



- Week 1: “Church 1.0”
 - Learn more about our Mission, Vision, Values and other related. This is how God is using us to transform the community with His love.
- Week 2: “Essentials 2.0”
 - Learn all about living the most amazing life God has for you! A life overflowing with peace and joy, purpose and meaning. How? By following Jesus and developing Biblical disciplines, err, I mean *delights*.
- Week 3: “Discovery 3.0”
 - Discover how God uniquely shaped you by taking a spiritual gifts test and more. He desires for you to discover the eternal purpose He has for you. He also desires to equip you to carry it out.
- Week 4: “Serve 4.0”
 - We were “saved to serve”. A life of service to God, His church, and the world - for something eternally significant - is where you are blessed beyond your imagination.

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WELCOME TO CHURCH 1.0!

INTRODUCTION

We're glad you decided to find out more about Danica and me and our vision for the community and the world through New Vintage Church. This class is the basic introduction to our church family. Since we have members from different church backgrounds, this class was designed to clearly explain who we are and what we believe.

OUR STORY

The Bartelme family used to live in San Diego County, California. We pastored a small church and operated a big business. Our business employed 50+ music instructors who provided music lessons in four counties. We had that church and business for eight years and then moved to, of all places, West Allis, Wisconsin.

I'm sure at this point you're asking, "How did you end up in West Allis?" Well, everyone tells me it's a great story.

Things were going really well for us. And then, a new season of financial difficulty came about. Also, the church began to go through some tough times. I asked the Lord, "Why is this happening? Did I do anything wrong? And, let me remind You of the vision You put in my heart regarding growing a church that would bless the nations!"

The Lord responded and said that I wasn't doing anything wrong. He told me to trust Him regarding how He is engineering the circumstances to usher in a whole new season.

It was around that time that I received a letter in the mail from the Chicago area from this stranger who is claiming that she is my half-sister. This shocked me because I never knew that the man who raised me adopted me when I was a baby. So, I grew up with my biological mom and stepdad, who I was led to believe was my biological dad.

I ended up taking a DNA test, and lo and behold, Joe is not my biological father. This stranger named Ken is! Needless to say, this opened up a whole new world for me and my family. I developed a close relationship with my half-sister, Vanessa, and a few months later, she told me that my bio dad, Ken, would like to meet me, Danica, and the kiddos. So, why not fly out to Chicago and spend summer vacation with him and the rest of the new-found family?

I told Vanessa that we would love to, yet we cannot afford to fly a five-member family from San Diego, Ca to vacation in Chicago, Il. She then responded by saying that our Dad, Ken, would write a check not only covering the entire vacation, but also a good start on the kiddos' college funds! But wait. The story gets even more remarkable.

It was the summer of 2016. We flew out to Chicago on a vacation that we will never forget. I get to visit my biological father and the rest of the family, not to mention my new half-sister, two new half-brothers, nephews, and Aunt Marsha, too.

During our vacation, Ken and I did some local traveling. He shared a lot of family history with me. He gave me a tour of his factories. (He happens to be quite wealthy.) We visit the main touristy places in the city. We are having an amazing time. And then, he pops the question.

It was the 4th of July 2016, my and Danica's 22nd wedding anniversary. Danica and I are lounging in his family room watching through the sliding glass door the kiddos and their new cousins play in the pool. Ken walks up and says, "Hey, I might be moving too fast, but I would love to find a church property and purchase it outright to donate to your nonprofit."

I was stunned. The words just kind of fell out of my mouth. "Okay, we would be open to that."

"Great! In that case, you and Vanessa can begin searching for the right property within a 150 mi radius of Chicago. Because it sure would be nice to have you and the grandkids close by."

The property that he ended up buying and donating is the one we are all sitting inside right now.

We ended up moving here in January 2017. We had our first formal service on Easter of that year. There were 11 people in attendance, including the five members of the Bartelme family.

At some point early after the move, the Lord reminded me of that conversation we had roughly a year prior. Then, He said that the vision He gave me was not going to be realized in San Diego, CA. Rather, it is to be realized in West Allis, WI. He also said that He knew we wouldn't move here if the business and church continued to grow, so He made sure the opposite would happen, which literally pushed us right out of California and into Wisconsin!

