

*Ministering Kingdom
principles to city issues.*

Acts 8:8 . . . so there was great joy in the city.

Framework For Ministry

Pleasant Valley Assembly of God
801 Pleasant Valley Boulevard
Altoona, Pennsylvania 16602
(814) 944-1948
info@pvag.org
www.pvag.org

Pleasant Valley Assembly of God

Introduction

On March 15, 1912 articles of incorporation were filed with the state of Pennsylvania for what was then known as the Eighth Street Union Sunday School located at 801 Pleasant Valley Blvd. And the journey began. Since that time this church has been ministering in this city. The name has changed several times, the pastors have changed many times as well as members of the congregation. For 91 years what is now known as Pleasant Valley Assembly of God has provided ministry to the Pleasant Valley area. Over that time many wonderful servants of God, both pastorally and those of the laity were used by God to impact lives for Jesus Christ. A wonderful heritage of ministry has been handed down to those of us chosen by God to continue the work at this present time. Although times have changed, society has changed and certainly methodologies, we still have the same Holy Spirit that was the guiding force of the first century church. Praise God that He is indeed relevant to every generation.

In January of 2003 we sensed that God was telling us it was time to establish a framework to place upon the foundation He had laid. A framework that would be a basis for the work He wanted to do. After much prayer and seeking God concerning the continuing ministry of PVAG we have come to a place where we believe God has indeed revealed some of the details to putting this framework together. So in the following pages we would like for you to discover the PVAG **Framework for Ministry**.

FROM EIGHTH STREET UNION SUNDAY SCHOOL ...

...TO PLEASANT VALLEY ASSEMBLY OF GOD

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

All scripture references were taken from the *New International Version* of the Bible. ©1973, 1978, 1984 International Bible Society.

The Key Principles section was adapted from *the ABC's of Natural Church Development*. Written by Christian A. Schwarz. ©1998 Christian A. Schwarz.

The demographic statistics were taken from the 2000 United States Census.

The information contained in this booklet was developed by the Staff of Pleasant Valley Assembly of God

Booklet design was developed by Maria Passanita.

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Who Is Pleasant Valley Assembly of God?

In America, as well as the world, churches provide a wide array of uniqueness. Some churches are established in the heartlands of America, giving ministry to people who live in rural settings. Many of these churches are small in size but great in significance. On the opposite side of the equation there are many churches in the inner cities of our great nation. Again, some are small in size while others are considered mega-churches with thousands in attendance. No one church is more important than the other. No one preacher is more important than the other. However, every church has a God-given uniqueness and purpose for being. An identity, if you will. In the Bible we see Paul writing to churches according to geographical designation. For example: the church of Galatia, the church of Corinth, the church of Ephesus, etc. Different places, different people and certainly different needs dictating the God ordained ministry to take place through these churches. In John's Revelation the letters to the churches addressed each church individually because they certainly had their own identities with their own issues both good and bad.

In late spring of 2003 the question was posed to God? Who is Pleasant Valley Assembly of God? Who did He call us to be? Who did He design us to be? The question wasn't hinging upon who we wanted to be. It wasn't contingent upon what others wanted us to be. But, rather, who did God call us to be? When you know who God has created you to be it is much easier to find out what God is calling you to do. So, who is PVAG?



A CITY CHURCH

God has called PVAG to be a city church. He has called us, designed us, planted us many years ago in the city of Altoona, PA. While the city isn't that big in comparison to other cities in Pennsylvania or the country, He has still ordained us to be a city church. Though this was something we felt God had made clear in the spring of 2003 God in His divine way confirmed that word in a prophecy given July 9, 2003. God is awesome. As you read on you will discover what this means to us as a ministry.

Tape Ministry

- Duplicate cassette tapes of services and special events

NON-DEPARTMENTAL MINISTRY- PASTOR JIM BALZANO

Greeters

- Distribute bulletins and welcome church attendees.

Ushers

- Assist in receiving weekly offerings
- Assist people in seating.
- Assist in any needs arising during the service.

Prayer Team Member around the Altar

- Assist in ministry times around the altar.

The Father's House

- Assist in stocking food and clothing items.
- Assist in giving food and clothing to people in need.

Prayer before Sunday Morning Service

- Pray for upcoming service.

Missions Committee Member

- Assist in the overall missions thrust of PVAG

Library Ministry

- Assist in cataloging books, videos and tapes.
- Assisting people during hours of operation.

