

CURRENT

MAY/JUNE/JULY/AUGUST 2025

DULUTHVINEYARD.ORG



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 Prison Ministries team and share the good news of Jesus with those who are incarcerated.
- Donate or volunteer providing period products

SENIOR STAFF

John Kliewer - Interim Lead Pastor

Steph Bremer - Associate Pastor

Becca Eastvold - Associate Pastor

Melissa Hassebrock - Office Manager & HR

MINISTRY AREAS

College & Young Adults - info@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 - info@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 - Steph Bremer - sbremer@duluthvineyard.org

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

Worship Ministry - worship@duluthvineyard.org

WORSHIP SERVICES:

In-person Services:

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

Online Services:

Sundays at 9am & 11am
duluthvineyard.org/livestream

FRUIT OF THE VINE HOURS:

Tuesdays 6-8pm & Saturdays 9:30-11:30am

By appointment, call 218. 525.3462

duluthvineyard.org/fotv

CHURCH COUNCIL

To provide comments and feedback on the governance of the church to our Church Council, email councilfeedback@duluthvineyard.org. All emails will be forward to the entire Church Council.

the **Vineyard** church

Love God. Love people. Period.

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

1533 W. Arrowhead Rd., Duluth, MN 55811

218.525.3462 • www.duluthvineyard.org

info@duluthvineyard.org

facebook.com/theduluthvineyardchurch

instagram.com/duluthvineyard

FIRST STEPS *RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD AND OTHERS*

WOMEN'S BRUNCH (POTLUCK) – Saturday, May 31 at 9am – Life moves fast—school, work, motherhood, caregiving, retirement. In the middle of it all, we long for deeper connection and a renewed sense of God's presence. That's why we're setting the table. Women's Brunch is more than a meal. It's a chance to breathe, to bring something to share, and to be reminded that you belong. Around the table, we'll swap stories, worship together, and explore ways to grow in faith and friendship. Whether you're in high school or walking into a new season, come hungry—for food, for connection, for Jesus. Nursing moms welcome. Childcare not available. Register online at duluthvineyard.org.

LEAD PASTOR NOMINEE UPCOMING EVENTS:

MEET & GREET WITH BECCA EASTVOLD, LEAD PASTOR NOMINEE – Sunday, June 1 at 11:30am in the Lobby after service – Join us for a casual time of connection. This is a great opportunity to meet Becca, introduce yourself, ask questions, and enjoy fellowship together. Everyone is welcome!

CANDIDATE FORUM AND Q&A – Sunday, June 8: Potluck at 6:30pm with Q & A following at 7pm – Open to all church members and leaders, this formal session will include a time of hearing from Becca about her heart and vision for ministry, followed by an opportunity for open questions and dialogue. Come early at 6:30pm for a potluck or at 7pm for the Q&A.

MEMBER VOTE FOR LEAD PASTOR: LEAD PASTOR SELECTION – Sunday, June 29 – All official church members will have the opportunity to vote on the decision to call Becca Eastvold as our next Lead Pastor.

DAN BREMNES {THE HERO} TOUR – Friday, June 6 at 7pm – Duluth Vineyard – Presented by Life 97.3 & True Hope Ministries – Join Dan Bremnes on his The Hero Tour for an unforgettable night of music, faith, and inspiration! Experience his powerful storytelling and heartfelt worship as he takes you on a journey through songs that speak to the soul. The Presence Music Band will open the night, setting the atmosphere with passionate, spirit-filled music. Don't miss this incredible evening of live music and connection. Doors Open at 6:30 pm for General Admission ticket holders and at 5:30 for VIP ticket holders. For tickets, visit life973.com/concerts/ or find the link on Duluth Vineyard facebook event.

WANT TO SEND ENCOURAGEMENT TO JOHN?

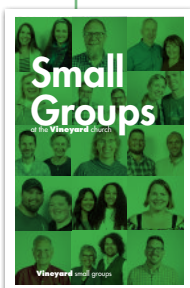
Please email your message to info@duluthvineyard.org or drop cards off at the Welcome Desk.

