

# CURRENT

the **Vineyard** church

MARCH & APRIL 2023  
DULUTHVINEYARD.ORG

Photograph by Dan Plys

# WELCOME!

The Vineyard is a community of all kinds of people looking to be more like Jesus. We want to love and experience God, love one another, and partner with Christ to bring his hope and healing to the Twin Ports (and the whole world)!

There are lots of ways to get connected, grow, and serve at the Vineyard. Whether you've just started coming to the Vineyard or you've been here a while, there's always something God is inviting you into.

## First Steps ▶

Try any of these out to get to know us better:

- Attend our weekend services
- Try out a Small Group
- Learn all about the Vineyard's history and values at Welcome to the Vineyard
- Volunteer with us and serve our community

## Next Steps ▶

Continue growing closer to God and explore all he has for you:

- Attend one of our Bible-based classes
- Commit to a Small Group
- Begin tithing regularly

## Leadership Steps ▶

If you want to explore what leadership is like at Vineyard try these:

- Attend Small Group Leader Training

## Serving Our City Steps ▶

We want everyone to know how much God loves them (even in really practical ways). Help people feel the love of God in real tangible ways:

- Volunteer in our Fruit of the Vine Food Shelf
- Bake or handout yummy treats with our Muffin Ministry
- Donate or volunteer providing period products

# ABOUT THE ARTIST

Daniel Plys is an artist born and raised right here the shores of Lake Superior. His love for making is largely inspired by his time spent in the fresh air, where he connects most candidly with Jesus. You can usually find him watching the surf forecast, heading on a trip or meandering the outdoors with his Bernese mountain dog Banjo.

He has recently built a much larger piece of art, in the form of his tiny home- filled with artisan touches and all the coziness necessary for a man who would much rather be exploring.

Daniel recently launched an outdoor gear brand, FOG (functional outdoor gear) which aims to make the lives of those spent from the north woods to the south shores, a little easier.

You can follow Daniel's work at @maninthewoods\_22 and @functionaloutdoorgear

## SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM

**Brian Brinkert** - Associate Pastor - [bbrinkert@duluthvineyard.org](mailto:bbrinkert@duluthvineyard.org)

**John Kliewer** - Associate Pastor - [jkliewer@duluthvineyard.org](mailto:jkliewer@duluthvineyard.org)

**Casey LaCore** - Associate Pastor - [clacore@duluthvineyard.org](mailto:clacore@duluthvineyard.org)

## MINISTRY AREAS

**College & Young Adults** - [youngadults@duluthvineyard.org](mailto:youngadults@duluthvineyard.org)

**Discipleship** - John Kliewer - [jkliewer@duluthvineyard.org](mailto:jkliewer@duluthvineyard.org)

**Eastside Vineyard** - Clint Considine - [cconsidine@duluthvineyard.org](mailto:cconsidine@duluthvineyard.org)

**Fruit of the Vine Food Shelf** - Barry Schull - [fofv@duluthvineyard.org](mailto:fofv@duluthvineyard.org)

**Marriages & Families** - Casey LaCore - [clacore@duluthvineyard.org](mailto:clacore@duluthvineyard.org)

**Men's Ministry** - Brian Brinkert - [bbrinkert@duluthvineyard.org](mailto:bbrinkert@duluthvineyard.org)

**Prison Ministry** - Barry Schull - [prisonministry@duluthvineyard.org](mailto:prisonministry@duluthvineyard.org)

**Small Groups** - Brian Brinkert - [bbrinkert@duluthvineyard.org](mailto:bbrinkert@duluthvineyard.org)

**Student Ministries** -

Steph Bremer - [sbremer@duluthvineyard.org](mailto:sbremer@duluthvineyard.org)

Clint Considine - [cconsidine@duluthvineyard.org](mailto:cconsidine@duluthvineyard.org)

**Vineyard Kids** - Becca Eastvold - [beastvold@duluthvineyard.org](mailto:beastvold@duluthvineyard.org)

**Women's Ministry** - Steph Bremer - [sbremer@duluthvineyard.org](mailto:sbremer@duluthvineyard.org)

**Worship Ministry**

Rachel Riefenberg - [rriefenberg@duluthvineyard.org](mailto:rriefenberg@duluthvineyard.org)

Xena Balch - [xbalch@duluthvineyard.org](mailto:xbalch@duluthvineyard.org)

## WORSHIP SERVICES

**In-person Services:**

Sundays at 9 & 11am at 1533 W. Arrowhead Rd.

