

*Learn - Love - Live - Lead*

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# PATHWAY

## A WESLEYAN CHURCH

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Church Profile

# Overview

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# OUR HISTORY

1896

The present day Pathway church, located on the corners of Bliss and Portland Road, was an outgrowth of a two week revival led February 2-16, 1896

1902

The West Berlin Wesleyan Church building was erected for a grand total of \$1500 including furnishings. Sheds for horses, buggies and wagons were also built.

2008

The Ebenezer Center was dedicated after a building committee was formed in 1995.

2015

One local church closed, another lost their building. These congregations joined and merged with West Berlin Wesleyan Church.

2016

In the spirit of unity, the church decided on the new name, Pathway a Wesleyan Church

2018

Pastoral staff growth. Pathway added an Assistant Pastor, a year later, added a Youth Pastor.

A brief history

See our detailed history by following the link on the Appendix page

## OUR SETTING AND COMMUNITY

Ionia is a mostly rural county that 64,697 of its residents call home. You can easily find many amenities of a large town; banks, credit unions, grocery stores, parks, movie theaters and restaurants. Nestled in the middle of the four charming towns, of Clarksville, Ionia, Lake Odessa and Saranac, is Pathway a Wesleyan Church. Pathway, formerly known as West Berlin Wesleyan Church was founded in the late 1800's, and it has seen many changes over the decades. If you were to look to the north of Pathway's property you'll see I-96. This highway leads East and West across the lower 1/3 of Michigan. It provides ease of travel to many destinations including Grand Rapids and Lansing.

Pathway is found in the middle of corn and soybean fields.

# OUR SETTING AND COMMUNITY CONTINUED

## COMMUNITY WEBSITES

[Ionia County](#)

[City of Ionia](#)

[Village of Lake Odessa](#)

[Village of Clarksville](#)

[Village of Saranac](#)

## AREA ATTRACTIONS:

- Fred Meijer River Trail that runs from Lowell through Ionia to the east.
- The Historical Ionia Theatre
- Bertha Brock Park
- Fallasburg Park
- Ionia Recreational Area (Sessions Lake)
- Jordan Lake
- Campgrounds
- Fairgrounds
- Golf Courses

## GRAND RAPIDS:

- Frederick Meijer Gardens
- John Ball Zoo
- Grand Rapids Children's Museum
- VanAndel Arena
- Grand Rapids Public Museum
- Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum
- Craig's Cruisers

## LANSING:

- State Capital Building
- Potter Park Zoo
- Impression 5 Science Center
- W.J. Beal Botanical Gardens
- Michigan History Center

# OUR SETTING AND COMMUNITY CONTINUED

## LOCAL EDUCATION

Ionia county and the immediate area surrounding Pathway offers a variety of educational opportunities. There are three local public schools, each offering their own unique attributes. There are also private Christian school and Christian homeschool group options within a short drive.

### PUBLIC SCHOOLS:

[Ionia Public School](#)

[Lakewood Public School](#)

[Saranac Public School](#)

### PRIVATE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS:

There are several options available both within our surrounding communities or a bit farther.

### HOMESCHOOL GROUPS:

[Agape Homeschool Group](#)

[LINK Homeschool Group](#)

# *Our Congregation*

## THE HEART OF OUR COMMUNITY

At Pathway Church, we want everyone to encounter the Love of Christ. We believe most of the time people encounter that Love through people, regular men and women, who have determined to get outside their comfort zones in order to put their faith into action. So it's our hope that you'd encounter that *Love* of Jesus through a smile, a hug, a conversation, or a kind word.



# *Our Congregation*

## THE HEART OF OUR COMMUNITY

Our services:

Traditional Service: Sunday at 8:15 AM  
@ the West Berlin Chapel

Contemporary Service: Sunday at 10 AM  
@ the Ebenezer Center - This service offers childcare for  
all children, newborn through fifth grade.





# Our Traditional Service



## WORSHIP

Traditional hymns led by the piano and/or organ fill the quaint chapel.



## SERMON

A short sermon and scripture readings.



## FELLOWSHIP

This congregation is small in size, but big in *Love*.

# *Our Contemporary Service*



## WORSHIP

A small band leads the group in music, mostly of modern praise and worship songs.



