

# CURRENT

NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 2024

DULUTHVINEYARD.ORG



PHOTOGRAPH BY SANDI ACKERMAN

the **Vineyard** church

# WELCOME!

The Vineyard is a community of all kinds of people asking Jesus to bring us to life. 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
- Introduce yourself to one of our pastors
- 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:

- Surrender your life to Jesus
- Attend one of our Bible-based classes
- Commit to a Small Group
- Give and receive prayer
- Begin tithing regularly

## Leadership Steps ▶

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

- Attend Small Group Leader Training
- Ask God to change your character
- Love your enemies

## Serving 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
- Join our street teams as they meet and serve our community in practical ways
- Donate or volunteer providing period products

# ABOUT THE ARTIST

"One season long ago, in response to a personal sad situation, God asked me "Who is in charge of your worship? God blessed me by opening a wide variety of artistic forms of worship. Writing and photography became the genres I connected with the most. Later I discovered the beauty of putting my photography together with words and the creative form of graphic art. The wonder of God's creation put together with scripture God touched my heart. I received new joy to worship Him."

You can find more of Sandi's work on her blog, newsletters, facebook page and Instagram (@sandicreate).

## SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM

**Becca Eastvold** - Associate Pastor

**John Kliewer** - Interim Lead Pastor

**Steph Bremer** - Associate Pastor

## MINISTRY AREAS

**College & Young Adults** - Clint Considine - cconsidine@duluthvineyard.org

**Connections** - Steph Bremer - sbremer@duluthvineyard.org

**Clothing Closet** - Barry Schull - bschull@duluthvineyard.org

**Creative Arts & Design** - Andrea Bryant - abryant@duluthvineyard.org

**Discipleship** - John Kliewer - jkliewer@duluthvineyard.org

**Eastside Vineyard** - Clint Considine - cconsidine@duluthvineyard.org

**Fruit of the Vine Food Shelf** - Barry Schull - fotv@duluthvineyard.org

**Marriage & Family** - Becca Eastvold - beastvold@duluthvineyard.org

**Men's Ministry** - John Kliewer - jkliewer@duluthvineyard.org

**Period Pantry** - Barry Schull - bschull@duluthvineyard.org

**Prayer Ministry** - Becca Eastvold - beastvold@duluthvineyard.org

**Prison Ministry** - Barry Schull - prisonministry@duluthvineyard.org

**Small Groups** - Steph Bremer - sbremer@duluthvineyard.org

**Student Ministries** - Hunter Goebel - hgoebel@duluthvineyard.org

**Vineyard Kids** - Erika D'Angiola - edangiola@duluthvineyard.org

**Women's Ministry** - Steph Bremer - sbremer@duluthvineyard.org

**Worship Ministry** - Xena Alexandria - xalexandria@duluthvineyard.org

## WORSHIP SERVICES

**In-person Services** - Sundays at 9 & 11am at 1533 W. Arrowhead Rd.

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

**Office & Lobby Hours** - Tuesdays - Thursdays 9am-1pm

**Food Shelf Hours** - Tuesdays 6-8pm & Saturdays 9:30am-11:30am

## the **Vineyard** church

*Love God. Love people. Period.*

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)



# FIRST STEPS *RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD AND OTHERS*

**NIGHT OF WORSHIP** – Sunday, November 10 at 6pm – If you love worship music, receiving prayer, and being in God’s presence Night of Worship is for you! This an evening where we come together outside of our regular weekly Sunday morning rhythms and engage in an extended time of praise and prayer. Our worship leaders invite the Holy Spirit to meet us through musical worship, while our prayer team asks God for individual and group words for the room. We take time to listen, share, and respond to the invitations from the Holy Spirit as they come. Our prayer team members are available to pray with you anytime throughout the night. Maybe you have felt a longing in your heart, mind, or soul for more time and space to slow down and connect with God on a deeper level. There is healing, freedom, and joy in the presence of God! When we give God our full attention and posture our hearts to glorify and praise him the Holy Spirit meets us in powerful and tangible ways. Join us as we set aside this intentional time to press into what God is doing in each of us individually and our community as a whole!

