

# The Ridge's 20<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party

This October, The Ridge is excited to be celebrating our 20th year sharing the good news to our Ankeny community. Push pause on other activities on Sunday October 14 and plan to join us in celebrating. It's a birthday worthy of a celebration! [webpage](#)



## Ways to Serve at The Ridge

God makes each of us unique, to contribute to His Kingdom. All of The Ridge's ministries depend on volunteers – hundreds in fact! Below is a quick list of where you might find your “sweet spot” as a volunteer. To volunteer in any of these areas contact [info@ridgelife.org](mailto:info@ridgelife.org).

Adult, Men's, & Women's Ministries	Building & Grounds
Global Café	RidgeKids & Junkyard Youth Ministries
Production Team – Audio & Visual	RidgeCARE & Support Ministries
Ridge Welcome Team & Connection Communities	
Worship & Creative Arts	

### RidgeCare Bike Ride & Walk – September 9<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm

Join other Ridgers as we raise money for Ridge families in need. Registration fee is a donation of \$20 or grocery/restaurant gift card. Register online or at 12:30 before the ride. Ride is on the High Trestle Trail at the Fire Station out to the Oasis and back (14 mile round trip) or you may take part in a 5k walk.

## CONNECTION COMMUNITIES

Connection Communities help make our big church feel small. These groups of people connect with each other weekly by sitting in the same section of the Worship Center during a worship service. In addition to meeting weekly for the service, Connection Communities also have quarterly parties where they share food together, have fun and have opportunities to connect more deeply. Connection communities have a primary focus of making sure people are known and they are connected. {email [Joni](mailto:Joni)}

### Other areas to connect...

- RidgeSports – seasonal opportunities
- [Card Club](#) (ages 50+) – 3rd Saturday
- [RightNow Media](#) – a free online resource full of Bible Studies, Small Group Studies, plus kids programming.

## Serve OUT in our Community

Contact [info@ridgelife.org](mailto:info@ridgelife.org) to be part of any of these opportunities.

### **Alpha Prison Ministry: Iowa Correctional Institute for Women**

- This ministry typically runs for 10 weeks in the fall and winter months.

### **Bethel Mission: Evening Meal**

- Serve or prepare a meal for Bethel Mission on the 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of the month.

### **Be a Blessing: Christmas Gifts for Local Families & Individuals**

- Each Christmas season, our church partners with local organizations to provide Christmas gifts to families & individuals in Ankeny and surrounding communities.

### **Kids Hope USA: Mentoring Program**

- This program matches one adult to one student at Terrace Elementary in a weekly mentoring relationship. Mentors and prayer partners needed.

### **Operation Christmas Child (Shoebbox Gifts)**

- The Ridge partners with OCC to provide local partners around the world with shoeboxes filled with small toys, hygiene items, and school supplies as a means of reaching out to children in their own communities with the Good News of Jesus Christ.

### **Special Needs Ministries**

- **FUSE** is for ages 14+. Throughout the year, FUSE offers special events and activities that encourage friendship, unity, service and education. These events include service activities, social gatherings and movie nights. Run by a small committee of parents, volunteers and local providers.
- **SPARK** (Special Program Assisting Ridge Kids) matches buddies with Ridge Kids with diagnosed special needs on Sunday mornings & RidgeKids events.

## Save the date for 2019...

- Night to Shine Sponsored by the Tim Tebow Foundation Hosted by The Ridge – February 8<sup>th</sup>
- Single Moms' Morning Out – an outreach event May 4<sup>th</sup>
- Mission Trips – Summer 2019
- Love Lunches – June - August 2019

## Kids & Youth

### **RidgeKids**

- Sunday mornings & evenings, kids from 4 months through 5th Grade experience safe, age-appropriate environments while they learn more about God and the Bible through teaching, activities and prayer.

### **Preschool @ The Ridge**

- Preschool at The Ridge equips children for future academic success while teaching them Christian values that help develop social skills, emotional health, and cognitive thinking. Classes for 3, 4, & 5 year olds.

### **Junkyard Youth Group**

- We divide our youth group into three segments based on school grades: Junkyard 67 (Mondays 6:30-7:45 pm), Junkyard 89 (Wednesdays 6:15-7:30 pm), and HS Junkyard (Wednesdays 8:00-9:30 pm).

The Ridge • 825 NW 36<sup>th</sup> St. • <https://www.ridgelife.org> • [info@ridgelife.org](mailto:info@ridgelife.org)

# Next Steps at The Ridge Fall 2018



GROW UP. CONNECT IN.  
SERVE OUT.



# Classes, Studies & Groups

Grow in your relationship with God & Others

Visit [www.ridgeliflife.org](http://www.ridgeliflife.org) for more class information or email [info@ridgeliflife.org](mailto:info@ridgeliflife.org) with questions or to register. To help you decide which class or group is right for you, use these identifiers:

101 = Starting Place      201 = Digging Deeper      101/201 = Make it as deep as you want  
NHW = No Homework      HW = Homework      NO = No Commitment; just show up  
ST = Short Term (Less than six weeks)      LT = Long Term (7+ weeks)

## Alpha Got questions? Try Alpha. (101 – NHW – ST)

The Alpha Course creates an environment of hospitality where people can bring their friends, family and work colleagues to explore the Christian faith, ask questions and share their point of view. Alpha makes it easy to invite friends to have a free meal, hear a short teaching, and have an opportunity to explore life's biggest questions in a safe and respectful way.

