



Chapel of the Lakes

2024 Annual Report

Sunday

September 29th

New Website



https://chapelofthelakes.net



CHAPEL OF THE LAKES
It's a New Day at Chapel of the Lakes

[OUR MISSIONS](#)

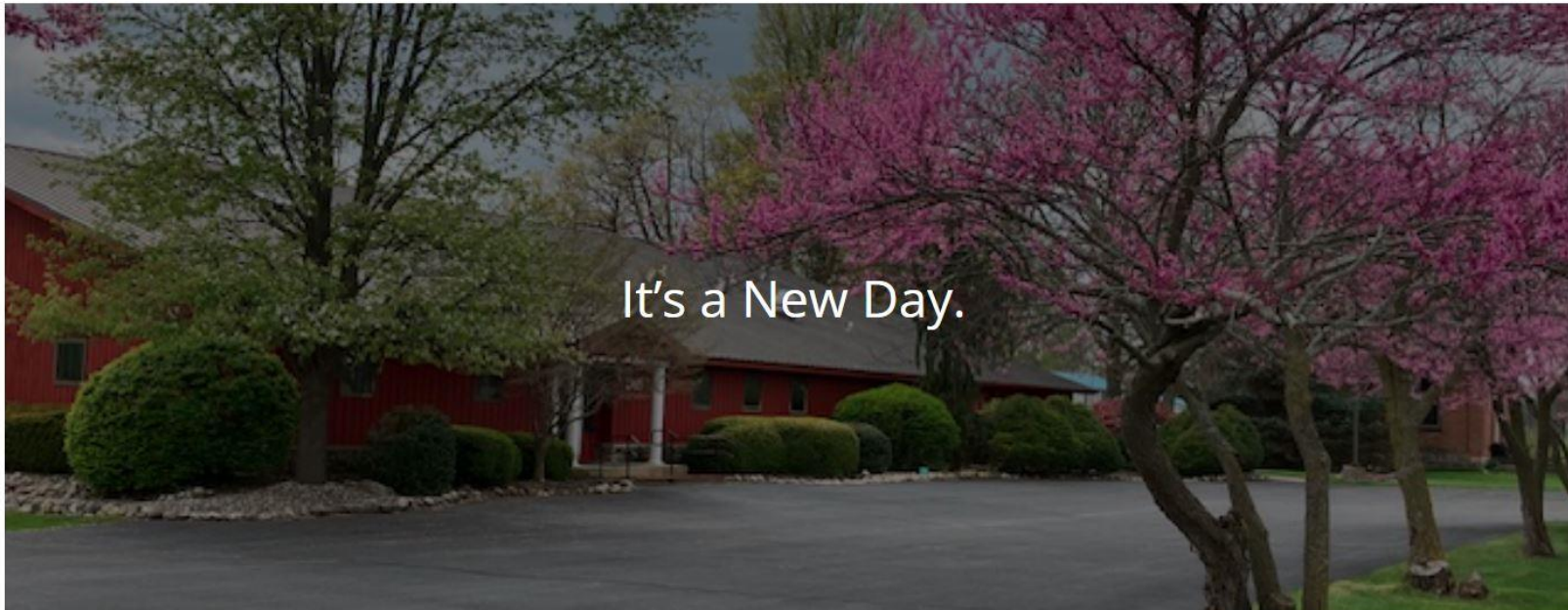
[OUR MINISTRIES](#)

[OUR HISTORY](#)

[MEET OUR STAFF](#)

[WHAT'S HAPPENING](#)

CHAPEL OF THE LAKES



Our Mission & Vision

At Chapel of the Lakes our Mission is to Love All and Serve All

New Website



chapelofthelakes.net

You can find here:

- 2024 Annual Report
- Facility Use Terms of Agreement
- Memorial Garden Use Agreement
- Funeral Policy and Guide
- And other valuable information about programs, missions and history

Worship



We have united our congregation with one service at 10:00 am each Sunday, followed by fellowship and donuts.

We remain deliberately casual in style, are seriously evangelical in substance, and very ecumenical in spirit.

We continue to enjoy occasional performances by the choir, led by Pat Fulton, and special music.

Programs – All are Welcome



Weekly

- Stretch “N Flex: Mon-Wed-Fri, 9:30-11:00 am,
- Prayer Meeting: Wednesdays at 11:00 am,
- Bible Study

Other

- Chapel Belles
- King’s Daughters & Sons
- Grief Support Group
- NE Indiana Smock Senior Ministry Cluster
- Bridge Group

Local Missions



- Fellowship of Christian Athletes – Chris Schaefer
- Project Help
- Blue Heron Ministries
- Samaritan's Fund
- Angola United Methodist – Souper Bowl Sunday
- Turning Point of Steuben County
- Compassion Pregnancy Center

World Missions



- African Dream Academy
- Church World Services – Blanket Sunday
- Equipnet- Thammavongsa Family
- Presbyterian Ministry – One Great Hour of Sharing
- Our Daily Bread
- RAJ Ministries/VBS Contributions
- Samaritan's Purse – Operation Christmas Child
- World Vision
- Gideon's

