



BAY POINTE
community church

2010 ANNUAL REPORT

Dear Bay Pointe Family and Friends,

2010 is now in the books and 2011 is in full gear. But before leaving the year completely in the rear-view mirror it's good to reflect on the blessings and challenges of the past year, as well as point ahead to new challenges and opportunities ahead of us.

The temptation in a communication like this is to put on a "happy face" and dazzle you with amazing stories of the past year. And truth be told, there are plenty of those. I literally have files of emails and stacks of cards and letters from people who have come to faith in Christ, or gone deeper in their relationship with God than ever before, or found friendship and comfort during difficult times through the ministries of Bay Pointe. You will read about many of the amazing things God continues to do through our church in the ministry reports below...and I am so grateful and humbled to serve a church that is committed to our mission of **LOVING GOD, GROWING BELIEVERS, and REACHING PEOPLE WHO DON'T KNOW JESUS.** This is more than a motto or a slogan for us...this is our life as a faith community.

But there is another truth: 2010 was a challenging year—perhaps our greatest challenge yet. Challenging doesn't mean bad. It simply means...well, challenging! For the first time since the church was founded in July, 1998 our attendance and giving leveled off. Honestly, we aren't used to that! We decided to end our Saturday night service, and we're more used to starting things than ending them (although healthy organizations—including churches—must make difficult strategic choices to remain healthy).

As I have pondered and prayed about the challenges of the past year and the opportunities ahead of us, John 15 comes to mind. In this chapter Jesus uses the analogy of God as the owner of a vineyard (something we are all familiar with in northern Michigan), Jesus as the vine, and us as the branches. For a vineyard to produce optimum fruit there must be a pruning process. Ask any branch how it feels to be pruned. If branches could speak they would scream, "It hurts!" But without pruning new growth—and new fruit—is stunted.



baptism



christmas eve



baptism picnic



high school retreat



safe harbor summer meal

I believe 2010 was a year of pruning for our church. Great things happened, as the reports that follow will clearly indicate. But in some ways it became clear that in order for us to continue our mission we need to regroup. Much needed processes and structures need to be put in place to ensure health, vitality and spiritual impact for the next run.

To that end we recently completed a three-day intensive seminar called the Strategic Operational Plan Process (SOPP), led by a totally sold-out Christ-follower named Linda Lindquist-Bishop. Linda guided our directors, two elder representatives and four Bay Pointe volunteers through a process to lay the foundation for future growth. We came out of that meeting united and fired up to face the challenges and opportunities ahead of us.

So what does that mean for 2011? We believe the pruning that God did in 2010 will lead to greater fruit in the coming year. It means our primary goal will NOT be to launch a bunch of new things, but to take what we are currently doing to another level—whether it's our weekend services, our Discipleship Ministry, our Marriage and Family Life Ministry, our Next Generation Ministry (children and students), Compassion Ministries, Connections, Communications, etc. Our goal in 2011 will be to create capacity for future growth by streamlining ministry processes, bringing focused alignment to our efforts and creating “organizational health” for our church. These are the things that will allow Bay Pointe to better live out our mission.

Now, as “the visionary guy” rest assured God is stirring some amazing things in my heart that I hope will become reality soon. But 2011 is about developing the process and structures that will allow us to live out both sides of Jesus' great commission: make disciples of all nations, which includes leading non-believers to faith in Jesus (see Matthew 28:9-20).

Please take the time to read the individual ministry reports. We have an amazing staff and truly amazing volunteers who, with the power of the Holy Spirit, make things happen here. I'd really appreciate it if you'd give them a pat on the back. And a huge thank you goes out to our elder board, led by board chairperson Jim Johnson, who collectively stepped up and provided tremendous spiritual guidance over the past year.

Love to you all,

A handwritten signature in green ink that reads "Nick".

Nick

Read on for some of the highlights from 2010 and some plans for 2011.

Next Generation Ministry (birth - 5th grade)

by Karen Green, Next Generation Director

This year has been a wonderful adventure for our department! With the introduction of new curriculum (252 Basics and First Look), new director (Karen Green), new TreeHouse teachers (Kimmee Wenkel and Jason Luyk), and a new TreeHouse stage, there has been so much excitement it is difficult to find a starting point!

