

Welcome to

fellowship

C H U R C H ● ● ●

Winter/Spring 2017 Ministry Guide



 BELONG.  GROW.  SERVE.

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

"Joy to the world; the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King!" We've just come through the season of Advent and Christmas—a time of joyful anticipation, waiting, and celebration of the arrival of our Savior and Lord.

Throughout the month of December, as we listened to the prophets of old and found ourselves drawn into the story of Christ's birth (Luke's Gospel), we were intentional about answering the Spirit's *call to grow*. This is what it means to be a disciple of Jesus: to belong to Christ and grow into the image of Jesus by the power of the Holy Spirit. Disciples are committed to becoming like Christ in everything they think, desire, say and do.

So as we begin a new year and start the season of Epiphany, we're going to continue to focus on God's call for each of us, and all of us together, to "grow up into the full stature of Christ" (Eph. 4:13).

In what ways do you sense God calling you to grow in this particular season of life? How will you take responsibility for your own spiritual growth (and the spiritual growth of your family)? This Ministry Guide is a tool to help you and your family grow into full maturity in Christ. There are a number of avenues by which you can get engaged. If you sense God calling you to grow in a way that is not an option listed, please talk to our Ministry Staff and let's get creative!

The beginning of a new year is a time for fresh starts and getting refocused. Let's be a church that lives into our mission "to love God and others, as an accepting community centered in Christ, focused on developing faithful followers of Jesus." A place where everybody **belongs**, **grows**, and **serves** to the glory of God and for the sake of the world.

Grace and Peace,



Pastor Brian

Worship at Fellowship

At Fellowship, all of our worship seeks to remember the Story of God while inviting worshipers to respond to the good news of the gospel. Our worship seeks to invite thoughtful and heartfelt participation in the work of personal & global transformation God does in and through worship.

Our two weekly services have distinct styles that reflect the natural expressions of the communities who worship at those times. While certain musical styles may be common in a given service, we believe that there is much blessing and wisdom to be gained from borrowing from Christians of all times and places.

8:30am: A service for families of earlier risers who desire a more intimate worship setting. Music at this service favors classical and folk expressions, using organ and acoustic instruments. Nursery is provided for the youngest worshipers, while children 3 years old and up are welcome for the duration of the service.

10:00am: A lively service that favors current, contemporary music expressions led with a worship band. Children and youth ages 3 years - 8th grade are dismissed prior to the sermon for Children & Worship and Sunday School (except on Everybody Worship Sundays).

If you have any questions, please contact Jordan Clegg, Minister of Creative Arts and Worship, jclegg@fellowshippreformed.org.

Questions? Contact the staff at:

Pastors

Brian Keepers, Minister of Preaching and Leadership
bkeepers@fellowshipreformed.org, ext. 12

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Worship

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Children, Youth, & Families

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BELONG By Connecting

Table to Table

This year we are extending the Lord's Table to the Lunch Table! On Communion Sundays, we will be hosting congregational lunches in the Great Room. It is our hope that this time of connection and fellowship would cultivate new friendships and draw us closer to God and each other.



All are welcome to the Lord's Table and the Lunch Table!

- January 8: Soup & salad bar.
- February 12: Taco bar, hosted by the Nicaragua Mission Trip team.
- March 12: Spaghetti lunch & Silent Auction, hosted by the High School Ministry as a fundraiser for the HSM Summer Trip.
- April: No Table to Table due to Spring Break.
- May 7: Picnic lunch

Every **tabletotable** will provide options for those who have dietary restrictions.

If you are interested in helping make **tabletotable** happen, please contact Pastor Lindsay. ismall@fellowshipreformed.org

Save the Dates!
Women's Retreat
 with Reverend Kris Causton
 March 10-11
Men's Summit
 February 24-25

Fellowship Groups

Monthly gatherings of people sharing the same chapter of life.

Young Adults Bryce Vander Stelt, bvanderstelt@fellowshipreformed.org

A group of adults in their 20's and 30s who gather on the 4th Sunday of the month for a meal, discussion, and connection.

Empty Nesters Laurie Bos, lauriesbos@gmail.com

Since the kids are away, it's your turn to play! Join us for social gatherings throughout the year.

Prime Timers Jim Baar, jhbaar4@gmail.com

People age 60 or better who gather for fellowship and other special activities. Meeting at Russ' North at 9:00am on the first Thursday of every month. Coupons provided!

