



MARCH Issue from *Alive Vineyard*

*A Disciple loves God, follows Jesus, & Serves People*

## Spring—A Fresh Start, A New Beginning!

Every year we have the “State of the Church” on the first Sunday of March (as our by-law demands) where we review where we’ve been and cast a vision as to where we are going. This is a good time to take an honest look hopefully from the perspective of how our Lord would view our ministry together.



I want to encourage you to **BE THE CHURCH** and let’s not review “doing” outside the directives of Christ—the Great Commandment and the Great Commission.

Our goal is to be a **HEALTHY CHURCH**. We do not want to lose our **FIRST LOVE** (Jesus) nor do we want to be found **LUKE WARM**. I plan to give you the state of our church (ministry update) in written form and then during our worship celebration we will address the vision as we look forward. As you read the report, please do so prayerfully. As you listen, consider your place in the body and commit to being the man or woman God created you to be!

We begin March on Ash Wednesday this year. Easter Sunday is not until April 16th. This is the perfect time to get a fresh start! Don’t think giving up potato chips is the personal sacrifice that God expects from you during Lent. What can you do that will bring you closer to Jesus? What can you do to influence others to be closer to Jesus? If you were to die today what message will your life leave behind for your family and friends?

*Ash Wednesday*



*Remember that you are dust,  
and to dust you shall return.*

ECCLESIASTES 3:20

To be the church will promote you to the “doing” part of your faith. If you could dream and have no limitations (time, finances, etc.), what would your dream be for the Lord? Imagine yourself standing before Him once this life is over, what would you like to lay before Him as your personal gift of gratitude for life and eternity? The wise men thought this through!

How can we be “in Christ” together enjoying the gifts and abilities we each have to offer and under the umbrella of our Mission: (T.R.U.T.H.), where do you fit?

I believe that this church has had lots of unfair challenges from the enemy and we are still standing by the GRACE of GOD! This is not our church but His. It’s



time to stand back and watch the Hand of God at work. We are a part of the Vineyard USA movement and once again, the only Vineyard in the Newark/Granville/Heath area. Vineyard Grace Fellowship recently announced that they have left the Vineyard USA due to the Vineyard USA’s lenient stance on Homosexuality. Several have approached me asking just what is our policy regarding the LGBT community or individuals. Look inside for the official policy.

As we walk towards another Easter and into our next year of ministry, let’s do so with joy and excitement. Our God reigns. He has always pulled us through and He has called us to a ministry to

and for this county. I am thankful for the opportunity to serve our Lord Jesus and you. I anticipate great things but humbly know that He is in charge.

Let’s pray and believe and pray some more! Amen.

*Paula Shaw*

**ALIVE**  
CHURCH - PRESCHOOL  
COMMUNITY CTR

Welcome to the  
**Vineyard** OF LICKING COUNTY

Email: [alive@vineyardusa.org](mailto:alive@vineyardusa.org) Fax: 740-364-9884  
Prayer Chain: 522-8776 (toll-free) 334-8230

WORSHIP: SUNDAY: 10:00 AM  
(JR. CHURCH & NURSERY)  
SAT: 8:30 PM  
WED. - YOUTH 6:30 PM

CHURCH # 740-364-1750  
PRE-SCHOOL # 740-366-4810  
[www.alivevineyard.org](http://www.alivevineyard.org)

LOVE HIM... FOLLOWING JESUS... SERVING PEOPLE

**IN HIS WORD Bible  
Study & Sunday School**  
at 9:00 - 9:45 AM  
w/Ron Redman  
Café open 9:00-9:55 AM

## Vineyard Position Paper on Pastoring LGBT

The Vineyard sent out a document to all the Pastors titled: Pastoring LGBT Persons.

The purpose of the document is twofold.

First and primary focus is to provide necessary teaching, guidance, support, and clarity to the local churches on the issues we face with the Lesbian, Gay, Bi-sexual and Transgender agenda in our nation. \

The second purpose is to serve the wider body of Christ in understanding our Vineyard USA stance on these same issues.

Below is the short answer to the Vineyard Stance on these issues from Appendix 1 of the paper. The full document was on the Vineyard USA website for some time and if you wish to have a copy just request at [www.vineyardusa.org](http://www.vineyardusa.org) it for viewing. It is a sound document that will cause some attack on our movement for being too conservative on the one hand and too liberal on the other. I recommend you read the document before jumping to any conclusions.

