

## Church in the Vineyard Board Member Profile



**Name:** James Burns

**How old are you?** 39

**Marriage/Family Details:** Married to my wife, Lisa. 2 Kids: Alex 10, Chris 8

**Where do you work?** Sanofi Pasteur - Division Manager for MD and DC

**What do you do for fun or relaxation?** Golf, Travel, Sports

**Did your family go to church when you were growing up? If so, what kind of church?** Somewhat. I was raised Protestant and my mom was Catholic. I went to Sunday school through High School.

**How did you come to know Jesus personally?** By attending CTV. I started getting closer through worship. Then God had humbled me through what I thought was important. At that point I saw how important God had become in my life and that I needed to give my life to him.

**What is one thing God has shown you or taught you in the last year?** That I do have faith in him. My faith was tested through a work situation. Clearly my wife and I were trusting God and in the end he was with my family and me the whole time.

**As a Board member...** I look forward to help CTV continue to bring people to Christ. I plan to try and help fellow members get what they may need from the church no matter what level of their faith.

**What experiences have you had inside/outside the Church that you believe will help you serve in this capacity?**

Outside the church I have made a lot of mistakes in my life. The closer I get to God, the more I realize how far from him I really was. I feel I can help those who may feel like they are not worthy of Jesus' love. Inside the church I have served in a few different capacities. I feel like I can help those who may be serving and want to let others know how serving or joining a small group can enrich their lives.

**What is your vision or dream for Church in the Vineyard?**

A place where new Christians can continue to seek a relationship with Jesus Christ. As well as allow those who believe develop a deeper and meaningful relationship with Him through the Holy Spirit.

**What do you see as unique about Church in the Vineyard as compared to other churches in our area?**

The welcoming aspect of the Church. We are a unique place where you can worship Jesus at your own pace. Also, the Children's program is fantastic. If the Children's program was not excellent, or a place where we wanted to leave our kids, we would not have continued to attend CTV.

**What criteria will you use in determining the approval and priority of new programming ideas?**

Transparency is critical. I plan to listen to any suggestions that benefit the spiritual development of the church, whether it be for kids or adults.

**Why and how will you build trust with the congregation as an individual board member and for the board as a whole?**

By being honest and open with everyone. I am willing to listen to new ideas and see if they meet with the direction and vision of the church.

**Do you have a relationship that is confident enough with Pastor Chip to provide both encouragement and challenge?**

Pastor Chip helped bring me to Christ. He was the vehicle that God chose to develop my relationship with Jesus. That being said I have been upfront with Chip and the current Board members. I shared with them the areas that I felt the church was not meeting the needs of the congregation. I plan continue to challenge Chip and the rest of the Board.