family for your continued

generous and faithful stewardship of what God has entrusted to you.

**Spiritual and Numerical Growth-** That God would use this opportunity for us to trust Him more, grow deeper in our faith, and as a result, see many come to faith in Christ.

Baptisms, new ministry, and great teaching has marked this past year. A new children's ministry director, new ministry leaders for our Young Adult, Adult Christian Learning and Boomers Plus Ministries, new small groups started, and advances in our Men's and Women's ministries have lead to greater spiritual growth. We now have, in addition to a Men's Leadership class, a new Women's Mentoring class and NextGen Leadership class for youth and young adults.

While we have faced a significant challenge as we vacated Fischer Hall, God used it this past year to increase our faith and flexibility. I look forward to what God is going to do this next year in and through us.





# IMPACT: Youth Ministry

- After our first year of having separate MS and HS programs meeting on different nights, we learned a lot about both ministries and we adjusted the schedule for MS to meet Sundays and HS to meet Wednesdays, which has had its challenges, especially after losing our gym, but we've been able to keep up our momentum.
- Luke Jech has taken on a lot of new challenges this year, including creating and teaching an 11 week series on the Holy Spirit to our HS students. He's also been instrumental in leading our youth worship teams as well as providing solid mentoring and leadership to our students. He was married to Julia Jones in May and will be graduating the Convergence Program through CBNW in December.
- Our SWAG Team (Students With a Goal) made up of HS students serving with our MS students, have been a great addition to our MS staff team. They have used their creative gifts to plan out several theme nights and serve consistently on worship team and in small groups and many of them are part of Pastor Mike's NextGen Leadership class too!
- Our MS students have continued to bring a new level of energy to youth group each week and continue to reach out to their friends to come to youth group and learn about Jesus! They've been very flexible, both with the switch to Sundays and not having the gym to play in!
- Last fall we had our first (and hopefully annual) Staff and Student Leaders Training Retreat, which saw almost all of our staff and student leaders come for a weekend of encouragement, training, and some team building! It was a great start to our year and we're very blessed to have so many adults of all ages and high school student leaders committed to serving the youth and families here at Laurelwood!



## young ADULTS

- Built up a strong core group of people and established genuine relationships within the group.
- Served together with Compassion International, All God's Children International, and various members of the church.
- Reached out to our community by connecting with the young adults at City Harvest Church and the seniors at the Bonaventure Senior Living Center.

## Men's Ministry

*"As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another."*  
Proverbs 27:17

The vision and goal for this year was to strive to engage and bring men together from all generations.

- Started the year in April with the Men's Advance at Lifeway's "Main Event" at Crossroads locally. We had 20 men for the 2 day event listening to great speakers, great worship and fellowship
- The Wednesday morning and Thursday evening men's study continue to go strong. We also had a Sunday morning class for the first time.
- In June we had about 10 men doing a variety of

projects in conjunction with Victorious Sisterhood, helping with painting and small home repair jobs.

- The LBC men came alongside women's ministry to prepare and serve at the LBC picnic.

- In September, we had a full cabin of men and sons and grandsons attend Men's Roundup for great music, food, worship and an awesome message on endurance from the featured speaker Paul Tripp.



SHARPENING MEN INTO DISCIPLES OF CHRIST  
IRONMEN  
PROVERBS 27:17



Greg & Heidi Carlson  
Josiah Venture, Poland



Dwight & Beckie Johnson  
World Venture, Taiwan



Doug & Dee Valenzuela  
World Venture, Italy



George & Molly Varghese  
Timothy Ministry, India



Al & Autumn Ray  
MarriageTeam, Vancouver WA



Dave & Connie Patty  
Josiah Venture, Czech Republic

## our missionaries



Tracy & Leng Halstead  
CEF, Vancouver WA



Bill & Bobbie Trenckmann  
Josiah Venture, Romania



David & Catherine Love  
World Venture, Germany



# Treasurer's Report

We now have seen surpluses of giving over spending for the last 5 years. This continues to indicate our capacity for greater ministry. We continue to collect capital campaign funds and move onward toward restoring Fischer Hall and satisfying future facility needs in response to our growth. We are excited to see how God will use his funds to further his Kingdom. Through God's blessing, the attendees and members of Laurelwood gifted almost \$1.1 million toward the General Fund, Missions, Capital Campaign, Facility Improvements and Benevolent Fund. Overall, we have increased our cash accounts by almost \$270,000. I want to encourage each of us to pray for God's wisdom and guidance on our next steps for growth.