**Online Services:** Sundays at 9 & 11 at [duluthvineyard.org/livestream](http://duluthvineyard.org/livestream)

**Office:**

Lobby Hours: Tuesdays - Fridays 9am-1pm

1533 W. Arrowhead Rd., Duluth, MN 55811

218.525.3462 • [www.duluthvineyard.org](http://www.duluthvineyard.org)

[info@duluthvineyard.org](mailto:info@duluthvineyard.org)

[facebook.com/theduluthvineyardchurch](https://facebook.com/theduluthvineyardchurch)

[instagram.com/duluthvineyard](https://instagram.com/duluthvineyard)

the **Vineyard** church  
*Love God. Love people. Period.*

# FIRST STEPS *RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD AND OTHERS*

**WELCOME TO THE VINEYARD** - Sunday, March 12 at 5:30pm - Welcome to the Vineyard is your opportunity to discover what the Duluth Vineyard church is all about. We'll fire up the wood-fired oven and enjoy a delicious meal together. We'll take an in-depth look at the Vineyard's history, vision, values - touching on lots of areas of ministry and ways you can get involved. If you choose, at the end of the class, there is an opportunity to become a member. Register online or at the Welcome Center.

**FULLY ENGAGED** - Starting Monday, March 13 at 7pm - \$40 per couple - Are you engaged or thinking about getting married in the coming year? At the Vineyard, our desire is to assist couples as they build a strong foundation for their marriage so that it will last a lifetime. If you're interested in this six-week pre-marital class, register online.

**BAPTISM INTEREST MEETINGS** - Sundays, April 2 and 30 after both services - Have you discovered a new life in Christ? Why not be baptized to celebrate and let everyone know. If you're interested in getting baptized, please join us in the Welcome Lounge for a quick informational meeting and we'll discuss how and why we do baptisms at the Vineyard.

**GOOD FRIDAY** - Friday, April 7 at 6:30pm - For millions of people around the world, the cross is a symbol of hope and life. But it didn't start that way. The cross was originally a symbol of horrific death. Join us as we consider the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross and begin to look towards how God works through Jesus' death to make everything new. Whether you've been following Christ for years or all of this is pretty new, we invite you to join us for Good Friday: an artistic experience of music, meditation, and reflection of God's self-sacrificial love.

**EASTER** - Sunday, April 9 at 7:30, 9, & 11am at Arrowhead - The resurrection of Jesus is at the heart of the Christian faith. Join us as we celebrate together and reflect on the ways this historical event can bring transformation into every part of our lives today. To make room for everyone, we are offering an additional service, Sunday morning at 7:30am, which will include a free beverage from the coffee bar. Invite your friends, family, neighbors or coworkers to join you, as we celebrate and worship our resurrected Lord, Jesus Christ.

**ENGAGING IN THE KINGDOM** - April 21-22 | Registration is open - There is something powerful that happens when women of all ages engage in God's kingdom together. At our annual Engaging in the Kingdom conference we bring women together and empower them to become who God designed them to be. This conference is a mixture of powerful worship, deep biblical teaching, and spirit filled prayer ministry that is anchored in authentic relationships new and old. This year our guest speaker is Sonya Seng. Sonya and her husband Jordan together pastor Bluewater Mission Church in Honolulu, Hawaii. She is passionate about worship in many forms, has a deep love for God's word, and truly enjoys sharing these things with others while encountering God's presence. Cost of registration is \$55 January 1-April 10 and \$70 after April 10. Cost includes materials, coffee and beverages, breakfast each morning and lunch on Saturday. Learn more and register today at [www.duluthvineyard.org/eitk](http://www.duluthvineyard.org/eitk).