Administration Team



- Pastor Chris Schaefer
- Cheryl Schaefer – Administrative Assistant
- Scott Blaschak - Treasurer
- Tim Offerle – Bookkeeper
- Pat Fulton/Joanne McKeag – Records/Deposits weekly offerings

2024 Ruling Elders (Session)



- Pastor Chris Schaefer – Moderator of Session
- Elaine Kleeman – Clerk of Session, Annual Financial Review
- Diane Knight - Chapel Supply Management, Annual Financial Review
- Linda Jones – Worship Team Coordinator
- Brad Cookson – Care Team/Pastoral Relations
- Cathy Offerle – Prayer Chain/Communications
- Bill King – Facilities
- Tim Offerle – bookkeeper--guest – Financial Reports

Nominating Committee Report



- The 2024 Nominating Committee did not need to meet since the two (2) current elders who are ending their terms this year are eligible to serve second terms and both have agreed to do so.
- That being the case, the following names are placed into nomination for continued service as ruling elders of the Chapel beginning January 2025 through December 2027: Bill King & Cathy Offerle
- The congregation will need to select a new nominating committee for 2025. Their task will ruling elders to serve 2026-2028.

50th Anniversary Homecoming Celebration



On August 11 we held our celebration. We honored Pastor Tom by bestowing on him the title of Pastor Emeritus and named the Memorial Garden in his honor. Pastor Chris laid out the vision for going forward. A slide-show was presented, chronicling the beginnings and history, from school house to the current buildings and gardens. A wonderful time of fellowship and sharing with Chapel attendees and Chapel friends followed over a light luncheon.

50th Anniversary Photos



Memorial Garden



- Dedicated in honor of Rev. Thomas E. Smith Ph.D., for his vision and service to the Chapel 1986-2023.
- Lovingly cared for by Sue Rupp, Patrick Hale, Pat Fulton, and Joanne McKeag who need assistance with maintaining the garden. Please help!
- In 2024 a Memorial Garden Use – Terms of Agreement was updated and approved by Session. This document is available on our website



Moderator's Report



- Great responsiveness to revitalization
- Loving embrace of the congregation
- Openness to the Word of God
- Hearts of fire and purpose

Memorials



Because we are currently a congregation made up primarily of retirees who have come to the lakes to enjoy their retirement years, it is natural that we have the joy, if with sadness, of honoring Chapel members and friends who have gone to be with the Lord this past year.

This year we would especially note the passing of: *Larry Boyd, Ann Lebrecht, Nancy Cross, Delores Houtz, and John Zion.*

Membership



- There were no new members added in 2024.
- Pastor Chris intends to encourage regular attendees to become active members, and to join in the benefits of participation with the Chapel community.

Care Team



- Prayer Requests: Please email cathy.offerle@gmail.com with your prayer requests. They will be forwarded to the Chapel Prayer Chain. (Also used for church announcements.)
- Care Team, consisting of Brad Cookson, Marlene Stanford, Linda Jones, Sallie Bosler, and Elaine Kleeman, has been contacting members both in nursing homes as well as those who are home-bound. They make follow-up calls to new visitors as well as calls to those who have missed several services.
- Pam Getts and Cathy Johnson follow up on weekly prayer requests closely and make sure that everyone is remembered through the week with relevant cards expressing love and sympathy.

Vision Statement



To develop

wonder-filled worshippers,
devoted disciples, and
motivated missionaries
of the triune God.