Here are some of the highlights:

- In May, 31 babies were dedicated to the Lord by their families during Bay Pointe's Baby Dedication.
- We had a B.L.A.S.T. (Believers Laughing And Serving Together) this summer with outside activities, invited guests and wild animals in the TreeHouse as we learned about creation and our Creator!
- In June, a Children's Worship Team was created; there are now over 20 members who meet on a weekly basis and lead worship in the TreeHouse each weekend!
- In July, 11 children were baptized at our annual Bay Pointe celebration at the bay.
- In August, 28 TreeHouse children attended Lake Ann Camp, with 17 making a first time decision to accept Jesus as their Savior.
- In September, 250 Hope Boxes were packed by the TreeHouse children and sent to the Gaspard School in Haiti through Bright Hope.
- In October, children collected items to be given to the guests of Safe Harbor during their stay at Bay Pointe.
- In November, we had our first Family Night and had an amazing group of 130 people show up to spend time with other families.
- In December, children brought in 82 of their own toys to donate to the Women's Resource Center and made 160 Christmas cards to send to the Gaspard School in Haiti.
- Each weekend, the children who participate in our Children's Ministry are given a take-away to share with their parents, so the entire family can discuss the things they learned.

There was an average attendance of 210 children each weekend that learned about the love of Jesus. None of these incredible learning opportunities would be possible without the dedication and commitment of our **amazing volunteers!** We are incredibly excited about the plans we are making for 2011. One of the goals is to create opportunities to integrate our kids into "big church" in the auditorium. Ideas like getting the kids serving and even being involved in worship are a couple things we are really looking forward to. It is such an honor to partner with parents in raising kids who are growing in their relationship with Jesus and forming a Christian worldview!

Next Generation Ministry (6th - 12th grades)

by Tim Homa, Next Generation Pastor

2010 was an incredible year for our ministry as we saw God move in ways we wouldn't have expected! Here are the highlights:

- We saw a number of students make first time decisions to follow Jesus.
- This summer 12 students were baptized at our annual Baptism service.
- Club221 Winter camp sold out with over 30 students attending.
- Mosaic Winter camp sold out with over 40 students attending.
- In the summer 37 high school students and leaders went to New York City on a mission trip.
- Our annual STRIVE community service project and fund-raiser raised over \$4,000.
- Over 30 high school students attended our fall retreat in October.
- Over 25 middle school students attended the fall camp-out in October.
- Both Club221 and Mosaic have students participating in weekly Life Groups.
- Our middle school students brought in their own money and within three months purchased two goats through Samaritan's Purse, which will be used to help a family in an under-resourced country.
- We launched a monthly outreach night for our middle school students called "Club Primetime."
- We raised the value of prayer within our ministry by incorporating a "prayer jar" where students can share their own personal prayer requests. We also intentionally spent time having students pray or be prayed for during our weekly program.
- Since the fall our students have participated in monthly community service projects through:
 - Safe Harbor
 - Father Fred
 - Friends Community Christmas Party
 - Operation Christmas Child
 - Homeless Dinner

We recently brought on Dave Thomas to lead our Club221 ministry and this has helped bring more intentional focus on this age group. We have an incredible team of volunteer leaders who serve faithful week in and week out. We are not able to do the things we do without their commitment to this ministry. This year we have seen a number of students make commitments to go into full-time ministry, and we are mentoring several students towards that goal. We are really excited about the growth we are seeing in the lives of our students. They continue to give of their time, and they feel compelled to reach out to their friends who do not have a personal relationship with Jesus. This year promises to be one of continued momentum, and we can't wait to see what kind of journey God has in store!

