

2015

CANAAN
COMMUNITY
CHURCH



ANNUAL REPORT

INDEX

- [PASTOR REPORT](#) 3
- [BOARD CHAIR'S REPORT](#) 4
- [ELDER REPORT](#) 7
- [DEACON REPORT](#) 8
- [DEACONESS REPORT](#) 9
- [TRUSTEE REPORT](#) 10
- [MISSIONS REPORT](#) 11
- [CHRISTIAN ED REPORT](#) 12
- [WORSHIPMINISTRY REPORT](#) 13

PAST YEAR'S GOALS

- **Mobilizing** congregation to church ministry
- **Consolidating** the congregation's understanding in our church doctrine
- **Balance** the year in learning and activity

WORK DONE TOWARD THE GOALS

Mobilizing the entire congregation continues to be a challenge, but there are many who have gone above and beyond in "Kingdom Work." The **Alpha Program** is a high commitment for those facilitating as well as those who attend. This year's Alpha may have been one of the best yet. **Care-callers** under the deacons has become a steadfast ministry in conjunction with the **connect card system**. Follow-up on new attendees and on absentees has definitely become a solid system. We simply need more people to participate. Also, we would like the congregation to know how vital the cards have become, please participate! **Kids Camp, Feast & Ski** and the **Fall Festival** were quite successful this year in reaching the community. We can always use more creative ways to reach into the community in order to invite them back. The **garage sales** also have become a staple for Canaan in the community. We continued in some blessed **worship at the Point**, in Heritage Lake.

In respect to doctrinal work; the "Beyond Sunday" mid-week meetings did well this year with good attendance and the blessing of some excellent resources.

APPRAISAL OF THE WORK

Although there was not a direct correlation in seats filled to effort in the community, there was success in deepening respect and a positive face in the community. Little indicators are things like the POA having a pantry box for us in the clubhouse, and community willingness to partner so easily in other areas.

Opportunity for deeper study have reaped dividends with increased focus, and a deeper walk among those who have participated.

PROJECTED GOALS FOR NEXT YEAR

- **RENEWED EFFORTS IN EVANGELISM**- in such things as publications, welcoming new residents, and tighter Gospel focus in current outreach ministries. There is also the possibility of evangelistic meetings.
- **DEEPER DISCIPLESHIP**- in such things as revitalized small groups, higher awareness of church responsibilities, continuing efforts in extra ministry staff (*missionary intern*), & care-caller follow-up, and new types of training.
- **FOSTERING A MENTALITY OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS**- the Biblical church runs on spiritual gifts. We can increase awareness through teaching and the practice of spiritual gifts, and better communication of opportunities.

Efforts are being made in these areas already. The strategy is to empower the congregation to higher effectiveness and focus and to encourage a wider participation. It takes more of us; it takes all of us. The reward will be the experience of a truly Biblical church, a church where God works wonders.

SPECIAL MENTION

Special thanks this year to the Trustees seeing the big repairs to completion, the continued high quality teaching by our youth church teachers, to the deaconesses for the dinners that were excellent as usual, and for being willing to play ball in a new Fall Festival setup, the diligence of all church leaders in the training programs, the incredible commitment of Kid's Camp teachers, especially Sarah Schubert who is a "Gospel teaching rock star"! -The many hours of faithful preparation of the Worship team, faithful work of Brenda Anderson, especially in the smelly days of skunks and times of busted pipes in the winter, to Bob Smith for mowing, the Woods for gardening, Rick Miller for expert chairing, Carol for prayerline & financials, pantry team, Ron and team for Alpha, and to many others who devoted time, expertise and resources to keep Canaan running and ministering. ~Warmest blessings, Kevin Thompson, pastor