I am once again thankful for the Vineyard Leadership and the loving and thoughtful way they have handled this issue. The Paper states that Vineyard USA insists that Vineyard Churches not perform same sex marriages and that Vineyard Churches not ordain or license persons participating in sex outside of marriage.

Dear Leaders of the Vineyard,

I've spent nearly a year now traveling here in the states and abroad, attending national, regional and local gatherings, visiting churches, meeting new and old friends, and hearing the stories of what God is doing in our congregations. And I can tell you from firsthand experience – the Vineyard movement is flourishing all over the world. I have seen physical healing, salvation, justice work, church planting, deliverances, innovative outreaches, and more in state after state and country after country. I've seen a deepening emphasis on soul care in many places, resulting in healthier pastors and increased stability in our churches. I've seen new leaders emerging, including many younger leaders, women, and people of color. I believe that our future is bright with possibility.,

Last year at our leadership gathering in Maine, Mark Fields and Michael Gatlin articulated aggressive, faith-filled goals for church planting in the United States and globally. These goals are not empty numbers, they are backed up by the development of systems and processes that give new churches the best chance to thrive, and established churches the best tools for multiplication.

I believe that we can move into the future with the wisdom that comes with maturity, without sacrificing the youthful zeal that is part of our birthright as a movement.

A movement, like a person, matures with time. And with maturity comes increased responsibilities and challenges. Over time, engaging in the mission of the Kingdom means addressing pastoral and leadership issues that arise, whether from inside churches, or from the surrounding culture. We've worked through issues like this in the past, and as we move into the future, we will want to continue to grow in thoughtfulness and wisdom in approaching the challenges of our time.

One of the most common questions I get asked in gathering after gathering is how the Vineyard will address the many questions surrounding the issue of homosexuality. What is our stance on gay marriage? Can a Vineyard church ordain gay clergy? Can gay people lead in our churches?

Because of the level of cultural intensity surrounding this subject, there is often quite a bit of emotion and anxiety related to these issues. The Vineyard is a movement of compassion, and a movement committed to the Scriptures. We are a movement of radical welcome, and radical discipleship. We always want to live in these tensions, doing our best to find the radical middle.

While there are no simple answers, the Executive Team has agreed on four central points that anchor our response to these questions. Each could be expanded significantly, but for the sake of brevity, I've included a paragraph on each as follows.

- ♦ First, we must be committed to both mission and holiness. The message of the kingdom is a message of welcome. Anyone can come to the feast – Jesus himself was accused of being a glutton and a drunkard. And at the same time, the message of the kingdom is repent, believe, and follow Jesus in every area of life. At

times, it can feel as if these two principles are mutually exclusive. But we are convinced they are not. It is possible to offer the radical welcome of Jesus while calling people to high standards of discipleship.

Second, the Bible promotes, celebrates and affirms marriage as a covenantal union between a man and a woman. Marriage is not the highest purpose of humanity. The apostle Paul himself was single, as was Jesus. At the same time, it must be honored as a sign and gift from God.

Third, we believe that all humans are to be treated with kindness and compassion, as the image-bearers of God on earth. We are all sinful, and it is profoundly unbiblical to pick out one sin that is stigmatized above others. In the history of the church, homosexual persons experienced such sinful stigmatization. We repent and renounce this sort of sinful treatment.

Fourth, we believe that outside of the boundaries of marriage, the Bible calls for abstinence. We know that in our culture, premarital sex, along with many other forms of non-marital sex, has become normative. We want to lovingly help people of any sexual orientation to live up to this standard. We recognize that it can be a difficult journey, and there must be grace along the way. The powerful, beautiful gift of human sexuality must be stewarded with seriousness and compassion within our movement.

Homosexuality is a red-hot issue in our culture. While we focus on mission, church planting, evangelism, discipleship and justice, we do not minister in a vacuum. The church must respond to the culture it finds itself in with resolve yet humbly, gracefully, and with a charitable posture. I hope this letter offers some direction of where I believe we are headed as a movement in this regard. It is our intention to produce some helpful material and dialogue to assist our leaders in this journey.

I am honored and humbled to serve alongside all of you in the Vineyard. We would all be in trouble if we didn't have a good and mighty King who is the head of his church, and whose kingdom will have no end.