## SERMON

Scripture readings and a message of inspiration.



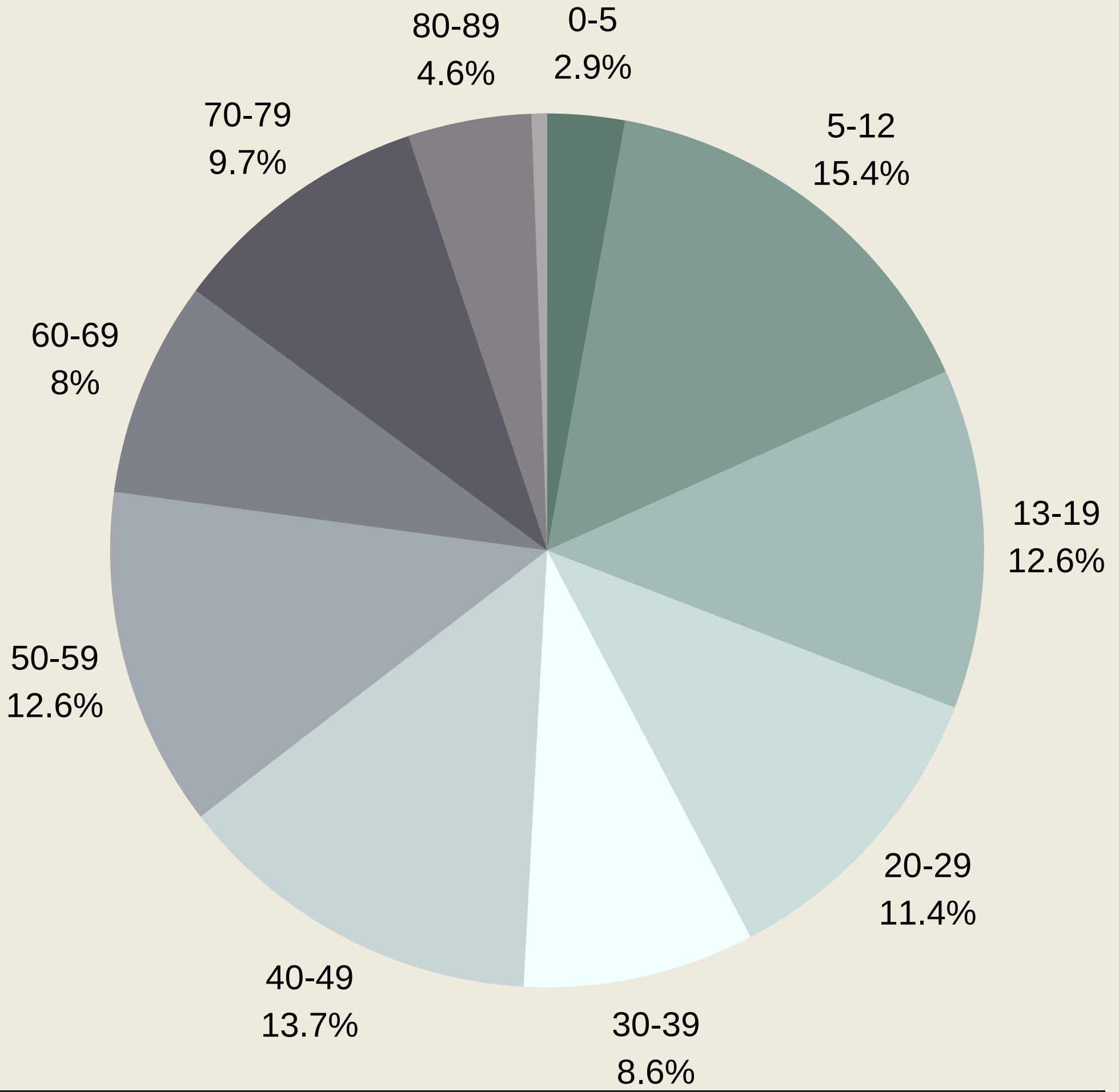
## FELLOWSHIP

A wonderful gathering of people from many walks of life join each Sunday to *Learn* together.