5TH GRADE GRADUATION – Sunday, June 8 from 3pm to 6pm – We are having a party to celebrate 5th graders making the move from Rise Up to our junior high ministry in the week. Students on Sundays can continue downstairs through 6th grade if they so choose. We'll have pizza, talk about the transition from Vineyard Kids to student ministry, pray for each of the students, and play a lot of laser tag at Adventure Zone. Graduating 5th graders will play games with their Rise Up teachers while parents/guardians will have a chance to chat about our junior high ministry with Hunter. Parents/guardians, you're invited to come to this event with your student. Register online. Contact Steph if you have questions at 218.525.3462 or sbremmer@duluthvineyard.org.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE – June 16-20 | Denver, CO & July 14-17 | Cincinnati, OH – Throughout history, the Lord has been composing a beautiful melody through the story of His people and His Church. For the past 50 years, the Vineyard movement has had the privilege of adding its own unique harmony to this grand symphony. Dietrich Bonhoeffer spoke of the cantus firmus—the foundational melody that gives structure and meaning to all other harmonies. In Kingdom life, Jesus Himself is this cantus firmus, the unwavering theme around which everything else must find its place. We recognize that our own movement, like a harmony, is meaningful only as it remains rooted in this firm and unchanging foundation. We will explore the theme of Melody and Harmony—celebrating how the Lord has woven the Vineyard into the ongoing song of His Church. We will also mark this moment in our history, highlighting the culmination of our ordination and bylaws work as a movement. For more information or to register, visit conference.vineyardusa.org.

WELCOME TO THE VINEYARD – Sunday, June 22 at 6pm –

Welcome to the Vineyard is an evening designed to help you get to know who we are, what we believe, and where we're headed. You'll learn about the heart behind our mission, our values, and how you can find your place in the life of our church. We'll share a meal together, hear stories, and offer space for honest questions. At the end of the night, you'll have the opportunity to take a next step into membership—which not only connects you more deeply to our community, but also gives you a voice in important moments ahead, including the process of selecting our next senior pastor. Dinner is provided. Register online or at the Welcome Center—we can't wait to meet you!



WANTING TO GET CONNECTED? *WE WANT TO HELP!*

Steph Bremer 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.



JR. + SR. HIGH SUMMER BEACH NIGHTS – Wednesdays, June 25, July 30, and August 27 at 6:30pm – Summer is a time for friends and sunshine! Join us the last Wednesday of the month at the Park Point Beach house as we take time to enjoy the highlights of summer together: grilling, volleyball, swimming, and friends! For questions, contact Hunter Goebel at hgoebel@duluthvineyard.org.

MONTHLY YOUTH HANGOUT (GRADES 6-12) – June 5, July 3, August 7 at 6:30pm – Eastside Vineyard (3833 E. Superior Street) – Come and hangout with us at Eastside Vineyard on the first Thursday of every month! 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 8:30pm the first Thursday of each month. For more information, contact Hunter Goebel at 218-585-1421 or hgoebel@duluthvineyard.org.

PROJECT TIMOTHY – June 17-22 at Evanston Vineyard in Evanston, IL– The apostle Paul wrote to a young pastor named Timothy and instructed him "Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity." Paul saw Timothy's gift of leadership and invested in him. Project Timothy is a four-day event designed to invest, train and equip high school students in the Midwest North region for a life of leadership empowered by God's Holy Spirit. If you are a high school student and interested in attending this event, please talk to Hunter in person or email him at hgoebel@duluthvineyard.org

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

Every year, during the month of March, we take time to highlight our compassion ministries. We talk about this in March because The MN Food Share March Campaign matches a portion of the funds we raise through the first weekend in April.

This past March, with your help, we raised **\$21,148.06 and 2,802lbs of food and clothing**. Thank you for partnering with us by giving generously to help us continue to serve our community in practical ways.

If you're interested in volunteering, we'd love to have join one of our teams! Contact Barry Schull, our Compassion Ministry Coordinator, at fotv@duluthvineyard.org or pick up a Volunteer Guide to see all the ways you can get involved and help serve our community.