PAST YEAR'S GOALS

- Last year's goal statement was a bit nonspecific but stated: We have one ongoing goal, that is to continue assisting each ministry achieve their goals. The second is a continued growth and outreach to the congregation to achieve all necessary ministries that we are called to do. Possible resurface the parking lot and continue to beautify the appearance of the church.
- At the beginning of the year we implemented a 3in3 planning method that added the following goals from the Chair.
 1. Increase Membership
 2. Eliminate Tribal Knowledge
 3. Improved Communications with Congregation
 4. Introduce 3 in 3 Planning Method

WORK DONE TOWARD THE GOALS

- **Increase Membership**
 - We talked with most of the congregation that attends frequently and extended a call to attend membership classes.
 - We embarked on the Missionary Intern initiative with the goal of attracting or at least exposing school age children to our church and by association their parents
- **Eliminate Tribal Knowledge**
 - We documented and redrew the plot diagram for the cemetery
- **Improved Communications with Congregation**
 - We communicated budget and progress on the roofing project
 - We held congregation meetings to explain and seek support for the Missionary Intern initiative
 - We regularly posted Draft Board Meeting Minutes soon after board meetings prior to their formal approval.
- **Introduce 3 in 3 Planning Method**
 - With the goal of having all ministries and board members learn to be specific and set measurable goals and plans we implemented the 3 in 3 plan
- **Project Work Completed**
 - Roofing & Guttering
 - Improved Drainage behind the classrooms to prevent flooding
 - Parking Lot Resurfacing
 - Parking Lot Striping
 - HVAC Repair
 - HVAC Service Contracts implemented
 - HVAC Long term strategy for replacement discussions began

APPRAISAL OF THE WORK

- **Increased Membership** – This is or should be an ongoing effort that will require creative efforts. We did accept 3 new members into our church membership though, and are pleased and excited to have them join us.
- **Eliminate Tribal Knowledge** - Pulling fragmented information into a sustainable filing system will take more time. We only scratched the surface this year.
- **Improved Communications** – Though we made an honest effort, discussions toward the end of the year suggest we have more work to do. A recurring theme is give the members a better view to our financial status.
- **3 in 3 Planning** – Proved to be a learning experience, and with the current year goals already set was a bit difficult but using it for this end of year and new year planning should help the process get a little easier.

PROJECTED GOALS FOR NEXT YEAR

Following are Board Chair goals with 3 or more planned steps for achievement. Link to Pastor's goals is shown in **BOLD CAPS**.

Increase Membership -

1. Communicate with regular attendees the biblical and spiritual reasons for membership, Communicate a reminder of our need for their spiritual gifts (**DEEPER DECIPLESHIP & FOSTERING A MENTALITY OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS**)
2. Continue pursuing the Missionary Intern (**RENEWED EFFORTS IN EVANGELISM**)
3. Promote and implement the C&MA My Circle initiative for new methods of evangelism to friends, family and community (**RENEWED EFFORTS IN EVANGELISM**)

Improved Communications with members -

1. Publish Monthly Income and Expenses to membership via bulletin board and/or web site
2. Publish Board Meeting Minutes monthly via bulletin board and/or web site
3. Use Sunday announcements liberally to communicate progress on board initiatives

Administration –

1. Assist ministry and officer structure and organize their methods to remove tribal knowledge to make it easier for new people to consistently help and deliver what they do.
2. Add new encumbered accounts (reserved funds accounting) for the Missionary Intern initiative, and for a Building Maintenance fund.
3. Get the annual Treasurer audit completed by end of January
4. Reclaim and repurpose the Old Sanctuary space

SPECIAL MENTION

It has been an honor to serve as Board Chair this past year. I could not possibly have had any measure of success without the help and cooperation by everyone on the board. Special thanks to Brenda Davidson who was a great Vice Chair. She was always there to answer any questions I had as we went through the year. Thanks to Carol Kowalski, for helping keep finances in order during some exceptionally difficult handling of finances for Insurance and funding for the roofing. Thanks to ALL the officers and ministries for adopting the 3 in 3 planning method and faithfully executing their roles for both the board and the church ministry. Thanks to the Trustees for all they do but particularly for the extra time and effort spent with the roofing project.

