



*Forget
the
Former
Things...*

Annual Business Meeting

Sunday, January 30, 2022



300 Valley Road • Clifton, NJ 07013 • 973-278-0953
www.VCAG.org



Annual Report to
the Membership
for 2021

Annual Business Meeting – January 30, 2022

Contents

Lead Pastor’s Report	
Pastor Timothy Satryan’s Report	2
Secretary’s Report	
Minutes of the Annual Business Meeting of January 31, 2021	5
Treasurer’s Report	
Financial Report for 2021	6

Agenda

1. Opening Prayer
2. Secretary’s Report
3. Treasurer’s Report
4. Deacon Board Elections
5. Pastor’s Report
6. Adjournment

Valley Chapel Assembly of God
300 Valley Road • Clifton, NJ 07013-1397
(973) 278-0953 • www.VCAG.org

Pastor Timothy Satryan’s Report

“Forget the former things...”

Two years.

For far longer than we had ever imagined, we have been in this “pandemic” for two years now, and no one truly knows when it will be completely over. If you remember, it began with “15 days to slow the spread,” then multiple months of complete nationwide quarantine, mask mandates, two-shot vaccinations, booster shots, Delta variant, and now Omicron variant.

The cry I hear so often is, “When will things just get back to normal?”

As much as we all would like to see things “be like they used to be,” we really need to understand – pandemic or not – that other than our God who never changes, nothing ever stays the same!

And we, as humans, don’t like that. We don’t like change. Everyone, throughout all time, has always longed for “the good ol’ days!” But, that is NOT what the Lord wants us to do! We are NOT to desire things to be like they used to be!

The Bible says in Isaiah 43:18-19, *“Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the desert and streams in the wasteland.”*

Although no one saw this “pandemic” coming, or has any idea how long it will be with us, we need to recognize that God DID see it coming, allowed it to happen, and wants each of us to do His will through it! In fact, I believe that the Lord will lead us and guide us into new ways of ministry, if we will simply seek His face, follow His lead, and stop trying to re-do what was done in the past! Our God can and will use ALL things for His glory and to accomplish His will – including this pandemic! Romans 8:28 tells us that *“we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them.”*

It’s time to forget what we used to do, recognize that God is doing a new thing, even during this “pandemic wasteland!”

Our methods have changed over the past year, but our message has remained the same. Valley Chapel has continued to do God’s will, ministering to the body of Christ here as well as reaching the lost, throughout the pandemic. We have re-gathered on Sundays for our Celebration Worship, adjusting our practices as needed to assure the safety of everyone attending. We have merged all of our children’s ministries into one, C.L.I.C.K., which meets concurrently with our Sunday worship. We are currently making plans with four other churches to combine our youth ministry efforts to best reach teens of all our churches.

As pastor, much of my work is now accomplished with the tools of technology. Every Sunday, following our time of worship, we send a follow-up text to everyone from Valley Chapel. We also send a personal text to anyone who missed our service that day. Throughout the week, a daily devotional message is emailed to everyone, as well as a weekly digital encouraging “magazine” of brief articles. We have counseled, coached, prayed with, and ministered personally to folks multiple hundreds of times. Our ministry outreach has transcended beyond the Clifton area, now regularly reaching people across our nation and literally around the world through streaming and digital transmissions. I thank the Lord that He has gifted me with the abilities to navigate these new technologies in a way to bring glory to His name!

I’m sure that most of you know that it was necessary for my wife and I to move our “principal place of abode” in the last few months of 2021. Our previous residence was flooded out on September 1st and our landlord announced that she would be selling the home. So, for us, the question wasn’t whether or not to move, but where to move. Factors that helped us determine the location of our move included:

- For the last four to five years, I have been doing most all of my work from home. All I need is a fast internet connection!
- Our current circumstances made it better to purchase a home, rather than continue to rent.
- We just turned 66 years old. We needed to make appropriate decisions with our future in mind.
- Housing costs locally are astronomical compared with costs in other locations.
- Ultimately, God’s perfect will and His open door.

While we recognize that our current living situation may seem unique and far different than before, we have learned that multiple hundreds of other pastors have done this very same thing, and we have the full support of our New Jersey District Superintendent. We have been completely transparent about this move, but the reality is that if we had not spoken about it, most folks would have no idea that it even happened! There has been, and will be, no tangible change in our ministry to you!