**SEEING GOD'S GOODNESS - STUDENT GALLERY** – Artwork will be displayed through November – We all are able to experience God's goodness and oftentimes we might not recognize it. What ways have you experienced Jesus and his joy, love, generosity, compassion, or were simply struck by his greatness? Was it in conversation with friends? While sitting on the shore of Lake Superior? Walking through a really difficult situation? As children of God, we have an opportunity to see his goodness in every area of our lives, so for our latest art show in the gallery, we asked young artists to create pieces that capture their memorable moments of God's goodness from this summer. This show is a wonderful glimpse of the goodness of God through the eyes of children and students. We invite you to walk through the gallery, read the descriptions, and reflect on how you have come to know and experience our good and beautiful God.

**FINALS RELIEF NIGHT** – Sunday, December 8th at 4pm to midnight – Hey, college students! Studying for finals doesn't have to be boring. Get rid of your finals week anxiety by taking some time to come hang out at the Vineyard, have some fun, and maybe even study for a test or two. We've got eight hours of stress-relieving activities like: board games, movies, dodgeball tournaments, FREE FOOD and unlimited coffee to keep you going. There's also plenty of quiet study space with Wi-Fi access because we actually want you to do well on your exams. Did we mention it's all FREE? Join us if you want to study or "study" for finals. If you are interested in serving at this event please sign up online at [duluthvineyard.org/registration](http://duluthvineyard.org/registration) or contact Clint Considine at [cconsidine@duluthvineyard.org](mailto:cconsidine@duluthvineyard.org)

**CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES** – Tuesday, December 24 at 12 & 3pm (In-person & Online) – Join us this Christmas Eve as we celebrate the ultimate gift, Jesus! Through him, life to the fullest in the kingdom of God is available now and forever. As we prepare for Jesus' birthday celebration, join us on the Sundays before Christmas to learn how the best gift ever is available to absolutely everyone – no matter what we look like, what we've done, or how spiritual we are. On Christmas Eve, we will gather together to celebrate the best gift humanity has ever received. We will sing carols, hear the Christmas story, and consider what that can mean for our lives. This includes age appropriate programs for kids birth through 5th grade at both services. We would love to celebrate and experience the joyful gift of Christmas with you and your family!

**ONLINE ONLY WEEKEND SERVICE** – Sunday, December 29 – Online at 10 am Only – In any given month in our church community, we have between 200–300 people who volunteer and serve to help our church services and all its ministries function. That's a significant number of people serving and loving and leading us extremely well! With that in mind, we will be offering online services only for the weekend of Sunday, December 29 to honor these folks and to help us all rest well during the holiday season. If you're one of us who dearly love getting together on Sunday mornings, we suggest gathering together on these Sunday mornings with a few of your friends or family to share a meal, to worship together, to share a story or two of God's faithfulness over the past year, and of course to pray for and encourage one another. The online service will be held Sunday at 10am at [duluthvineyard.online.church](http://duluthvineyard.online.church). Then, we will see you back in-person on Sunday, January 5.

## FINANCIAL UPDATE

Currently, the Duluth Vineyard is “in the red” financially. Historically, it’s not uncommon for giving to lag during the summer months, but then for us to finish the year strong. At this point in the year, giving of tithes and offerings is \$102,302 below what we budgeted for 2024. For the first nine months of 2024, our total income was \$932,390.90 and our total expenses were \$1,019,227.85, leaving a bottom line, net operating loss of \$86,836.95. Thank you for your generosity as we finish the year!

## COMPASSION STORY

Occasionally we ask our food shelf participants to tell us their story. Here’s one we recently received from KZ. “...I’ve been coming here for years but, it wasn’t until (recently) that I really needed help. I was evicted from my home and I lived in my vehicle for almost a year. I had to stay in Duluth waiting for HUD housing. One week, I was starving and remembered the Vineyard Food Shelf. I was nervous. I hadn’t gone in a while. I was uncomfortable and feeling dirty. The people (at the food shelf) were so nice to me I wanted to cry. I have housing now, but you all were a Godsend that day. Thank you, I have immense gratitude.”

