



BUILDERS

Building the Kingdom. Transforming Lives. One Investment at a Time.



God-Sized Dreams

CHURCH SPOTLIGHT:
 Vineland Native American Chapel
 Onamia, MN

Vineland Native American Chapel
 ADF CHURCH LOAN

Church: <i>Vineland Native American Chapel</i>
Pastor: <i>Joe Boeringa</i>
Address: <i>11995 Wagadaaki Dr. Onamia, MN 56359</i>
Phone: <i>(320) 532-4449</i>

Loan type:
<input type="checkbox"/> Building purchase <input type="checkbox"/> Land purchase <input type="checkbox"/> Building renovation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New construction <input type="checkbox"/> Refinance

Ministry Focus:
Showing the Love of Jesus to the Native Americans

“Dream bigger!” said the Native American Association when Pastor Joe Boeringa first considered updating Vineland Native American Chapel, in Onamia, Minnesota. The North Central District and other Alliance leadership agreed and suggested they bulldoze the whole structure and start fresh. Now their ministry to the Native

American people of Central Minnesota has a bigger vision and new life.

The Ojibwe tribe of Native Americans settled around Mille Lacs Lake more than 100 years before Minnesota became a state. In the early 1900s, a ministry was started primarily to the Native children, and a building was built on reservation property.

In the early 70s, an Alliance pastor began holding Sunday services. Soon afterward, the C&MA National Office purchased property surrounded by reservation land and moved the building there. That original 1923 slab building still stands as Vineland Chapel, but the landscape around it has changed significantly.

(Continued on inside)

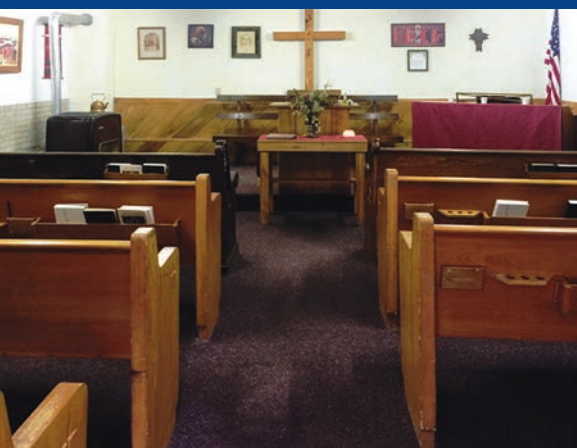
“The district felt something needed to be done, they believe our work has a future, that God has a plan for these people.”



COVER STORY (cont.)

In the early 1990s, the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe built the casino which gave rise to many new and modern structures on the reservation – a clinic, a care center for their elderly, a new school. In comparison, the old chapel building is an eyesore with sections added over the years but never completed. It needs a heating system, parking spaces, and handicapped accessibility. It looks like no one really cares about the ministry. And it's small: "One new family might be a very large group. We wouldn't be able to seat everyone," shared a new Native convert.

"The district felt something needed to be done," explains Pastor Joe, "because they believe our work has a future,



that God has a plan for these people. But updating our building with a congregation of 12 was going to be a challenge." So the district took over the property in 2016, and ADF was approached for a loan.

The Mille Lacs Band now numbers more than 4,000 people, but many in their current leadership do not believe you can be Native American and Christian. They teach their children the traditions, language, and religion of their people. "Our core is mostly non-Native people who believe God wants them to minister to the people on this reservation," Pastor Joe shares.

"There was a thriving church here years ago, but that generation has passed on. We hope that if we show the love of Jesus to them, perhaps we can build that relationship again. We would like to bring in a Native American evangelist and Native singing groups, but we don't have the space. We want them to see that we're here to stay and care enough to put up a brand new building."

Pastor Joe's excitement is contagious as he describes the new facility. "It will have office space, an entry area and cloak room, a kitchen, two handicapped bathrooms, a sanctuary with a platform and a fellowship hall for combined seating of up to 120 people, a good-sized kids ministry room, storage space, a partial basement, and in-floor heating!" It's a big dream – but as Vineland Chapel is faithful with God's vision, the Native people of the Mille Lacs Band will never be the same.

To share with our Alliance family what God's doing in your fellowship to advance the Kingdom, please contact us at adf@adf-inc.com

President's Corner

Sharing with Larry McCooey



THE CHURCH: GOD'S INSTRUMENT

Dear Fellow Investors and Friends,

"The Church is God's instrument to reach the lost. That's why our energies and resources are poured into creating healthy, vibrant, communities of faith in the United States and around the world." (The Alliance website, U.S. Ministries)

As a supporting ministry of The Alliance, ADF is fully committed to this endeavor. Our primary role is to provide funding for places that help communities of faith carry out their God-given missions. We also strive to help in other ways as opportunities arise at the international, national, district, and local levels.

This help may take a number of forms from working closely with churches experiencing temporary financial problems so they can

keep progressing in ministry to helping in times of calamity or natural disaster. It may also take the form of various resources such as free consultations and practical information, or more suitable loan product designs and terms. In addition, ADF assists in various ways with church health and advancement.

Our U.S. Alliance president, John Stumbo, has been expressing his desire for more emphasis on church planting and for the net number of Alliance churches here in the U.S. to grow. A number of initiatives are underway and more are coming. ADF intends to fully support these efforts as part of our mission and vision.

Thank you for supporting the varied work of ADF, The Alliance, and the Church that are so central to God's plan for reaching the lost.

Please share your thoughts by contacting me at presidentscorner@adf-inc.com. They are always welcome.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lawrence L. McCooey". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Lawrence L. McCooey, CPA, PFS, CGMA
President

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