Programming *by Joe Horness, Pastor of Worship*

Through the leadership of Glenn Floering (Technical Director), Polly Sonneveldt (Administrative Assistant par excellence) and volunteer staff like Jill Hall, we've had a very successful year in 2010. Here are just some of the highlights:

- We successfully continued Saturday night services through the end of October.
 - Our worship mentoring group has continued to meet with the goal of seeing our next generation of musicians bring more of their flavor and leadership to our church.
 - Joe was free to teach more often, especially the last half of the year when he taught more frequently. The development of volunteer leaders to lead and create services also allowed Joe to continue to work with worship leaders and producers in Africa during the Global Leadership Summit. Through his training of leaders and the Leadership Summit in Africa, the ministry of Bay Pointe directly impacted almost 20,000 leaders across Africa this past fall.
 - Our Production Ministry continues to be one of the most exciting, rapidly growing areas of our church. Under Glenn's leadership we have continued to add camera operators, train video editors and graphics teams. Through Marc Mentley we trained two new members for our lighting team, and Glenn added two new sound engineers this year that a church of any size would be grateful to have available. The level of excellence continues to rise, but the level of community and friendship is probably the best part of all.
 - We produced and led approximately 165 high quality, engaging and meaningful services over the last year, including Easter, Christmas, Saturday and Sunday services. We did it all with teams of highly committed, spiritually authentic and amazingly mature volunteers who really love God, love one another and love this church. Yea God!!!
 - We had just over 3,000 people experience a great Christmas celebration along with a clear and compelling presentation of what a relationship with Jesus is all about at our Christmas Eve services.
 - We developed new teams of volunteers to help with sound, lighting and video for extra events like weddings and funerals, marriage and family events, etc., setting us up well for a whole new run of events in 2011.
 - Thanks to the development of new vocalists and worship leaders when Joe had some medical challenges this year, we had people in place to step up and lead.
 - Polly Sonneveldt added 'special events' to her job description this year, adding weddings and funerals to her normal responsibilities. Polly is fantastic at coming along stressed and grieving families, bringing hope, comfort and wisdom to extremely difficult situations. Those experiencing weddings here can't say enough about how wonderfully Polly serves them, and the local funeral homes tell us no place serves them like Bay Pointe.
 - We expanded the 'Teaching Team' meeting with great success. This team meets a month out to help the teacher develop his message, ideas, illustrations, passages of scripture, and so forth. This discussion often generates creative ideas for the service as well. This expansion has brought fresh perspectives and new ideas that are outside of the normal 'box' and really challenge us to think in new ways.
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Life groups

This year closed with 55 well established life groups that totaled approximately 450-500 members. This was the first year in four that we saw a decrease in Life Groups. On a very positive note we have seen a major growth in “other” groups, such as Divorce Care and Divorce Care for Kids. We had twelve kids go through the course. Because of more and more larger group events this year, some people opted for larger bible studies. We did have success at the Life Group Fair that sparked a new interest in life groups and added over 13 additional life groups and leaders. We continue to have Life Group Leader Training and Life Group Leader Coaching. We also added an opportunity for those that know nothing of Life Groups to attend an orientation and get an idea of what that would look like for them. We are very excited about adding a component to Life Groups this year with Group Finder 2.0 that our database management program is now offering. This will allow an individual to walk up to a kiosk and search for a group that would work with their schedule, day, time, study and family status. One change coming in 2011 is we will be changing the name of this ministry from “life groups” to “small groups.”

Women’s Life Groups

Life groups for women at Bay Pointe continue to expand with an increase of participation in spiritual growth studies offered (10) and an increase of 2 new leaders stepping forward this year. Throughout the year different curriculums were offered (Beth Moore, John & Stasi Eldredge, Joyce Meyer, Henry Cloud & John Townsend, Kay Arthur & Priscilla Shirer). A study was also offered on Spiritual Warfare, and Wide Angle. Many life groups continued and new ones were formed to take women deeper in fellowship and the Bible.

In addition, affinity groups continue to grow. The Moms with Preschoolers has expanded and hope to incorporate a study. The Community Care group is responsible for local outreach throughout the year with donations of over **100 items** to Safe Harbor guests, safe houses and nursing homes!! The group’s extended outreach program to the military was responsible for sending \$10,685.30 worth of manufacturer coupons to families serving in remote areas. The Widows Group has developed into a Grief Share Group emphasizing both recovery and support for one another.

