

**VISION  
NIGHT  
2013  
6-MONTH REPORT**

# STUFF GOD'S DONE

## SINCE NOVEMBER

We've seen God do great things in our church in this season, and we know that He's just getting started! However, with all that's been going on, it's easy to feel like it's a bit chaotic. Because of this, we just want to take a step back and celebrate what God is doing.

Since November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2012, we've seen well over 60 decisions for Christ, and many recommitments to follow Him. On top of that, we've seen 40+ Baptisms. We believe that this is just a glimpse of what we're going to see in 2013! Here's a snapshot of some other great things happening in our church:

### SUNDAY MORNINGS

- Average attendance 525 per weekend, upwards of 600 frequently
- Hundreds of new visitors
- Avg. attendance almost 100 higher than the sum of our averages pre-merge
- Highest attendance: Easter – 1030
- 60+ Decisions for Christ
- 40 Baptisms
- 200+ people have food to eat and someone to talk to every weekend
- Our Hospitality Team (all volunteers) feeds hundreds every week
- Usher & Security Teams have grown and strengthened in every way

### GENERATIONS

#### SynergyKIDZ

- 100+ Birth-5<sup>th</sup> grade every Sunday
- Almost 100 volunteers every month
- Dozens of brand new volunteers
- Dozens of salvations

#### UNDIVIDED (YOUTH)

- 140+ Weekly Attendance
- Invite Night (April 17<sup>th</sup>) had 185 in attendance & 20+ decisions for Christ
- 50+ Salvations since November
- 12+ Baptized
- Dozens involved in Ministry Teams throughout the church
- Many from un-churched homes have made RLC their home

#### YOUNG ADULTS

- Brand new Young Adults/College ministry launched in November
- 30-40 average attendance
- New connection point for young adults in our area
- Many young adults have joined our church through this ministry

## **Other Ministries**

### **Men's Ministry**

- Men of RLC are connecting via monthly Men's Breakfasts
- 90+ Men at Annual Tool Exchange, and 75+ at our Men's Retreat
- Women are coming together monthly for events of all types

### **Mountain Bike Ministry**

- Our 90acre property is being used by hundreds every month, riding trails
- We have a great reputation in the Black Diamond/Maple Valley area
- Several families have joined our church through this community ministry

### **North of 60**

- Brand new ministry for those who are 60+ (60's the new 40, right?)
- Dozens involved in potlucks, services & events

### **Car Repurposing Ministry**

- Four cars have been reclaimed, fixed and donated to single moms in need through Vine Maple Place.
- Several cars are being fixed and ready to give away

In the last 6 months, we truly have seen God do great things, and we believe that this is just the beginning.

# STUFF WE'VE DONE

## SINCE THE MERGE

- a. 250 Brand New Chairs for Main Auditorium (half of what is needed)
- b. Purchased CCB (Database Systems & Communication Software)
- c. Children's check-in stations
- d. New Sound system for Main Auditorium (digital board, speakers, etc.)
- e. Completion of the baby and toddler rooms
- f. Acoustic treatment in the Main & Youth Auditoriums
- g. Roof repairs (phase 1)
- h. ADA-Approved stair rails throughout the building
- i. Replaced all door handles & rekeyed the building
- j. New Lighting for the Main & Youth Auditoriums
- k. New Furniture & Décor for the lobby, hospitality room, Info Center & more
- l. Video screens in the auditorium & lobby (Phase 1 of video infrastructure)
- m. New Paint, Carpet & Trim downstairs (Multi-purpose room / cafeteria)
- n. New Paint & Décor for women's restroom
- o. Various Sound & Musical equipment
- p. Storage Upgrades (on & off-site)
- q. Wi-Fi Network for the entire building
- r. Commercial Ovens & Refrigeration for future kitchen upgrade