Join us for our Summer Services Sundays at 10am

IN-PERSON

LIVESTREAM

NEXT STEPS *GOING DEEPER INTO THE LIFE JESUS OFFERS*

RULE OF LIFE WEEKLY PRACTICES – Ongoing – This year, as a church, we've been intentionally engaging in the practices of Jesus—planned habits for transformation that shaped his life and have formed his followers for centuries. Each month, we've explored a different spiritual discipline, including Sabbath, prayer, fasting, solitude, and generosity.

As we move into summer, we're pausing from introducing new practices until the fall. In the meantime, we invite you to revisit the practices we've already learned this year. Consider reflecting on what God has been highlighting in you—and maybe even revisit a practice you found especially meaningful.

If you're looking for a way to stay connected and grow with others this summer, you might consider going through the 8-week Spiritual Practices Primer on the Practicing the Way website with your small group or a few close friends. We're meant to practice and reflect on these experiences with community.



RULE OF LIFE CHECK-IN – Our Rule of Life Check-Ins (between Sunday services) will resume in September, as we explore our next practice: Scripture.

SUMMER SMALL GROUPS [MAY: OPEN MONTH] – Find your people and deepen your walk with Jesus. In a world that often pulls us apart, small groups create space for connection, honesty, and transformation. Whether you're laughing around a firepit, sharing a meal, or praying through real-life struggles, these are the moments where discipleship comes to life. Don't settle for going it alone. Step into a group where you can be fully yourself, grow in your faith, and discover what it really means to become part of a community of disciples. During the month of May, many groups will take a pause, creating an easy start for anyone new in June.

REPORTING HOTLINE

TO REPORT ABUSE OR OTHER CONCERNS

Call: (877) 817-9145 | Online: 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.

CHURCH COUNCIL FEEDBACK

To provide comments and feedback on the governance of the church to our Church Council, email councilfeedback@duluthvineyard.org. All emails will be forwarded to the entire Church Council.



HABITS FOR SPIRITUAL TRANSFORMATION

For many of us, spending time with Jesus, going to church, or attending a small group has felt more like homework than a real and life-giving relationship.

We've been taught the importance of Bible reading, prayer, service, or going to church, yet we may not have many tools or training to do these things well.

To help us develop our relationship with Jesus, as a church we have been learning and trying out at a few different spiritual practices. These aren't to add another to-do onto our lists, but rather create habits that encourage spiritual transformation.

If you are curious about learning more. Some great places to start include reading the book "Practicing the Way" by John Mark Comer, watching the free resources linked via the QR code, or joining us for a Rule of Life check in!



Practicing the Way

Be with Jesus
Become like him
Do as he did

John Mark Comer

New York Times bestseller
From the author of The Ruthless Experiment of Mercy

SERVING STEPS *PARTNERING WITH GOD AND OTHERS*

HOSTING SAFE BAY – Safe Bay is a program that offers secure overnight parking for people who are living in their vehicles. It is open nightly from May through October. This highly successful program will be moved to our location beginning in May 2025.

Safe Bay provides access to showers, bathrooms, potable water, Wi-Fi, peer support, housing resources and more. This innovative program has helped many people who could have slipped through the cracks. Last summer, Safe Bay served 149 different households. By the end of October, 14 households found permanent housing, 9 moved into transitional housing and another 30 got connected with shelter. If you are interested in volunteering or have questions on how to help, contact Barry Schull at fofv@duluthvineyard.org

DOUGH-NATION NIGHTS – Every 3rd Wednesday of the month at Topper's Pizza (1231 E 9th St.) – Support Laundry Love with a pizza night! Every 3rd Wednesday of the month from 4-9pm, Topper's Pizza is donating 15% of their sales to Laundry Love. Mention "Duluth Vineyard" or use promo code "Vineyard" when you place an order.