Several Bay Pointe women were leaders in planning a women’s retreat in conjunction with other churches and the Northwest Michigan Jesus Ministry, which was held over two days at the Park Place Hotel & Dome.

In the fall an event was planned to promote life groups and affinity groups. Women gathered around a campfire on the west lawn where all were encouraged to sign up for new studies and newly formed groups.

The women of Bay Pointe also served a candlelight dinner to the Safe Harbor guests in the lobby area as an additional service project. This had a huge impact on the guests, and many expressed their appreciation.

20’s/30’s Life Groups

Launched in August 2009, the 20’s/30’s Community at Bay Pointe grew steadily in 2010. As individuals desire to dive deeper into spiritual community, monthly informal gatherings are created to foster their growth through prayer, shared teachings, worship and activities. Due to this movement, several new life groups were created to assist and nurture these deeper spiritual relationships.

To keep this community organized and relevant to cultural trends in communication, a social networking website on Facebook, Twitter and other social media was implemented, which was a great way to post events, profiles, pictures, status updates, chatting, blogging, video, etc. To date, 100 members are currently using this website for information and further spiritual growth. Visit us and join the community! Our goal is to grow this to an online community of 500 over the next two years.

Men's Life Groups

There has been great emphasis on the spiritual growth and discipleship of men this year. The following are some of the highlights:

- Hearts Alive and Free – We had 23 men give up a weekend of bow hunting to attend.
- Band of Brothers – These are groups of men who meet for support and spiritual growth. There are now eight groups with approximately 50 participating. These groups have also served in amazing ways, stepping up to help several Bay Pointe families and partnering with Freedom Builders on various projects throughout Traverse City.
- Quarterly Breakfasts – An average of 52 men attend these quarterly gatherings for great food, friendship and relevant teaching on issues facing men today.
- Men's Movie Nights – Once a month guys gathered in The Safe and transformed it into "The Man Cave" (guys like names like that). Sprinkled in with the monthly movie nights was a quarterly movie night for couples. The movies were free...and so was the popcorn!
- New in 2011...We are forming a new 12 member team of leaders to help take Men's Ministry to a whole new level. We saw the beginning of this with the last men's breakfast where 137 men showed up!
- We are excited about the new push for men and sons to get involved in the events. This year we will be providing many events where dads and sons can really spend some quality time together.
- We will be offering discipleship classes just for men in 2011.
- Watch for fishing, shooting, golf and many other opportunities for men to connect with other men in the coming year.

Recovery Life Groups

Three recovery groups have been formed – AA, NA, AI-ANON. These groups serve men and women battling addictions and finding healing in community with other addicts. We are quickly becoming the Church in the community known for "where to go to get into a meeting". Grief Share was held in 2010, which reaches out to those who have experienced a significant loss. We are looking at three Grief Share groups in 2011, along with Grief Share for the Holidays again. They will be forming along with a Divorce Care group to assist those who are going through, or recovering from, a divorce along with Divorce Care for Kids. There is also a recovery group that meets weekly - just for women.

Discipleship Classes

One of the significant ways we want to help people grow in their faith is by offering a variety of relevant classes that are appropriate for people no matter where they are in their spiritual journey. This year we offered many new options for discipleship at Bay Pointe. We will be offering Discipleship Classes at least three times this year and we will be offering classes on two different days during the week to give everyone an opportunity to explore Discipleship classes. We are very excited to have Kelly Ellis on staff as the Discipleship Coordinator for this next run, as she is passionate about helping all people get grounded in God's Word. We had two very successful Membership Classes, and we will be offering those classes online this year with a major push in June of 2011.

Marriage And Family Life

Bay Pointe has made a significant commitment both to build and sustain healthy marriages and families, and to repair marriages and families that are in trouble. We can't wait to see how God will bless these efforts. As you can see by the highlights listed below, we are serious about our commitment to Marriage and Family Life. Linda Lewis, licensed Marriage and Family Counselor, served us in 2010 as a consultant to help with moving marriage and family life to a whole new level. We are very excited to announce that she is going to increase her commitment to this ministry by coming on staff, effective February 1st, 2011, as Director of Marriage and Family Life!

