



2020

YEAR IN REVIEW

OAK
GROVE
CHURCH

LOVE GOD | LOVE FAMILY | LOVE OTHERS

5920 Golden Valley Rd | Golden Valley, MN 55422 | OakGroveChurch.org

WE ARE OAK GROVE CHURCH

MISSION

To make disciples of all nations by **LOVING GOD, LOVING HIS FAMILY** and **LOVING OTHERS** so that many will come to faith in Jesus and become His humble and obedient followers.

And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And the second is like it: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." – Matthew 22:37-39

VISION

To fulfill the Great commission in Golden Valley, surrounding communities and the world by sharing the gospel and by planting churches.

WE DO THIS BY

Belonging - Strengthening - Serving - Sharing

OUR IDENTITY

We believe that Jesus has made us a community of faith. We believe there are two kinds of people in the world: those who have life from God because they have the Son and those who do not have life from God because they do not have the Son.

And this is the testimony that God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life. – 1 John 5:11-12(ESV)

BELONG

Through the Gospel we belong in relationship with God, in relationship to the Family of God and in relationship to unbelievers. We want you to BELONG at OGC and to become a part of our family!

STRENGTHEN

Because we belong to Jesus, we are always strengthening our relationship with Him and are continually expanding and experiencing His love to shape our whole identity.

SERVE

Because we belong to the Family of God, we seek to serve the Body by using our gifts, talents and by living generously with our finances and time.

SHARE

Because we belong to the Family of God, we share our life and the Gospel with each other and those far from God.



BRAD LITTLE

Lead Pastor

The only thing that is unchanging is change itself. The one absolute constant is everything is constantly changing. There is no other time in my lifetime that I have had more adjustments, alterations and adjustments than my experiences in 2020. We have been facing challenges, not just for a season but for the whole year. We may see things

The only thing that is unchanging is change itself. The one absolute constant was everything constantly changing.

change permanently because of the upheaval of covid-19, economic struggles, political shifting, social injustice and a number of other things that have trampled on our concept of normal.



Pastoral shifts: The first change I experienced is I assumed the Interim Regional Director for CB North Central (now called Venture Church Network Midwest) after our existing Director abdicated the role early December 2019. For those who are unaware, Oak Grove Church is connected to a region of churches that are firmly connected to being gospel centered, grace driven and mission focused. This includes about 100 churches who are learning to stand shoulder to shoulder to serve the Lord. While much of last year seemed like triage, the Regional Board invited me to take on the role of Regional Director on a permanent basis back in May 2020. Believing this was exactly how the Lord had positioned me, I accepted the role with the support of our Elders. This simply means that on top of being a full time pastor I am working with these other churches to encourage them to take their next bold step of faith for the sake of the gospel.

The **Elders** have had our challenges trying to navigate the ever-changing circumstances of closing down ministries, opening up ministries, closing programs, restarting, keeping up with social distancing, shepherding those who are unable to come, catching up to those who have continued to come, carrying out ministry without the structural supports of our programs, developing patience and learning about grace. This has felt nothing short of impossible at times and even our best efforts seem to fall short. We have lost some loved ones to sickness and health. We had some families simply disappear by finding

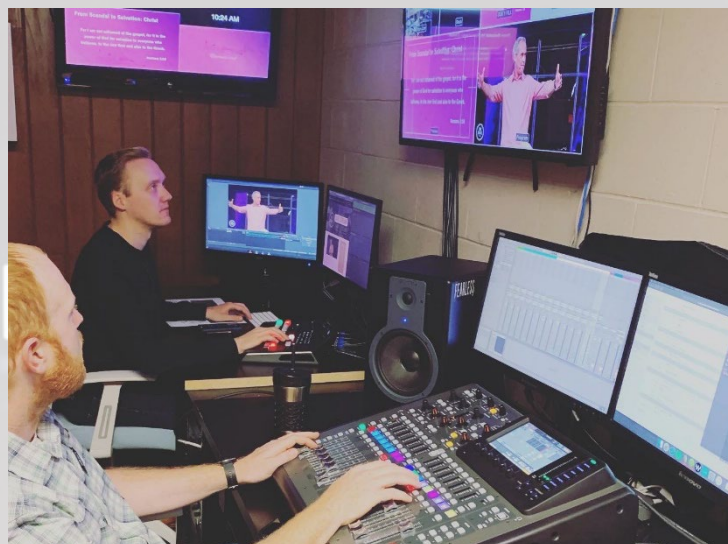
new occupations in the every shifting landscape of employment. We hardly had a chance to say goodbye much less give people an appropriate send off. We have struggled with “what to do next” and “what do we actually plan for”. Covid-19 altered life significantly. While our opinions about the cause, threat, and communication of this virus was always confusing it became apparent that while this virus did not pose a threat to everyone, it was a serious threat to others. There seemed to be no rhyme or reason for who would be affected by this virus and that left everyone more uneasy than normal. We have been praying for a number of people who contracted the virus, had to quarantine, and those who have ended up in the hospital. While we struggle with our helplessness, it has driven us to rely in much greater ways on the Lord’s help.