And we couldn't be happier because the greatest joy in life is found in being in the center of God's will and moving to the rhythms of His grace.

ABOUT US

Pastor Paul Bartelme, Lead Pastor – Paul studied Music and Business at Southern Oregon State College. He also studied Ministry and Biblical Studies at Calvary Chapel Bible College in the early 90's in Vista, CA, yet it would be inaccurate to pin him down as a "Calvary-ite" due to serving on staff at churches representing different worship and preaching styles as well as different beliefs in nonessential doctrines.

Paul is ordained with Grace International, a denomination that comprises of 5,200 churches in 126 countries. He has post-graduate certificates in both Christian Counseling and Life Coaching.

Paul and his wife Danica have been in ministry together for 31 years, the last 20 years in a senior pastoral capacity. Their work has resulted in ministries that advance the Kingdom on an international level.

On the 4th of July 2024, Paul and Danica will have been married for 30 years. They moved to West Allis, WI in January of 2017. They have four children and one grandchild: Jon - 32 (Danica's "bonus" child), our grandchild Elena -7, Jake (a junior at Lawrence University), Lili (a freshman at MATC), and Luke (a senior at Central High School).

Danica Bartelme, Worship Arts Director - Danica studied art at Santa Monica College and music at Mira Costa Community College in Vista, Ca, as well as missions and theology "a little here, a little there, a little everywhere" as she likes to put it.

As a missionary, Danica was trained through Y.W.A.M. (Youth With A Mission) and served on missionary teams throughout the Middle East in acting troupes and street evangelism activities. She also served on a team that built a church in Thailand with Candlelight Ministries, affiliated with Rich Mullins.

When Danica was 8 years old she was mesmerized by a worship leader on the platform totally immersed in the Lord's presence at a church service. It was at that moment that she realized her calling as a worship minister and has been operating in that capacity for decades now in various churches representing different styles of worship from traditional hymns to contemporary songs.

Danica is also our Interim Children's Church Director. Her experience is rich and varied, which is awesome. Yet, the most impressive aspect of her life is her devotion to Jesus. Danica knows how special children are to Him and she wants to make sure that every child knows how amazing they are and that they can accomplish amazing things for God!

Danica loves to put together creative and memorable lessons for the children at "Kid Zone" and she loves to make her lessons fun too!

Danica and her staff's promise to you...

1. Provide a safe, clean, and loving environment.
2. Teach kids about God's love.
3. Pray for the kids and their family members.
4. Only have workers who love kids and have been background checked.

PART 1:

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Why grow a new Christian non-denominational church in West Allis?

Good question. The why needs to come before the what. The answer is found in our mission statement:

MS

*To invite people into **knowing** Jesus, **growing** in their love Him,
and **going** out to share their story.*

KNOW. GROW. GO. That will be the motivation behind everything we do in ministry, because we have learned that as we grow in our relationship with the Jesus of the Bible, we experience LIFE and that to the full (Jn 10:10)!

KNOW – John 17:3 “Now this is eternal life: that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.”

(The Great Commandment) Mark 12:29-30 “...Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all of your heart, and with all of your soul, and with all of your mind, and with all of your strength.” – Jesus

John 10:30 “I and the Father are one.” - Jesus

MS

GROW – Eph 4:14-16 We will be no longer infants... Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up in to Him who is the Head, that is, Christ. From Him the whole body... grows and builds itself up in love as each part does its work.

MS

GO – (The Great Commission) Matt 28:18 Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

Our desire is to establish a church where people would experience this life filled to overflowing with peace and joy, purpose and meaning.