Below are some 2010 - 2011 highlights:

- Two premarital seminars were held in 2010 serving over 13 couples.
- We had two retreats/events specifically for married couples this year. This was a huge success and more is planned in 2011, including a very powerful and successful satellite marriage broadcast in early February 2011.
- A mentoring program was launched with six trained mentor couples working with other couples within our church.
- A significant number of couples benefited from personal counseling appointments in 2010.
- Numerous life groups engaged in various studies focused on strengthening marriage and family life.
- We held a successful step-parenting class in January 2011.
- We will be having four Big Night Out Events (date night for married couples) this year.
- In May we have an Empty Nesters Weekend planned.
- We will be providing parenting classes and seminars in 2011.

First Impressions

Our Parking Attendants, Ushers, Greeters, Guest Relations, HUB, and Hospitality team continue to do an amazing job of making sure all Bay Pointe guests are made to feel welcomed to our campus. Did you know that it takes about eighty volunteers to just man First Impressions each week?

Our new book store, "Ripples", is now open, so stop by and check it out!

Prayer Teams

We saw a significantly increased emphasis on prayer in the last year. Mickey and Larry Grooters have done a great job of continuing to make prayer a major focus at Bay Pointe. We have some great things planned for the next year such as:

- Prayer walks
 - Prayer stations
 - Continued prayer in the Living Room and up front after weekend services.
 - The online prayer chain is up and running
 - Prayer teams praying for the church every day
 - Teams that pray for staff, elders, and management
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Compassion Ministry *by Julie Greene, Director of Compassion Ministry*

This year was filled with an outpouring of love and grace through our Compassion Ministry. What an honor it has been to serve alongside hundreds of Bay Pointers committed to reaching the least, the lost and the lonely in our community and around the globe!

LOCAL

Kids Hope USA

- Under Tommye Solem's able leadership, 48 mentors, 48 prayer partners and 2 events coordinators served the children and staff of Traverse Heights Elementary School.
- Ongoing training opportunities were provided for mentors dedicated to making a difference in the life of their child.
- For the first time in many years, thanks to our Kids Hope volunteers, Traverse Heights was able to reinstate its annual end of the year Field Day.

Father Fred Foundation

- Bay Pointe volunteers braved the elements to support Father Fred's Frost Bite Food Drive in February.
- A group of Bay Pointers helped fill Easter Baskets for needy children in the region.
- Bay Pointe hosted a food drive in June, which resulted in more than \$6,000 worth of donated food items.
- Over 40 Bay Pointers covered a week of shifts at two local grocery stores during the Father Fred Spartan Food Drive in October.

Pregnancy Care Center

Bay Pointe raised close to \$5,000 for our local Pregnancy Care Center through our annual Baby Bottle Boomerang. This money is used to fund ultrasounds for women and girls in crisis pregnancies.

Freedom Builders

Bay Pointe volunteers completed 13 building/repair projects for individuals living in poverty throughout the Grand Traverse region.

Traverse Life Clinic

Approximately 70 Bay Pointers served at the Traverse Life Clinic in September. Volunteer doctors, nurses and patient advocates worked alongside other local church members to provide needed medical care for 340+ individuals in our region.

Safe Harbor

- Over 1,000 meals were served as 150+ Bay Pointers gave of their time, talents and resources through our Friday Night meal program/Memorial Day picnic which ran from April through October.
 - Bags of supplies, 100 tarps and 50 flashlights/radios were provided for the homeless population that camped throughout summer.
 - An additional 1,000+ meals were lovingly prepared and served to our Safe Harbor guests during our 2010 host dates.
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- Needed gifts of undergarments, socks and t-shirts were given to each guest during our host week. Many items were collected and wrapped by our Children's Ministry.
 - A temporary shower was built by awesome Bay Pointers, so that our guests could shower as needed during their stay!
 - Over 225 volunteers cared for our guests by providing companionship, prayer, haircuts, manicures, therapeutic massage, live music, movies, friendship and LOVE during our 2010 host dates in December. Extra volunteers even braved the elements, as our guests were snowed-in for 3 days during a blizzard!
 - Several Bay Pointers served Safe Harbor guests in a more intensive manner through street outreach and mentoring activities.
 - Various additional needs were met, such as prescription medication help, bicycle donations, post-surgery lodging, winter outer ware, boots, and BATA passes for individuals wishing to access recovery meetings.