Widows Linda Hutchison, lhutchison@gmail.com

Wonderful Widows Luncheon

A group of widows who meet the second Wednesday of every month at noon at different restaurants in our community. This group offers support, fellowship, and fun.

Widows Breakfast

A group of widows who meet on the last Friday of every month at 9:00am at IHOP in Holland for fellowship, food, and fun.

Small Groups

Small groups focus on connecting, building relationships, prayer, and/or mission. They include gatherings of men, women, and families meeting at various times.

Artist Cohort Jordan Clegg, jclegg@fellowshipreformed.org



A community of artists of all types from both inside and outside Fellowship who meet weekly to discuss faith, art, and to create in community. Meets most Monday nights at 7pm in Fellowship's Art Studio. Inquire about joining our Facebook group.

Craft Groups Office, 399-9280

We offer a variety of craft groups that meet for fun, fellowship, and service. Please contact the office for more information.

Ladies' Prayer Group Ruth Visser, esthervis@charter.net

The prayer group meets at Ruth Visser's Home (3485 N. Lakeshore Dr., 49424) at 9:30am on Wednesdays.

Men Built for Others Ken Arthurs, arthursk@westottawa.net

This weekly gathering of men ages 17 and older meets on Wednesdays at 6:30am at Panera to share life and encourage one another.

Men, Meat and Movies Brian Keepers, bkeepers@fellowshipreformed.org

3M is a gathering every other month for men ages 17+ that involves eating a meal together, watching a thoughtful film, and discussing it from a Christian perspective.

Sacred Parenting Brian Keepers, bkeepers@fellowshipreformed.org

Parents of young children come together to support one another and embrace parenting as a way to become more like Christ.

Tuesday Morning Men's Breakfast Jim Baar, jhbaar4@gmail.com

Meets Tuesdays at 8:30am at Russ' North for prayer and fellowship.

Study Groups

Groups that meet to study the Bible or a book of choice. They meet Sunday mornings, during Community Nights, or other times throughout the week.

Coffee, Books, & Fellowship Diana Stephens, 616-283-2532

This women's group meets every other Thursday from 7-9pm at Bigby Coffee Shop on Chicago & Waverly.

Life Study Bible Group Ken & Kathy Wood, kkwood5@hotmail.com

For anyone without a place to know the Lord... and wanting to learn more. We invite you to eat, pray, & study with us.

Women's Bible Study Marilyn Kolean, mkgkolean4@yahoo.com

This group meets weekly at 9:30am (except the first week of the month) at Fellowship in MC31.

Women's Bible Study Marilyn DeBoer, 392-2762

This group meets every 3rd Monday at 1:30pm in MC31.

BELONG By Growing

COMMUNITY NIGHTS



Community Nights

Join us every Wednesday night for community activities. Regular activities include dinner, children and youth activities, and adult ministries. Special intergenerational events are planned the fourth Wednesday of every month.

SCHEDULE

5:45 pm: Dinner
 6:15 pm: Children & Youth Ministries
 6:30 pm: Adult Ministries
 7:30 pm: Activities conclude



- 1/4: Regular activities
- 1/11: Regular activities
- 1/18: Regular activities
- 1/25: All Church Art Night
- 2/1: Regular activities
- 2/8: Regular activities
- 2/15: Regular activities
- 2/22: Special Intergenerational Event
- 3/1: Ash Wednesday, No Community Nights
- 3/8: Regular activities
- 3/15: Regular activities
- 3/22: Final Community Night of the Year

Community Nights Children's Ministry (6:15-7:30 pm)

Kingdom Kids (4 years-Kindergartners) **Betsy Bruins, bbruins@fellowshipreformed.org**

Every week, children learn lessons about God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit using a puppet and doing weekly crafts or games. Cost is \$10 per child for the year.

GEMS (Girls 1st-5th Grade) **Jodie Erdman, jodie.erdman@gmail.com; Betsy Bruins**

GEMS stands for Girls Everywhere Meeting the Savior. Every week girls learn a lesson and do a craft. This year's theme is *Love Overflows* and the theme verse is 1 Thessalonians 3:12; "May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you." Cost is \$10 per girl for the year.