Thank you, to all our teachers, who continue to faithfully serve without a superintendent to coordinate their efforts.

Grateful acknowledgement, to Chris and Sara Schubert for managing our Food Pantry. So little is seen or heard about it, demonstrating how they so reliably manage that quietly with so very little fanfare.

Thank you to Kathy Thompson for sincere spiritual contributions to our Music Ministry and Praise Team leadership. Only the Praise team knows how much time, work and talent goes with that role.

Last but far from least, a big thank you to Pastor Kevin, for keeping the board spiritually focused on our Biblical responsibilities, for his exceptional skills with our Web Site, our Music Ministry, our Tech Desk and equipment, and our community outreach efforts.

Submitted by,
Rick Miller

PAST YEARS GOALS

- * Continued training for growth in our ministries to be worthy servants of the one true God who's called us to duty
- * To reflect Christ's light so people would not only stay, but become active parts of the body so they can seek and see God in their lives.
- * To see more small groups studies started to share God's word outside the church walls.
- * To help in building a strong youth group that they may be equipped to endure the world they're about to face.
- * To continue to keep an emphasis on the Great Commission through our support of missions.

WORK DONE TOWARD GOALS

- * Our training continued through the practical application of what we had learned through our academic endeavors. The elders prepared and presented more of God's messages to the congregation.
- * We did see the men's group continue to meet.
- * Still striving to build a strong youth program through the focused teaching of the youth church, outreach in the community through programs such as Kid's Camp at the lake. Also have started ground work on intern from CMA to further the reach into the community through after school programs and various other endeavors. Due to unforeseen increases in other budget needs this has been placed on hold.

APPRAISAL OF THE WORK

The Elders being few are continuing to reach out to the church family. As we continue to learn and apply by the giving of God's messages and the teaching of scripture in small groups, we as Elders are always trying to take the time to listen and be of service to anyone needing us.

PROJECTED GOALS FOR NEXT YEAR

CONGREGATION GROWTH

1. Care calling for current members
2. Engage the community (outreach)
3. Visit other CMA churches for ideas

TRAINING

1. Pre-marriage counseling
2. Baptism
3. Membership

CULTIVATE YOUTH MINISTRY

1. Personnel
2. Compensation
3. Targeted age group

SPECIAL THANKS

Thank you to the congregation for their support and dedication. Again, to the congregation for the support shown to the people stepping out of their comfort zones to do God's work.

Submitted by,
Kevin Kendall

PAST YEAR'S GOALS

- Increase the deacons role in the prayer ministry of the church.
- Start a congregational care ministry.
- Have a newcomer luncheon.

WORK DONE TOWARD THE GOALS

The deacons discussed how they could take an active role in the **prayer ministry** of the church. This effort became the "You are not alone prayer ministry".

Much work was done on starting a **Congregational Care Ministry**. A document was developed that described the strategy, objectives and workings of the ministry.

A **newcomer luncheon** was organized with Cindy Ware. The intent was to have a newcomer luncheon similar to what Cindy had done in the past, in order to get to know the recent visitors better and to give them information on Canaan Church. A list of new visitors was developed and invitations sent out.

APPRAISAL OF THE WORK

The you are not alone ministry is established and has been received well. Prayer after the Sunday worship service is now available for those who would like prayer.

We had regular meetings while developing the congregational care ministry. We took a break, got busy on other things, and never restarted work on the training part of the ministry. Many of the ideas can be used to improve the Care-caller ministry.

The number of replies from the newcomer luncheon invitations was disappointing and the luncheon was canceled.

PROJECTED GOALS FOR NEXT YEAR

Deeper Discipleship/Ministry System

Improve the existing Care Caller ministry.

- Evaluate the current ministry.
- Develop a better way to record contacts.
- Create a core group of individuals who would like to make contacts.

Deeper Discipleship

Encourage infrequent Church attenders to want to become regular attenders

- Investigate ways to encourage.
- Involve prayer
- Make calls, visits

Deeper Dicipleship/Ministry System

Welcome new Heritage Lake residents.