For the greater glory of God and the well-being of people,

Phil Strout,  
National Director  
Vineyard USA

**FOR THE RECORD:** *Alive Vineyard* does not view the LGBTQ lifestyles as compatible with Biblical Christian instruction. We will not preform unions/marriages for these lifestyles nor will we promote to leadership (ministers, teachers, worship leaders, etc.) anyone practicing any of the LGBTQ lifestyles. However, our doors will be open to any and all who wish to come. We are all sinners in need of the grace and love of our Savior Jesus.

Jesus loved and accepted everyone, even the "woman caught in the very act of adultery." He accepted her, forgave her and then told her to go "sin no more". He told her accusers that the one who had no sin could cast the first stone. They ALL walked away.

We live in a society that is now teaching, accepting and even promoting the LGBTQ agenda. Therefore, it will be no surprise to see many fall into this practice. However, the Word of God defines for us marriage and acceptable sexual behavior. Outside of marriage we must promote abstinence yet still love and offer forgiveness.

**If anyone questions you regarding our  
or Vineyard USA's stance on the LGBTQ lifestyle,  
please let them read this letter and statement.**

# Alive Ministry Opportunities

## AVLC PRESCHOOL

**Now Accepting**  
kids for the 2016/17 school year!  
Members/Attendees of AVLC receive a  
20% discount! Call Marlene Jacob

### JOURNEY OF FAITH, Newcomer's



choosing to believe,  
finding a church home  
**March 26th at 5 PM**  
Get registration from the  
box on the wall.

Dinner is on us as is child care (if needed). This is the first class of a 4-step discipleship plan to jumpstart your faith journey through Alive Vineyard. If God calls you to be a part of Alive Vineyard, we want/need you!

**Come, get to know how our roots!!!**

Please join me in praying and believing  
for this miracle! Debt-Free for Jesus!  
Pastor Steve

**Life tip:**  
Work like it  
depends on you...  
Pray like it  
depends on God!

**MORTGAGE  
BALANCE:**  
\$866,830.00

Father, we ask you  
for the miracle of  
this balance!

"The greatest  
tragedy in life is  
the prayers that go  
unanswered  
because they go  
unasked."  
-Mark Batterson

Read "Miracle Maker"



**Sunday, March 26, interested?**

If you are a new Christian and  
desire to strengthen your walk with  
the Lord, be baptized!  
Sign up at the Information Station.

## Alive Men's Fellowship

Join us as we meet every week

6:30 to 8:00 PM

Wednesdays - now studying  
the book of ACTS!

We eat...We talk...

We share...

We pray...We study the Bible...



THE  
FORTY  
DAYS  
of LENT

RETURN  
to the  
LORD  
YOUR  
GOD

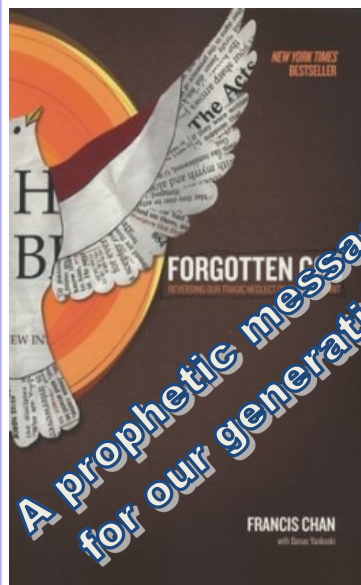


PRAY FAST GIVE

## Pastor's Pick for March 2017

**Forgotten God:** In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. We pray in the name of all three, but how often do we live with an awareness of only the first two? As Jesus ascended into heaven, He promised to send the Holy Spirit—the Helper—so that we could be true and living witnesses for Christ. Unfortunately, today's church has admired the gift but neglected to open it.

Breakthrough author Francis Chan rips away paper and bows to get at the true source of the church's power—the Holy Spirit. Chan contends that we've ignored the Spirit for far too long, and we are reaping the disastrous results. Thorough scriptural support and compelling narrative form Chan's invitation to stop and remember the One we've forgotten, the Spirit of the living God.