~ David Worden, Treasurer

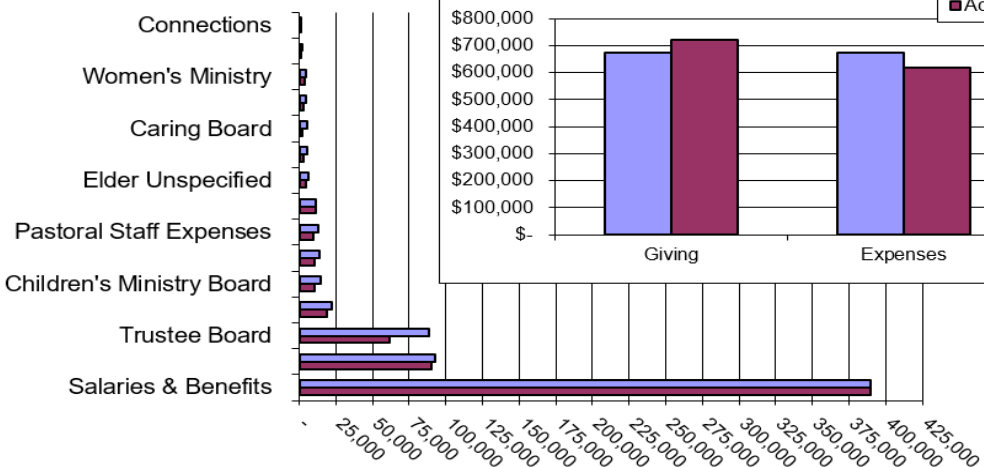
## General Fund

**Giving Expenses Surplus/(Deficit) \***

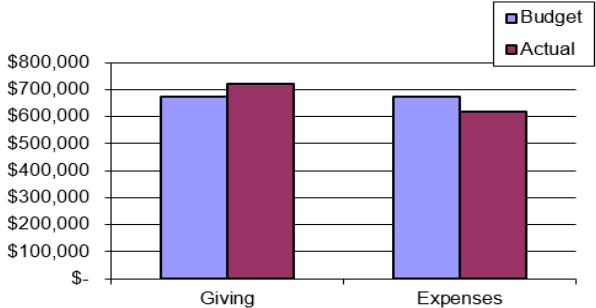
Budget	Actual	Variance
\$ 673,972	722,761	48,789
673,972	620,662	53,310
-	102,099	102,099

\* In addition, congregation approved General Fund Transfer to the Capital Campaign in July 2015 of \$93,000, and a \$50,000 transfer to the Capital Campaign and \$10,000 contribution to Melito Church Project in July 2016.