PART 2:

THE TENETS OF OUR FAITH

In essential beliefs - we have unity

"There is one body and one Spirit... There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God and Father of us all who is over all in through all and in all." - Eph 4:4-6

In non-essential beliefs - we have liberty

"Accept him whose faith is weak, without passing judgment on disputable matters... Who are you to judge someone else's servant? To his own master he stands or falls... So then each of us will give an account to God... So whatever you believe about things keep between yourself and God." - Rom 14:1,4,12,22

In all our beliefs - we show love

"If I hold in my mind not only all human knowledge but also the very secrets of God, and if I have the faith that can move mountains - but have no love, I amount to nothing at all." - 1 Cor 13:2

The Bible

We believe the Scriptures, both Old and New Testaments, to be the inspired Word of God, without error in the original writings, the complete revelation of His will for the salvation of men, and the divine and final authority for all Christian faith and life. (II Tim 3:15-17; II Pet 1:21)

The Trinity

We believe in one God, creator of all things, infinitely perfect and eternally existing in three persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. (Gen 1:1; Deut 6:4; Matt 28:19; Jn 10:30)

Jesus

We believe that Jesus Christ is eternal and true God and true man, having been conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He died on the cross as a sacrifice for our sins according to the Scriptures. Further, He arose bodily from the dead, ascended into heaven, where at the right hand of the Majesty on high, He now is our High Priest and Advocate. (Jn 10:33; Isa 7:14; Matt 1:23; Lk 1:34-35; Heb 4:15, 7:26; Jn 2:11; I Cor 15:3; Eph 1:7; Heb 2:9; Jn 11:25; I Cor 15:4; Mk 16:19)

The Holy Spirit

We believe that the ministry of the Holy Spirit is to glorify the Lord Jesus Christ, and during this age to convict men, regenerate the believing sinner, and indwell, guide, instruct and empower the believer for godly living and service. (Jn 3:16-19, 5:24; Rom 3:23, 5:8-9; Eph 2:8-10; Tit 3:5)

Humanity

We believe that man was created in the image of God but fell into sin and is therefore lost; only through regeneration by the Holy Spirit can salvation and spiritual life be obtained. (Rom 8:13-14; I Cor 3:16, 6:19-20; Eph 4:30, 5:18)

Salvation

We believe that the shed blood of Jesus Christ and His resurrection provide the only grounds for justification and salvation for all who believe; only such as receive Jesus Christ are born again of the Holy Spirit and thus become children of God. (Eph 2:8-10)

The Universal Church

We believe that the true Church is composed of all such persons who through the grace of God imparted to them have been born again by the Holy Spirit and are united together in the body of Christ of which He is the Head. (Rom 8:9; I Cor 12:12-13; Gal 3:26-28)

The Consummation

We believe in the return of our Lord Jesus Christ and that this hope has a vital bearing on the personal life and service of the believer. (Matt 16:27; Mark 8:36-38; Acts 3:19-21; 1 Cor 11:26; Phil 1:10; Col 3:4)

We believe in the bodily resurrection of the dead and a judgment to come. (John 5:28-29)

We believe that God has not made fully known to the true Church the truth regarding which eschatological view to embrace. Therefore, we hold loosely such a doctrine and refuse to allow it to be a source of strife and division. (1 Cor 15:12; Isa 55:9)

PART 3:

OUR HOPE FOR YOU

Upon completing **Church 1.0** class our hope is that it has been a catalyst to help you find...

1. A church family to partner with on Sunday mornings

*“Every time I think of you, I give thanks to my God. Whenever I pray, I make my requests for all of you with joy, for you have been **my partners** in spreading the Good News about Christ from the time you first heard it until now.” - Phil 1:3-5*

2. New friendships to live a life of faith with

*“Is there any encouragement from belonging to Christ? Any comfort from his love? Any **fellowship together** in the Spirit? Are your hearts tender and compassionate? Then make me truly happy by agreeing wholeheartedly with each other, loving one another, and working together with one mind and purpose. Don't be selfish; don't try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves. Don't look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too.” – Phil 2:1-4*

3. A spiritual foundation to build on

*“I don't mean to say that I have already achieved these things or that I have already reached perfection. But I press on to possess that perfection for which Christ Jesus first possessed me. No, dear brothers and sisters, I have not achieved it, but I focus on this one thing: Forgetting the past and **looking forward to what lies ahead, I press on to reach the end of the race** and receive the heavenly prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us.” – Phil 3:12-14*

4. A fulfilling place to contribute my resources towards

*“Keep putting into **practice** all you learned and received from me—**everything you heard from me and saw me doing**. Then the God of peace will be with you. For I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength. – Phil 4:8-9, 13*

OUR TOP 5 CORE VALUES

It's important for any organization to define their core values to ensure that they're on track regarding fulfilling their mission. Churches are no different, of course.