The tension in our **culture** has put pressure on the Body of Christ that in the face of divergent value systems and personal convictions even in the Body of Christ, we have been so impressed by the godliness of our faith community. There are some nightmare stories out there in the world on how Christians have behaved badly, but our Body has been outstanding. The Body of Christ at Oak Grove Church has been a great encouragement to the leaders and we continue to pray that our attempts to keep up with a flood of needs has helped encourage you in some fashion.

The **ministry leaders** of this Body have been learning creative ways to shepherd people from a whole new posture. We are learning a better version of servanthood. We are learning that discipling makes more on relationships than programs and structures. We are learning how important it is to know our own spiritual journey and be able to help encourage others in their spiritual mapping. We are learning to adapt, adjust, and creatively reach out to those around us.



Our **worship and tech teams** led by Josh and his tech crew did a marvelous job bringing us up to speed on livestreaming our services. We have discovered in wonderful ways how the Spirit of God has gifted so many of you and given you such a servant's heart to step up and invest in helping us serve the greater Body of Christ. The heart of our volunteers has been an amazing strength that has invigorated our Body and cultivated a deep appreciation to the Lord for His generosity to us as his children. We are now better equipped to serve those who are unable to be here and those who we have now touched who do not even live here. The Lord has expanded our reach and we hope to continue to pursue His leading in all these things.



I must say that I have been very proud of the Body at Oak Grove church. I know that many came down in different places in how they understood and interpreted the fog of information that overwhelmed our normal perspective of life. We all had to refocus from a vantage point that was very unfamiliar to us. These extenuating circumstances put a tremendous amount of pressure on everyone, even to a breaking point in some cases. Everyone has found it hard to translate all these changes into the context of our own life. That being said, I am so proud of the

believers here at Oak Grove who've done an outstanding job of treating each other with respect and walking alongside of others with the humble attitude that considers the other person better than themselves. We choose to value the gospel and people above our circumstances and it was a testament to His grace.

Staffing has been our hardest and most painful change at the end of our calendar year. In the midst of some painful situations, we are moving around Josh and his family with love and grace, helping to chart a pathway of healing, forgiveness, and restoration. We have had weekly meetings, providing support and resources to chart this pathway with grace. Keep on praying for them and all of us as we seek to navigate these times where the spiritual battle has intensified and calls for all of us to be spiritually sharp and alert to stay fixed on a gospel centered life.

New Changes: In all these transitions we have been encouraged to find new faces exploring what we do here at Oak Grove Church. We have seen many new people wander in the door and have been energized when they experience the warmth of our Body extending a hand of fellowship and worshipping together in house and online. We have heard great comments that we are singularly focused on the gospel and speaking into real issues in our culture.

Our worship teams, especially Shannon Dane, Ele, and Rick have stepped up to take on roles to bring us through the end of the year so that we have a trajectory that supports our teams and has given us more opportunity to utilize the gifts and skills of those in our Body. Our entire worship team, sound techs, livestream people, etc. are outstanding and have been very flexible.



We are also in the process of exploring **church planting** and taking steps to strategically begin this movement to reach generations of people and to be a church that is bearing fruit, not just by reproducing believers but reproducing gospel-centered churches. This will be methodical and yet intentional. We are now taking our next bold steps of faith and when we stay focused on Christ we have every reason to have confident hope in the mission of the King. With much gratitude and thanksgiving may we continue to run with endurance the race that has been set before us.

Pastor Brad Little

GRANT WILLETT

ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Community Life Groups

There have been considerable changes in personnel in the Community Group Ministry. While some have moved from leadership to become members of groups, others have been called to form new groups. We have groups that have grown, some multiplying and others just getting started. Any group you believe the Lord wants you to commit to will be an excellent opportunity for you to find great friends, be strengthened, and be encouraged to serve the Lord.