- [Sunday Night Alpha](#)  
September 16 – October 20; 5:00-7:00 pm; childcare provided
- [Wednesday Morning Alpha](#)  
September 19 – October 20; 9:30-11:00 am ; childcare provided
- [Thursday Night Alpha \(off-site\)](#)  
September 20 – October 20; 7:00-8:30 pm



Space is limited for the Wednesday Morning and Thursday Night options.

## Support Groups (101 – NHW – NO)

*We weren't created to walk this journey alone.*

Childcare provided; registration is requested

Check website calendar for any group meeting changes; groups don't meet on holidays

- [Infertility Support Group \(women\)](#)  
1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month at 6:30pm beginning October 7<sup>th</sup>
- [Cancer Care](#)  
Quarterly special events and speakers
- [Hopekeepers Chronic Pain & Illness](#)  
[When God Doesn't Fix it Bible Study](#); Thursday evenings September 27 – October 25
- [Adoptive & Foster Parent Support Group](#)  
4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month at 5:00pm beginning September 23<sup>rd</sup>
- [Mental Health Support Group \(women\)](#)  
Thursday evenings (6:30-8:00) beginning September 13<sup>th</sup>
- [GriefShare](#) Thursday evenings (6:30-8:00) beginning September 13<sup>th</sup>
- [DivorceCare](#) Sunday evenings (5:30-7:30 pm) beginning September 9<sup>th</sup> (space is limited)

## Purposeful Prayer (101/201 – NHW – NO)

1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month; 6:30-7:30 am; Leader: Amy Thorson.

Come join the first Tuesday of every month as we gather to pray for our church, the community, and our nation. Prayer is the activity of speaking and listening to God. We know prayer must be central, not peripheral, in our lives and families and ministries. Let's bring our requests before God together in a spirit of unity for His people.



### Not sure what your best Next Step is? Here are some great options...

- 1) Join us at a Next Steps Coffee Sunday September 9<sup>th</sup> or October 7<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 am in the Conference Room.
- 2) Women – Attend the Women's Fall Kick-Off Event September 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:30
- 3) Men – Attend the Men's Breakfast Friday September 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 am

- [Financial Peace University](#) (201 – HW – LT)  
Sunday mornings 10:30-12:15; September 9 – November 4; childcare available. FPU Kit cost is \$109. Facilitated by Mason & Libby Van De Pol. Through video teaching, class discussions and interactive small group activities, FPU presents biblical, practical steps to get from where you are to where you've dreamed you could be. This plan will show you how to get rid of debt, manage your money, spend and save wisely, and much more!
- [Experiencing The Spirit](#) (201 – HW – LT)  
Sunday afternoons 1:00-3:00pm; August 19 - November 18. Taught by Vivian Kinkade. This class explains who the Holy Spirit is, how He moves and the ways He can work in your life. Learn how to recognize God's Holy Spirit and understand the power of his presence in your life. If you've longed to feel the very presence of the Holy Spirit and have a deeper connection with God, this class will show you how.
- [The Story: Old Testament](#) (201 – HW – LT)  
Thursday evenings 6:15-7:30 pm; September 13 - November 29; childcare available (\$22/child for entire class). Book cost is \$5. Taught by Pastor Tony. The "Greatest Story Ever Told" is more than just a cliché. God goes to great lengths to rescue lost and hurting people. The Story sweeps you into the unfolding progression of the Bible. (Space is limited)
- [6 Secrets to a Lasting Love Marriage Class](#) (101/201 – HW – ST)  
Sunday Mornings 9-10am; September 23 – November 4. Book Cost \$10. Facilitated by Shaun & Deb Murray. Everyone wants a marriage that will last a lifetime, and now Dr. Gary and Barbara Rosberg, have disclosed six secrets that will not only help you create the marriage you've always dreamed of, but will create a marriage that will last a lifetime.
- **Save the date: [Weekend to Remember Marriage Conference](#)** (101 – NHW – ST)  
Friday April 12 – Sunday April 14; \$350 per couple; Use group name *PrairieRidge* to save \$100 per couple. Good marriages take work.
- [Ridge Partnership Class](#) (201 – NHW – ST)  
Sunday Mornings 9:00-10:00 am; September 30<sup>th</sup> – October 21<sup>st</sup>  
Learn about the mission and vision of The Ridge and the UP-IN-OUT values that will include practical tools and steps for growth in all three of these areas. *Why Become a Ridge Partner?*
  - To understand and participate in the mission and vision of The Ridge
  - To create a church culture of FAMILY – one that connects relationally and grows spiritually
  - To encourage all of us to live missionally by being Christ to the world