The Vineyard Compassion Ministries are making a difference in the lives of those we serve. But serving also changes our hearts. There’s no question that God commands us to serve those in need (see Matthew 25:35–40). God does this for our own good. Serving the poor is part of being Jesus’ apprentice; it can help make us more like him, and it grows our character, particularly our humility. Please consider how Jesus can use your serving as part of your discipleship journey.

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

**PRAYER NIGHTS AT EASTSIDE** - Sundays, November 3, 17 & December 15 - Dinner at 5:30pm, Prayer meeting starts at 6:30pm - Location: 3833 E Superior St - Jesus said "For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them." There is power in praying together as a community. Prayer transforms lives, sets people free, and creates a pathway to a deeper relationship with the Lord. Join us at our Eastside location as we share a meal, worship together, pray for the needs of the community, and pray for each other.

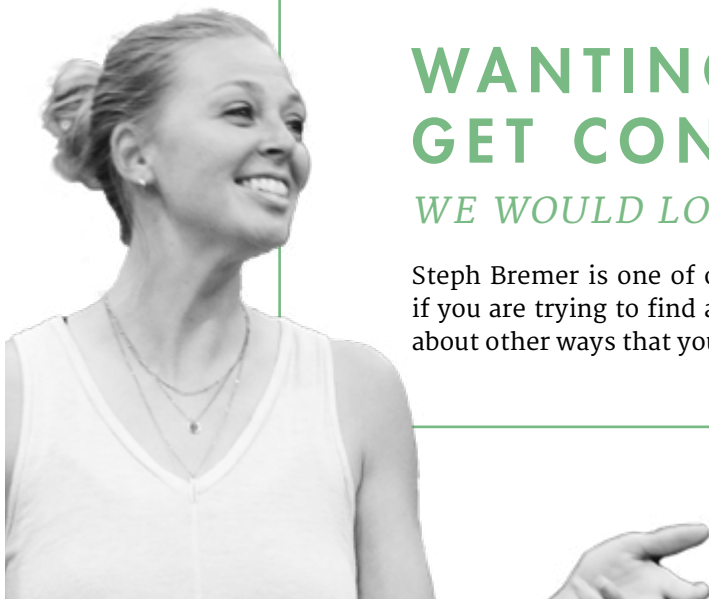
**SOAKING PRAYER & WORSHIP** - Wednesdays 10:30am-11:30am - God moves, speaks, and heals through music. Soaking prayer and worship creates space for the slow, beautiful, deep, and healing work of the Holy Spirit within us. This will be a time to simply sit in God's presence and receive. There won't be lyrics on a screen or any specific structure. During this time Xena will sing, play piano, and pray as the Holy Spirit leads. In this season, if you are feeling exhausted, hopeless, or have been longing for more time to just be with Jesus, you are invited to come and experience his peace, love, goodness, and mercy through worship. Come and go as you please, on your own, or with a friend. At any time throughout, pray, sing, read your Bible, journal, or simply sit and rest in God's presence.

**BLUE CHRISTMAS: A SERVICE OF COMFORT AND HOPE** - Sunday, December 1 at 6:00pm - The holidays can be a difficult season for many people, especially if you are grieving the loss of a loved one, processing the pain of a broken relationship, or if you are battling discouragement and loneliness. This simple service will offer space to mark these losses, as well as the opportunity to receive the love and comfort that God has for us in the midst of our pain.

**WOMEN'S RETREAT** - April 10-12 - Prepare for a weekend designed to nourish your soul and refresh your spirit. Thursday evening (optional) will be a time of relaxed fun and connection. Then Friday morning we'll kick off the retreat. Our time together will be all about finding rest, connecting with God, and deepening relationships with other women. Through teaching, intimate worship, engaging workshops, and most importantly the power of the Holy Spirit, we'll find rest and renewal, together. Spots are limited. Register today!