**MEN'S BREAKFAST** - Saturday, April 29 at 9am - Who doesn't love a Saturday morning of free bacon and pancakes, as well as time with good friends? Come hang out at our regular Men's Breakfasts. We'll eat together, take in a short message, and pray for each other. Please register online so we know how many people to expect.

**COLLEGE FINALS RELIEF** - Sunday, April 30 4pm-1am - Hey students! At the end of each semester, you're stressed out about final exams, missing home, and need some serious T.L.C. Here at the Vineyard, we've got NINE awesome hours of stress-relieving activities like big-screen movies, crafts, dodgeball tournaments, video games and unlimited coffee to keep you going. Plus, don't forget about all the delicious food! There's also plenty of quiet study space with Wi-Fi access because we actually want you to do well on your exams. Best part? It's all for FREE! Join us if you want to study or "study" for finals.

**CHILD DEDICATION CLASS** - Thursday, May 4 at 6pm - If you'd like to learn more about child dedications please come to our class! You will meet with our Children's pastor, Becca Eastvold, meet other families, and be equipped and inspired for your role as a primary spiritual influence in your child's life. Contact Becca Eastvold for more information or register for the class online.

**BAPTISM CLASS** - Thursday, May 4 at 6:30pm - Join us in this class to learn more about how we baptize folks here at the Vineyard and to hear God's heart for you as you consider this step forward in obedience to him. We'll go through the baptism statements of faith, share stories of what God is doing in us as he leads us into baptism, and talk through a bit of the logistics of baptism day, too. Although not required prior to baptism, it is highly recommended.

**BAPTISM CELEBRATIONS** - Sunday, May 7 at 9am and 11am weekend services - In the Bible there are lots of stories of folks who surrendered their lives to Jesus and then get baptized, often immediately following their surrender. Not only is getting baptized an important next step in our obedience to Christ, but it's also a public proclamation of your decision to follow Jesus and a celebration of your joining God's family. God often does amazing things in response to our obedience, and as people have been baptized we've seen them experience freedom, healing, and a deeper understanding and assurance of what Jesus is doing in their lives. If you're a new follower of Jesus, we would love to celebrate and support you in your baptism! For more information go to [www.duluthvineyard.org/baptism](http://www.duluthvineyard.org/baptism)

**CHILD DEDICATIONS** - Sunday, May 14 at 11am - Child Dedications are a time for parents to publicly commit to collaborating with God in raising their children to become followers of Jesus. We will also be celebrating your families immediately after service in the lobby with refreshments, snacks, and a photo booth! Contact Becca Eastvold for more information or register online.



Let's celebrate the resurrection of Jesus!

# EASTER

Sunday, April 9 at 7:30am, 9am & 11am  
[duluthvineyard.org/easter](http://duluthvineyard.org/easter)



## NEXT STEPS *GOING DEEPER INTO THE LIFE JESUS OFFERS*

**ALPHA HOLY SPIRIT WEEKEND** - Saturday, March 25 at 9:30am - 2:30pm- This winter, we have nearly 20 small groups utilizing materials from the Alpha Course. We're coming up on a big highlight of Alpha: the Holy Spirit Day. We'll learn more about who the Holy Spirit is, what the Holy Spirit does, and how we can continually be filled with the Spirit. There will also be time for small group discussion time, as well an opportunity to receive prayer for a deeper experience of the Holy Spirit in your life. And the day includes a free lunch. This event is not just for Alpha small group participants - it is open to everyone! Please register online.