To all taking hold of the opportunity to lead and host groups thank you for your faithful leadership!

College and Career CREW

The Crew meets weekly, whether by ZOOM or in person, and has enjoyed some terrific times on Sunday evenings. Other events to build rapport and serve have

been a trip to the Twin Cities Corn Maize and more recently a packing session at Feed My Starving Children. This group of VIP's is currently serving in AWANA, Security, Youth Group and Children's Ministries. The weekly Community Group Bible studies and discussions are incredible, and we look forward to seeing the CREW grow.



Grove Youth

Many terrific experiences this year with our weekly gatherings (when Covid didn't keep us apart) and events which included Tubing at Elm Creek, Serve Week, and the Fall Bonfire. The Sr. High youth were challenged on a guy's boundary waters camping trip and the girls had a weekend retreat at the Andersons Cabin.

Oak Grove Church invested in its youth with some much-needed remodeling to The Underground and is now a very cool space for the students to gather. Many thanks to the church family for the investment into the lives of our Jr and Sr High students.

In His Grip,

Pastor Grant



BARB ANDERSON

GROVE KIDS DIRECTOR

Our ministry exists to make Christ known to children so that they, in turn, will impact the world around them for Jesus Christ. We exist to bring glory to God in everything we do.

“The heart of man plans his way, but the Lord establishes his steps.” Proverbs 16:9 (ESV)

The year 2020 brought this verse to real life but what peace we have gained being reminded that God is doing the establishing!

Here are some ways we have seen God’s hand in Grove Kid’s this past year – even in the midst of shut-downs:

1. We did not meet in person from March 15th until June 7th. From June 7th – September 13th we met in person and the kids got to worship upstairs with their parents and their Oak Grove family – and it was good!

2. We were still able to hold Grove Kids **Fun Feet Soccer Camp** on the fields at King of Grace Church/School the week of July 12-16.

We had great participation from Oak Grove Church families and from the community!



3. We did a “**Chalk the Lot**” event in our church parking lot during the last week in July. In addition to creating one-of-a-kind chalk art in the parking lot, families that came brought school supplies - to add to what the church family had already donated - and helped pack backpacks for donation. Wes & Terri Woelfle then delivered 150 backpacks full of school supplies to the Salvation Army! God is so good!

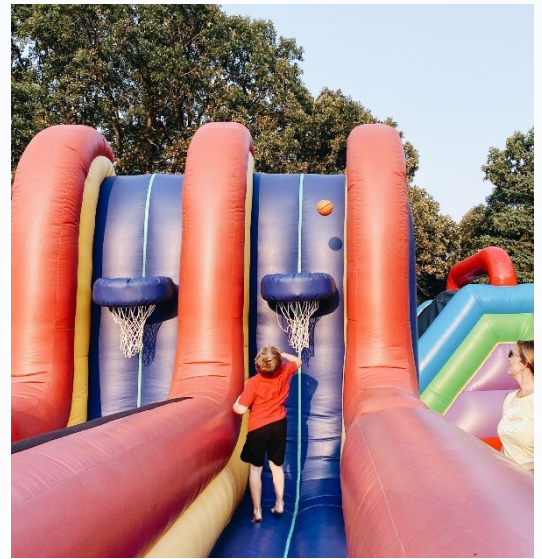


4. **Fair in The Valley** happened August 25th! There were inflatables for the kids and games for everyone! We had Rusty Taco and Potter's Pasties food trucks, Muddypaws Cheesecake for sale and free Driven Coffee - the community loved it! We collected items for PRISM and met LOTS of new families!

5. **Promotion Sunday** – This Fall we moved 9 kids up to 1st grade and they received a Bible from Grove Kids. We graduated 5 kids up to Junior High and they received a Bible Study Journal and a Prayer Map Journal to send them off.

6. **Trunk or Treat** – Wow! This took a leap of faith due to COVID-19 numbers at the end of October but God is faithful and even in the face of pandemic safety protocols and not being able to open the building except for restroom usage – the community came in record number and were so grateful be there! Our Oak Grove Church family outdid themselves in volunteering and serving the community – and each other!!”.

So, while it has been a different year in Grove Kids, God still provided us with so many opportunities to gather together – to meet our neighbors – to grow – and to serve.