What Does Pleasant Valley A/G Do?

Cosmetology Director

- Apply makeup to cast in accordance with their dramatic role
- Fix hair of cast in accordance with their dramatic role.
- Apply additional cosmetology needs as they arise such as wigs, beards, facial prosthetics . . . etc.

Cosmetology Assistant

- Assist cosmetology coordinator in required duties
- Apply makeup to cast in accordance with their dramatic role
- Fix hair of cast in accordance with their dramatic role.
- Apply additional cosmetology needs as they arise such as wigs, beards, facial prosthetics . . . etc.

MEDIA MINISTRY – PASTOR TROY FERGUSON

Graphic Designer

- Design advertisement for newspaper
- Design advertisement for poster
- Design advertisement for tickets
- Design advertisement for billboard

Sound Operator

- To operate the sound console for Sunday services, production rehearsals as well as all performances
- To supervise the distribution and use of hand-held and lapel microphones
- To manage the playing and cueing of music.
- To modify the equalization and levels of singers, speakers, actors and music throughout the services and productions as needed.

Light Operator

- To set up scenes for lighting
- To operate the lighting board for the services, and production rehearsals as well as all performances
- To operate the spot light for special lighting needs.

Video Operator

- To operate the computer and video for Sunday services, production rehearsals as well as all performances if necessary
- To insert songs into *SongShow Plus* for the Sunday service as well as add new songs when necessary.
- To administrate the setup and use of *PowerPoint* presentations.
- To display scriptures when appropriate.

It isn't enough to know who God has called us to be but we must know what it is that He called us to do. What is our purpose for being? As a city church what does God expect of us? Simply put:

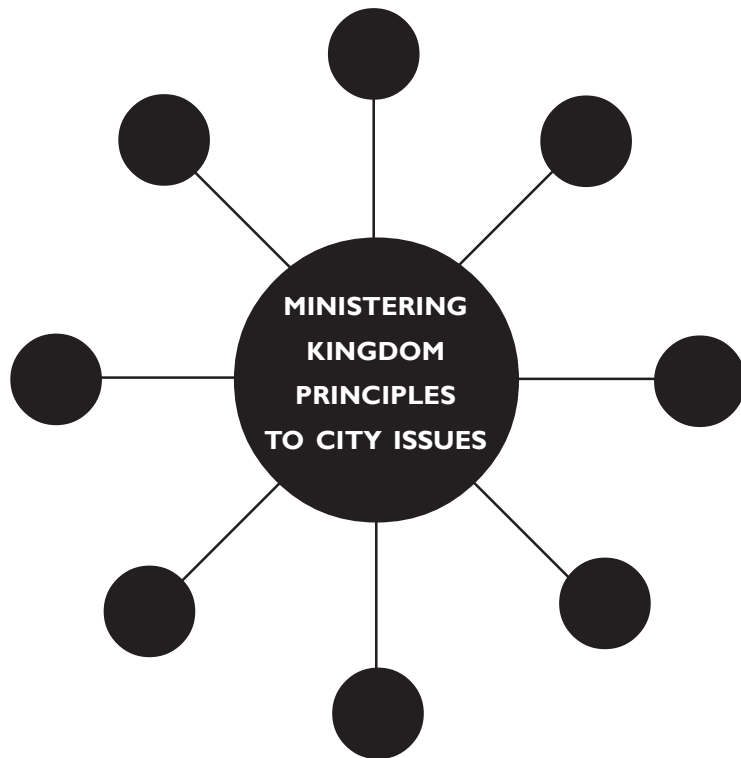
MINISTER KINGDOM PRINCIPLES TO CITY ISSUES.

We truly believe the gospel of Jesus Christ has the power to transform lives as well as cities. In every city whether small or large there are inherent issues that are peculiar to that city. These issues are sometimes negative and at other times positive. We at PVAG believe that for every city issue, negative or positive, there is a corresponding kingdom principle that offsets that issue. For example:

City Issue	Kingdom Principle	Ministry Initiative
<i>Poverty 2.9% of the families in Altoona</i>	<i>Feed the hungry, clothe the naked Give shelter to the poor wanderer Isaiah 58:8</i>	<i>The Father's House The Potter's House Benevolence</i>

As you can see we listed a city issue followed by the corresponding Kingdom Principle accompanied by a ministry initiative ensuring that we are indeed ministering kingdom principles to city issues.