Not only does a church need core values to further their mission, but also to serve as the essence of the church's identity; e.g. culture, principles, philosophy of ministry, etc.

Every Spirit-filled church embraces the New Testament values of worship, fellowship, discipleship, ministry, and service. Yet these are very general concepts that don't explain in detail the DNA of a local church body.

Obviously, New Vintage Church has more than five, yet here are the most prominent ones that will contribute towards the furtherance of the mission.

OUR TOP 5 CORE VALUES AS FOLLOWS:

1. We love attending church weekly and committing to at least one more church activity.
 - a. *"... let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near."* – Heb 10:25

2. We embrace the doctrine of the tithe.
 - a. *"Bring all the tithes into the storehouse so there will be enough food in my temple. Try it! Put me to the test! See if I will not open a window from heaven and pour out more blessing than you can handle!"* – Mal 3:10

New Vintage Church's Financial Stewardship Philosophy

NVC embraces the doctrine of the tithe (giving 10%) because it will encourage the church member to make sacrificial changes in the church member's budget. THE RESULT IS FREEDOM AND THE BLESSINGS OF OBEDIENCE.

Some church members may not have the faith to give 10% due to financial constraints. If this is the case, the member is encouraged to pray about and commit to a lower percentage that is still sacrificial. This helps protect against giving leftovers. How is that? Because the amount is due to a percentage rather than a dollar amount.

- As God responds to the church member's obedience by providing more income, the percentage increases.

The church member loves his/her church and desires that NVC has the financial resources to operate as a hospital and college. Said church member also desires for the church's operations to expand and multiply. This ensures that NVC's mission of being witnesses and making disciples is propagated.

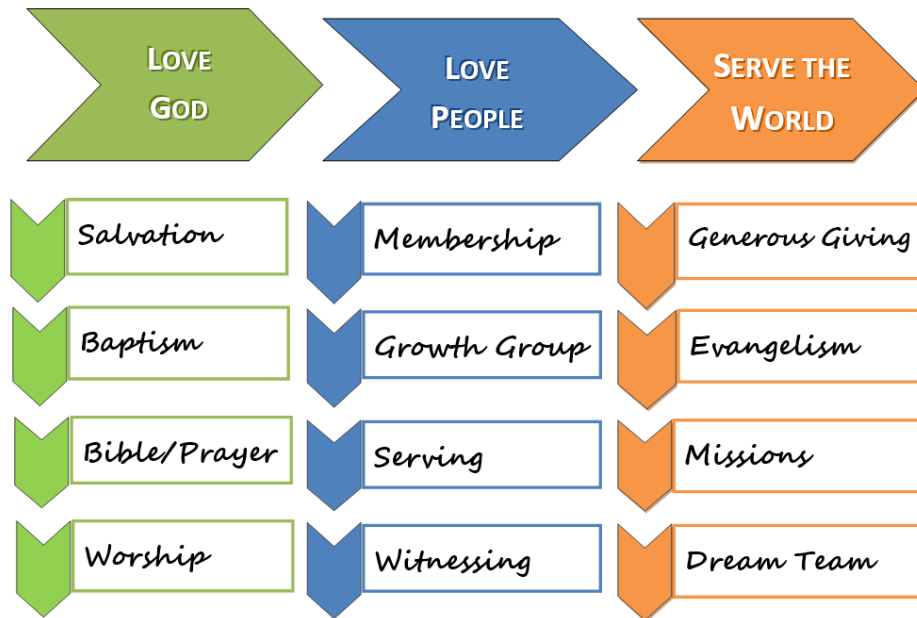
- Therefore, the church member sees it vital to give the entirety of his/her tithe only to the church. Any monies given to charities, missions organizations, etc. are in addition to the tithe and are classified in the Bible as something different, as "offerings".