Explorers' Club (Boys 1st-5th Grade) **Betsy Bruins**

Our curriculum this year is *Kids' Travel Guide: To the Armor of God*. Every week the boys spend time playing in the great room, participating in a Bible lesson, and doing a hands-on craft or activity. Cost is \$10 per boy for the year.

Nursery **Emily Rosendahl, erosendahl@fellowshipreformed.org**

For children whose parents are either teaching or taking a class, nursery is available for infants through three years old.

Community Nights Youth Ministry (6:15-7:30 pm)

Elevate Bryce Vander Stelt, bvanderstelt@fellowshipreformed.org

Elevate is a place for 6th-8th grade students to make new friends and dig into God's word. Middle schoolers gather together to play games, spend time getting to know each other, and delve deeper into God's word.

Community Nights Adult Ministry (6:30-7:30 pm)

Bible in a Year Brian Keepers, bkeepers@fellowshipreformed.org; John Brogan, 298-8201

A weekly gathering for men and women who would like to read through the entire Bible and engage it deeply in community. Meets in MC32/33.

Connect4 Lindsay Small, lsmall@fellowshipreformed.org

We all long for more depth in our relationships - with God, with others, with ourselves - and yet we often find ourselves too busy or overcommitted or tired to enter in. If you experience this, you're not alone. So, how do we take our longing for depth more seriously and connect more deeply? Let's explore this together. No preparation necessary. Meets in MC31.

Women's Book Study Tammy Keepers, keeperst@westottawa.net; Kim Bos, kimlbos@yahoo.com

This fall we will be reading *Present over Perfect* by Shauna Niequist, a book that challenges us to live in a more intentional, connected, simpler way. We'll discuss the reality of living wholly present in our relationships with our families and the others we love. Meets in MC34.

Fellowship Coffeehouse Nate Schipper, nschipper@fellowshipreformed.org

Need to get some work done? Ready to connect with a friend? Grab a cuppa and stay while! The Gathering Place will be open for good conversation, coffee, and wi-fi.

Arts and Crafts Open Studio Laurel Pals, laurel.pals@westernsem.edu

Join other creative types for an open space of creativity. Whether painting, knitting, creative writing, coloring...this space is for you! In the Art Studio (MC35).



BELONG By Growing

Children's Ministry

Sunday Morning Ministries

All children, nursery through 5th grade, need to be checked in at the Check-In kiosk in the Gathering Place near the nursery hallway before going into the sanctuary.

Infants **Emily Rosendahl, erosendahl@fellowshipreformed.org**



Nursery is offered for infants through age five at the 8:30 am service. Nursery is open 15 minutes before through ten minutes after the service.

Nursery is offered at 10:00 am for infants through age three and a half.

Children Ages 3 through 5th Grade **Betsy Bruins, bbruins@fellowshipreformed.org**

Children ages three through 5th grade begin the service with their families in the sanctuary. After the children's blessing, kids line up in the Gathering Place and go to the classroom with their teachers.

Children & Worship is offered for three-year-olds through Kindergarten. Children worship in their very own space, called The Worship Center (E27). They hear stories of God through the use of wooden figures, sing songs, have a work time to respond, listen to the scripture, and have a feast to remind them of communion.

Sunday School is for 1st-5th grade. Children go to grade level classes and learn about God's story and how they fit into it. We use a curriculum called *Dwell* which asks many wondering questions about the scripture and involves children through skits and other activities. The last day of Sunday school is May 21.

Everybody Worships Sundays **February 19, April 2, 9, & 16 Betsy Bruins**

Everybody Worships Sundays are a time for children to stay with families in worship. There is no regular Sunday School on those days. Nursery and Children & Worship is still offered for children through kindergarten on these Sundays.

Other Family Opportunities **Betsy Bruins & Pastor Lindsay lsmall@fellowshipreformed.org**

Children at the Table February 5, 11:15am-1pm, Lunch Provided

This interactive workshop provides a framework for why we celebrate the Lord's Supper. It is geared for children age 3 and up, whether they have already taken communion or have yet to participate. We will celebrate the Lord's Supper at the end of our time together, and prepare children for taking communion the next Sunday in worship. Sign-up on the website under the Children and Youth tab.

Easter Egg Hunt Saturday, April 15 at 11am

Come and bring your friends to hear the resurrection story, eat some donut holes, and go outside (weather permitting) to grab some eggs laden with candy. Children may bring their own baskets or borrow one from church.