LAUNDRY LOVE – Laundry Love is a national nonprofit organization partnering with local groups to wash the clothes and bedding of low and no income persons with dignity and compassion. The Duluth Laundry Love chapter has 5 teams of churches/organizations that each host a different Tuesday morning at Spirit Valley Laundromat. The Vineyard team hosts the first Tuesday morning of every month, covering the cost of guest washers and dryers from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. Volunteers and financial contributions are invited. For more information, contact Barry Schull at fofv@duluthvineyard.org

JULY SUMMER CHALLENGE – July 1-31 – Join us in participating in the 17th annual Open Your Heart Summer Challenge! During this campaign, all donations will be proportionally matched to help support our Fruit of the Vine food shelf. The food shelf is one of the biggest ways we are able to serve our community in practical ways. It's our goal to share the love of God with every person that comes through our doors. If you would like to donate during this summer challenge, please drop off food and clothing during office hours or weekend services, or you can put a few dollars in the poor box. If you want more information or have questions, contact Barry Schull at fofv@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. We are now scheduling appointments during business hours for individuals who pick up for multiple families or cannot attend during normal distribution times. If you're interested in serving, we'd love to have you join the team! Contact Barry Schull at fofv@duluthvineyard.org

SUITCASE DONATIONS NEEDED – Our Fruit of the Vine food shelf serves hundreds of people each month, some travel by bus or walk in order to access our food pantry. We are looking for donations of rolling suitcases to help our guests who walk or ride the bus transport their food items home. If you would like to donate, items can be dropped off during lobby hours or at weekend services. Have questions? Contact Barry Schull at fofv@duluthvineyard.org

CLOTHING CLOSET VOLUNTEERS – Calling for Clothing Closet Team members to assist guests in our clothing closet on Tuesday evenings and Saturday mornings. Our clothing closet is open to food shelf guests in the waiting area for guests to utilize while awaiting to get food. Team members will provide conversation, hospitality, prayer if requested, reorganize clothing racks, and clean up any spills in the waiting area. We anticipate volunteer serving will be about once a month. This team is separate from the food shelf volunteers, but will interact closely with them. Additionally, the Clothing Closet restock team is always looking for help. They meet every Tuesday and Friday morning around 9am to restock and prepare for the next distribution. Interested? To sign up contact Barry Schull at fofv@duluthvineyard.org

CALLING ALL GARDENERS – We are looking for extra produce! Are you planting a garden this year? If yes, and you happen to have some extra produce, the food shelf could use your garden fresh donations! Produce can be dropped off during business hours. Contact Barry Schull at fofv@duluthvineyard.org



INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING?

WE WOULD LOVE TO HEAR HOW!

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. Becca Eastvold is our teams pastor and she would love to help you find an area to serve.





OPEN YOUR HEART'S

SUMMER CHALLENGE

Providing matching grants and raising
awareness for Minnesota food shelves



STORIES OF HOPE *HOW GOD'S WORKING IN OUR LIVES*

WOMEN'S RETREAT STORY

"I'll be honest, I was a bit nervous to head out of town and be with a bunch of women for the weekend. But it turns out it was what my spirit and heart needed. Never do I have the opportunity to have that amount of time to be surrounded by women who love Jesus, without the distraction of life. The facility was amazing, and the flexible, no pressure schedule and intimate times of teaching and worship were so refreshing. Jesus met me there. -Even when I can't seem to find Him on my own, He has a way of finding me. I was surrounded by women who took the time to pray for me, and I know that God started doing a gentle, new work inside of me."

— Kelly

SERVING WITH A PURPOSE

"I always feel God in serving. Serving gets us out of ourselves and helps us to see the world around us. I really enjoy kids of all ages because they say the first things that come out of their mouths. They are a blessing given to their families. I also love getting to know the people who serve alongside of me. We are all different and differences are good."

—Nancy Carlson

EXPERIENCING JESUS THROUGH OTHERS

"Alpha has truly changed me. For the first time, I recognize Jesus' presence in my life. He has come into my life in a real way. I genuinely enjoyed Alpha because of the people and powerful conversations we had. I'm still exploring questions about the Bible. Since Alpha, I started attending the Vineyard because of the vibe and community and I look forward to getting more involved."