# Our Congregation by Age Groups

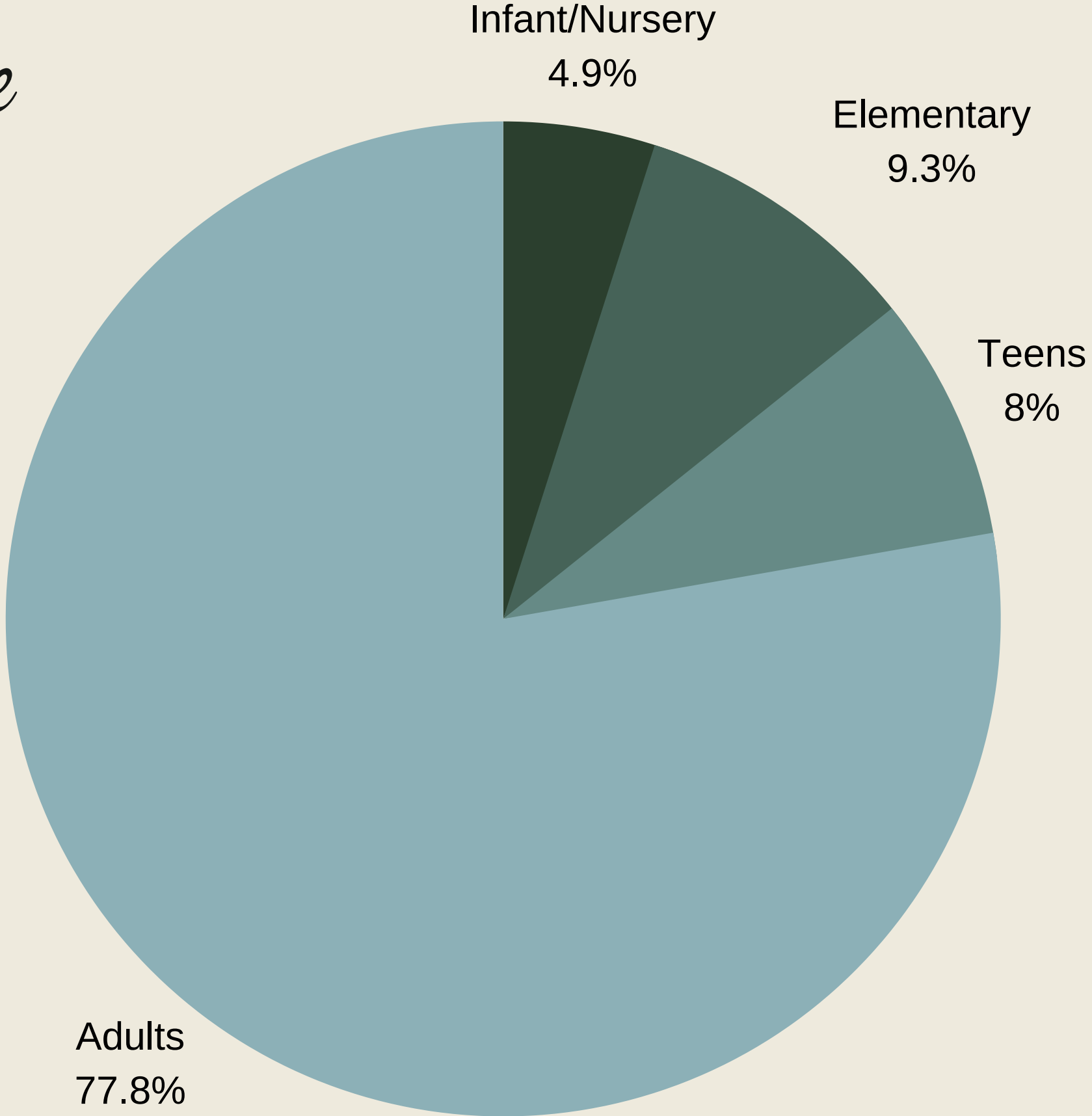
## AGES

|       |    |
|-------|----|
| 0-5   | 5  |
| 5-12  | 27 |
| 13-19 | 22 |
| 20-29 | 20 |
| 30-39 | 15 |
| 40-49 | 24 |
| 50-59 | 22 |
| 60-69 | 14 |
| 70-79 | 17 |
| 80-89 | 8  |
| 90-99 | 1  |