The church member has a joyous expectancy of God seeing through to His promise to not just provide, but even to prosper (Mal 3:10). In response, the church member increases his/her tithe beyond 10% in order to ensure he/she is still giving sacrificially.

3. We love figuring out and following through with “*your next step*”.

“Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.” – Jas 1:22

What's YOUR Next Step?



4. We love serving in a ministry... and being A.C.T.S. servants (accountable, correctable, teachable, submissive)

“Now these are the gifts Christ gave to the church: the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, and the pastors and teachers. ¹² Their responsibility is to equip God’s people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ.” – Eph 4:11-12

5. We love developing close relationships in healthy small group settings.

“Encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.” - 1 Thes 5:11

“Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another.” - Prov 27:17

“Bear one another’s burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.” - Gal 6:2

“Confess your sins to one another. Pray for one another, that you may be healed.” - Jas 5:16

PART 4:

REGARDING MEMBERSHIP

New Vintage Church does not have a formal church membership process because the Bible does not provide a Scriptural mandate for formal membership.

If you feel like you “found your home” in the New Vintage Church family by attending regularly and have provided contact information, and/or began serving in some capacity and/or began giving of your time/treasure/talents, then you’re functioning as an active member.

In the words of GotQuestions.org:

*The Universal Church—the Body of Christ (Ro 12:5)—is composed of all true believers in Christ, and local churches are to be microcosm of the Universal Church. As believers, we have our names written in the Lamb’s book of life (Rev 20:12), and that is what is most important. However, **it is also important to commit to a local church where we can give of our resources, serve others, and be accountable.***

*The Bible does not directly address the concept of formal church membership, but there are several passages that strongly imply its existence in the early church. “And the Lord added to them day by day those that were being saved” (Acts 2:47). This verse indicates that salvation was a prerequisite for being “added” to the church. In Acts 2:41, it seems that someone was keeping a numerical record of those who were saved and thus joining the church. **Churches today that require salvation before membership are simply following the Biblical model.** See also 2 Cor 6:14–18.*

There are other places in the New Testament that show the local church as a well-defined group. In Acts 6:3, the church in Jerusalem is told to hold elections of some kind: “Choose seven men from among you.” The phrase “among you” suggests a group of people distinct from others who were not “among” them. Simply put, the deacons were to be church members.

*Church membership is important because it helps define the pastor’s responsibility. Hebrews 13:17 instructs, “Have confidence in your leaders and submit to their authority, because they keep watch over you as those who must give an account.” Whom will a pastor give an account for, except the members of his own church? He is not responsible for all the Christians in the world, only for those under his care. Likewise, he is not responsible for all the people in his community, only for believers under his leadership—his church members. **Membership in a local church is a way of voluntarily placing oneself under the spiritual authority of a pastor and his leadership.***

Church membership is also important because, without it, there can be no accountability or church discipline. First Corinthians 5:1–13 teaches a church how

to deal with blatant, unrepentant sin in its midst. In verses 12–13, the words *inside* and *outside* are used in reference to the church body. We only judge those who are “inside” the church—church members. How can we know who is “inside” or “outside” the church without an official membership roll? See also Matthew 18:17.

Although there is no scriptural mandate for official church membership, there is certainly nothing to prohibit it, and it seems the early church was structured in such a way that people clearly knew if someone was “in” or “out” of the church. Church membership is a way of identifying oneself with a local body of believers and of making oneself accountable to proper spiritual leadership. Church membership is a statement of solidarity and like-mindedness (see Philippians 2:2). Church membership is also valuable for organizational purposes. It’s a good way of determining who can vote on important church decisions and who is eligible for official church positions. Church membership is not required of Christians. It is simply a way of saying, “I am a Christian, and I’m committed to this church. I believe it’s a great fit for me.”

All of that said, it is important to meet the following common-sense biblical prerequisites in order to be a formal member of the church.