**WINTER SMALL GROUP - OPEN MONTH** - Are you considering leading a small group this winter? December is the time to start planning! If you enjoy welcoming others, opening your home and building meaningful relationships, while experiencing transformation; reach out to Steph Bremer at [sbremer@duluthvineyard.org](mailto:sbremer@duluthvineyard.org) to explore what small group leadership could look like for you. Also, if you've been diving into *The Good and Beautiful God*, the first book of the Apprentice Series, either on your own or with a group, you'll have a chance to continue the journey. This winter, several groups will be studying the next book in the series, *The Good and Beautiful Life*. Don't miss out on this opportunity to grow deeper in community!



## WANTING TO GET CONNECTED?

*WE WOULD LOVE TO HELP YOU FIND YOUR FIT!*

Steph Bremer is one of our Associate Pastors. She is the person to reach out to if you are trying to find a small group, get involved in women's ministry, or ask about other ways that you can get involved in community here at the Vineyard.

Small groups are a vitally important part of our community — a place to let your guard down and build meaningful relationships with one another and with God.

Check out all of our groups online or in the lobby.  
[duluthvineyard.org/smallgroups](http://duluthvineyard.org/smallgroups)



# MORE UPCOMING EVENTS

## VINEYARD KIDS & RISE-UP

**3RD GRADE BIBLE GIVEAWAY** – Sunday, November 10 during both services – We believe it is very important, as followers of Jesus, that we make a regular practice of reading from the scriptures each and every day. Because it's such a priority, we will be presenting each third-grade student with their very own Bible during both our in-person services. In third grade, most kids are beginning to read independently. This new intellectual stage is also a spiritual milestone, the beginning of a lifetime of reading and studying the Bible. So, as kids are just beginning to read, we're giving them their own Bible, the book most worth reading! This is a wonderful opportunity to begin and encourage a lifetime of learning about and connecting with God through the Scriptures. Register online at [duluthvineyard.org/registration](http://duluthvineyard.org/registration).

**VINEYARDKIDS CHRISTMAS CRAFTING & MOVIE NIGHT** – Friday, December 13 at 6pm – Please join us for a Fun & Festive Family Christmas Celebration. Gather your kids for an evening filled with creativity and festive cheer. We'll kick off the night with a fun craft session where kids can create their own unique gifts to share with loved ones. All materials will be provided—just bring your holiday spirit! After crafting, bring a cozy blanket, pillow and stuffy if you'd like to settle in for a short cozy Christmas movie with popcorn. It's the perfect way to connect with other families and enjoy the magic of Christmas this season. If you're looking for a fun night out, this event promises to be enjoyable for all ages. Don't miss out on this chance to celebrate the joy of Jesus in this Christmas season together. We can't wait to celebrate with you!

**MARSHMALLOW MADNESS** – Rise-Up Students (Grades 4-6) – Sunday, December 15 at 2pm – Learn how to craft your own marshmallow shooter using simple materials. We'll provide everything you need to unleash your inner engineer. Once your marshmallow shooters are ready, put them to the test. Aim for various targets to earn points and prizes. Who will be the ultimate marshmallow marksman? This event promises to be a blast—literally! Gather your friends and join us for an afternoon of creativity, teamwork, and lots of marshmallow fun. Don't miss out.

## VINEYARD YOUTH

**VINEYARD YOUTH** – Wednesdays at 6:30pm – Eastside Vineyard (3833 E. Superior Street) – Our youth group is trying something new and exciting...we are moving to Eastside! For years, our student ministries has shared a space with our Fruit of the Vine food shelf. Now, not only will the Youth Group have their own space to make their own but, FOTV will have room to grow. Our students are excited and ready to make Eastside a space where they can grow and experience Jesus in new ways. Youth Group for middle and high school will now be held at Eastside Vineyard from 6:30pm until 8:30pm. For more information, contact Hunter Goebel at 218-585-1421 or [hgoebel@duluthvineyard.org](mailto:hgoebel@duluthvineyard.org).