— Recent Alpha Attendee

THE LORD PROVIDES

"I was 18 and houseless with a newborn, having a hard time getting food and clothes for both of us because I had very bad social anxiety. Going to the Vineyard, I got food, clothing, and help that I needed. Getting baptized and learning from others helped me get through challenges I felt alone with. Now I am helping others. Believe in yourself, believe in the power of what you speak is what you get! Ask for help, the Lord provides."

— Anonymous [Fruit of the Vine Food Shelf Visitor]



STORIES OF HOPE – Our community is full of people who have had their lives changed by Jesus. God is doing amazing things and we want to hear your story of hope. 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. You can also visit our website to read more stories at duluthvineyard.org/hope.

MEN'S RETREAT STORY

"God's faithfulness is so good. I thought I loved him when I started a relationship with him; you think you know what love is but then when you go through hard times, you really learn what love is. You have to choose it. And that's when you experience a depth of love that you didn't even know existed. Our part of discipleship is yielding to God. Letting him do the work and we just surrender."

— Troy Walker

BLESSINGS AT ROOTED OATS RUMMAGE SALE

"A gentle woman with two girls strolled through the aisles of the rummage sale. I noticed her arms were getting quite full so I asked if I could carry her treasures to the checkout table. With a very grateful heart, she unloaded her items and continued looking. Her second load of treasures led me to ask if she wanted a box. We began a discussion as to the reason for the rummage sale. I gave her a flier with an explanation. Her next question: 'Tell me about your church.' I stated the main reason is Jesus. She asked if the church was 'inclusive'. That led to further discussion. With some of her own responses, and the look in her eyes I received a Holy Spirit prompt. I turned to face her, looked right into her eyes and with my hands on each arm I said, 'I have a question to ask you.' 'OK.' 'Can I pray for you?' 'OK.' 'I mean can I pray for you right now?' 'OK.'"

I then asked if I could put my hand on her shoulder. The Holy Spirit ministered through words and His touch to the places of need. After the prayer was finished, I gave her a hug. Her tears and response reflected she received God's love. Because of her interest, I shared with her the times of our Sunday service. I told her she now has an invitation from me to attend. This was a blessing to me. God's Heart was shown."

— Sandi Ackerman

FRUIT OF THE VINE FOOD SHELF: HELPING IN PRACTICAL WAYS

"I've never had much. The [Fruit of the Vine Food] shelf has provided a lot of things my family needs. From baby clothes when they were still tiny, to kids clothes now that they're bigger. Essentials like baby wipes, fresh produce, and bread to keep them fed and healthy. I feel like I can make it another week with all that I get here. I've been coming here for about three years, and I look forward to it when I do get a chance to come. Thanks for all you do, hang in there and keep it up!"

— Anonymous [Fruit of the Vine Food Shelf Visitor]

JOB OPPORTUNITIES *CONSIDER JOINING THE TEAM*

PART-TIME CHILDREN'S MINISTRY DIRECTOR – We are seeking a passionate and dedicated Part-Time Children's Ministry Director to oversee all aspects of our children's ministry program (infant through 5th grade). This role is perfect for someone who is passionate about helping kids grow in their faith and creating a welcoming, Christ-centered environment for families. The Children's Ministry Director will be responsible for developing and implementing a comprehensive, biblically sound program, coordinating Sunday worship services and special events, and building and leading a strong volunteer team.

We're looking for a committed follower of Jesus with strong leadership skills, a love for children, and experience in ministry or education. This position requires regular Sunday presence and occasional evenings for events and meetings. If you are interested in applying for the position or would like more information, please visit our website, duluthvineyard.org/jobs.