AWANA

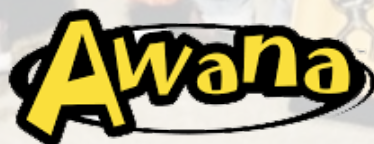
2020 started out just like any other year as we had some fun theme nights like bAWANA Split night, Crazy Hat night, Popcorn night, Camping night, Back Yard Play night for the Sparks and the T&T group were rewarded for their hard work with an evening at Grand Slam! Then the pandemic hit in mid-March and we had to adjust how Awana looked. We went from having in-person large group meetings to web based large group meetings for T&T. We went from completing the sections



face-to-face to completing sections via phone or videos. All in all, many clubbers were able to complete their books & we were able to have an Awana Awards night on June 23, albeit 2 months late. In September, we were able to start back up with in-person Awana with new safety protocols for 2 months before we went back to virtual Awana from mid-

November thru mid-January 2021. We averaged approximately 75 clubbers in Awana year 2019-2020 whereas we are averaging 55 clubbers in 2020-2021, but God is good in that He knows which clubbers He wants there for each night. We have an amazing group of leaders who make Awana successful on a weekly basis! We look forward to meeting through the rest of the year in-person, God willing, and seeing how the Lord continues to work in the kids' lives in 2021.

Paul Larson
AWANA Commander





GROVE KIDS



JOHN ANDERSON

GLOBAL PARTNERS

This has been an interesting year for our Global Partners like it has for many ministries and people. The Covid-19 virus has affected our partners all over the world. Many of their ministries have had to scale back, eliminated opportunities to interact and in some cases even forced our partners to leave the field and come back to the United States. Be in special prayer for these changes and ministries that have been put on hold. We know that God continues to be at work around the world and even if limiting the opportunity to connect, our partners have come up with new and social distanced methods to stay in touch with those they are witnessing to and discipling.



Through the monthly updates we receive from our other partners and monthly presentations in the worship service, we trust that it has increased the awareness of our global outreach and has given opportunities to pray and praise! It is also terrific when hearing from our partners to hear how their

ministries connect with the same mission statement that we subscribe to in our day to day ministry at home - Love God, Love Family, Love Others.

If you are not on the email list of Global Partner updates please let the church office know to add your email to the list. Continue to pray for the Global and Local partners that we support and if you see them at church, ask them to tell you more!



Global Partners:

- Gary and Barb Bennett
Rwanda
- Kevin and Melodie Kejr
Kenya
- Dan and Marcy Schuring
Brazil
- John Mark and Sara Sheppard
Liberia
- Mark and Nancy Sheppard
Liberia
- Tom and Barb Ward
Home Assignment

Other Partners:

E-210 Ventures-Camp Lebanon-CB America-World Venture-NCCBA

STEVE SHERIDAN

PRAYER

The Prayer Ministry of OGC changed in 2020 as most would expect. Thankfully, God does not have to practice safe distancing! Whether gathered in a room at Oak Grove Church or together by Zoom, our prayers were heard, and God answered them. The blessings were numerous: new members, Spiritual gifts, generous giving, Spirit filled preaching, and open hearts. We received technical blessings with Zoom helping us stay in contact with each other and the new broadcast equipment helped us worship together during Sunday Services. In addition, God blessed us with strong preaching of the Word through Brad and energy for Pastor Grant to visit almost everyone.

We saw an increase of individual prayer by members and the prayer groups were faithful until the church building was unfortunately shutdown. I believe that the unity of OGC increased, which was a prayer objective in 2020 and will continue to be in 2021.

We had hoped that we would receive more prayer requests through OGC's mobile church app, but we did not see that. We believe that many are not aware that we offer this option or are unfamiliar with how to do so, and as such are hoping to promote this option of submitting prayer requests through the Church app more this year, and possibly additional new means of communication in 2021. We hope that more of our body will become involved with the prayer group which now meets on Thursday nights starting at 7 pm.

We always give thanks to the Father for you and that you are faithful to pray as the Holy Spirit moves in your hearts. Pray that we will walk in the Spirit and surrender our hearts to Him who died on the Cross for us and is the Head of the Body.