- Mail Church information or make a visit with a small gift along with church information.
- Obtain new resident information from the Brouhards and the POA.
- Identify a group of individuals who would like to participate.

SPECIAL MENTION

Special thanks to those who helped with the Alpha Course this year. Carol Kowalski, Bea Jones, Sherry Mitchem, Donna McGinley, Rita Bedwell and Jack Jones.

Submitted by,
Ron Kowalski

PAST YEAR'S GOALS

- Serve the Church by fulfilling the Deaconess duties including
 - Prepare the elements of the Lords Supper
 - Arrange and supply seasonal and special decorations for the Church
 - Schedule and oversee dinners and special fellowship functions of the Church
 - Arrange and secure necessary supplies for the kitchen
 - Arrange for food to be taken to members home in case of illness as needed

Seek out more ministries in which to engage

Consider a women's study

WORK DONE TOWARD THE GOALS

Duties –The elements of the Lords Supper were prepared, thanks to Bea Jones. Seasonal decorations and special decorations for Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas were completed, thanks to Brenda Anderson. Several dinners and special fellowship functions were coordinated including Missionary dinner and Thanksgiving dinner.

Outreach ministries included the Heritage Lake Garage Sale, Angel Tree, North Putnam Baccalaureate and Fall Festival. Also, small gifts were provided for church attendees on Mother's Day and Father's Day and the Deaconess were active in the spring cleaning and the Hanging of the Greens.

The women's study goal is continued into the next year.

APPRAISAL OF THE WORK

The duties assigned to the Deaconess were completed. Even though the Deaconess participated in several outreach ministries no new ones were added this year. However, the arrangement of the Fall Festival was changed which resulted in a larger attendance.

PROJECTED GOALS FOR NEXT YEAR

Support Evangelism by continuing to be involved in the Outreach ministries of the Church, and by having a special program for the women of the community

Support Discipleship by initiating a Women's Study Group(s).

Provide opportunities for Church attendees to utilize their spiritual gifts, by encouraging attendees to become involved in the duties of the Deaconess

SPECIAL MENTION

Thank you to fellow Deaconess's Bea Jones, Brenda Anderson, Debbie Arney and Kathy Wass. A special Thank You to Cindy Ware for providing her residence for the Garage Sale and to Carol Kowalski for ordering "Sympathy Angels" for Church members that had a death in their family.

Submitted by, Sharon Black

PAST YEAR'S GOALS

- The intent of the Canaan Church Trustee Ministry is to promote the Kingdom of God by glorify God by caring for the gift he has given Canaan in buildings and facilities. The intent is to focus on the conceptual aspect, which will lead to and guide the duty requirements. The basic strategy of the ministry team to meet the objectives.
- Undertake the needed and involved process of replacing the roof over all structures, except for the garage, and repairing the bell tower. Survey the old sanctuary to determine repair/preservation/demolition options.
- Maintain the facilities within the budget allowance.
- Participate in a Trustee training as developed and presented by the Pastor to better understand what a trustee is and does.
- Outline and record the primary functions and duties of the Trustee Ministry.

WORK DONE TOWARD THE GOALS

- Roof – The roof project was completed. The guttering system was inspected and repaired/replaced as needed.
- Reroute guttering drainage system: David Black donated his time and the use of his excavator to replace and reroute the gutter drainage system from the classroom area to the east of the building to a drainage ditch. The church paid for the new plastic drain tile, as well as some gravel.
- Driveway sealed – The driveway was sealed, which is basically bi-annual maintenance. A church work-day was organized to reinstall the parking stripes.
- An effort headed up by Bob Smith obtained a qualified heating and cooling company to clean, inspect, and service the 5 Canaan Church heating and cooling systems. O'Hair's Heating and Cooling, owned by Ben O'Hair cleaned and inspected the units.