We love Valley Chapel, and we love you! As we move forward in 2022 and beyond, here are **four key things** we need to keep in mind:

1. **New methods of ministry.** Our message will never change, but the ways that we present that message and the ministries employed to do the work will continue to change. Trying to use old methods of ministry will result in frustration and lack of success. The “pandemic” has merely accelerated the trends already taking place.
2. **The church is not the building!** In the past, churches focused their ministry and priority on the property they owned. Everything

revolved around the building. But, the pandemic has accelerated what was already happening – the focus away from large gatherings to small groups. We **MUST** embrace this and accommodate this change!

3. **Technology is the new “front door.”** Long before anyone ever makes a decision to physically come to any church, they engage in the online offerings of that church. Thankfully, Valley Chapel is already doing this. But, we **MUST** prioritize and multiply our efforts in this area.
4. **We are living in a post-Christian society.** The America we grew up in no longer exists. By far, there are more people who have zero background and understanding of Christianity than there are those with even a remote recognition of faith. Our ministries **MUST** understand this and prepare for these people.

There is one thing that remains the same. It's **STILL** all about relationships! As we cultivate our relationships with each other, and those around us, God will bless us, and allow us to do great exploits for Him!

Let's believe God together in 2022. We may not know all that is in store this year, but we do know Who is leading us and guiding us! Let's listen to Him, obey Him, and follow His leading!

Yours for **HIM**,
Pastor Tim Satryan

Secretary's Report

José Guzman, Secretary

Annual Business Meeting Minutes

January 31, 2021

The 2021 Valley Chapel Annual Business Meeting was called to order, following the Celebration Worship Service on Sunday, January 31, 2021, at 12:00 pm.

Devotional and Opening Prayer were presented by Pastor Tim

Secretary's Report: José Guzman, church secretary, read the minutes from the previous year's business meeting. There were no questions, and the minutes were approved as presented.

Treasurer's Report: Rukshan Perera, church treasurer, presented the financial report for 2020. Rukshan stated that it was a tough year but he thank God for meeting all of the needs of Valley Chapel. Rukshan stated that tithes and offerings were down 40k which is about 18% from the previous year. There were no questions, and the report was approved as presented.

Elections: Pastor Tim reviewed the process followed by the nominating committee for the selection of nominees to the deacon board, as well as the qualification to serve as a deacon. With a verbal confirmation Rafael Delgado and Michael Kenny were elected as deacons, and will serve a three-year term on the board.

Pastor's report: Pastor Tim delivered the Pastor's report to the congregation. Pastor introduction the creation of a brand-new ministry to Valley Chapel called CARE Corps. The report was accepted as presented.

Motion to adjourn: Michael Kenny was called to the front for a socially distant prayer. Following a prayer for the board and the meeting, a motion was set to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jose Guzman, Church Secretary

Financial Report for 2021

Beginning Balance in all accounts		\$ 30,257.76
Income		
Tithes & Offerings	182,696.94	
Missions Income	9,473.00	
Benevolence Income	165.00	
Refunds & Reimbursements	750.36	
Building Fund	40.00	
Miscellaneous Income	911.57	
Total Income		\$ 194,036.87
Expenses		
Departmental Ministries		
Children's Church	-0-	
Sunday School	104.97	
Youth Ministries	-0-	
Royal Rangers Boys Ministries	-0-	
MPact Girls Ministries	-0-	
Women's Ministries	100.00	
Men's Ministries	-0-	
Total Department Ministries		204.97
Missions & Benevolences		
Missions	11,789.83	
Benevolences	-0-	
Total Missions & Benevolence		11,789.83
Operational Expenses		
Ministry Supplies	4,682.16	
Fellowship Functions	339.16	
Office Supplies	1,317.51	
Multi-Media	521.00	
Guest Speakers	1,000.00	
Total Operational Expenses		7,860.27
Administrative Expenses		
Banking fees	3,167.35	
Online Giving Fees	3,882.82	
Payroll & Taxes	129,180.39	
Conferences & Seminars	2,627.01	
Pastor's Discretionary Fund	320.50	
Misc. Administrative Costs	650.00	
Total Administrative Expenses		139,828.07
Facilities Expenses		
Utilities	30,587.00	
Maintenance & Repairs	10,396.21	
Insurance	9,205.47	
Total Facilities Expenses		50,188.68
Total Expenses		\$ 209,811.38
Closing Balance in all accounts		\$ 14,483.25