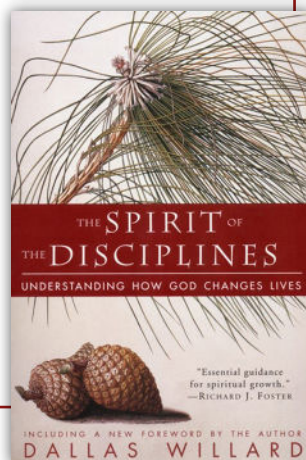
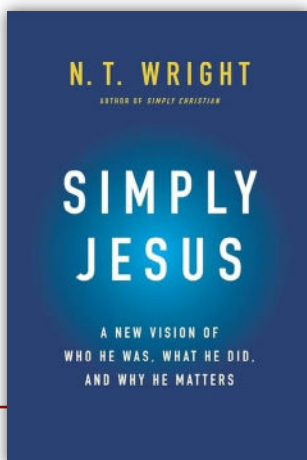
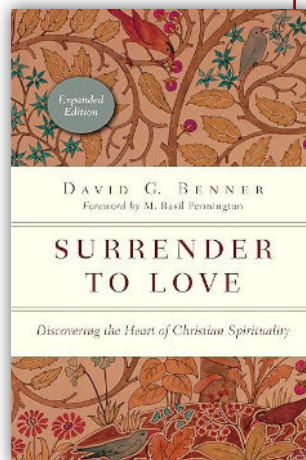
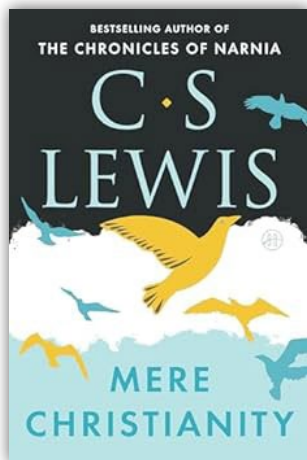
PART-TIME WORSHIP PASTOR – Duluth Vineyard Church is looking for a Part-Time Worship Pastor to lead our worship ministry with passion, creativity, and purpose. In this role, you'll lead and support all aspects of our worship ministry—from organizing teams and leading Sunday services, to coordinating with tech teams and stewarding worship resources.

This role is ideal for someone who is musically gifted, loves building teams, and has a heart for creating space where people can authentically encounter God. You'll play a key role in shaping a worship culture that reflects our church's mission, while also mentoring volunteers, and working closely with the rest of the team. If you're passionate about worship and experienced in leading within a church context, we'd love to connect with you. For more information and details about applying, please visit our website, duluthvineyard.org/jobs.

OTHER AVAILABLE POSITIONS/INTERNSHIPS – To see current available work opportunities and internships you can visit our website at duluthvineyard.org/jobs.

SUMMER READING RECOMMENDATIONS

Whether it's time at the beach, hanging in the hammock, or just the extra sunlight, for lots of us summer means the chance to dive into a good book. Here are a few recommendations for summer reads.



FOR THEIR BEST.

LOVING LIKE JESUS — *A Series of Messages on Matthew 7*

Do to others what you would

Summer tends to bring a slower rhythm. Longer evenings, outdoor gatherings, and space to breathe a little deeper. For our church, this season also brings a fresh invitation to remember *who we are* and *who we're becoming*.

At the heart of our church's vision is a simple but transformative phrase: "Becoming a community of disciples." This isn't just a nice idea, it's a calling. A direction. A shared identity. And this summer, we're leaning into this part in intentional ways.

What Does a Healthy Church Community Look Like?

In our Western culture, where disconnection often feels easier than genuine presence, we believe God is forming something deeper in us. A healthy, Christ-centered community isn't built on uniformity, it's built on unity. It doesn't require us to think the same or agree on every detail, but it does call us to walk together, shaped by the love of Jesus and committed to becoming more like Him on our own and together as a people.

This kind of community only becomes possible when we're anchored in the transforming love of God. His love doesn't just comfort us, it changes us. And through us, it changes the world.

A Summer Rooted in God's Love

Our Sunday messages this year have been focused on becoming the kind of people who reflect the heart of God. This summer, as we wrap up the Sermon on the Mount, we're stepping into a new series called *For Their Best: Loving Like Jesus*. This series will help us engage the world around us with Christ's love. The only love that doesn't settle for good intentions but pursues the true good of others with compassion, courage, and grace.