## NEW BEGINNINGS

### Items Committed to be finished through New Beginnings Campaign

- a. Window coverings in Main Auditorium & Lobby
- b. Gas Fireplace in Hospitality Room
- c. Completion of the Café (Espresso stand upstairs, counters, etc.)
- d. Stage Curtains in the sanctuary
- e. Air Conditioning in Youth Auditorium
- f. Upgraded street-view signage
- g. Complete curbing on the south side of driveway
- h. Bollards in parking lot (for wheelchair accessible spots, etc.)
- i. Security enhancements (card access, video surveillance, electronic locks)
- j. Interior Signage
- k. Cabinetry in Hospitality & Conference Rooms, Café, Sound & Video Booths
- l. Prayer Room Furniture
- m. Final Building Closeout Expenses

# STILL NEEDED

## Items needed but not previously identified in New Beginnings

- a. Complete Kitchen upgrade
- b. Room dividers in Sanctuary for room size control
- c. Major Parking maintenance in the gravel and grass
- d. Outdoor spaces (i.e. tents, patio umbrellas)
- e. Video production equipment
- f. Lighting efficiency upgrades throughout building
- g. Additional sound-proofing of baby and toddler rooms
- h. Remodel/update downstairs bathrooms
- i. Major plumbing work throughout the building
- j. New doors in the Main Auditorium & School Building
- k. Tractor for outdoor maintenance
- l. Man-Lift or Scaffolding
- m. Fencing and Landscaping
- n. Additional Sound treatment throughout the building
- o. Open up School Classrooms for new Youth/Kids Wing
- p. Front Patio with Outdoor Seating on the east side of the offices
- q. Remove popcorn ceiling in Main Auditorium
- r. Additional Audio infrastructure throughout the Building

# SUMMARY REPORT

## MAY 2012 – APRIL 2013

### 2013 General Tithes & Offerings Received:

<b>May - Oct 2012 (Prior to Merge)</b>	<b>Monthly Average</b>	<b>6 Months Total</b>
Real Life Church (Mobile)	\$ 46,000	\$ 276,000
Covington Christian Fellowship	\$ 17,000	\$ 102,000
<b>Combined Total</b>	<b>\$ 63,000</b>	<b>\$ 378,000</b>

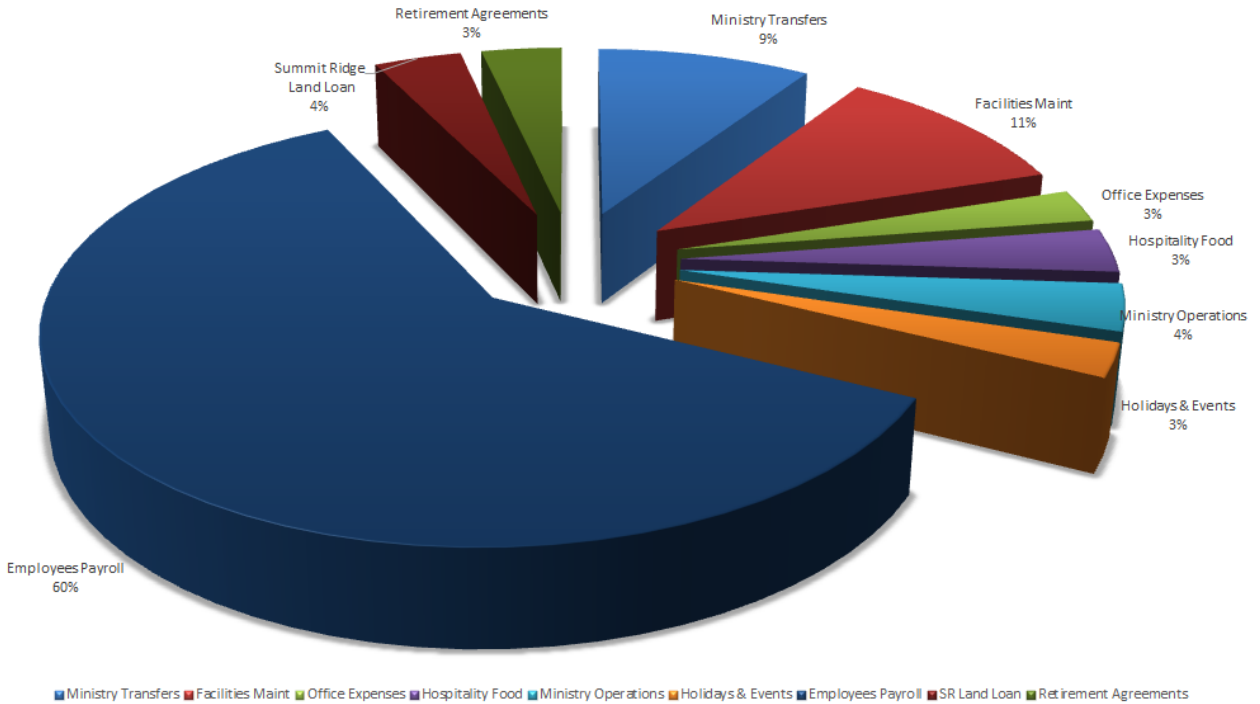
<b>Nov 2012 - Apr 2013 (Since Merge)</b>	<b>Monthly Average</b>	<b>6 Months Total</b>
<b>Real Life Church</b>	<b>\$ 69,000</b>	<b>\$ 414,000</b>