Obviously needs and issues within cities change according to various sets of circumstances. Demographics change according to population fluctuation, social characteristics and economical circumstances. With this in mind, so too will our Framework for Ministry need to be flexible enabling us to effectively minister to city issues. Kingdom Principles responding to city issues may need to be addressed by the addition of more ministries. Or, the needs arising may require us to tailor some of the existing ministry functions. Either way it is imperative that we constantly keep a handle on the issues surrounding the city.



- Obtain from costume coordinator material needed for props
- Distribute props to cast and choir

Props Assistant

- Arrange for props to be built by the set crew if necessary
- Distribute props to cast and choir
- Assist props coordinator where needed

Promotional Director

- Develop promotional strategy for each production
- Delegate responsibilities for each promotional segment to appropriate staff.
- Supervise the graphic design of all promotional material.
- Production committee member

Promotional Staff – Radio and Television

- Contact radio stations to place advertisement for production
- Contact television stations to place information for productions

Promotional Staff – Newspaper

- Contact area newspapers to place advertisement for production
- Email or deliver camera ready advertisement to the area newspapers

Promotional Staff – Posters and Tickets

- Distribute tickets to production choir and congregation
- Distribute posters to production choir and congregation
- Supervise poster distribution to businesses and other local churches.

Promotional Staff – Billboard

- Contact local billboard companies about placing production on billboard
- Reserve billboard space if necessary
- Supervise the graphic design of billboard advertisement

Key Principles

- Oversee script adjustments such as the addition and removal of lines from a production.
- In conjunction with the musical production director, assist in selecting individuals for casting.

Choreographer:

- Choreograph special large and small group movement.
- Design and teach dance segments appropriate for the musical production.

Actors / Actresses

- Attend drama rehearsals and necessary choir rehearsals
- Learn lines in expected time period

Choir Secretary

- Organize choir music distribution and collection
- Maintain attendance records

Choir Pianist

- The playing of vocal parts for choir rehearsal
- The playing of worship choruses and hymns
- Consistent rehearsal attendance

Sectional Pianist

- The playing of two vocal parts simultaneously for sectional rehearsals
- Consistent rehearsal attendance

Set Director

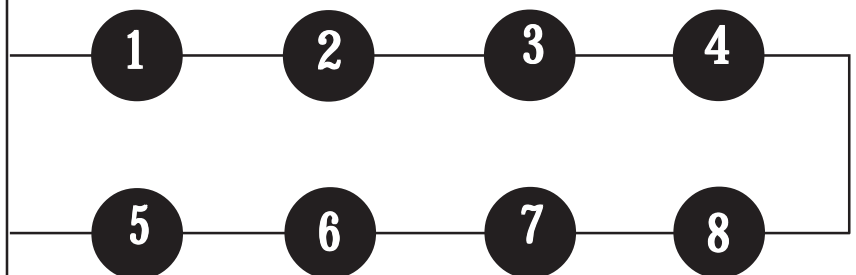
- In conjunction with the musical production director, develop basic set design
- Communicate design to set construction crew
- Delegate responsibilities to set crew (painting and miscellaneous)
- Obtain from costume coordinator material needed for set
- Assist the set crew when possible

Set Crew –Skilled Construction

- Build set foundation as designed by set director
- Build necessary props for musical production as directed by the props coordinator
- Build frames used for rock-paper

In the book of Acts we see the birth of the church. A new-born baby birthed by the Spirit of God to become a living vibrant force which turned a city upside down and eventually the world. In that early church there existed key spiritual principles that enabled the church to become the force in the world that it became. The principles that existed in the early church are timeless treasures. They transcend all time, cultures and generations.

In order for PVAG to effectively fulfill the mission for which it exists these key principles must be inherent within the church body as a whole. A healthy church body means a strong vibrant force within our community. That being said, we believe there are 8 key principles to making us a strong community of faith. These principles are non-negotiable and must exist. One principle is not more important than another but are jointly connected creating a strong and healthy church organism. In the following pages these key principles will be outlined.