Vacation Bible School June 12-16

Kids learn about God by traveling from station to station for songs, crafts, and daily bible lessons. We always need around 100 volunteers for this fun week, so please consider serving in this way. Registration for VBS and for volunteering will start shortly after Spring Break. Come and have a blast with us!

Youth Ministry



Our Mission Bryce Vander Stelt, bvanderstelt@fellowshipreformed.org

Fellowship youth ministry is an accepting community of students and adults focused on helping each other belong in God's family, grow in their faith, and discover how God has gifted them to serve in the world with Christ.

Middle School (6th-8th grade) Bryce Vander Stelt

Sunday School

Join us Sunday mornings during the 10:00 am service. During this time, students engage in lessons and conversations about following Jesus, exploring Scripture, developing healthy spiritual habits, and leading a life of service to others.

Elevate

Elevate is a place for 6th-8th grade students to make new friends and dig into God's word during Wednesday night Community nights. The meal is at 5:45pm, with a time to gather together to play games, spend time getting to know each other, and delve deeper into God's word from 6:15 –7:30pm through April.

High School (9th-12th Grade) Bryce Vander Stelt

HSM

Sunday nights from 6:00-8:00pm high school students and adult leaders gather together to take part in games, discussions, service, and prayer. Students will experience God's love and grow in their relationship with Jesus Christ through this time together.

Confirmation Class

A class for high school students who are interested in publically professing their faith and becoming confirmed members of the church. Through 10 sessions, the foundations of Christian faith are explored. The goal is to help unify what students have already learned in Christian education, worship experiences, and with family. Confirmation class is on Sundays from 8:45-10:00 am in the fall.

Summer Serve

Every summer, HSM takes a week-long trip to serve in areas outside of our community. This is a great opportunity for the group to grow closer together and closer to God. This summer, the students will be going to Rocky Mountain High in Estes Park, CO July 20-28.



 **BELONG** By Serving**Serve Globally****Nicaragua Immersion Trip** Nate Schipper, nschipper@fellowshipreformed.org

March 18-24, 2017, Fellowship is sending a group to our focus mission partners in Bluefields, Nicaragua. Participants will be given an opportunity to engage with the ministry that God is doing in and through our friends Adrian and Bernardeth. Our primary work will be engaging in programs that serve impoverished kids.

Peace Project Nate Schipper, nschipper@fellowshipreformed.org

July 18-30, Fellowship will once again be sending pilgrims to Israel/Palestine on the RCA Peace Project. This trip will be a combination of historical tours and intentional engagement with students in Bethlehem through an Art or Fitness camp.

Encourage our Global Mission Partners Nate Schipper, nschipper@fellowshipreformed.org

Be a part of the support network that encourages our global mission partners through emails, care packages, and providing hospitality when global partners visit.

Serve Locally**Hand2Hand** Karen Donker, kldonker@fellowshipreformed.org

H2H provides weekend supplemental food for families who struggle to buy adequate food on the weekends. You can be a part of this effort in two ways:

Help pack drawstring bags with food for students on Tuesday or Wednesday.

Assist with delivery of bags to either Lakewood or Pine Creek Elementary on Wednesday or Thursday from 4:00-4:45 pm or Friday from 7:45-8:15 am

Kids Hope USA Karen Donker, kldonker@fellowshipreformed.org

Kids Hope is a relational ministry in which people from Fellowship engage with students at local schools. You can be a part of this ministry in two ways:

Mentor - meet with a student one hour a week, from October to May.

Prayer Partner - commit to praying for a mentor and student on a weekly basis.

Prison Penpals Missional Community Lugene Vander Kooi, lugenev@yahoo.com

Prison Penpals seek to be a positive light in the life of the prisoner, but often provides the writer with a blessing as well. Participants receive background and communication information on an individual prisoner before correspondence begins.

Human Trafficking Missional Community Carol Washburn, carolwashburn@yahoo.com

This group was formed to educate the missional community on the issues of human trafficking. While learning continues, raising community awareness and advocacy on behalf of the victims have also become part of the mission.

Knitting and Crocheting Missional Community Carol Leitch, leitchcarol@att.net

This community meets to create knitted and crocheted items for those in need and to teach new members the craft of knitting and crocheting. Meetings are Wednesdays at 9:30am in MC34, and Thursday evenings at Carol's home.