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit

1 Thessalonians 5:16-19

GROVE WOMEN

ASHLEY MCGUIRE

Wow! What a year this has been, and a different year at that! We started January 2020 off with a new Tuesday Night Women's bible study and this has remained a staple on most Tuesday evenings since then. We have done 5 different studies with a variety of formats, covering all sorts of topics and books of the Bible. It became such a great time of connection for a smaller group of women, especially during the months where everything was shut down (we continued to meet on Zoom), and we all felt so isolated from the world. It was nice to look forward to meeting once a week and studying God's word and praying for one another, even if it was just through a screen. We hope to continue having Tuesday Night Women's bible study along with other offerings at different times throughout the week.

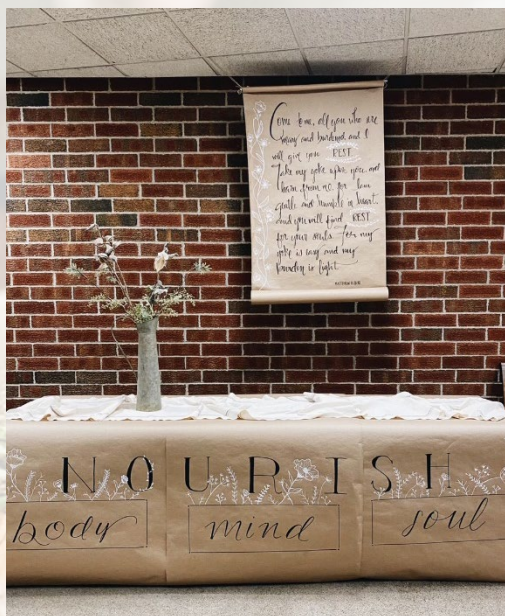
IF:Gathering 2020 - February 7th and 8th.

IF:Gathering is a live-streamed women's event and we had around 120+ ladies come to our local IF event this year at OGC. The theme this year was the good news of Jesus, and how He is our only hope in this crazy world. We were in Romans 8 and it was great! Some of the highlights of the Gathering this year were: a super focused theme - focusing on Romans 8, a variety of vendors to shop from, and the new seating arrangement which included padded chairs and tables set up in the auditorium. We had so many people help us out this year from moving pews and tables, decorating and set-up, details and logistics, tech team and worship. Each year has gone smoother than the year before and that is because of everyone hopping on board, using their gifts and talents, and serving in any capacity that they are able.



This year the event is being pushed back a month and will be held on March 5th and 6th. It will look a bit different this year, but we are confident that it will be as awesome as ever!

The spring and summer ended up being a bit slow with COVID restrictions in place. We had to cancel our women's spring tea but are hoping to have it this year, scheduled as usual.



Nourish. This is our Grove Women's Fall event. It was our third year of this particular event, and as with everything this year, it looked a bit different, but boy was it awesome! We really simplified our event but kept all the favorite elements - dessert, games, a panel, and some words of encouragement! It went great and we are happy we were able to have this time together.

We look forward to what God has in store for us women at OGC in 2021!



GROVE MEN

GRANT WILLETT/ABE VOYEN/JACK GARVIN

Unfortunately, some of our men's events in 2020 did not come to fruition due to Covid, but we were still able to gather together in some capacities to have some fun and grow. The primary event of the Men's Ministry in 2020 was our fall **Vikings Tailgate event**. Watching the game on the big screen, we had nearly 40 guys attend and enjoy the great food, fantastic testimony from Curt Cousins, and a nail biter of a game.

We also continued with **Men's Softball** this summer. After many years in the summer city softball league, we decided to join a church softball league. This is a league for men 9th grade and up on Monday evenings either as 9 inning single games or 7 inning doubleheaders. We had so many players sign up to play this year that we were able to field 2 teams, the Thunder and the Lightning. Both teams were able to play 13 regular season games which included a doubleheader split. In the year end tournament, the Thunder were able to go 3-2 with a 3rd place finish in the 'B' bracket. The Lightning lost their first 2 games, but then were able to win their next 2 games for the 'D' bracket championship & a trophy!



2021 is already off to a great start with the Men's ice fishing event and some new men's study groups. We look forward to seeing what God has planned for the Men of Oak Grove in 2021.

TODD JOHNSON

TRUSTEES & FINANCE

Trustees

Kathy Beardsley, Wayne Benshoof, Dave Borum, Joray Dunlavy, Dave Goiffin, Ben Hartzel, Jason Johnson, Todd Johnson, Andrew Kimbrough, Matt Litynski, Ryan Strange

*The trustees are responsible for the finances, land, buildings, and legal matters of the church.