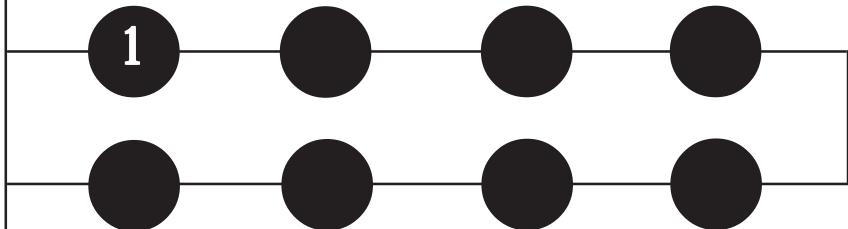


Lay and Pastoral

Leadership Empowerment

It was He who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up.
Eph. 4:11-12

God has through the ages used men and women to build His kingdom. Each believer has been called to kingdom work. People must be empowered to accomplish the tasks which God has called them to do. We will foster an atmosphere where lay people as well as all pastors are empowered to be all that God desires them to be. Existing leadership will mentor, equip, motivate and support others to fulfill God-ordained callings whether vocationally or on a volunteer basis. We also understand that at times this equipping will train people who may not necessarily remain in the local PVAG family but rather be raised up for kingdom purposes somewhere else.



- To get involved with the kids that are there, whether that means playing the games with them or simply by being there and talking to them.
- To live a lifestyle that is pleasing to God in order to be an example to the kids.
- To display a Christ-like attitude in everything you do.

Worship Team

- To live a lifestyle of worship.
- To be an example to the other teens.
- To be committed to providing an atmosphere of worship that will encourage others to enter into worship.
- To work together with other young people in preparing a worship service and worshipping together in unity during the service.
- To hold up the rest of the team and youth group in prayer.

SENIOR ADULTS – PASTOR HENRY SHAFFER

Program & Events Coordinator

- Coordinate special events and for the Senior's Ministry

Van driver

- Assist in driving a van on special events.

MUSIC MINISTRY – PASTOR TROY FERGUSON

Worship Team

- Be committed to provide an atmosphere of worship that will encourage others to enter into worship.
- Attend weekly rehearsals
- Vocal or instrumental skill is required

Choir

- Attend weekly rehearsals in preparation for special music or a musical production.
- Attend services in which the choir is to minister.

Drama Director

- To supervise the drama portions of the musical productions.
- Direct the drama rehearsals.

YOUTH MINISTRY – Pastor Ron Ross, Jr.

Youth Leader

- To live a lifestyle that is pleasing to God in order to be an example to the kids.
- To display a Christ-like attitude in everything you do.
- To help in a variety of areas with the youth group.
- To provide an open ear and a lending hand to the needs of the kids.
- To simply be there for the kids either in hanging out or in a mentor/disciple type of relationship.

Small Group Leader

- To lead a small group of young people in a discussion or bible study. These groups vary in size and also in make-up. Ex.) All guys, all girls, specific ages, etc...
- To live a lifestyle that is pleasing to God in order to be an example to the kids.
- To display a Christ-like attitude in everything you do.
- To work in conjunction with other leaders in giving or leading a lesson or bible study.
- To develop interesting relationships within your group to keep the young people's attention as they learn.

Sunday School Teacher

- To teach a Sunday School class.
- To live a lifestyle that is pleasing to God in order to be an example to the kids.
- To display a Christ-like attitude in everything you do.
- To be able to speak in front of people.

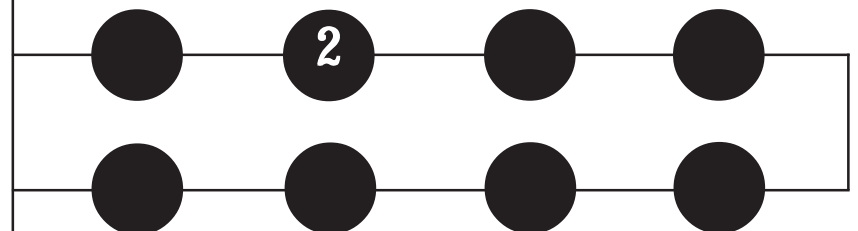
Youth Center Worker

- To help in providing an atmosphere for the kids that is loving and accepting.
- To help with the snack bar in the kitchen.
- To help control what is going on to make sure nothing is getting out of hand.

Gift-Oriented Ministry

There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit. There are different kinds of service but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but the same God works all of them in all men. Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good.
I Cor. 12:4-7

The spiritual gifts were an integral part of the first century church. They are every bit as important to the 21st century church. We will help people identify their spiritual gifting as well as help integrate them into ministries that best match their gifts. We recognize that God has placed within each person a unique set of gifts with corresponding passions that will make that person a vital part of any church body. It is our mission that everyone knows their spiritual gifting and be used within the context of that gifting.