### General Fund Expenses (After Merge):

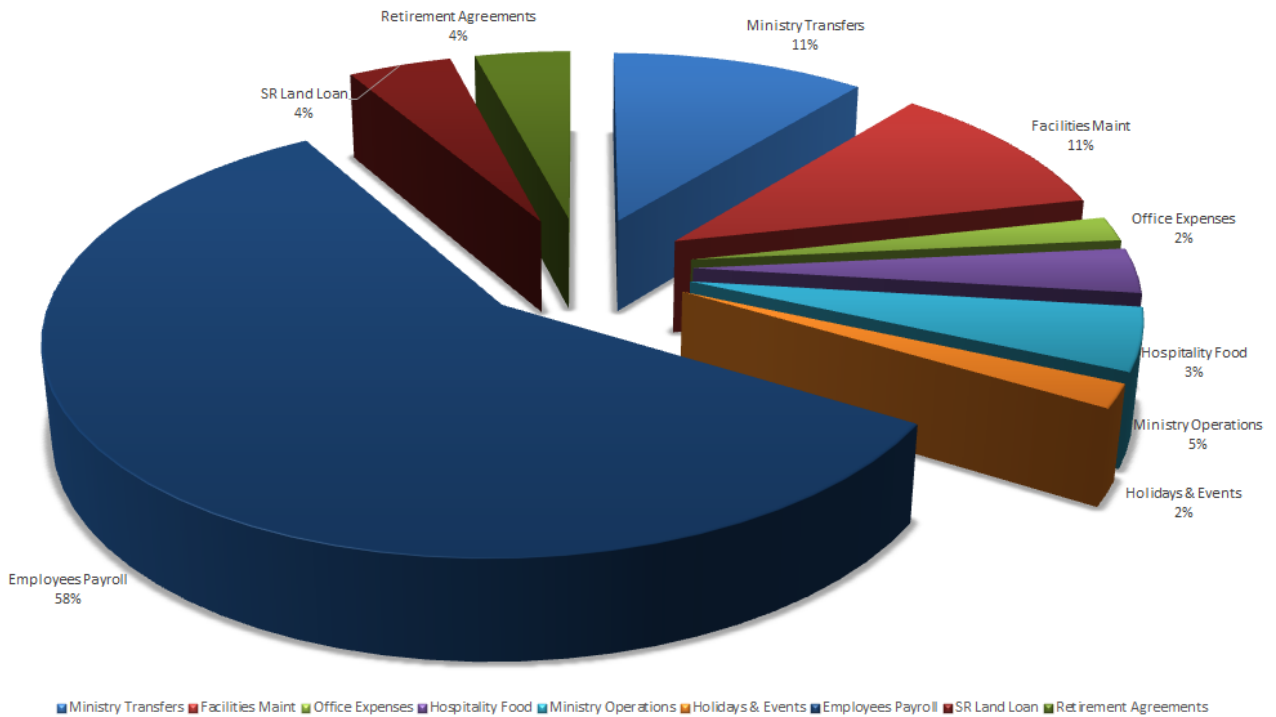
General Ministry Operations	\$ 46,008	\$ 276,048
Facilities Maint & Utilities	\$ 7,995	\$ 47,970
Hospitality (Meals After Church)	\$ 2,538	\$ 15,228
Kids Ministry	\$ 4,046	\$ 24,276
Youth Ministry	\$ 4,667	\$ 28,002
Worship Ministry	\$ 1,410	\$ 8,460
Local Outreach Ministry	\$ 2,760	\$ 16,560
Missions Ministry	\$ 2,070	\$ 12,420
Summit Ridge Land	\$ 2,819	\$ 16,914
<b>Total General Fund Expenses (After Merge)</b>	<b>\$ 74,313</b>	<b>\$ 445,878</b>
<b>EXPENSES EXCEED REVENUE</b>	<b>\$ (5,313)</b>	<b>\$ (31,878)</b>