APPRAISAL OF THE WORK

- The trustees attempted to address issues as they arose, based on each trustee's very busy schedules and limited time available.
- Roofing Project: The roofing project appears to have been a very big success, with high quality workmanship that should serve the church well for many years.
- Rerouting guttering drainage system: There have not been any further wet floors in the classroom area, but we have not had a major rain event since the work was accomplished.
- Heating and Cooling System: Mr. O'Hair advised that during his inspection, it was noted the heating and cooling equipment is currently 19 – 20 years old. The expected life of heating and cooling equipment is 17-22 years. There have been a few repairs required to the existing units, and they are reaching the end of their life expectancy. Newer units are much more efficient. Mr. O'Hair met with the Church Board on November 15, and suggested a plan be developed to consider replacing the units.

PROJECTED GOALS FOR NEXT YEAR

- Continue maintenance of the facility as issues develop.
- Investigate options concerning the heating and cooling equipment, and make decisions of how to best maintain the system for dependable service.
- There are questions about the definition of the cemetery rules that are scheduled to be reviewed and better defined.
- Work to reduce weeds in lawn and parking lots

SPECIAL THANKS

- Thanks to Bob Smith's efforts with the Heating and Cooling, as well as keeping the grass cut, Kevin Kendal's efforts to keep the snow plowed as necessary in the church parking lot, and Chris Schubert's efforts in coordinating the roof completion efforts.
- Thank you to all those that contributed to the maintenance and beautification of a facility that contributes to the efforts to glorify God and represent him in a positive and conservative light to our community.

PAST YEAR'S GOALS

- Have others join us in the Missions Team; becoming servants to our missionaries who serve.
- Increase youth awareness in working with the Youth Department in youth awareness.

WORK DONE TOWARD THE GOALS

1. Having Donna McGinley join the missions team allowed us a fresh perspective and encouraged us to revisit ways in which we promote and support missions.
2. Effort was made to make sure our youth were exposed to the work and presentations of our visiting missionaries.
3. Some of our missions projects have come to an end, such as the Delorenzo family and the school in Kenya. Funds are being redirected to current needs, such as the Great Commission Fund.

APPRAISAL OF THE WORK

1. There was hope that we would make inroads with the students, international and domestic, but frankly, we simply don't have the manpower yet to do this outreach justice. However, we continue to have contacts with Depauw and have hope to work with the CMA District in future plans at Depauw.
2. More can be done to raise awareness with our youth, it will be a focus in the upcoming year.
3. Donna has been an invaluable help to our missions effort, but we could use more Donnas!!

PROJECTED GOALS FOR NEXT YEAR

1. Increase adult and youth awareness of missions
2. Support plans for intern missionary, partner with the CMA district in the "**Greenhouse**" model for mentoring character and integrity into the next generation of missionaries and church leaders.
3. Endeavor to make the current picture of missions support clearer to the congregation and encourage support, not just in resources, but prayer and principle.

SPECIAL MENTION

Holy Kudos to Rich Roth, Donna McGinley, and Steve Anderson for their faithful and continual efforts in the name of global missions.

Submitted by,
Kevin Thompson

PAST YEAR'S GOALS

- Instructing the pre- and elementary youth in a sequential, historical understanding of the Bible rather than random stories or random lessons from the Bible. (The 2-4 yr. old class is also following the curriculum in less depth.)
- To focus not on the Bible event itself, but rather what we learn from the story about God and how the events/consequences relate and apply to our lives.
- The curriculum is divided into units that cover the 7 Cs of the Bible: Creation, Corruption, Catastrophe, Confusion, Christ, Cross, Consummation
- To implement a curriculum that can be taught across all 3 pre- and elementary classes at each class level.

WORK DONE TOWARD THE GOALS

A 3-year curriculum from Answers Bible Curriculum was examined and the Year 1 curriculum was purchased to evaluate the material. Years 1 and 2 go through the Old Testament; Year 3 goes through the New Testament. We are currently on Year 1, Quarter 3.