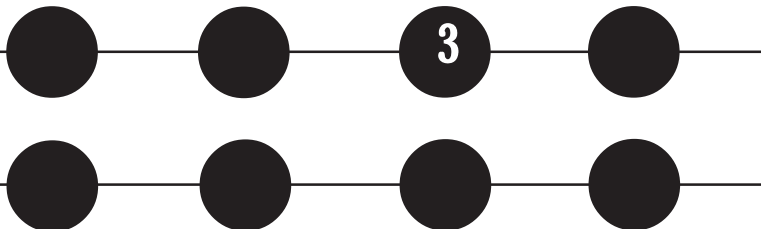
Passionate

Spirituality

The apostles left the Sanhedrin, rejoicing because they had been counted worthy of suffering disgrace for the Name. Day after day, in the temple courts and from house to house, they never stopped teaching and proclaiming the good news that Jesus is the Christ.

Acts 5:41-42

Passion! Is there any other word that best describes the early church? Their passion was marked with such commitment and service that it should make us hunger and thirst for that kind of fervor. Theirs wasn't a lifeless religion but a consuming relationship with a living Savior. Obligatory duty performed out of a heart that lacks a passionate love relationship with God becomes stale lifeless religion. In all that we do and all that we say we will seek to demonstrate our passionate love for God. That passion will be marked by faith, commitment, enthusiasm, energy, expression and other equally identifiable characteristics. Methods and programs will never replace passionate faith that brings glory and honor to God.



Royal Rangers Commander:

- Ministers to boys in specific age levels each Wednesday evening
 - a) Ranger Kids: Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grade boys
 - b) Discovery Rangers: 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade boys
 - c) Adventure Rangers: 6th, 7th, and 8th grade boys
 - d) Expedition Rangers: 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th grade boys
- Is responsible for:
 - a) Bible teaching
 - b) Camping skills
 - c) Camp craft skills
 - d) Indoor/Outdoor activities
 - e) Games
 - f) Merit – based curriculum
- Prepares class for competitions and attends competitions with his group
- Assists the Royal Ranger Director when needed

Royal Rangers Assistant Commander:

- Assists the Royal Rangers Commander in any of the above areas

Above the Rim

- Minister to junior high boys through basketball

Light the Night Team (October)

- Host home family
- Planning committee
- Donations Coordinator
- Candy baggers
- Puppeteers
- Food host
- Games host
- Set up – tear down

Summer Reading Camp (June, July)

- Reading Tutors
- Assistant Reading Tutors
- Van Driver

Transportation Ministry

- Van Driver (Sundays)
- Van Driver (Wednesdays)
- Bus Chaperone (Wednesdays)
- Car Driver for parishioners using wheelchairs

Missionettes Sponsors

- Ministers to girls in a specific grade level each Wednesday evening
 - a) Rainbows: Pre-school age boys and girls
 - b) Daisies: Kindergarten girls
 - c) Prims: 1st and 2nd grade girls
 - d) Stars I: 3rd grade girls
 - e) Stars II: 4th grade girls
 - f) Stars III: 5th grade girls
 - g) Friends: 6th, 7th and 8th grade girls
 - h) Girls Only: 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grade girls
- Is responsible for leading her group by following the Missionette curriculum:
 - a) Pledges
 - b) Bible teaching
 - c) Crafts
 - d) Object lessons
 - e) Merit – based curriculum
 - f) Indoor/Outdoor activities
- Prepares class for competitions and attends competitions with her group
- Assists the Missionettes Director when needed

Missionettes Assistant Sponsor:

- Assists the Missionettes classroom leader in any area mentioned above

Royal Rangers Director:

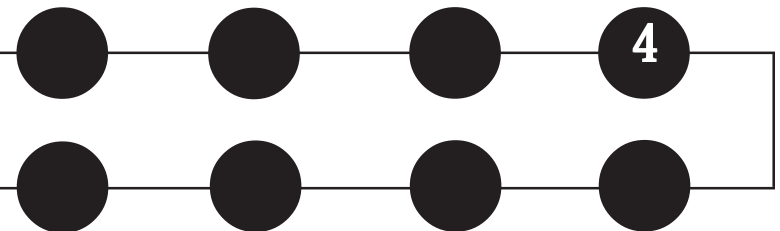
- Oversees all aspects of the Royal Rangers Wednesday evening program
 - a) Recruits and maintains commanders and assistants
 - b) Coordinates all activities on Wednesday evenings and any special activities
 - c) Coordinates all activities with the Penn-Del District and section for leaders and/or students
 - d) Maintains the Royal Rangers' store, supplies, curriculum and merit pins and badges

Functional Structures

So the Twelve gathered all the disciples together and said, "It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to wait on tables. Brothers, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word.