Note: We had to transfer money from our reserves fund to cover extra expenses  
(Having to Reduce Pastoral Staff as a Result)

**General Fund Expenses Now  
Based on Average Revenue of \$69,000 Each Month**



**General Fund Expenses After Budget Changes  
Based on Average Revenue of \$69,000 Each Month**



# BUILDING FUND

## CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS REPORT

NOVEMBER 2012 – APRIL 2013

<b>Building Fund Revenue:</b>	<b>Amount Received</b>
RLC Heart & Soul Donations Transfer In	\$ 69,987
CCF New Beginnings Campaign Transfer In	\$ 69,478
CCF Sound Equipment Donation Transfer In	\$ 20,000
Building Rental Proceeds for Jan-Apr 2013	\$ 17,208
Building Fund Donations Since Merge	\$ 23,802
<b>Total Building Fund Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 200,475</b>
<b>Building - Capital Expenses (After Merge):</b>	
Remodeling & Major Repairs	\$ 51,176
Worship & Sound Equipment	\$ 29,766
Other Equipment	\$ 34,280
Furniture & Cabinetry	\$ 24,488
<b>Total General Fund Expenses (After Merge)</b>	<b>\$ 139,710</b>
<b>Balance in Building Fund as of April 30, 2013</b>	<b>\$ 60,765</b>



# WHERE WE'RE GOING

## GOALS FOR 2013

We believe that the best is yet to come for Real Life Church. In this season, God has challenged us to believe for bigger things than we've seen before. As ONE CHURCH, here are 5 Goals that God has put on our hearts to believe for this year:

### 1. 200 SALVATIONS & 100 BAPTISMS

It's all about seeing people who are far from God come into life-giving relationship with Him and the Church. But we're not just about conversions. Baptisms are an outward sign that God is changing the life on the inside.

### 2. 400 IN LIFEGROUPS THIS FALL

Realistically, we're a church of over 800 people. We believe that in order to truly be the church God's called us to be, we've got to GROW SMALL. The way we'll grow small is by people living out their life and faith in community. Our goal is to see 1 out of every 2 people in a life group. This is also going to take an increase in people willing to step up and lead a group.

### 3. ACTIVATE 100 MORE INTO MINISTRIES

We want to see people going from unengaged to participating, from attending to serving and from serving to leading.

### 4. ACTIVATE 50 NEW FINANCIAL PARTNERS

It takes all of us bringing our resource to accomplish the mission that God has us on. We want to see people

### 5. 500 WHEELCHAIRS TO GHANA, AFRICA

For 2013, we are participating in The Big Push. Our goal is to send 500 wheelchairs to Ghana, Africa and provide mobility for otherwise immobile people. We're joining with other churches, companies and organizations, making this a community-wide effort.

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## MINISTRY

**Q: Church is packed on Sundays. Are there plans to add more services in the Fall?**

**A:** Short version? Yes. Here's the long version... There are several reasons we haven't yet added a second service. First, we wanted to take a significant season to effectively "merge" our two families into one. We didn't want to immediately split a brand new family. Second, we wanted to give some of our volunteers a break, as well as build **one** strong team. We believe that by the fall we'll be ready to handle a second service.