## Men's Fall Kick-Off Breakfast

Friday September 28<sup>th</sup> 6:00-7:00am; The Square

Join us for breakfast and learn where Men's Ministry at The Ridge is headed this Fall! {email [Dan](mailto:Dan) to RSVP}

- [Boundary Waters – September 4-8 & 11-15](#)  
There are a few spots remaining for Men's Annual Boundary Waters Trip.
- [Morning Bible Study](#) (101/201 – NHW – NO); come any week  
Wednesday 6:00am; Leader: Dan Draayer  
Wednesday 9:00am; Leader: Rick Cory
- [Men's Groups](#) (101/201 – HW – ST/LT) Bringing Together Men Of All Ages To Grow In Relationship With Jesus Christ; Encouraging Each Other To Be Servant Leaders In Our Families, Church and Communities.  
Wednesday 6:00 pm – North Panera Bread  
Thursday 7:00 pm – Perkins  
Friday 5:30 am – Prairie Trail HyVee  
Friday 6:00 am – Prairie Trail HyVee, Chick-fil-A, Ames Perkins  
Friday 7:00 am – Prairie Trail HyVee

**Women's Fall Kick-Off:** Keep yourselves fueled and aflame. - Romans 12:11

Tuesday September 11<sup>th</sup> 6:30-8:30pm; Worship Center; childcare available, RSVP online

Join us for an evening of worship with guest worship leader Melissa Dorenkamp, a message from Vivian Kinkade, dessert, fellowship and learning about all the opportunities for Women's Ministry at The Ridge this Fall!

- [Women of Worth: Healthy Living](#) (101 – HW – NO)  
Monday Evenings at 6:30pm (prayer/walking); 7:00-8:30 pm (study); Leader Pam Osborn. Join at any time. August 20th, we will be doing introductions to our next study: Galatians. In October we will dive into The Women of Christmas.
- [Sisters Gathered](#) (101 - NHW – NO)  
Monday evenings 6:30-8:00; September 24 – October 29. Have you ever attended a bible study where the conversation takes on a life of it's own and goes completely off topic? Oftentimes, those end up being some of the best conversations. This fall, the women's ministry at The Ridge is introducing a new study encouraging that free-flowing conversation.
- [Wednesday Morning 6am Bible Study](#) (101– HW – ST)  
*No Other Gods Study*. Leader: Mary Kohlsdorf & Carole Harding; 6:00-7:00am; September 19 – November 7. Often, idols are obvious - money, power, fame. But subtler idols can sometimes take the form of sweet loved ones, Instagramable interiors, and busy seasons of ministry. But if your heart is prioritizing any of those pursuits before God, they are taking up space meant for Him alone.
- [The Adventure of The Word, a women's study](#) (101/201 – NHW – NO)  
Wednesday morning 10:00 am; year-round; Leader: Gloria Phifer. 10:00am  
You will always find this group in a book of the Bible joining the Lord on the greatest adventure! You can join this study any time! No homework. Just come and bring your Bible.
- [Oasis Women's Group](#) (101/201 – HW – LT)  
Wednesday mornings 9:30-11:30; September 26 – December 12 childcare available (\$25/child + a pack of diapers); childcare space is limited. Book cost is \$5. Deadline: September 19<sup>th</sup>. We all know it's important to study God's Word. But sometimes it's hard to know where to start. What's more, a lack of time, emotionally driven approaches, and past frustrations can erode our resolve to keep growing in our knowledge of Scripture. How can we, as Christian women, keep our focus and sustain our passion when reading the Bible?
- [Ridge Women's Circle](#) (101 – NHW – NO)  
1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month at 11:00am; Conference Room; Leader: Liz Austin.  
The Ridge Women's Circle is an organized traditional faith group, whose purpose is to personally know God and to experience freedom through Jesus Christ.
- [Good & Beautiful God](#) (101– HW – ST)  
Leader: Julie Wiemann & Teresa Deitch; Thursday evenings 6:30-8:00pm; Sept 20 – Nov 15; off-site. Do you struggle to reconcile this world with a good God? Join us to discover how knowing WHO God is will help HOW you live your life.
- [Woman-to-Woman Mentoring](#) (101/201 – HW – LT)  
**Potluck Celebration Sunday September 16<sup>th</sup> noon-2:00pm; RSVP**  
This is a celebration for all those who have been involved in the mentoring program the past six months or would like more information about the program.  
**Mentoring Match Night happening in October**  
If you would like to be part of the next season of mentoring, please contact Cheryl at [csidler@ridgeliflife.org](mailto:csidler@ridgeliflife.org) by September 16<sup>th</sup> to be matched with a mentor/mentee. Prayer partners also needed.
- [Seasons: Support and encouragement for Mom's transitioning into the empty nest season of life](#). Join us on September 23<sup>rd</sup> from 2:00-3:30 to hear from a few Moms who are in the midst of or who have made it through this life-stage transition. Our time together will include a time of Q&A, encouragement, offering resources, and talking about next steps.
- [Woman's Night of Worship & Prayer](#)  
Tuesday October 23<sup>rd</sup> 7:30-9:00 pm; Worship Center