Benevolence

- This year 55 individuals and families in crisis were served through our benevolence fund.
- Additionally 8 additional families were adopted by individuals and life groups during the Christmas season.

INTERNATIONAL

Samaritan's Purse

Over 800 shoeboxes filled with love in the form of Christmas gifts, personal hygiene items and a bible were sent to children living in poverty across the globe.

Big Life

- In India 15 church planters were supported in 2010 through our Compassion Ministry, leading thousands of Hindus and Muslims living in the 10/40 window to Christ!
- A small group of staff and Bay Pointers took a maiden mission trip to visit our Big Life brothers and sisters in India. The group left profoundly impacted by the dedication and perseverance of the church planters and believers encountered.

Bright Hope

- Over \$6,000 in immediate response funding was sent following the catastrophic earth quake in Haiti in January of 2010.
 - Approximately \$4,000 in profits from t-shirt sales was sent to aid earthquake victims in Haiti.
 - Bay Pointers fully funded (approximately \$24,000) a school feeding program serving the 225 children at Gaspard School.
 - A small group of staff and Bay Pointers took a maiden mission trip to visit our Haitian brothers and sisters, and met the school children we are feeding. It was an amazing trip, and we are hopeful that we can open future trips to the Bay Pointe body.
 - Approximately 4,000 pair of shoes and 100+ pair of eye glasses sent to Haiti.
 - Over 40 cases of much needed medical supplies (donated by a local hospital) were sent to Haiti.
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International Justice Mission

- Over \$1,200 (with an additional \$1,200 matched by an IJM grant) was given to International Justice Mission to support their work to put an end to modern day slavery and sex trafficking.
- A portion of the money sent (above) was raised by our Children's and Student Ministries through a "Loose Change to Loosen Chains" project.

Communications by *Stephanie McCrumb, Director of Communications*

Communication, communication, communication. It is so critical in every area of our lives and that is certainly true in the ministry of Bay Pointe Community Church. As our church grows both spiritually and physically, so do the demands for clear and compelling communication. This is always our goal. As technology advances and social networks expand, it is certainly challenging to keep up. We have done our best to keep you informed and always have room for improvement.

In 2010 we:

- Hired a much needed Communications Coordinator, Jeanne Stevenson, in September. Jeanne brings many years of experience in the design, web and communication fields. She will lead the efforts in expanding and managing our website to make it a more interactive tool for you and your seeking friends. Jeanne will also lead in our social network and e-blast communications, as well as assist in the many needs of day to day ministry. She's been a tremendous addition to the team.
- Expanded their e-blast communication process to keep the church family updated. We went from an average of 900 recipients to 4,000, which is very exciting.
- Launched Bay Pointe's Facebook page and presence.
- Implemented several marketing efforts for various BP events to the community through ad placement, internal communication pieces and interior/exterior banners (Easter and Christmas services, Don Piper/Big Life Event, Abe Laboriel to name a few).
- We are now communicating through a variety of art forms, including several fine art canvases in the Children's area painted by our own BP kids. We added some great photos of BP children and students in the hallway.
- Created several multi-media pieces to add to the programming element of our weekend services.

Looking ahead to 2011:

- We plan to expand our website in several areas to provide more up to date information and the ability to sign up online for various classes and serving opportunities.
- Watch for a heightened awareness of various series topics and events through Facebook.
- We continue marketing efforts in the community to increase awareness of Bay Pointe and all it has to offer. We always feel an urgency to reach un-churched friends and their need to hear God's truth.
- We plan to launch a large "Cross" initiative that will add some fine art throughout the building.