Acts 6:2-4

One of the first ministries to be established in the early church came about with a purpose. Ministry structures are not designed to stifle growth but rather to ensure growth. The early church was not an unstructured, unfocused and haphazard collection of people and purpose. All of our programs, structures, ministries and functions must fulfill the purpose for which they were created. They must bear the fruit they were intended to bear. We will evaluate all that we do and make changes where necessary. Structures should never stay the same because of tenure but rather because of the harvest they bring forth. Structures are not an end in themselves but are created to bring an expected end. With that in mind all structures are subject to evaluation, modification and even termination.



Worship

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe and many wonders and miraculous signs were done by the apostles.
Acts 2:42-43

Boring worship services didn't exist in the early church. The church was filled with awe and wonder as they were inspired through the word and the works of God. Who wants to go to boring worship services? Our goal is that all people who walk into a PVAG service will leave inspired. Not entertained but rather inspired. Realizing that people come in all sorts of shapes, sizes, colors, ages and needs we will do our best to meet the spiritual needs of all who worship here. Praise, worship, prayer and preaching will be done through the guidance of the Holy Spirit with the anticipation of all who are hungry being fed. We want to provide a Spirit-filled atmosphere that people can't wait to get to rather than a dutiful obligation they may not enjoy.

Three Year Old Sunday School Teacher

- Ministers to and nurtures three year olds
- Follows the Faith Weaver curriculum for teaching
- Ministers every Sunday

Three Year Old Children's Church Teacher

- Ministers to and nurtures three year olds during the Sunday morning service
- Follows the Faith Weaver curriculum for teaching
- Ministers on a rotating schedule one Sunday each month

Pre-K and Kindergarten Sunday School Teacher

- Ministers to and nurtures four and five year olds
- Follows the Faith Weaver curriculum for teaching
- Ministers weekly

Pre-K and Kindergarten Children's Church Teacher

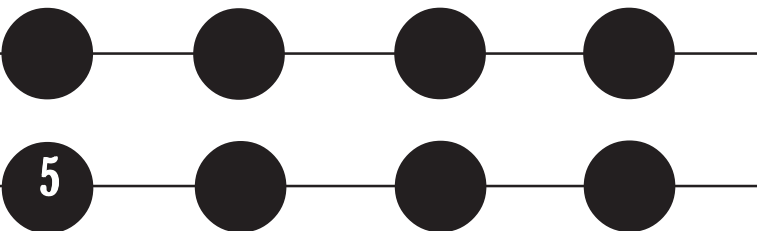
- Ministers to and nurtures four and five year olds during the Sunday morning service
- Follows the Faith Weaver curriculum for teaching
- Ministers each Sunday during the Sunday morning service

H₂O Children's Worker

- Ministers to first through sixth grade children during Sunday School and the Sunday morning service
- Ministers on a rotating basis from one to three Sundays each month
- Specialized Sunday ministry includes:
 - a) Worship leader
 - b) Bible teaching
 - c) Object lessons
 - d) Games
 - e) Missions
 - f) Puppetry

Missionettes Coordinator

- Oversees all aspects of the Wednesday Missionettes Girls Club
 - a) Recruits and maintains classroom leaders and assistants
 - b) Coordinates all activities on Wednesday evenings and any special activities held on other nights
 - c) Coordinates all activities with the Penn-Del District and section for leaders and/or students
 - d) Maintains the Missionettes' store, supplies, curriculum, and merit pins and badges



MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

We want to provide you with many options and opportunities to be involved here at Pleasant Valley Assembly of God. Please read through the following list of ministries and opportunities available in those ministries. The title and a brief description of the expectations are listed. For further information about this opportunities, contact the Pastor who oversees the particular ministry opportunity.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY – Pastor Chris Heller