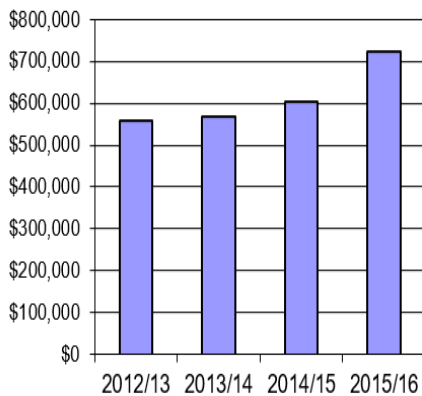
LBC - Budgeted vs. Actual Expenses



LBC - Giving vs Actual Summary



LBC - Yearly General Fund Giving



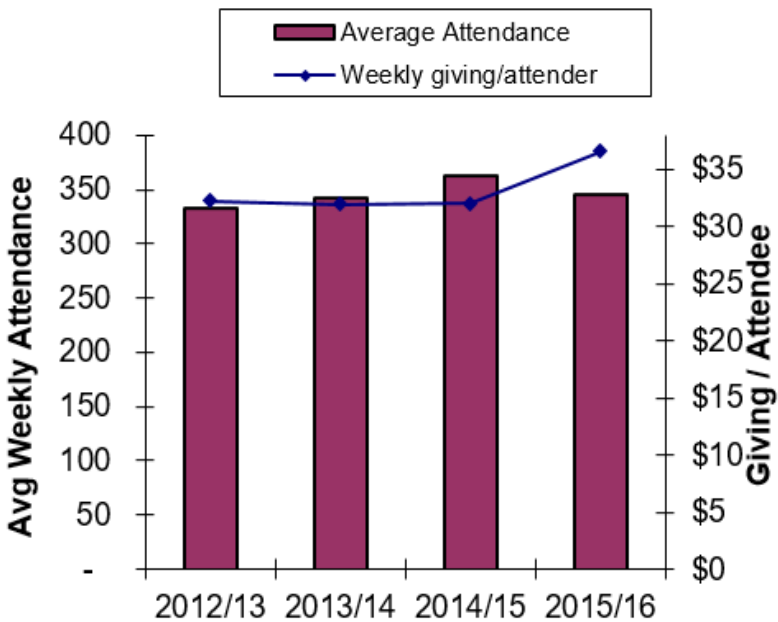
## Annual Giving Summary

	05/31/16	03/31/15
General Fund	712,798	593,457
Missions	9,642	9,685
Building Fund	320,264	8,347
Facility Improvement	900	5,600
Benevolent Fund	19,021	21,670
Short Term Missions	8,804	39,299
Other Designated	20,513	18,650
	\$1,091,942	\$693,640

## Cash Summary

	05/31/16	03/13/15
General Fund	174,130	166,608
Building Fund	352,678	12,426
Facility Improvement Fun	10,000	82,427
Designated Funds	23,409	29,296
Total Cash	560,217	290,757

## LBC - Attendance and Giving Stats



# Sunday School

Many thanks to Jerry Matte for serving as our ACL coordinator. Great appreciation as well for all our ACL teachers. In addition to our ongoing studies of the Parables of Jesus as well as adding a Teach the Teachers Seminar, we continued a full course of classes in our Discovery Series; Discovery Class, Stewardship, Evangelism, Worship, SHAPE Class, Prayer, Fellowship, and Bible Study class. Our stated goal is to develop fully devoted followers of God through teaching and application of God's Word.

SHAPE: Members of the class have a better understanding of who God created them to be, what motivates them, where is their passion, how to use their abilities and experience as well as improved communication skills with others. Spring/Fall classes had 25 participants.

Love & Respect: During the course of the 5 classes these topics were discussed along with the DVD presentation: "The Five Love Languages by Dr. Gary Chapman", "20 Rules for a Great Marriage by Dr. Steve Stephens", Prepare & Enrich assessments and Marriage Team coaching are introduced (creators are Al & Autumn Ray) Oct/April classes had 25 participants.

Depression Class: Excellent 4 week Class presented by Pastor Mike Wilde. He identifies the many symptoms and factors involved in a person suffering from depression. He talks about the development of depression and how to deal with it. He talks about the steps involved in helping others as depression consumes them.

# Outreach Ministry

We were excited to host the Christian Youth in Action Camp in Clark County last summer. We praised God with the Halsteads as they and some of our own youth had 2,950 contacts and prayed with 151 kids throughout the summer during 41 5-Day Clubs, 3 camps and the County fair.

Our missionaries had many accomplishments that we were able to pray for and praise God for during the year. For example, we were able to praise God with Doug & Dee Valenzuela for our sister church in Melito (Naples, Italy) when they were able to purchase, renovate and start having services in their own building. We celebrated the retirement of Landis & Evelyn Epp after 36 years of service in founding Countywide Chaplaincy and raising up over a dozen others to replace him and continue this good work into the future. We also celebrated Greg & Heidi Carlson as they look forward to transitioning to a US pastoral role later this year after 20 years of service with Josiah Venture in Poland and overseeing the building up of a conference center and a number of ministries that are now lead by national believers raised up by the Carlsons.