**Q: Is it possible to add a Saturday Night Service?**

**A:** This is something that we are talking about, and would like to do sometime down the road, however there is no current timeframe. A big part of it comes down to volunteers. We'll need a lot more people willing to serve in order to make this happen.

**Q: If we go to two services, will there still be food?**

**A:** Our intention with lunch has always been to create an environment where people can connect, build relationships and grow together. This will never change. With two services, however, the way this looks will probably look a bit different. If we have two Sunday services, it will probably look like coffee and muffins following the early service, and a bit more to offer following the second service. But no matter what it looks like, our goal is for people to stick around, connect, and do life together!

**Q: With our recent growth, we need more volunteers. How do we get more volunteers?**

**A:** Every week we advertise opportunities on our Facebook page and on our email updates. We have plans for a "strength-finders" class to encourage people how to discover and utilize their Gifts. Pastor Kevin is also establishing a volunteer assimilation process this summer. It currently takes over 200 people monthly (literally) to make church happen, so we're always in need of more people who are willing to serve. If you'd like to get involved, sign up in the lobby or email [office@reallifechurch.com](mailto:office@reallifechurch.com).

**Q: Our youth ministry has grown exponentially, and my middle school student may not be ready to be immersed in High School culture yet... Are there plans to split middle school and high school students for more age-specific ministry?**

**A:** We are aware of the growth in our youth groups (seeing 140-150 people weekly). Managing all groups efficiently also means we have to add more Pastors to oversee a Middle School program. The oversight of this type of program cannot be a volunteer position; we need a staff member, which means our income must first increase.

**Q: Is there an organized College/Young Adults Ministry?**

**A:** Yes! *YOUNG ADULTS* is on Thursday Nights @ 8pm. We have an amazing time of hanging out, an amazing word and a time for discussion. There's an amazing team that runs this ministry. For more information, or to get involved, talk to Britney McAlpine or email [Taylor@reallifechurch.com](mailto:Taylor@reallifechurch.com).

**Q: Why are Pastors Nathan and Tiffany leaving, and why?**

**A:** Before the merge of the two Churches, Nathan and Tiffany felt called to experience a Lead/Campus Pastor role but in a different location. We are working together with them to find the best fit for them. They will remain as Pastors here until their plans are solidified.

**Q: What are we doing to disciple the new members and families in our church?**

**A:** Our primary means of discipleship is through LifeGroups, our Small Groups Ministry here at RLC. As our congregation has grown, so has our need for small group leaders. In this next LifeGroups season, we will have a heavier emphasis on Spiritual growth, with the goal of seeing people go from being attendees to disciples.

**Q: Are there plans to establish a Women's Ministry more than just random women's activities? It feels like a blank spot for those over 30.**

**A:** Men's and Women's ministries provide 7 to 10 events or gatherings per year. However, for special focused Bible studies or interests, we encourage everyone to join LifeGroups, which run every fall and winter. This way everyone's interests are included.

**Q: Lots of ministries we are involved in – could the youth be engaged in some of these in some kind of “training experience”, like interning?**

**A:** This summer Pastor Steve will be offering a leadership training series. We also plan on starting a Young Adults post-graduation internship as soon as we are settled.

**Q: Do we offer discipleship classes for New Believers?**

**A:** Our LifeGroups always offer groups for new followers of Jesus. We intend to add more of these in the fall.

**Q: Are there plans for a Celebrate Recovery ministry?**

**A:** If someone from RLC has the vision and is able to form the team to do it, we would welcome the ministry.

**Q: I understand the reasons for the music in worship, but could we sing an old chorus & hymns in the same modern style?**

**A:** We currently do some older Hymns, however you may not recognize them. We will be doing occasional hymns that are remixed in the future.

**Q: Will Pastor Kevin and Meg be staying at RLC?**

**A:** Yes, they are Associate Pastors. Kevin is active in missions and community efforts.

**Q: Who is on staff and who represents the leadership team?**

We are currently rearranging some staff and Pastors/Elders. The details will be posted on the website and we will hand it out by the end of May.