**WORSHIP INTEREST MEETING** - Sunday, April 16 at 1pm - Psalms 150:5 says, "Let everything that has breath praise the Lord." We are all created to worship and praise God. One of the ways we do that is through musical worship! We participate in worship at our weekend services but also in small groups, Vineyard Kids, memorial services, special events, and really most things that happen around the Vineyard! We have a place for YOU in the worship community! Whether you play an instrument, sing, or both we'd love to talk with you. You don't need to play music to be involved; we also have plenty of places to serve behind the scenes in worship! Join us after church on Sunday, April 16 for lunch as we dive into what worship is at the Vineyard and what it looks like to join the worship community. Please register online

**EMOTIONALLY FOCUSED: FOUNDATION** - Friday, May 19 from 8:30am - 5:30pm & Saturday, May 20 from 8am - 4:30pm - The Emotionally Focused: Foundation Intensive is a two-day experience that catapults our journey of personal transformation—in our own heart, in our relationship with God and others, and in our engagement with the world around us. Sometimes we don't understand why we struggle to be the authentic person that God created us to be in our family and day-to-day relationships. Emotionally Focused helps us look at times and places in our lives that have shaped us and still affect us years later. As we grow in self-awareness, we can learn to turn off some of the automatic responses that lead to fear, anger, habitual sin, anxiety, and so much more. Learning that we've developed self-protection as a way to feel safe in so many situations, allows us the opportunity to trust God more. Believing who he says we are made to be and receiving his love and acceptance changes us to become a calm and peaceful presence in all our interactions. Join us for Emotionally Focused: Foundation to begin your transformation adventure! Go to [www.duluthvineyard.org/emotionally-focused](http://www.duluthvineyard.org/emotionally-focused) for more information and to register.



REGISTER ONLINE AT [DULUTHVINEYARD.ORG/EITK](http://DULUTHVINEYARD.ORG/EITK)

### GOD IS AT WORK IN OUR COMMUNITY!

This book is filled with stories of lives transformed by Jesus here at the Duluth Vineyard. God is doing amazing things in our community. What has God been doing in your life lately?

Whether it's a big or little thing, sharing your story of how God is at work will encourage others to trust him more too. Send us your story! [stories@duluthvineyard.org](mailto:stories@duluthvineyard.org).

Pick up this book in the lobby and visit our website to read more stories.

[duluthvineyard.org/hope](http://duluthvineyard.org/hope)



# SERVING OUR CITY STEPS

PARTNERING WITH GOD TO BRING HEALING TO OUR WORLD

**COMPASSION MONTH** - Did you know March is compassion month here at the Vineyard? Now is a great time to get involved! One of the biggest way we are able to reach out to the community and meet the practical needs of the people around us is through our Fruit of the Vine food shelf. In 2022, we averaged 1,153 individuals served and 32,497 pounds of food given away each month by the Fruit of the Vine. Beyond meeting people's practical need for food and clothing, it's also our goal to love every single person that comes through the doors. There are lots of ways to serve: Volunteer at one of our food distributions on Tuesday evenings or Saturday mornings or another time, donate food or clothing to our food shelf during office hours or our weekend services, or put a few dollars in the poor box! Plus a portion of financial contributions in March will be matched by MN Food Share! If you want more information, email [bschull@duluthvineyard.org](mailto:bschull@duluthvineyard.org).

**COMMUNION TEAM** - Are you looking for a next step to become more involved in our community? Becoming a part of the communion team is a great way to partner with what God is doing in our church. Here at the Vineyard, the act of taking communion together as the body of Christ is something that we deeply value. It is an opportunity to not only acknowledge the sacrifice that God made in sending Jesus to die for our sins but provides a space for us to repent and receive the forgiveness that God has for us as well. Communion is a weekly part of our service that has a huge impact on our community and we want to invite more people into the behind the scenes process! This is a Sunday morning serving opportunity that is available for both 9am and 11am attenders and takes less than an hour of time! If the idea of joining our communion team sparks your interest, we would love to hear from you! Email [xbalch@duluthvineyard.org](mailto:xbalch@duluthvineyard.org) for more information.

**SOUND & TECH** - Each week, we're able to reach people all over the world with the love of Jesus through our online and in-person services and our connection and discipleship events. This means we have tons of behind the scenes opportunities to serve through running the sound board, controlling slides, operating our recording camera, and leading production of our livestream services. If this sounds like something you'd be good at or if it's an area you'd like to learn more about, we'd love to train you and have you join our sound and tech team! Email Rachel at [rrieffenberg@duluthvineyard.org](mailto:rrieffenberg@duluthvineyard.org) or call 218.525.3462 to learn more.