## I've Got Jesus. Why Do I Need the Spirit?

**\$12.50 + tax (Retail \$16.99)**

*We may as well face it: the whole level of spirituality among us is low. We have measured ourselves by ourselves until the incentive to seek higher plateaus in the things of the Spirit is all but gone.... [We] have imitated the world, sought popular favor, manufactured delights to substitute for the joy of the Lord and produced a cheap and synthetic power to substitute for the power of the Holy Ghost.*

-A. W. Tozer-

## Birthdays and Anniversaries

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### March

- 1 - Lonny Duval
- 2 - Brad Wheeler
- 3 - Frank Kennedy
- 4 - Makayla Crabtree, Adam Burkey
- 7 - Winnie Buxton
- 10 - Florence Noblick,
- 11 - Andrew Osborne, Rick Drumm,  
Christi Ford, Seth Burkey
- 13 - Michael Crabtree
- 15 - Richard Parlier
- 16 - Robert Bonham
- 17 - Ron Redman, Patti Gibson,
- 19 - Tom Hulse, Sheila Gulley
- 22 - Tracie Irvin
- 23 - Cathy Wilson, Lillian Rehs
- 24 - Jesse Freeman
- 26 - Jane Ridgeway
- 27 - Cheyenne Hunt
- 28 - David Osborne
- 29 - Candy Salmons
- 30 - Ken Quick, Dylan Goodin
- 31 - Laura Allen



- 3/1 - Edie and Bob Myers
- 3/17 - Patty and Bob Gibson
- 3/23 - Tom and Peach Hulse
- 3/23 - Doug and Grace Ayers

If your name has not been listed for your birthday/anniversary, call us at: 740-364-1750.

## Monthly Fellowship Dinners



We are highlighting our Clusters and small groups. A different Cluster will sponsor a Monthly after church fellowship. Choose the theme, promote and serve. Pick your Cluster's Month at the Welcome Station!

March - ????

April - ????

May - ????

June - ????

**Sign up your group/Cluster!**

Sunday  
lunch  
Together

The first request of  
persecuted Christians  
when asked how we can  
help them is:  
**"PRAY FOR US."**



# ACTS

6:30-8:30 PM  
WEDNESDAYS

# MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

lessons from  
the early church

## Prayer Requests

Ruth and Jim Ailes  
Alan and Ruth Moran  
Debi and Alan McKenna  
Bill Rector and Mom, Janet  
Amy and Bob Dingey  
Sandy and Neil Tonner  
Florence Noblick

Our love and prayers to Raynola and  
Judy St Clair at the passing of their  
sister-in-law and sister, Marilyn St Clair  
on February 7th.



March 5th, 2017

This year's report will be written and the address  
will be the message before the sermon.  
Be sure to come hear the direction we are heading  
as we seek to BE the Church



# VINEYARD OF LICKING COUNTY PRESCHOOL



At *Alive* VTC  
7602 Stewart Road  
Newark OH 43055



**Enrolling for the School Year 2016-17**  
**3-4 Year Old Class**  
**4-5 Year Old Pre-Kindergarten Class**  
**Full & Half Day Preschool**

Ohio Department of Job & Family Licensed  
Curriculum Meets Ohio Early  
Learning Standards  
Qualified & Caring Staff  
Fun & Nurturing Environment

**Call (740) 366-4810 or (740) 364-1750**  
**for Information or visit**  
**[www.alivevineyard.org](http://www.alivevineyard.org)**



*The Little School with the BIG Heart!*



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**Help us get the word out- post this or copy and share it with friends.**

Cluster/ Small Group Coordinator:  
Rachel Gargas: 330-573-7995  
rsmartgargas@gmail.com



A "Cluster" is the name for our HOME GROUPS and they are the life-blood of this ministry. It is here we experience the family aspect of ministry. It is a safe place to learn and grow and connect with the body of Christ. All our home groups are open, friendly and waiting just for you to join in the fun and fellowship they all offer!

## CLUSTERS DETAILS:

### Sunday

**Bible Study - Leader, Ron Redman (740-975-8427)**  
**Meets at AVLC at 9-9:45 AM**

### Monday

**"Prophecy Seekers"** - Leader, Tom Jacob - 740-644-2579  
Meets at the Main Newark Library at 6:30 PM - 2nd Floor Room 3  
**"Overcomers"** - Leader, Rick Drumm - 740-323-6794  
Meets at 668 Evans St. Newark at 6:30 PM  
**"In Him"** - Leader, Dean & Joyce Meadows - 740-366-2327  
Meets at the church at 7:00 PM

### Tuesday

**"Diligence"** - Leader, Judy Newton 740-344-5196  
Meeting at the home of Judy Newton, 1660 Bryn Mawn Dr at 10 AM  
**"Kid's Club"** - Leader, Tammy Redman  
Meeting at the church starting September 6th at 6:30-7:30 PM