Vacation Bible School

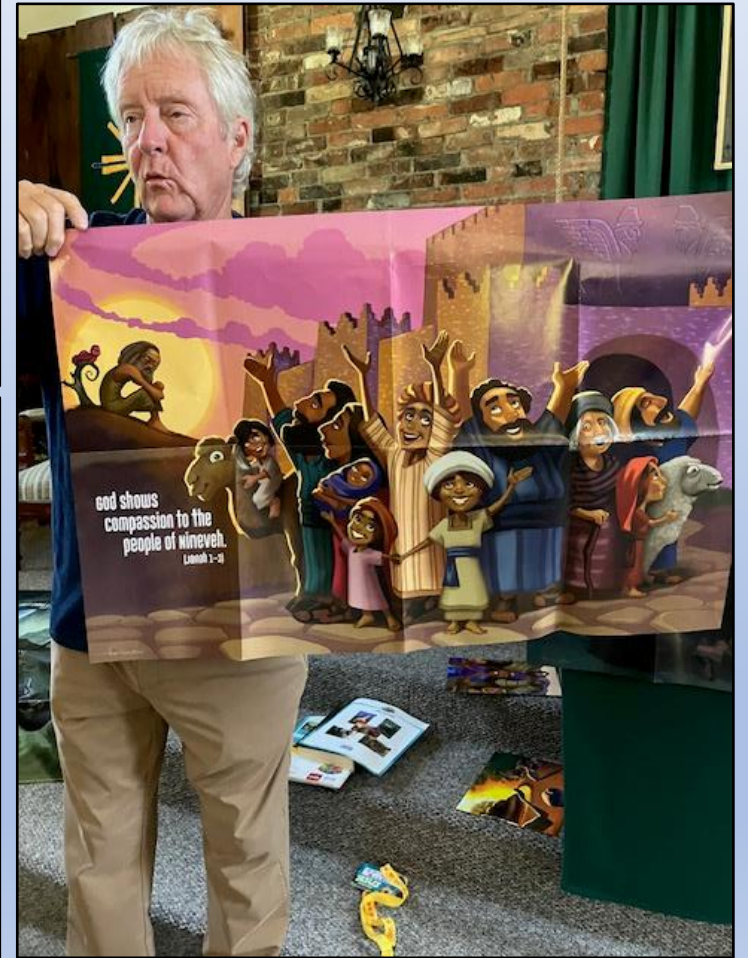


We were blessed with 24 wonderful children. We met for 2 ½ hours for four days. On Thursday we invited parents and friends for a closing program and enjoyed ice cream afterward. At least 10 of the kids said yes to Jesus' being Savior and Lord of their lives. We had 20 volunteers helping each day and many others who contributed items for activities and decorating. Thank, everyone, for a great VBS!

Vacation Bible School Photos



Vacation Bible School Photos



Blue Heron Ministries



- The Chapel has been the proud sponsor of Blue Heron Ministries (BHM) since 2001, providing office space and equipment, contributing to their success.
- Beginning in April 2024, the Chapel began to collect rent at a discounted rate from BHM.
- On September 6th, 2024, BHM notified the Chapel of their intent to sell the 1.31 acre property at 300 W & Orland Rd.
- BHM has a contingent purchase agreement for an office/warehouse facility to house their new headquarters and will vacate the Chapel.
- Per pre-arranged agreement, the Chapel has first right of refusal to purchase the property. The offered price to the Chapel is \$185,000.
- The Chapel will recoup \$15,000 from the sale if we decline to purchase.

Facilities - Accomplishments



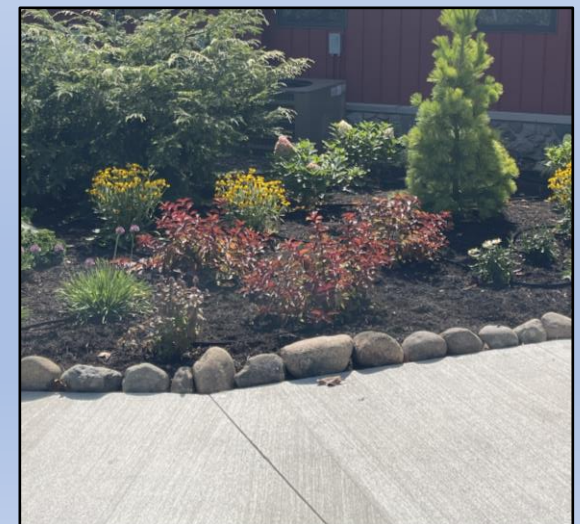
- Major spring clean-up, interior and exterior
- Carpet cleaning, HVAC duct cleaning
- New Sign with new name
- Painted interior of the Newell Addition, restrooms, and schoolhouse
- Repaired/painted schoolhouse ceiling
- Tree removal, new landscaping, new sidewalk
- Pest control
- Replace French doors in sanctuary (October 2024)
- Purchased Automated External Defibrillator
- Repaired parking lot and sign lights

2024 Smock Funds for Facility Improvements



The Chapel received two (2) grants in 2024, for which we are very grateful, in helping us to maintain our beautiful property.

- **\$19,163** for painting, sidewalk removal/replacement, tree removal, and landscaping.
- **\$11,285** to upgrade the audio-visual equipment.



Facility Improvement Plans



- Upgrade the audio-visual equipment to both enhance the service experience, as well as allow for livestream capability.
- Replace flooring in pastor's office, fellowship hall, kitchen, and north entry.
- Address issues with woodburning stove and chimney in the schoolhouse.
- Repair/replace windows in the pavilion building and Newell Addition.
- Address aging sanctuary walls.
- Remove diseased pine tree near schoolhouse.
- Install Free Christian Library upon the stump of the pine tree.
- Interior/exterior signage
- Prayer rail

Projected Budget



Income	General Offerings	\$135,050
	Other Income	<u>\$8,500</u>
Total Income		\$143,550
Expenses	Missions	\$12,500
	Ministry of the Word	\$47,100
	Administration	\$33,450
	Building	\$49,000
	FICA	<u>\$1,500</u>
Total Expense		\$143,550

Pastoral Compensation 2025



Salary	\$6,000	
Housing	\$24,000	
Professional Expenses	\$6,500	
VBS Supplement	\$750	
FCA Area Director	<u>\$6,000</u>	
Total	\$43,250	+ 5.49%

It's a New Day at Chapel of the Lakes!



Thank you for your continued gifts of time and treasure through the transition. We believe the Chapel is a special place and we are so blessed in being the Chapel family, together.

“Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap.” Luke 6:38