**PRISON FELLOWSHIP VOLUNTEER** - The Prison Fellowship needs volunteers to lead the Prison Fellowship Academy at MCF - Moose Lake. Founded on the Christian belief of human dignity and redemption, the Academy is Prison Fellowship's cornerstone program offered to prisons across the U.S. and is open to anyone regardless of faith background. The Academy builds community and creates opportunities for men in prison to practice and develop values that transform them and others into good citizens. Graduates complete the program as change agents, prepared to take their place as good citizens in the communities they live in today and the communities they will return to tomorrow. They are seeking volunteers to facilitate the yearlong transformational Academy program at MCF - Moose Lake. Please contact Prison Fellowship Field Director Mark DeJong at [mark\\_dejong@pfm.org](mailto:mark_dejong@pfm.org) or 515-865-4366 for more information.

**CLOTHING CLOSET** - From clothes for a quickly growing newborn to a new pair of slacks for a job interview, our Clothing Closet provides free gently used clothing for guests of our Fruit of the Vine food shelf of all ages and sizes. We are now accepting winter clothing donations as well as suitcases to help guests of our food shelf who walk or ride the bus transport their food items home. We're especially in need of children's clothing at this time. Items can be dropped off during lobby hours or at weekend services. Have questions? Get in touch at [fotv@duluthvineyard.org](mailto:fotv@duluthvineyard.org).

**FRUIT OF THE VINE FOOD SHELF** - In Matthew 25:40, Jesus said, what you have done for the least of these you have done for me. Our Fruit of the Vine Food Shelf meets the needs of those in our community who are facing food insecurity, providing them with a week's worth of food each time they visit. The food shelf is open on Tuesdays from 6-8pm and Saturdays from 9:30-11:30am. If you're interested in serving those who are facing this need in our community, we'd love to have you join the team! If you'd like to learn more about this area of ministry, please email Barry Schull at [bschull@duluthvineyard.org](mailto:bschull@duluthvineyard.org) or call 218.499.0123.

**VINEYARD BREW VOLUNTEER** - We think that church should be the most welcoming place you go each week. So, we serve coffee and tea and baked goods to help make people feel more comfortable. So many details go into this ministry from brewing coffee and washing cups to taking orders and crafting espresso drinks. But, don't worry; we'll train you how to do all this stuff! Want to be part of making a difference one cup of coffee at a time? Contact us at 218.525.3462 or [info@duluthvineyard.org](mailto:info@duluthvineyard.org)

There's nothing more satisfying than doing something that comes naturally to us, even if it might be a little bit of work. At times, it's like we're playing.

Find ways to volunteer in our Volunteer Guide or online.

[duluthvineyard.org/serve](https://duluthvineyard.org/serve)





# Empowered

PENTECOST 2023

**“Be filled with the Spirit.”**

– Ephesians 5:18

Our lives can be full of so many things: commitments to stay on top of, relationships to invest in, and responsibilities to manage. We can be full of stress and anxiety. And in our darker moments, we can be filled with pride, greed, lust or anger.

But, as Christians, it is our hope to be full of the Holy Spirit above anything else. The Apostle Paul wasn't talking about receiving a one time “fill-up” of the Spirit.

Ephesians 5:18 could be more literally translated, “be filled and continue to be filled with the Spirit in an on-going and never ending manner.” The truth is that we are in constant need of the Holy Spirit's power. The good news is that his filling is continually available to us.

Here is how author Simon Ponsonby describes being filled with the Holy Spirit: “It is a constantly repeatable, deepening experience of God's Spirit, who brings a greater revelation of the person and work of Christ, a blazing love for Christ, a greater and more effective empowering witness to Christ and a transforming conformity to the character of Christ.”

As Jesus prepared to leave this earth, he promised to send the Holy Spirit. He said the Spirit would be a helper, a counselor and an advocate as God's personal presence in

each of us. The work of the Holy Spirit is so encompassing in our lives! We're excited about some tangible opportunities to experience more of the Holy Spirit in the coming weeks. This spring, as we lean into this focus as a church, we believe that God will meet us in powerful ways.