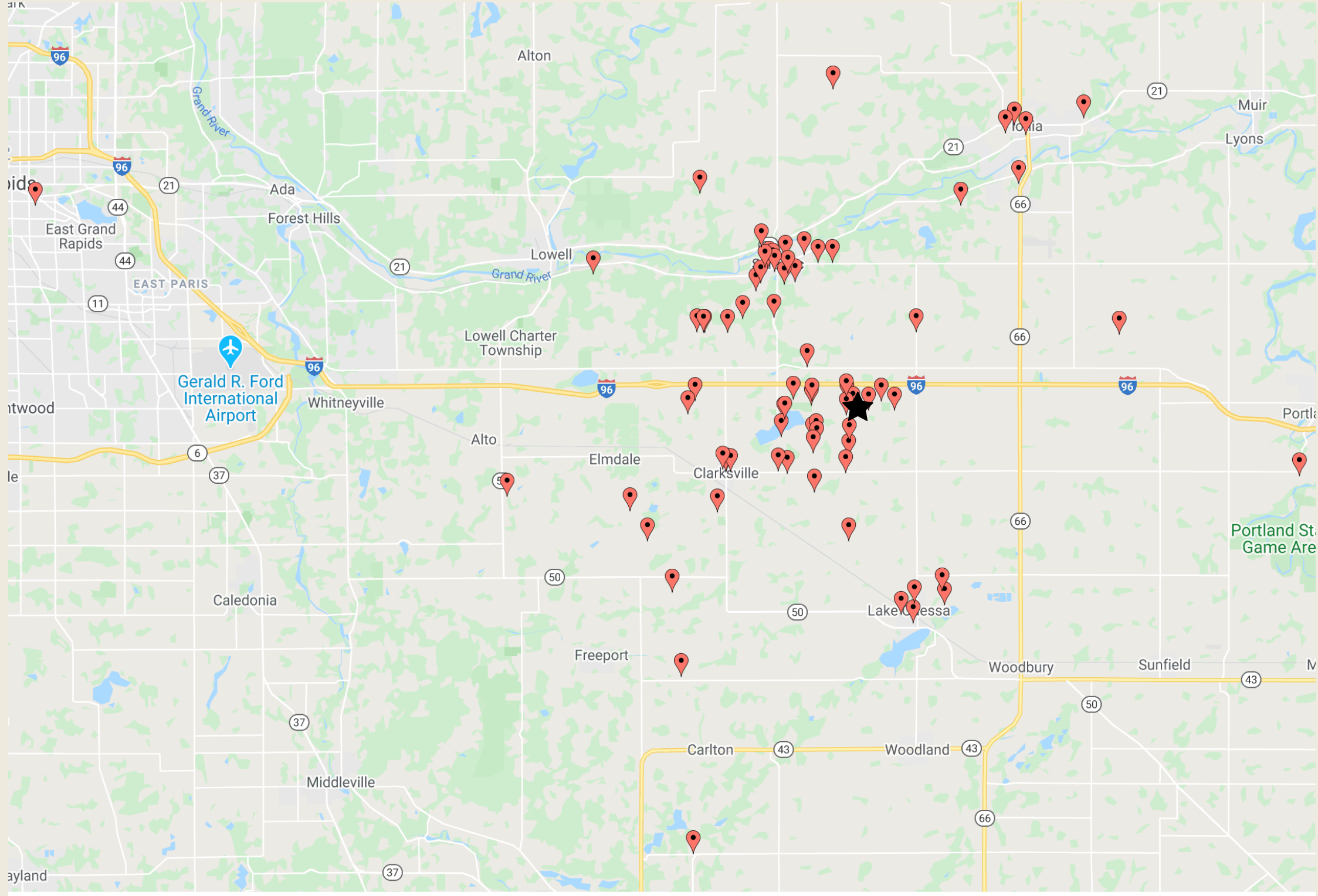
# *Our Congregations Average Attendance by Age Groups*

|                       |            |
|-----------------------|------------|
| <u>Infant/Nursery</u> | <u>7</u>   |
| <u>Elementary</u>     | <u>14</u>  |
| <u>Teens</u>          | <u>11</u>  |
| <u>Adults</u>         | <u>114</u> |