**MONTHLY YOUTH HANGOUT (GRADES 6-12)** – November 7 & December 5 at 6:30pm – Eastside Vineyard (3833 E. Superior Street) – Come and hangout with us at Eastside Vineyard on the first Thursday of every month during the school year! Maybe we'll have a campfire? Maybe a movie night? Maybe board games? If you're a student then you get to choose! This is a great chance to hangout, make new friends, and invite new friends to experience community! We'll meet at Eastside Vineyard from 6:30pm until about 8:30pm the first Thursday of each month. For more information, contact Hunter Goebel at 218-585-1421 or [hgoebel@duluthvineyard.org](mailto:hgoebel@duluthvineyard.org).



## REPORTING HOTLINE

### TO REPORT ABUSE OR OTHER CONCERNS

Call: (877) 817-9145 | Online: [www.MyComplianceReport.com](http://www.MyComplianceReport.com)  
(Use access ID : DV)

Our 24/7 toll-free number is staffed by an independent organization and you do not have to give your name. Your report will be reviewed by appropriate members of our staff and Church Council. If your report alleges misconduct by a particular person, your report will not be sent to that person. The operator will give you a reference number so that you may follow-up. We also strongly encourage all reports of criminal activities to be reported to law enforcement.

# SERVING STEPS *PARTNERING WITH GOD AND OTHERS*

**GARDEN PARTY** – Saturday, November 16 at 12pm – Did you know our church has a garden that provides fresh produce weekly to our food shelf? You are invited to join us for a Garden Party on Saturday, November 16 from noon until 4pm as we close the garden up for the season. We will be grilling hot dogs, and having some chips and beverages. We will be preparing the garden for next season, building some new vegetable beds, and getting you connected with this living project. It's part of our Compassion Ministry and a great way to "grow" your faith. For more information contact Barry Schull at [FOTV@duluthvineyard.org](mailto:FOTV@duluthvineyard.org)

**CITY OF THE NORTH PARADE** – Friday, November 22 at 5:30pm – 206 W Superior St. – We are a people who deeply love God and who deeply care for our city. We want to show the love of Jesus in practical ways around the Twin Ports. Join us at 5:30pm outside of Mainstream Fashion as we bless our city during the City of the North Parade by giving out hundreds of cups of free hot chocolate. This is a fun way to make strangers feel loved, noticed, and put into practice the radical welcome that God extends to each of us. This is a great event for the whole family to serve our community together. For more information, get in touch with Clint at [cconsidine@duluthvineyard.org](mailto:cconsidine@duluthvineyard.org) or 218-525-3462. Register online at [duluthvineyard.org/registration](http://duluthvineyard.org/registration).

**FINALS RELIEF NIGHT VOLUNTEERS** – Sunday, December 8 at 4pm to midnight – We love creating a space for college students to come, study, relax, and feel cared for in practical ways. At the end of each semester we offer eight hours of stress-relieving activities including board games, movies, dodgeball tournaments, FREE FOOD, and unlimited coffee. To do this it takes a team of folks, and that's where you come in! If you are interested in serving at this event let us know by contacting Clint Considine at [cconsidine@duluthvineyard.org](mailto:cconsidine@duluthvineyard.org) or sign up online at [duluthvineyard.org/registration](http://duluthvineyard.org/registration).

**STREET TEAM** – Mondays at 5:30pm at Plaza Shopping Center Bus Stop (2 S 12th Ave E) – Jesus said in John 13:35, "By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." We are a community that wants to serve our city well and demonstrate that the love of God is for everyone! Join us as we give away a free drink downtown as a way to bless the Twin Ports and demonstrate that the love of God is free, no strings attached. Contact Clint for more information at [cconsidine@duluthvineyard.org](mailto:cconsidine@duluthvineyard.org) or just show up and be part of the team!

**ADOPT A FAMILY** – For the eighth year in a row, we are hosting an Adopt-a-Family program! Families with kids receiving food from our food shelf are eligible to apply to be matched with a sponsor family from our church who will "adopt" their family for Christmas. **Sponsors are needed!** You could do this on your own or with your small group or workplace—the more the merrier! Sponsors will buy at least one present for each child aged 18 and below, spending approximately \$50 per child. After you purchase the gifts, wrap and label them, and drop them off at the church by Sunday, December 7 so we can distribute to families on Saturday December 14 following the food shelf. Don't want to shop for gifts but still want to help out? You can also donate to Adopt-a-Family online or by putting Adopt-a-family in your check memo. Contact us at [fotv@duluthvineyard.org](mailto:fotv@duluthvineyard.org) or call 218-525-3462 to get signed up.

