

September 7, 2025 – Vision in Motion event (SOCIAL MINISTRY & OUTREACH)

Members present (or on yellow sheet below): Doug Cunningham, Amy Haara, Steve Kramer, Nancy and Jay Pflasterer, Amy Haara, Steve Kramer, Nancy & Jay Pflasterer, Dave & Lindsay Susalski, Peggy Goebel, Fred & Linda Rayelts, Dave & Peg Peppler, Forrest & Jeanne Bowling, Meredith Busekist, Tom & Jana Rockne, Aaron Thomson, Carl & Suzanne Lehto, Kathie Bair, Maureen Bauer, Janet Landis, Jim Hutchison, Patty Leibenguth, Cindy Monroe and Pam Reid

Dear Faith-filled servants,

First of all, thanks for coming to the meeting on Sunday and to the many who volunteered to be leaders. But this is only the beginning. I hope all of you select an area where you would like to serve, and notify that leader if he/she is not already aware of your participation in the past. I have placed *** for the new areas or chance for increased involvement.

Please take time to read the summary below. I am reaching out to all of our very large group to determine if we are hitting all of the things close to your hearts or if you think there is something else that should be added. Everyone's email should be included above. Please ONLY respond to me and/or me and Jim H if you have questions or ideas about new involvement. If you want to communicate with one of the leaders of the specific groups, please use the appropriate email, or use your directory to contact them by phone (or catch them in church on a Sunday).

Cindy Monroe and Jim Hutchison volunteered to be co-chairs for the social ministry/outreach area.

Sub-groups and leaders below:

***Before-During-After- Jana Rockne

BLC Baby Pantry-Patty Leibenguth

BLC Food Pantry-Kathie Bair

Freedom Builders-Carl Lehto and Cindy Monroe

Good Samaritan-Maureen Bauer and Dave Peppler

***Habitat for Humanity-Fred Reyelts

Safe Harbor-Tom Rockne

Salvation Army Bell Ringing-Carl Lehto

There was also some concerns expressed about areas that we are NOT meeting the needs for volunteers within our own church. We do NOT have enough volunteers for arranging the flowers into bouquets, delivering the flowers, and chairing fellowship. This may actually be more another team's area, but it can also be considered a cross over. If we are not ministering to some of our own in need, how can we plan to give help to others.? There was mention of having a community meal, but we know that is going to take a great deal of organization and many volunteers.

Mention was made about the \$25,000+ that has been in a CD reserved for activities of visioning. Also mentioned was the large grants from the county (cannabis excise tax) currently in the application stage that can go to churches. No one had a great idea that could immediately be put into a grant. Maybe next year???

As co-chair I would rather have people DOING rather than meeting, but I don't want to deny anyone their opportunity to be inspired. **THE NEXT MEETING IS SUN OCT 19 AFTER THE CHURCH SERVICE.** Hopefully the main subgroup leaders could come....or they could send a representative from their group or a few written notes. Brief updates would be provided from each key group, (which would then be shared in the STAR) and there would be time for comments and discussion. If anyone wants to come they would be welcome. Otherwise they would be urged to reach out to the leader of their preferred subgroup.

Blessings,
Cindy

SUMMARY OF VISION IN ACTION SIGN-UP SHEETS

For God's Work Our Hands (GWOH) Sunday, September 7th, 2025 (Core Team 1)

FOCUS #1: Social Ministry and Outreach

Description: Identifying ways Bethlehem can serve our neighbors more widely and intentionally in the Traverse City and northern Michigan area/s. This can include activities both on- and off-site with the purpose of widening our service, presence and ministry.

People who expressed interest at the May18th gathering (additional members are WELCOME!):

David Pepler
Claire Hutchinson
Jeanne Bowling
Kristen Rivard
Tina Dohm
Pat and Patti Friedli
Meredith Busekist
Nancy Ammann
Steve Kramer
Lindsay Susalski
Tom Christensen
Carolyn Mann
Jana Rockne
Pflasterer's (Nancy and Jay)

Janet Landis
Jim Hutchinson
Forrest Bowling
Cindy Monroe
Diane Cunningham
Peggy Goebel
Pam Reid
Peg Pepler
Aaron Thomson
Dave Susalski
BJ Christensen
Amy Hansen
Amy Haara
Carl Lehto
Kathie Bair

Possible Activities/Ministries:

- 5 Pair with other congregations/organizations to expand outreach programs
- 0 Support KAN DU ISLAND (on Garfield near Airport) ministry to those suffering mental illness
- 4 Increase building use by organizations within our larger community
- 17 Continue BLC participation with Safe Harbor and Baby Pantry (expand Baby Pantry to include food, clothing, essentials, etc.) and potentially expand our Food Pantry/Kiosk
- 2 Develop and strengthen community outreach to children and teens
- 3 Focus on serving specifically young families of BLC
- 8 Feed people of BLC, those in our community, those in need, etc. (bear in mind the term "feed" can include a wide variety of ministries)
- 0 Get involved out into the community, spread the news of BLC, enhance exposure and increase hospitality and invitation
- 5 Establish a Meals Program housed at BLC
- 3 Address LGBTQ Community needs
- 16 Continue involvement in Habitat for Humanity, Freedom Builders, or Project Feed the Kids