# Our Congregants by Locations

- ALTO
- BELLEVUE
- CLARKSVILLE
- FREEPORT
- GRAND RAPIDS
- HASTINGS
- IONIA
- LAKE ODESSA
- LOWELL
- ORLEANS
- PORTLAND
- SARANAC



# Our Ministries

## WHAT WE OFFER

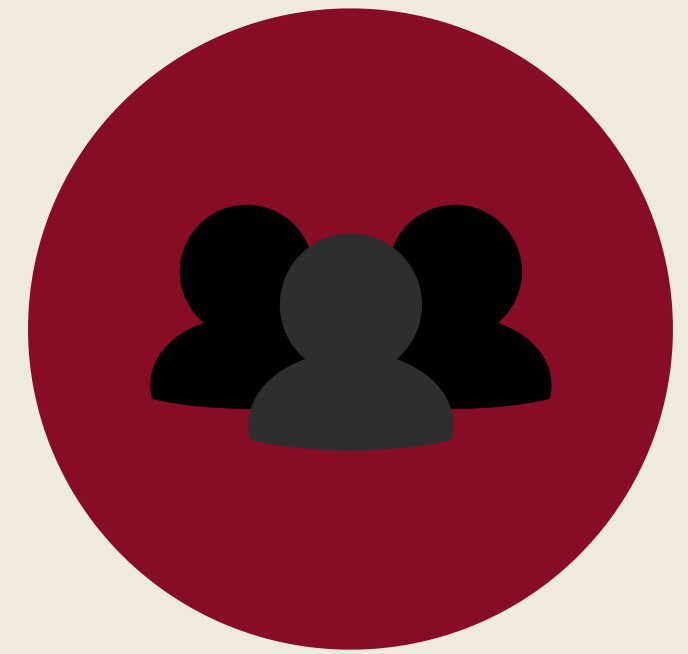
COVID has dramatically changed our outreach ministries this year. We have had to cancel our Supper's Ready, ROCK, and Trailblazers. These involved providing a dinner each Wednesday evening followed by a kids program and a youth group. We are using this time to evaluate our outreach methods and determine the best path forward for when community events are more widely accepted.



Wesleyan Women



Seeds of Hope



Small Groups

# *Our Ministries*

## SMALL GROUPS

There are several small groups to join for several different demographics. They give the opportunity for small gatherings to truly *Live* life together.

# Our Small Groups

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS  
6 PM  
EBENEZER CENTER

JOIN US  
FOR  
PARENT  
SMALL  
GROUP

BILL JOHNSON  
WITH BENI JOHNSON  
**RAISING  
GIANT-  
KILLERS**  
RELEASING YOUR CHILD'S DIVINE DESTINY

WEEKLY ADULT BIBLE STUDY

**Wednesday Night  
Small Group**

SUNDAYS 9:10AM

West Berlin Chapel Basement

*Vista Life Group*

SUNDAYS @ 6:30PM

*Life Group*

Ferris Home

**SHOP TALK**  
- GROUP FOR MEN -

**TUESDAYS**  
6:30AM  
MCPHERSON'S

**MEN'S BIBLE STUDY**

SATURDAY MORNING 7AM  
EBENEZER CENTER

WEDNESDAY MORNINGS  
@ 8:30

**Women's  
Bible  
Study**

Home of the Lipscomb's

DIBABA'S HOST

**Bible Study**

Thursdays • 7:30pm



# Our Ministries

## SEEDS OF HOPE

Seeds of HOPE is a mentoring program serving Saranac Community Schools. Seeds of HOPE pairs a trusted and vetted adult with a selected student (we serve all ages/grades) from the Elementary or High School. Mentors are paired with only one student and meet with their student one hour, once a week at school during school hours, with a one year commitment. Our emphasis is on relationship building not tutoring. We typically have 10-15 mentor/student pairs during the school year and many of our mentor/student pairs have been together for several years.