**FACILITIES TEAM** – If you've ever attended a service or an event here at the Vineyard and looked around and thought "Hey, I wonder who keeps this place tidy?" or "Setting up for events seems kind of fun," then we have a great fit for you! Our facilities team is looking for more volunteers to help keep our space clean and welcoming. We have a weekly cleaning team, event setup/teardown teams, a snow removal team, and a Sunday morning cleaning team! If you're interested in helping on the facilities team, contact Hunter Goebel at [hgoebel@duluthvineyard.org](mailto:hgoebel@duluthvineyard.org) or 218-585-1421.

## INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING?

*WE WOULD LOVE TO HEAR HOW!*

Becca Eastvold is one of our Associate Pastors. She is the person to reach out to if you want to learn more about volunteering. There are so many ways you can serve at the Vineyard and in the Twin Ports community. She would love to help you find your fit.



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](http://duluthvineyard.org/serve)





Christmas is amazing! It's Jesus' birthday party. Christmas is when we celebrate the ultimate gift – God giving us a savior. It's the gift of Jesus. He's an escape from all the trouble and pain in our lives. He's how we can have a new way of life, the best kind of life now and forever with him. This gift is almost too good to be true. That first Christmas, in a grubby stable, God gave us the ultimate gift, God gave us a savior.

But, who is us? Who is this gift for? Who God's gift is for is also too good to be true. It's hard for us to wrap our minds around. This Christmas season, this Advent, we're going to give it a try. We're going to let the Holy Spirit blow us away, change us, with the unbelievable availability of God's gift.

#### **OBVIOUS AND UNBELIEVABLE**

The answer to "Who is the gift for?" is pretty obvious from the Christmas story. God is not subtle. But religious folks, pastors like me, we have trouble accepting it, living like it's true. It's just too unbelievable for us. It's easier for outsiders to see it. As Simon & Garfunkel sang:

*Blessed are the sat upon, spat upon, ratted on*

*Blessed are the meth drinkers, pot sellers, illusion dwellers.*

*Blessed are the penny rookers, cheap hookers, groovy lookers.*

The Christmas gift of Jesus is for them. Not because they are abused, addicts, immoral. No, the gift is so amazing because it's available in spite of and in the midst of the worst of circumstances.

#### **THE CHRISTMAS STORY**

This Christmas, let's pay closer attention to the Christmas story, particularly those of us like me that know it well. God was super intentional about the way he sent his son. Jesus' arrival on this planet teaches us a ton.

Jesus didn't arrive on this planet surrounded by comfort, luxury or even safety. At the

time, he wasn't born into a royal or priestly family. No. His mom bore the shame of being unmarried and his adopted dad was a poor, working class carpenter. Today, maybe his mom would have bore the shame and confusion of being transgender. His dad struggling to make ends meet as an Uber driver.

At the time, Jesus' birth wasn't announced by angels to the celebrities, the people that mattered. No. Glorious angels announced the good news of his birth to dirty, smelly shepherds keeping watch over their flocks in the fields. Today, maybe those beautiful angles would have appeared to illegal immigrants in a parking lot, covered in gunk after a long shift at the meat packing plant. Maybe the angels' glorious song would have been sung in Spanish.

At the time, Jesus didn't receive birthday gifts from the in crowd, the right people. No. It was pagans, outsiders, Magi with messed up beliefs, that noticed the star, that brought their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. Today, maybe his gifts could have come from Native Americans, Muslims, or even the dreaded secular humanists.

Do we see the point God's making here – at Christmas? He's not doing it like we'd expect on purpose. His way is better. His gift, the ultimate gift, really is for everyone. Do we truly believe that it's for us, you and me? It is. Who do we have trouble believing that it's for? This Christmas, the Holy Spirit can help us reach out to them.