## FINANCIAL

**Q: Since the Merge, what has our income been compared to our spending?**

**A:** In this packet you will find our income in comparison to our expenses. As of right now, our monthly expenses exceed our income. As a result we've had to reduce our pastoral staff & borrow from our reserves. This is partly due to heavy staffing in this season.

**Q: What percentage of our church are active in Tithing?**

**A:** The principal of tithing is something that we have always taught and practiced. That being said, not everyone has grown up with this value. We estimate that about 20-30% of our church is active in tithing, and about 50% give occasionally.

**Q: How many staff do we have?**

**A:** We currently have 6 full-time and 6 part-time staff. We have been heavily staffed in this season because of the merge.

**Q: Is Nora Matthews still Pastor Steve's personal assistant?**

**A:** No, Nora is no longer Pastor Steve's personal assistant. She currently oversees our NorthOf60 group and the lobby coffee bar. Nora & Al will continue to function as "Ninja Elders." In addition, Nora is moving into some exciting new ministry opportunities for RLC & beyond, writing grants to obtain resources for organizations like The Storehouse & Vine Maple Place. This is a positive step forward for Nora, our church & community. If you have LifeGroup questions, contact Pastor Kevin: [Kevin@reallifechurch.com](mailto:Kevin@reallifechurch.com). To set up a meeting with any of our pastors, contact our office: [office@reallifechurch.com](mailto:office@reallifechurch.com).

**Q: Is the Lake Retreat Property still on the books?**

**A:** No. At this time they have no plans to sell.

**Q: Does the Church own the Church Building and the 90 acres in Black Diamond?**

**A:** Yes. The Church building is debt free. However we still owe \$350k on our property.

**Q: Does the Church own the fields and park next to the parking lot?**

**A:** Yes, our church owns the whole property, debt-free.

# **BUILDING / ASSETS**

**Q: Is there still a plan to build a full Café upstairs?**

**A:** Yes. The plan is to complete the café in the lobby, as originally planned in the New Beginnings campaign. This includes an espresso bar, cabinets, etc.

**Q: Is there a plan to upgrade our parking lot to accommodate our growth? Will the field and gravel areas ever be paved for parking?**

**A:** Not at this time. Per the regulatory codes, we have exceeded all of our ability to pave any surfaces on the property. More parking will require rezoning and determining what the best option is on surfacing our "impervious" areas. We do plan to re-grade current gravel areas to better suit parking. Also, our parking issues will be largely off-set as we look to add services.

**Q: For how long does Rainier Christian Middle School plan to use our building for their campus? Are they in our long-term plans, and vice-versa?**

**A:** We are presently in discussion with RCMS to extend their lease to at least two more years. However, there are no long term plans.

**Q: What is the 90 acres used for and will it ever be sold?**

**A:** The property is used by hundreds of regional mountain bikers, trail joggers and dog walkers weekly. We are keeping the property in recreational condition until Black Diamond is developed and the commercial complexes across the street are built. We think the property has potential for another campus or as an investment for commercial development.

**Q: How does the elevator work for disabled or anyone who needs it?**

**A:** We have an attendant available at the elevator during our services. If there is no attendant, any of our Usher/Security team members can assist you.

**Q: When will the Fireplace Café and kitchen be done?**

**A:** The goal is to be completed by the end of the New Beginnings Campaign cycle, May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014.

# GENERAL / MISCELLANEOUS

**Q: *How do I get involved with video announcements?***

**A:** If you are an active member at RLC with skills on either side of the camera, please talk to Freedom Noble, or email our office.

**Q: *Can I use our facilities for an event?***

**A:** Our facilities are available for use on a rental basis, and will always come secondary to main ministries. Fees will be based on staff requirements, janitor, security, sound, type of event, usage, etc.

**Q: *Will we still host Oil Change Day, Back to School BBQ or the Dream Again Event?***

Yes, we are planning to continue each these events in the coming summer and fall.

**Q: *Why do we have Rainier Christian School here?***

RCMS is a great school that promotes Christian values in their students. Their being here 5 days per week adds a great ministry presence. They also pay rent every month, which helps us to cover many of our facility costs. Our goal is always to be the best stewards of what (and who) we have.