And, since we are not just a community but a community of disciples, later this

summer we will turn inward focusing on Apprenticeship. Because this kind of love doesn't come from trying harder, but from being shaped by Jesus himself. We'll take a deep dive into the Lord's Prayer, exploring how this daily rhythm of prayer forms us into disciples who trust God, live His way, and participate in His kingdom.

But here's the thing, we don't grow into this kind of life on our own. We need each other.

A Starting Place for Community

We believe discipleship happens best in community. That doesn't just mean Bible studies or formal classes. It means creating space for connection, authenticity, and shared life. That's why small groups are central to how we grow together as followers of Jesus.

Our small groups are all about building relationships and having fun. These groups are designed to be casual, welcoming spaces where you can be yourself, laugh together, ask honest questions, and share life with others who are also trying to follow Jesus.

For many, small groups have been a key part of their faith journey. Whether you're new or a long-time member, there's a place for you. It might take a few tries to find your people, but the time spent will be worth it.

And while community helps us grow together, the journey of discipleship starts from within.

Becoming apprentices of Jesus

Discipleship is deeply personal. Each of us plays a part in how we're being shaped by Jesus and that transformation doesn't happen by accident. It takes intention.

We know by now, the phrase "Rule of Life" might make you want to roll your eyes but stick with us! It's not about pressure or

perfection. It's about creating space. A Rule of Life is simply a personal framework of spiritual practices that help us live more fully in the way of Jesus.

This summer, we're inviting you to experiment with new rhythms that open you to God's presence and form you over time. In the months ahead, we'll explore rhythms like generosity, scripture, community, service, and witness. It's going to be awesome!

Because becoming a disciple of Jesus isn't just about what we know, it's about who we're becoming and the people we have with us along the way.

Becoming a Community of Disciples Together This Summer

This summer isn't just a season, it's a chance to rediscover who we are becoming together. Step into rhythms that shape you, and relationships that support you, as we continue growing into a community that reflects the love of Jesus. We are becoming a community of disciples. How might this summer be the catalyst in your journey of faith?



Steph Bremer, Connections Pastor

So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets.

— MATTHEW 7:12

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
10:30am - Rule of Life Check-In 	5	6	7	8	9	10
10:30am - Rule of Life Check-In 11am - Child Dedications 	12	13	14	15	ROOTED OAKS INTERNATIONAL RUMMAGE SALE May 16 at 8am-6pm & May 17 at 8am-2pm 	
10:30am - Rule of Life Check-In 18	19	20	21	22	23	24
10:30am - Rule of Life Check-In 25	Vineyard Offices Closed 26	27	28	29	30	9am - Women's Brunch 9:30am - FOTV 
11:30am - Meet & Greet with Becca, Lead Pastor Nominee 1	2	3	4	5		7
3pm - 5th Grade Graduation 7pm - Candidate Forum and Q&A (potluck at 6:30pm) 8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	VineyardUSA National Conference June 16-19 Denver, CO 				20	21
6pm - Welcome to the Vineyard 	23	24	6:30pm - Jr. & Sr. High Summer Beach Night 	26	27	28
Member Vote for Lead Pastor 29	30	1	2	3	Vineyard Offices Closed 4	5

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		6pm - FOTV	6:30pm - Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group @ Eastside			9:30am - FOTV
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	VineyardUSA National Conference July 14-17 Springdale, OH Melody and Harmony			17	18	19
20	21	6pm - FOTV	Dough-nation Night! 6:30pm - Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group @ Eastside	24	25	26
27	28	6pm - FOTV	6:30pm - Jr. & Sr. High Summer Beach Night	31	1	2
3	4	6pm - FOTV	6:30pm - Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group @ Eastside	6:30pm - Youth Hang Out!	8	9
10	11	6pm - FOTV	6:30pm - Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group @ Eastside	14	15	16
17	18	6pm - FOTV	Dough-nation Night! 6:30pm - Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group @ Eastside	21	22	23
24	25	6pm - FOTV	6:30pm - Jr. & Sr. High Summer Beach Night	28	29	30
31	Vineyard Offices Closed	6pm - FOTV	6:30pm - Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group @ Eastside	6:30pm - Youth Hang Out!	5	6