### Wednesday -

**"Be Still"** - Leader, Becky Downing 740-745-3407  
Meets weekly at 5:30 PM at the Granville Library  
**"All Who Are Thirsty"** - Leader, Ron Redman (740-975-8427)  
Meets at 6:30 PM at Doug and Grace Ayers', 24 Bluebonnet Dr, Heath  
**Men's, Women's & Youth Fellowships** - Meets at 6:30 PM at the church.  
Wade Kirk (youth);  
Marlene Jacob (women);  
Pastor Steve (men), 740-364-1750

### Thursday -

**"Dove"** - Leader, Jim & Ruth Ailes - 740-522-8176  
Meets at 1:00 PM - 227 Indianhead Dr. Heath (Ailes' Home)




*Study to show yourself  
approved unto God, a work-  
man that needs not to be  
ashamed, rightly dividing the  
Word of Truth."*





*If you're not a part of a  
home Bible Study, then  
JOIN one now!  
They are ALL  
great and open to  
new participants!*



Alive Vineyard L.C.  
7602 Stewart Road  
Newark, OH 43055

**ISRAEL**  
Bell Wholesale Travel, Inc. NO ONE BELONGS HERE MORE THAN YOU Bell Wholesale Travel, Inc.



### "In the Steps of Jesus"

July 12 to 21, 2017  
10 Day Biblical Tour / Holy Land Pilgrimage  
Led by Dr. Steven (and Carole) Osborne  
Hosts: Wade Kirk and Andrew Osborne

This will be a somewhat private tour where Dr. Steve Osborne (Alive Vineyard Pastor and Adj. Professor at Ohio Christian University) will be sharing at various points the Spiritual and prophetic significance of the Holy Land from a Biblical Worldview.

**TOUR FEATURES:**

- Round trip airfare from Columbus, OH
- Deluxe Hotel Accommodations in Jerusalem and Kibbutz Hotel in the Galilee
- Israeli buffet style breakfast and dinner daily at hotels
- Fully escorted sightseeing in Deluxe Motor Coach
- Licensed English-speaking guide throughout
- Airport transfers, Entrance Fees, and Portage Fees
- Airline Taxes and Fuel Surcharge
- Gratuities for Guide, Driver and Hotel Staff

\*Taxes, fees, and surcharges subject to increase, see web 30 days prior to departure.


**All-Inclusive!**  
**\$3,587\*!**  
\*Discounted Rate if paid by check.

An initial deposit of \$300.00 is required immediately to hold your Reservation. Reservations made after April 12, 2017, will be subject to a \$200.00 Late Fee

**REGISTER AT:**  
[www.bwti.com/in-the-steps-of-Jesus.html](http://www.bwti.com/in-the-steps-of-Jesus.html)

**FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:**  
PASTOR STEVE OSBORNE (740) 404-9856 / (740) 364-1750  
**BELL WHOLESALE TRAVEL, INC.**  
PHONE: (847) 412-0007 — TOLL FREE: (800) 637-2355  
FAX: (847) 412-0006 — E-MAIL: [reservations@bwti.com](mailto:reservations@bwti.com) — Visit Us: [www.bwti.com](http://www.bwti.com)

We want to invite you, your family and friends to join us in retracing the very steps of Jesus in the Holy Land. Join us for this life-changing trip you will never forget! Walk the Path of the Parables and enjoy teachings by Pastor Steve as you experience the Word of God as it comes to life in the land of the Patriarchs!



*Steve & Carole Osborne*

# STATE OF THE CHURCH



March 5th, 2017



THE NEXT SEASON FOR OUR CHURCH

## Belong - Become - Believe

Editor/Secretary - Marilyn Thompson  
Senior Pastor - Steve Osborne  
Children's Ministry - Carole Osborne  
Youth Pastor - Wade Kirk  
Administrative Assistant - Sue Leffel  
Financial Secretary - Joyce Meadows  
Treasurer - Tom Jacob  
Custodian - Carla Davis  
Elders: Pastor Steve Osborne, Jim Ailes,  
Joe Leffel, Ron Redman, Doug Ayers,  
Richard Crabtree and Andrew Osborne  
*Plus resident ordained elder:*  
Wade Kirk

**Bible Study In the WORD &  
Sunday School 9:00 - 9:45 AM**

**Leader: Ron Redman  
In the Discipleship Room**



**These Bible studies  
are recorded and on our Website!**

**-as is our morning worship-**

The Divine Scriptures are the feast of wisdom,  
and the single books are the various dishes.

—Ambrose