In order to be a member of NVC, someone should be:

1. **A Christian** – Only someone who professes faith in Christ and desires to be an obedient learner and follower of Him should be a member of a Christian church.
2. **A regular attendee** – A church cannot affirm and oversee a person’s profession of faith if they do not regularly attend. Without attendance, membership is meaningless.
3. **Someone who desires to obey the Bible** – A church member exercises childlike faith in the Bible being the Word of God and the only source whereby one lives a lifestyle pleasing to God. A church member embraces Absolute/Universal Truth and adopts a Biblical Worldview regarding all matters of life.
4. **Someone who agrees with the church’s mission, vision, and values** – A church member is congruent with the overall DNA of the church and is eager to assimilate into the church’s culture.

5. **Someone who is willing to submit to the leadership of the church** – If someone isn't willing to follow the church's leaders, then one will inevitably stir up division and strife. It's best for one to join a church whose leaders one *can* obey.

REGARDING REPENTANCE

New Vintage Church acknowledges that a chief indicator of salvation requires repentance. The word *repentance* in the Bible literally means “to change one’s mind” so that what one believes aligns with what the Bible teaches about sin. True biblical repentance goes beyond remorse, regret, or feeling bad. It involves more than merely turning away from sin.

Eerdmans Bible Dictionary includes this definition of *repentance*: “In its fullest sense it is a term for a complete change of orientation involving a judgment upon the past and a deliberate redirection for the future.”

PARTNERING IN THE VISION AND MISSION OF NVC

“Having received Christ as my Lord and Savior and agreeing with what has been presented in the Church 1.0 class, I now feel led by the Holy Spirit to unite with the New Vintage Church family. In doing so, I commit myself to God and to the other members to do the following...”

1. I will protect the unity of my church:

...by acting in love toward other members

...by refusing to gossip

...by following the leaders

“May God, who gives this patience and encouragement, help you live in complete harmony with each other, as is fitting for followers of Christ Jesus.” - Romans 15:5

“You were cleansed from your sins when you obeyed the truth, so now you must show sincere love to each other as brothers and sisters. Love each other deeply with all your heart.” - 1 Peter 1:22

“Obey your spiritual leaders and do what they say. Their work is to watch over your souls, and they are accountable to God. Give them reason to do this with joy and not with sorrow. That would certainly not be for your benefit”. - Hebrews 13:17

2. I will share the responsibility of my church:

- ...by praying for its growth*
- ...by inviting the unchurched to attend*
- ...by warmly welcoming those who visit*

“We are writing to the church...We always thank God for all of you and pray for you constantly.” - 1Thessalonians 1:1-2

“So his master said, ‘Go out into the country lanes and behind the hedges and urge anyone you find to come, so that the house will be full.’ - Luke 14:23

“Therefore, accept each other just as Christ has accepted you so that God will be given glory.” - Romans 15:7

3. I will participate in the ministry of my church:

- ...by discovering and developing my gifts and talents*
- ...by being equipped to serve alongside my leadership*
- ...by developing a servant’s heart*

“God has given each of you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another.” - 1 Peter 4:10

“Now these are the gifts Christ gave to the church: the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, and the pastors and teachers. ¹² Their responsibility is to equip God’s people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ.” - Eph 4:11, 12

“Don’t be selfish; don’t try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves. ⁴ Don’t look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too. You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had... He took the humble position of a servant... - Philipppians 2:3-5, 7

4. I will support the testimony of my church:

- ...by attending church and various ministries faithfully*
- ...by adopting a Biblical Worldview and living a godly life*
- ...by giving tithes and offerings*

“...And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.” - Hebrews 10:25

“Above all, you must live as citizens of heaven, conducting yourselves in a manner worthy of the Good News about Christ.” - Philipppians 1:27

“Bring all the tithes into the storehouse so there will be enough food in my Temple. Try it! Put me to the test! See if I will not open a window from heaven and pour out more blessing than you can handle!” - Malachi 3:10

PART 5:

IN CONCLUSION

“Danica and I are so excited to have you partnering with us on this amazing journey. Our promise to all who are devoted to the vision and mission of NVC is that we are with you every step of the way.

“It’s not just about NVC; it’s also about *you* and the breathtaking adventure of discipleship that God has you on. We are so honored and blessed to pour into your life! We thank God for you all the time.

“That said, welcome aboard!”

In Him and by His grace,

Pastor Paul