Financial Statements Summary

Financial Statements Summary

OGC on December 31, 2020 had \$128,146 in assets of which \$51,338 is a COVID Paycheck Protection Program loan that will be returned to the federal government during first quarter 2021 leaving a year-end cash balance of \$76,808. Current liabilities are \$8,832 for payables due in January 2021. Offerings exceeded expenditures by \$30,822 which is the largest net operating in recent memory.

We praise God for the faithfulness of Oak Grove Church in both giving generously and carefully managing expenses throughout the year.

Trustee Activities Summary

- Managing finances throughout the year.
- Negotiating and securing a lease with Nicole Ecole Charter School.
- Spring and Fall workdays to remove rubbish from inside the building and improve grounds around the building.
- Updating room 107 and creating a family restroom.
- Replacing Lois Sheppard who retired as janitor.
- Resurfacing parking lot entrances and exits.
- Upgrading security by installing a new camera security system throughout the building and parking lot.
- Upgrading lighting in hallways, kitchen, room 107, and the children's large room with LED bubs.
- Maintaining all building systems including HVAC, electrical, plumbing and communications.



Oak Grove Church
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
 As of December 31, 2020

	TOTAL
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
Cash Flow Fund - 5921	41,558.98
Coffee Bar - 7206	44.11
Compassion Fund - 1649	2,320.87
General Fund - 4572	29,375.94
Investment Fund	100.05
Reach Fund - 6901	51,338.43
Replacement Fund - 5995	3,408.11
Total Bank Accounts	\$128,146.49
Other Current Assets	
12000 Undeposited Funds	0.00
Payroll Corrections	0.00
Total Other Current Assets	\$0.00
Total Current Assets	\$128,146.49
Other Assets	
1 Market Value Increase/Decrease	0.00
Total Other Assets	\$0.00
TOTAL ASSETS	\$128,146.49
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Credit Cards	
Assoc Bank - Line of Credit	0.00
US Bank - Combined CC Account	4,667.66
Total Credit Cards	\$4,667.66
Other Current Liabilities	
2100 Payroll Liabilities	4,163.94
Direct Deposit Payable	0.00
Total Other Current Liabilities	\$4,163.94
Total Current Liabilities	\$8,831.60
Total Liabilities	\$8,831.60
Equity	
1110 Net Assets Adjustments	118,876.72
3000 Opening Bal Equity	-47,881.43
Net Revenue	48,319.60
Total Equity	\$119,314.89
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$128,146.49

Zoom in (Ctrl+Plus)

Oak Grove Church

BUDGET VS. ACTUALS: FY_2020 - FY20 P&L

January - December 2020

	TOTAL		
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET
Revenue			
4100 General Income	563,884	525,000	38,884
Experience Income	1,435	3,080	(1,645)
Sales	135	3,500	(3,365)
Total Revenue	\$565,454	\$531,580	\$33,874
GROSS PROFIT	\$565,454	\$531,580	\$33,874
Expenditures			
6000 Adult Disciple-Making	3,139	3,840	(701)
6100 Grove Kids	4,934	7,502	(2,568)
6200 Youth Disciple-Making	5,542	7,700	(2,158)
6300 Worship & Celebration	12,459	12,174	285
6400 Staffing for Disciple-Making	270,483	284,149	(13,666)
6500 Global & Local Disciple-Making	49,096	54,816	(5,720)
6600 Operational Support	33,563	30,607	2,956
6700 Property & Facility	122,921	130,354	(7,433)
9900 Uncategorized Expenses	11,978	2,328	9,650
Payroll Expenses	16,402	10,805	5,597
Unapplied Cash Bill Payment Expense	3,174		3,174
unknown	940	8	932
Total Expenditures	\$534,632	\$544,284	\$ (9,652)
NET OPERATING REVENUE	\$30,822	\$ (12,704)	\$43,526
Other Revenue			
5000 Income Not-Budgeted	86,310		86,310
Total Other Revenue	\$86,310	\$0	\$86,310
Other Expenditures			
9000 Expenses Not Budgeted	68,812		68,812
Total Other Expenditures	\$68,812	\$0	\$68,812
NET OTHER REVENUE	\$17,498	\$0	\$17,498
NET REVENUE	\$48,320	\$ (12,704)	\$61,024

OAK GROVE CHURCH

LOVE GOD | LOVE FAMILY | LOVE OTHERS