# Clerk Report

New members:	29	Losses:	
Baptisms:	11	By removal	0
Active members March 2014:	278	By death	2
Active members March 2015:	291	By transfer to inactive	0
Gains:		By moving/attending elsewhere	29
By statement of faith	29		



# Caring Team

Caring Team members touched every aspect of Body Life by ministering through the celebrations of:

- Life (weddings/receptions/ memorial services)
- Worship (communions/baptisms)
- Fellowship (social events/special meals/ hospital visits)
- Mercy ( marital and financial aid and counsel)
- The Laurelwood Family supported its own by contributing over \$24,000 toward Benevolent Fund disbursements. This is more than double the disbursements of last year.

*Disciples of Christ Making Disciples for Christ*



# Children's Ministry



- Multiple outreach events with 160 children who heard God's word during Vacation Bible School, 195 kids from the community attended the Harvest Carnival where the gospel was presented through puppet shows and face paintings with 6 kids coming to Christ that evening, and we had our first Ultimate Christmas Party where we celebrated Jesus' birth with 58 kids!
- Multigenerational discipleship is at work! We have 83 adults and youth serving on Sundays and in Club 66. More than 25 of them are parents with kids in the children's ministry. Parents are in the classrooms modeling what it means to be a disciple, and their kids are there to witness it!
- Children want to serve God! Every Sunday we have 10 or more kids serving in the Elementary Kidz Worship class as greeters, ushers, worship team, a/v tech, and more. Kids are eager to worship God by serving. We even have 13 recent graduates from the children's ministry serving in the children's ministry now!



## Women's Ministry

### WOW

- During the 2015-2016 season the Word of God was studied by seventy-two women through five different studies. We were blessed to have five women step up this year to be our facilitators; Pauline Nordlund, Connie Russell, Lura Kent, Katie Doel and Mary Dombrow.

### MOPS

- Sixty-two MOPS moms and mentor moms have enjoyed another year of connecting, growing, encouraging and learning together. With eighty kids in attendance, there has been plenty of weeping with those who weep and rejoicing with those who



rejoice! God is busy at work to make all of this beautiful chaos work together for His glory, for our good and for the furthering of the Gospel in the East Vancouver community.

- Sixty-two women recently gathered at Falls Creek Retreat Center to find "Rest: Refreshment for your Soul". We were blessed to be taught by Carley Weeks and her daughter Joy Dombrow; two precious women of God. The worship was amazing and the fellowship was meaningful and fun! It just doesn't get any better than this!



## Worship Ministry

- A major transition took place when we had to move our worship services into the Fellowship Hall due to the Sanctuary needing repairs. But thanks to many hands and much hard work, we made the transition in less than a week and we've been able to make the new meeting space work.



- Due to being in a smaller space, several changes were made this past year. We purchased a new, smaller, digital sound board that provides better control and flexibility. We also had two Easter Sunday services and ended up having the highest Easter attendance at Laurelwood.

- Our Worship Teams continue to grow, mature, and thrive. 5 new people joined this year, and at our annual Award & Banquet Night, I presented 5 others with a "10 year Trophy" to honor those who have been on the team a minimum of 10 years.



## Boomers Plus: Senior's Ministry

We continued to meet throughout the year with the purpose of providing opportunities for Laurelwood's seniors to establish and deepen relationships with one another, as well as to be an encouragement to them & help them recognize & use the gifts & talents God has given them for service to further His Kingdom. Some of the highlights of this past year have been:

- July summer picnic
- Luncheon featuring John Weeks as speaker
- Christmas program and dinner
- Movie matinee
- The ongoing CPR/AED training

## Small Groups

- Small Groups continue to be an important way for those in our church to grow and get connected as 225 people are currently involved in a Small Group
- During the Fall Small Group Kickoff, 37 people signed up for Small Groups including 22 that had never been in a Small Group before.
- 4 new Small Groups were formed during the Fall Kickoff, bringing the total number of small groups to 15 unique groups.



## Facilities

We have had a lot of pluses for the past year. With the year starting by moving out of the gym and into the fellowship hall things were up in the air. We had a number of volunteers help demo for the eventual repairs to be made. They also moved all the furnishings to the Plitt's barn. In the process we found that some of the landscaping needed to be altered and this was accomplished with more volunteers. The landscaping around the church looks great. The men's brigade has been taking care of all the things that come up on a weekly basis. I thank God for the love of the people who volunteer to help out around the church. I pray that each and every one is blessed for their help.