APPRAISAL OF THE WORK

We are extremely pleased with this curriculum and how well the children are learning and remembering the Biblical history and lessons learned.

The curriculum includes “catchy” songs and activities the children enjoy. The curriculum is challenging.

PROJECTED GOALS FOR NEXT YEAR

- Continue to keep the pre- and elementary classes on the same curriculum and schedule.
- Continue with Year 1 and 2 working through the Old Testament.
- In conjunction with the lessons, compile a time line and posters summarizing and reviewing what has been learned.

SPECIAL THANKS

- Thanks to all the Youth Church assistants who commit to helping us every week. Cindy Ware, Donna McGinley, Bea Jones, and Norma Robertson are on a rotating scheduled every four weeks to assist.
- We appreciate Sharon Black's willingness to step in to a class to help with the young ones at a moment's notice. And we have Vicki Kendall in our back pocket who has offered to assist when needed.

Submitted by:
Dreama Doolittle

PAST YEAR'S GOALS

1. Leading the congregation into an attitude of worship and encouraging more participation
2. To encourage members and non-members with a desire to use his or her gifts in music to enrich and deepen our worship service as well as personally deepen their own relationship with God

WORK DONE TOWARD THE GOALS

1. Choosing music that:

- a. focuses on God, rather than self
- b. songs that are less complicated and more easily sung in a group setting

2. ENCOURAGING ACTIVE PARTICIPATION RATHER THAN 'BEING ENTERTAINED' BY:

- a. combining traditional with contemporary music to relate to a broader group of congregants
- b. ensuring enough repetition especially in regards to newer contemporary music which promotes more confidence in participation

3. RECORD MULTI-LEVEL TRACKS FOR EVERY SONG TO:

- a. The composition of the Praise Team fluctuates every Sunday with availability
- b. To compensate for present lack of singers who harmonize in certain ranges and help current singers better achieve their singing goals
- c. To allow anyone with a desire to participate, regardless of training

4. LEARN POWER POINT and the ability to make individual pp for songs, thereby relieving Pastor of this job. Eventually get proficient enough to take over other jobs

APPRAISAL OF THE WORK

1. **Started to record songs** both present and new music in March 2015. This has increased participation both on the stage and in the congregation because:
 - a. Music once recorded, is set 'in stone' so congregation knows what to expect and neither the praise team nor congregation has to constantly re-learn songs
 - b. Quality of music is consistent
 - c. Praise team singers have the recorded harmonies to learn from
 - d. We are less dependent on particular members and can carry on no matter how many or how few are available on a given Sunday
2. **Learned a great deal on 'pitch' and the art of recording using electronic devices.** We have a basic procedure down now by making a 'scratch' acoustic recording and then layering in midi.
3. **Can make simple power points for new songs and changes to old ones** plus set up worship segment for Sunday service.

PROJECTED GOALS FOR NEXT YEAR

1. Continue to record more songs until all Songbook music as well as those in the Lyric files (usable songs), are finished
2. Sort through current music files and delete those songs that do not measure up to revised goals.
3. Clean up other music related files, including duplicates
Continue adding relevant songs, especially as relating to particular holidays, ie; Christmas, Easter, etc.

4. Deepen segues with verbal intros as well as special emphasis, ie; stories behind Hymns, etc; making for more meaningful worship
5. Encourage more participation, both within the congregation and ourselves

SPECIAL MENTION

Rick has been doing a wonderful job introducing worship and verbal segues. It has added another level to our music portion of the service. I'm grateful also to **Barb** for being so flexible in switching between instruments on 'Sumner' weeks and **ALL** our other members for happily running with whatever they are given particularly our young gifted musicians, **Katie and Ben**, who could be doing so many other things with their time. A special thanks to all our **tech** folks who get to listen to us practice the same songs over...and over but do it with a smile.

Finally, to my **husband/Pastor**, who has abounding patience with his non-musician wife and praise team leader **AND TO THE GOD WE SERVE!**

Submitted by,
Kathy Thompson
Praise and Worship Leader