Serve our Congregation

Worship Ministries Sign up at www.fellowshipreformed.org/worship under “Get Involved”

AVL Ministry (Audio, Video, Lighting) [Jordan Clegg, jclegg@fellowshipreformed.org](mailto:jclegg@fellowshipreformed.org)

AVL is worship leading through sound mixing and projection (separate positions) with individuals serving at the 8:30 am and/or 10 am services 1-2 times per month. It is open primarily to adults with AV experience or a desire to learn; youth mentoring is available for those who are interested. Sound techs for the 10 am service attend Worship Band rehearsal on Wednesdays from 6:30 to 8:30 pm on weeks they are scheduled.

Worship Band [Jordan Clegg, jclegg@fellowshipreformed.org](mailto:jclegg@fellowshipreformed.org)



Worship band is the primary worship leading group for Fellowship's 10am service. It is open to youth and adults. Rehearsals are Wednesdays from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. Most people are scheduled 1-2 times per month as individual schedules allow.

Worship Ensemble [Jordan Clegg, jclegg@fellowshipreformed.org](mailto:jclegg@fellowshipreformed.org)

A group of string, woodwind, brass, and other acoustic instruments who contribute to Fellowship's 8:30am worship service. Music is sent prior to Sunday via email with a brief rehearsal with our accompanist before the service Sunday morning.

Festival Choir [Jordan Clegg, jclegg@fellowshipreformed.org](mailto:jclegg@fellowshipreformed.org)

Fellowship's choir leads through anthem singing and song leading for special worship events. It is open to youth and adults. The choir sings primarily for special worship events including Thanksgiving Eve, Ash Wednesday, Christmas Eve, and Easter. Rehearsals are Tuesdays at 7 pm for the 4-5 weeks preceding the performance date.

Bell Choir [Betty McLarty, betty.mclarty@gmail.com](mailto:betty.mclarty@gmail.com)

Directed by Betty McLarty, bell choir is open primarily to adults, but youth are welcome to inquire. Rehearsals are every Tuesday at 6 pm during the school year. The bell choir performs once a month from September through April.

Hospitality Team [Lindsay Small, lsmall@fellowshipreformed.org](mailto:lsmall@fellowshipreformed.org)

Hospitality at Fellowship takes many forms: serving Sunday morning coffee, ushering, staffing the Welcome Center, serving at Community Nights, and helping at special events.

Nursery [Emily Rosendahl, erosendahl@fellowshipreformed.org](mailto:erosendahl@fellowshipreformed.org)

Nursery is available for children every Sunday at the 8:30 am and 10 am services. Volunteers are scheduled to love the youngest members of our congregation about every 6 weeks. Adults and youth are welcome.



BELONG By Serving

Serve our Congregation

Fellowship Health Ministries

Health Ministry Team Linda Hutchison, lhutchison@fellowshipreformed.org



A team dedicated to support the spiritual, emotional and physical health of the congregation and community. This team assists with blood drives, flu vaccine clinics, and other special events pertaining to the health of the congregation.

Care Team Marcia Westrate-Butterfield, marwed86@gmail.com

A group of volunteers that visit members of our congregation when needed.

Card Team Linda Beintema, beintemalg@hotmail.com

A group of people that send cards to members with needs following surgery, hospitalization, and other life events.

Prayer Shawl Ministry Linda Hutchison, lhutchison@fellowshipreformed.org

A group of members that knit or crochet shawls for members undergoing challenging life situations. Patterns are available.

Blood Pressure Clinics Linda Hutchison, lhutchison@fellowshipreformed.org

A group of nurses who volunteer the first and third Sundays of the month taking blood pressures for members of the congregation and visitors.

Special Needs Missional Community

Martie Bultman, bultmanm@hope.edu

This community focuses on learning and worshipping *with* individuals who have cognitive and physical challenges, and supporting their families and care givers. Our passion is to love God together and to work toward a worshipping community where people of all abilities are valued, accepted, and engaged.

Technology Team

Steve Braunius, sbraunius@fellowshipreformed.org

Tech team members support the technology of the church which includes computers, network, and wireless. This team meets as-needed.

Communications & Identity Team

Steve Braunius, sbraunius@fellowshipreformed.org
 Renee Krueger, rkrueger@fellowshipreformed.org

The Communications team assists with digital and print communications of the church. Anyone who has skills in areas like photography, video capture/editing, web design, graphic design, writing, or social media would be a good fit.