## **Alpha Holy Spirit Day**

**Saturday, March 25 at 9:30am–2:30pm**

This day is not only for those of you already in an Alpha small group, but we're opening this up to the whole church. On this Saturday event, we'll learn more about who the Holy Spirit is, what the Holy Spirit does, and how we can continually be filled with the Spirit. There will be time for small group discussion and the day includes a free lunch. Another highlight is the opportunity to receive prayer for a deeper experience of the Holy Spirit in your life. Here is how one recent attendee described coming to the Holy Spirit Day.

*“I knew that the Alpha Holy Spirit Day was going to open some new doors for me, but I also had apprehensions. Praying was something that previously made me nervous, especially hands on prayer. But, when the time came to receive prayer that day, I decided to go for it. In one sense, as one of the leaders prayed for me, nothing extraordinary happened. But, on the other hand, something wonderful happened. It felt good, it felt happy, and it felt right. And it did open up a deeper relationship with God for me. Since that time, I have been growing in my experience of prayer and have even taken a few risks in offering to pray for others. It has been such a rewarding journey. My*

*encouragement to new people is this: The Holy Spirit is always there. You just have to let him in more and more.”*

Whether experiencing the Holy Spirit is brand new for you, or you've had a long history with the Holy Spirit, we believe God has something in store for you at this event. We would love to have you join us for the Alpha Holy Spirit Day.

## **Empowered Sermon Series**

**April 23 - May 28**



Then, later this spring, we will be doing a sermon series on the Holy Spirit titled “Empowered.” Over these six weeks, we'll get to explore how the Holy Spirit speaks to us, how the Spirit brings healing, and how the Spirit releases spiritual gifts to us and through us, as we partner with his work in others.

Another fun element of this focus is that we will be doing this study alongside hundreds of other Vineyard churches this spring. We look forward to all that God is going to do in our local church, as well as the fresh breakthroughs of the Spirit's power that will occur all around the country.

May God meet us and fill us afresh as we pray:  
Come Holy Spirit!



**Brian Brinkert, Associate Pastor**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		6pm - Fruit of the Vine	7pm - Emerge (Sr. High)			9:30am - Fruit of the Vine
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
5:30pm - Welcome to the Vineyard	7pm - Fully Engaged	6pm - Fruit of the Vine	7pm - Emerge (Sr. High)			9:30am - Fruit of the Vine
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	7pm - Fully Engaged	6pm - Fruit of the Vine	7pm - Emerge (Sr. High)		9:30am - FOTV Fresh Produce Giveaway	9:30am - Fruit of the Vine 9:30am - Alpha Holy Spirit Day
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	7pm - Fully Engaged	6pm - Fruit of the Vine	7pm - Emerge (Sr. High)			9:30am - Fruit of the Vine
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
10:30am & 12:30pm - Baptism Interest Meeting	7pm - Fully Engaged	6pm - Fruit of the Vine	7pm - Emerge (Sr. High)		<b>GOOD FRIDAY</b> Friday, April 7 at 6:30pm	9:30am - Fruit of the Vine
2	3	4	5	6		8
	7pm - Fully Engaged	6pm - Fruit of the Vine	7pm - Emerge (Sr. High)			9:30am - Fruit of the Vine
	10	11	12	13	14	15
1pm - Worship Interest Meeting	7pm - Fully Engaged	6pm - Fruit of the Vine	7pm - Emerge (Sr. High)	7pm - Art + Faith Book Club - Online		9:30am - Fruit of the Vine
16	17	18	19	20		21
		6pm - Fruit of the Vine	7pm - Emerge (Sr. High)		9:30am - FOTV Fresh Produce Giveaway	9:30am - Fruit of the Vine 9am - Men's Breakfast
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
10:30am & 12:30pm - Baptism Interest Meeting 4pm - College Finals Relief Night		6pm - Fruit of the Vine	7pm - Emerge (Sr. High)	6:30pm - Baptism Class 6:30pm - Vineyard Kids Baptism Class		9:30am - Fruit of the Vine
30	1	2	3	4	5	6