## WESLEYAN WOMEN

Wesleyan Women is a vital ministry within Pathway. They meet monthly to pray for missionaries around the globe along with our local church staff, board, and other Pathway ministries. These women also graciously and generously serve funeral dinners for families that have lost a loved one. This group also inspires our children with a monthly program that teaches about different missionary groups and helps them to be involved. Women of Grace, is another contribution that is from Wesleyan Women, this is a monthly soup and salad dinner along with encouraging discussion for women of the community.



# *Looking Forward*

**We envision our church-body to increase its evangelistic community involvement. This would include community based events or stewardship opportunities in the areas of Saranac, Lake-Odessa, Clarksville and Ionia. Cascading down a vision onto the church body is crucial to achieve these goals.**

# *Short Term Goals*

- Discipleship, evangelism, stewardship and community connection
- Casting a vision
- Cultivate a culture of ownership at Pathway
- Connect with local churches and partner with them to expand the Kingdom of God
- Identify future leaders within the church-body
- Connecting one on one with the body to increase volunteership
- Teach biblical stewardship
- Offer life-skills classes
- Host rural based community events - (blessing of farmland, community Thanksgiving meal to celebrate the harvest)

# *Long Term Goals*

- A membership committed fully to spreading the good news of Jesus
- A simple duplicable system of discipleship
- A weekly attendance of 300 plus
- Facilities sufficient for our increased attendance

# *Our Infrastructure*



EBENEZER CENTER

CHAPEL

SCHOOLHOUSE

OUTSIDE AREAS

PARSONAGE

# *Our Infrastructure*

## EBENEZER CENTER

- Capacity 299 people
- Dimensions: 84'x104'; 8736 Square Feet
- Ground Level includes: Multipurpose gymnasium/worship center, nursery, children's meeting room, Foyer with coat rack and storage, women's and men's bathrooms including toilet stalls, urinals, and shower facilities.
- Mailroom/storage area
- Table and chair storage area
- Garage/utility storage area
- Health Department certified commercial kitchen with licensed volunteers.
- Upper level includes: Pastor's office, general office, meeting/conference room, balcony overlooking the worship/gymnasium area
- Multimedia facilities include: Production room, screen and projector, Sound, Lighting, Internet, WIFI & storage
- Heating/cooling includes: In floor heat, forced air, central AC, LP fuel
- 75000 WATT standby generator
- Parking: Two lighted chip-n-seal coated lots, 65 spots in front, 30 spots in back, 95 spots total

# *Our Infrastructure*

## CHAPEL

- Capacity 100 people (sanctuary)
- Sanctuary/worship area, foyer/entry, small nursery, women's and men's bathrooms, full basement includes large newly remodeled teen area, two classrooms, two storage areas
- Furnace room
- Multimedia facilities include: Speaker system, overhead projector, Internet, WIFI, large flat screen tv
- Heating/cooling includes: Forced air, central AC, LP fuel
- Portable generator
- Parking: One lighted tarmac lot with 15 parking spots, One chip-n-seal lot with approximately 20 spots

## SCHOOLHOUSE

- Capacity: 60 people
- Small kitchen area minimally stocked with refrigerator, stove, sink, hot water, one large meeting/classroom area, One unisex bathroom, small storage room, entryway, handicap accessible wooden deck
- Technology includes: Internet, WIFI, TV/video, dvd player
- Heating/cooling includes: Forced air, fuel oil, window air conditioners
- Parking: Chip-n-seal driveway, lawn use

# *Our Infrastructure*

## ● OUTDOOR AREAS

- Play structure with a lifetime warranty
- Softball field
- Basketball pad with hoops
- Open grass areas
- Fire pit



## PARSONAGE

Upstairs includes:

- Three bedrooms
- Full bath
- Dining Room
- Living Room
- Newly remodeled kitchen
- Entryway
- Office/study

Full basement includes:

- Three rooms
- a utility/laundry room,
- Two bathrooms

Heating cooling includes:

- Forced air central AC
- LP fuel

## *Our Infrastructure*

Other Amenities include:

- Attached one stall garage
- Internet, WIFI
- Portable generator
- Small storage building

# Appendix



CORE VALUES  
& BELIEFS



ARTICLES OF  
RELIGION



HISTORY



ELEMENTARY  
PRINCIPLES