Nursery Coordinator

- Coordinates the scheduling of all nursery workers during Sunday School, Sunday morning service, Sunday evening service, Wednesday evening service, and any special activities requiring nursery
- Maintains monthly Cradle Roll mailings to all children under 24 months of age
- Maintains the nursery environment and supplies for all children up to 35 months of age
- Annually organizes Cradle Roll Sunday

Nursery Worker – Sunday School

- Ministers to and nurtures newborns to 35 months of age during the Sunday School hour.
- Ministers on a rotating schedule one Sunday each month

Nursery Worker – Children's Church

- Ministers to and nurtures newborns to 35 months of age during the Sunday morning service
- Ministers on a rotating schedule one Sunday each month or bi-monthly

Nursery Worker – Wednesday evenings

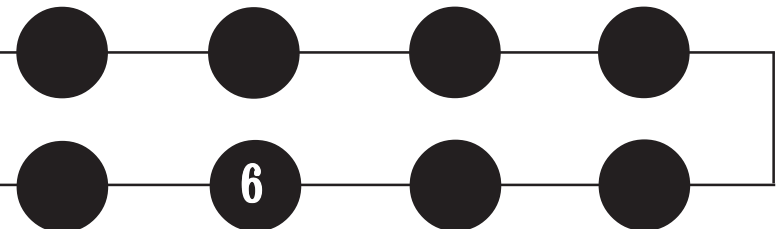
- Ministers to and nurtures newborns to 35 months of age during the Wednesday evening service
- Ministers on a rotating schedule one Wednesday each month

Small Group Ministry

Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people.

Acts 2:46-47

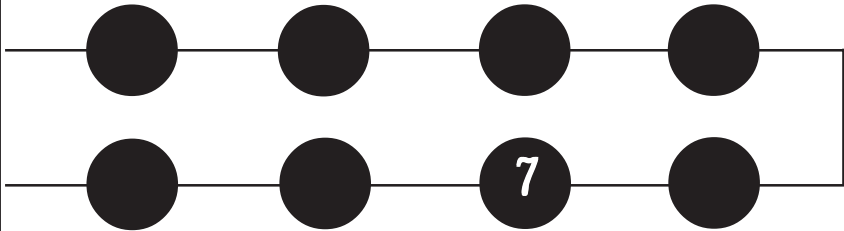
The early church knew what it was to worship together in the courts of the temple but also knew the significance of close personal relationships. In a day and age where fast-paced living is the norm, people are looking for relationships, intimacy and interaction through small group ministry in addition to corporate worship services. We will establish small group ministry that will bring the intimacy, discipleship and interaction that are so important in the walk of faith. These groups will be established through a variety of mediums. The important thing is to bring people together so Christian growth can take place.



Need-Oriented Evangelism

There were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned lands or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales and put it at the apostles feet and it was distributed to anyone as he had need.
Acts 4:34-35

Jesus was a master at seeing the needs of people. Seeing those needs He ministered to them at the same time bringing people into the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. This was something that He modeled for His disciples and in turn it was something they used in their early church ministry. In the present situation Pleasant Valley Assembly of God will not grow because of demographic growth in the Altoona area. Nor, do we desire to grow at the expense of other churches in our area. Therefore evangelism must be an integral part of what we do. Need-oriented evangelism is something that must take place. We do not exist strictly to meet the physical needs of people but understand that meeting a person's need is a pathway to sharing the gospel. We will see a need, meet a need and bring people to salvation through it.



COMMUNITY LIFE

COMMUNITY EVENTS

PVAG must be involved in events that happen in our community. We cannot be an island to ourselves.

By the blessing of the upright a city is exalted, but by the mouth of the wicked it is torn down.

To be determined

COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Finding ways to be involved in projects that will enhance and bless our city neighborhoods.

They replied, "let us start rebuilding." So they began this good work. Neh. 2:18

To be determined

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Strategic partnerships between PVAG and local organizations, business, government, churches and individuals to bring common good to the city.

"So I went to the governors of Trans-Euphrates and gave them the King's letters". Neh. 2:9

To be determined

FAMILY LIFE (CONT'D)

ADDICTIONS

While there is an escalating drug problem in the Altoona area we recognize there are addictions of various types and will strive to bring freedom to the addicted.