#### **THE BEATITUDES**

Maybe this all seems perfectly obvious to you. God's gift, the kingdom of God, is available to everyone. Easy-peasy. But some of us, particularly folks like me who have been following Jesus for awhile, we can often use some help getting our hearts and minds around this incredible truth, and use some help living like it's true. Thankfully, Jesus has got our back. He gave us the Beatitudes.

This advent, I am so looking forward to unpacking the Beatitudes (Matthew 5:3-12 and Luke 6:17-26) with you. What they say about the availability of God's gift is incredible! Dallas Willard talks about the Beatitudes in Chapter 4 of The Divine Conspiracy. I recently reread it and it brought me to tears. God loves us so much! Let me give you a taste of what Willard says:

*Jesus did not say, "Blessed are the poor in spirit because they are poor in spirit." He did not think, "What a fine thing it is to be destitute of every spiritual attainment or quality. It makes people worthy of the kingdom..."*

*Those poor in spirit are called "blessed" by Jesus, not because they are in a meritorious condition, but because, precisely in spite of and in the midst of their ever so deplorable condition, the rule of the heavens has moved redemptively upon and through them by the grace of Christ...*

*The religious system of his day left the multitudes out, but Jesus welcomed them all into his kingdom. Anyone could come as well as any other. They still can. That is the gospel of the Beatitudes...*






So we must see from our hearts that:

*Blessed are the physically repulsive,  
Blessed are those who smell bad,  
The twisted, misshapen, deformed,  
The too big, too little, too loud,  
The bald, the fat, and the old—  
For they are all riotously celebrated in the party of Jesus.*

And, that party started at Christmas.

Merry Christmas,

**John Kliewer, Interim Lead Pastor**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
5:30pm - Prayer Night at Eastside Vineyard 1pm - Welcome to the Vineyard  3	5:30pm - Street Team  4	6pm - FOTV  5	10:30am - Soaking Prayer & Worship 6:30pm - Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group @ Eastside  6	6:30pm - Youth Hang Out!  7	8	9:30am - FOTV  9
9 & 11am - 3rd Grade Bible Giveaway  NIGHT OF WORSHIP  11	5:30pm - Street Team  11	6pm - FOTV  12	10:30am - Soaking Prayer & Worship 6:30pm - Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group @ Eastside  13	14	15	9:30am - FOTV 12pm - Garden Party  16
5:30pm - Prayer Night at Eastside Vineyard  17	5:30pm - Street Team  18	6pm - FOTV  19	10:30am - Soaking Prayer & Worship 6:30pm - Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group @ Eastside  20	21	 christmas city of the north parade Friday, Nov. 22 at 9:30pm  23	9:30am - FOTV  23
24	5:30pm - Street Team  25	6pm - FOTV  26	10:30am - Soaking Prayer & Worship 6:30pm - Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group @ Eastside  27	Vineyard Offices Closed  28	29	30
 Blue CHRISTMAS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1 AT 6PM At Eastside Vineyard  2	5:30pm - Street Team  2	6pm - FOTV  3	10:30am - Soaking Prayer & Worship 6:30pm - Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group @ Eastside  4	5	6	9:30am - FOTV  7
COLLEGE FINALS  Relief NIGHT DEC. 08  9	5:30pm - Street Team  9	6pm - FOTV  10	10:30am - Soaking Prayer & Worship 6:30pm - Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group @ Eastside  11	12	6pm - VineyardKids Christmas Crafting & Movie Night  13	9:30am - FOTV  14
2pm - Rise-Up Marshmallow Madness 5:30pm - Prayer Night at Eastside Vineyard 6pm - Revive Community Worship & Prayer Night  15	5:30pm - Street Team  16	6pm - FOTV  17	10:30am - Soaking Prayer & Worship 6:30pm - Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group @ Eastside  18	19	20	9:30am - FOTV  21
22	5:30pm - Street Team  23	 christmas eve Services at 12 & 3pm  24	Vineyard Offices Closed  25	26	27	9:30am - FOTV  28
 Online Only at 10am  29	5:30pm - Street Team  30	31	1	2	3	9:30am - FOTV  4