“He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed.” Lk. 4:18

Support Groups for addicts
Support groups for families of addicted people.
Financial support of Teen Challenge type ministry locally.

CYBER-PROTECTION

The internet has provided many wonderful blessings to families while at the same time providing perils to the family.

Computer Seminars

VOCATIONAL

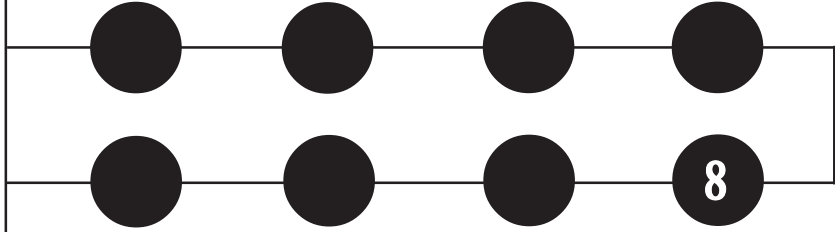
Obviously we can not provide employment for people however we feel that we can, given a talent pool, within the church assist in certain types of vocational enhancement venues.

Job Fairs
Skill Enhancement Activities

FINANCIAL COUNSELING

Statistics tell us that finances are a chief ingredient to marital stress and breakdown.

To be determined



Loving Relationships

Love must be sincere.
Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves.
Rom. 12:9-10

People want to be loved. If they can't find it in church, where will they find it? People need to feel valued. Not cheap schmooze. Genuine Christian love that permeates our church is a necessary requirement to fulfilling the Great Commission. Paul, in what is affectionately called the “love chapter” (1 Cor. 13) aptly reminds us that a man is nothing who doesn't possess love. Likewise, a church without love is nothing. Paul said three would remain: faith, hope and love and the greatest of them was love. Our church must be a place where people are genuinely loved, valued and esteemed. Joy and laughter should radiate through our halls, offices and sanctuary. Without love we are just another gathering of people.

The following is a current list of City Issues, Kingdom Principles and Ministry Initiatives. This list is not meant to be all inclusive or exclusive at this point but merely a starting point giving shape to our ideology for the Framework for Ministry. You will notice that City Issues have been segmented into three sections, Spiritual Life, Family Life and Community Life. Ministry Initiatives are a combination of current ministries, desired ministries and ministries yet to be determined.

SPIRITUAL

UNCHURCHED POPULATION

Of the 129,144 people in Blair County 56,961 report no church affiliation.

“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, Mt. 28:19

Evangelism Explosion
Need Oriented
Evangelism

SPIRITUAL WARFARE

For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Eph 6:12

Intercessory Prayer Teams
City Prayer Walks

CHRISTIAN UNITY

Developing, partnering and enjoying those of other churches without the competition that has so long existed.

Multi-Church Events

FAMILY LIFE

DIVORCE RECOVERY & PREVENTION

Currently of the 40,089 people over 15 in Altoona 9.9% are divorced.

For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh. Gen 2:24

Care Groups for Divorce Recovery
Marriage Counseling
Marriage Enrichment Events

FAMILY LIFE (CONT'D)

SINGLE MOTHER FAMILIES

7.62% totaling, 1,528 households in Altoona are single mother households.

Care Groups for Single Moms
Help with auto and housing issues

BLENDED FAMILIES

No statistical data was available for Altoona but nationally 1300 new stepfamilies are created each day.

Care Groups for the Blended Family

FAMILIES WITH DISABILITIES

There are 45,855 people over the age of 5 in Altoona. 23.18% or 10,628 people have some sort of disability.

Go out quickly into the streets and alleys of the town and bring in the poor, the crippled, the blind and the lame. Luke 14:21

To be determined

SIGNIFICANT CHILD POPULATION

27.33% of the population is below the age of 19 totaling 13,562. 19.03% of the population is below the age of 14 totaling 9,421.

“Train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old he will not depart from it.” Prov. 22:6

H20 Programs
Missionettes
Royal Rangers
Above The Rim
Reading Rendezvous (literacy help)
Pure Adrenaline
Unified

FAMILIES BELOW POVERTY
12.9 % or 1,637 families were under the poverty level in 1999.

Feed the hungry, clothe the naked, give shelter to the poor wanderer. Is. 58:8

The Father’s House (food, clothing & other miscellaneous items)
The Potter’s House (haircutting for needy, inner-healing ministry)
Benevolence Program