

# 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**

- We serve a meal at Bethel Mission on the 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of the month.

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

- This program matches one adult to one student at Terrace Elementary in a weekly mentoring relationship. Prayer partners also needed.

## 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 Sunday Morning buddies with Ridge Kids with diagnosed special needs.
- **Night to Shine** Sponsored by the Tim Tebow Foundation Hosted by The Ridge – February 8. Night to Shine is an unforgettable prom night experience, centered on God's love, for people with special needs ages 14 and older. On one night churches from around the world will host Night to Shine for thousands of honored guests! Volunteer online.

## **Single Moms' Morning Out – Saturday May 4**

- Single Moms' Morning Out is designed to honor the single moms in our church and community with a free morning of relaxation, refueling, and refreshment. Volunteer & donation opportunities opening in the spring.

## **Mission Trips**

- Join us on February 17 from 9-10 am OR February 24 from 10:30-11:30 am in the Adult Classrooms for informational meetings.
  - **Disaster Relief trips** (Spring & Fall) - Leader, Mike Peterson
  - **Honduras** – Leaders, Rob Davies & Joni Pine
  - **NYC** – Leaders, Doug Kohlsdorf, Brett Burkhart & Mark Kroneman
  - (NEW!) **Ghana** - Leaders, Rob & Ronda Wheeler
  - (NEW!) **Family Mission Trip** to Lincoln, NE (*any child that has completed Kindergarten and older is able to go*) - Leaders, Bob & Cayleen Mesecher
  - **Belize**, Leader - Pam Key

## Summer 2019

- Love Lunches, mid-day meal for children & families; June-August 2019

# 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	

## Trivia Night

### Wings of Refuge Fundraiser

Saturday January 19, 6-9 pm; Cost: \$20/seat or \$200/table of 10

Join us for a fun evening of 8 rounds with 10 questions/round of Trivia emceed by Gavin Jerome! All proceeds will be donated to Wings of Refuge. Wings of Refuge is a Christ-centered home focusing on the restitution of domestic human trafficking survivors.

## Good marriages don't just happen.

### • **Alpha Marriage**

Sunday nights February 10 - March 31; 5:30 – 7:30 pm. Cost: \$50; childcare available \$22/child.

Couples everywhere are looking for a "happy/healthy" marriage. The Alpha Marriage Course provides tools to get you there. Consider it a date night for 7 weeks where you'll be served with appetizers, dessert & beverages at a romantic table for two while listening to practical talks that are informative and fun. All conversation will be between you and your partner, facilitated by two mentoring couples from the Ridge.

### • **Weekend to Remember Marriage Conference**

Friday April 12 – Sunday April 14; \$350 per couple; Des Moines Marriot

Ridge group coordinators: Dan & Suzanne Schuknecht  
Register at [www.familylife.com/weekend-to-remember/](http://www.familylife.com/weekend-to-remember/)  
Use group name PrairieRidge to save \$100 per couple.

### • **Money & Marriage Date Night**

Monday April 15; 6:30-9:30 pm; tickets starting at \$39; Des Moines Civic Center; Register at [www.daveramsey.com/events/](http://www.daveramsey.com/events/)  
Speaker: Dr. Les Parrott Love Talk  
Speaker: Rachel Cruze (Dave Ramsey's Daughter)  
Take Control of Your Money Together

## Purposeful Prayer

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.

# Next Steps at The Ridge Winter 2019



GROW UP. CONNECT IN.  
SERVE OUT.

# Support Groups

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

Childcare provided; registration is requested so we can prepare for your children. 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 6:30 pm
- **[Adoptive & Foster Parent Support Group](#)**  
4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month at 5:00 pm
- **[Mental Health Support Group \(women\)](#)**  
Thursday evenings (6:30-8:00 pm) beginning February 14
- **[Family Grace \(support for families and spouses of loved ones dealing with depression/anxiety\)](#)** Tuesdays, February 5th – May 28th, 6:30-8 pm, off-site
- **[GriefShare](#)** Thursday evenings (6:30-8:00 pm) beginning February 14 (space is limited); registration required
- **[Loss of a Spouse Seminar](#)** Thursday January 31 (6:30-8:30 pm)  
Discover that other people understand and have found ways to make it through, why it won't always hurt so much, reasons for hope, and practical tips for coping with the death of a spouse
- **[DivorceCare](#)** Sunday evenings (5:30-7:30 pm) beginning February 10 (space is limited); registration required

## Classes & Connection

### [Alpha](#)

Got questions? Try Alpha. Five weeks starting week of February 10.

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.

**[Foundations of Faith](#)** Thursday February 7-March 14, 6:30-8:00 pm; childcare available (\$17/child). Explore The Bible, God - His Character and Attributes, the person and work of Jesus Christ, Salvation, The Holy Spirit - His role, Prayer, the Church, Spiritual Gifts, and obedience.

**[Financial Peace University](#)** Sunday February 17-April 14, 10:30am-12:15 pm; childcare available. 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!

**[Introduction to The Holy Spirit](#)** Sunday January 6 – 27 5:30-7:00 pm; childcare available (\$17/child.) Join us for this 4-week introductory course to learn more about the Holy Spirit. We'll explore our relationship with the Holy Spirit, the power behind the Holy Spirit, following the Spirit's lead, the Fruit of the Spirit, how the Holy Spirit provides & protects.

**[Ridge Partnership](#)** Sunday Mornings during 1<sup>st</sup> service; March 31 – April 28  
Learn more about partnership by understanding and participating in the mission and vision of The Ridge; creating a culture of FAMILY – one that connects relationally and grows spiritually; be encouraged to be Christ to the world.

**[The Story – New Testament](#)** Thursday January 3 – 31; 6:30-7:30 pm; Childcare available (\$17/child); Book cost \$5; Taught by Pastor Tony Vis. The "Greatest Story Ever Told" is more than just a cliché. God goes to great lengths to rescue lost and hurting people, God's great love affair with humanity. The Story sweeps you into the unfolding progression of Bible characters and events from Genesis to Revelation. This session will be covering the New Testament only.

**[Card Club](#)** 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month  
Join other Ridgers over age 50 as we gather to play cards and fellowship.

# Women

*Grow in your relationship with God & Others*

- **[Gathered - Women's Winter Kick-Off Event](#)**  
Tuesday January 8, 6:00-8:00 pm; childcare available, RSVP by January 4.  
Luke tells of the early church. Of how it wasn't just a place but a body. A devoted people who gathered to worship God and learn His Word. A people gathered to continue with one another to keep Truth close. A people gathered to share the gospel and to share life. Soups and breads buffet and meaningful Christ-centered conversation, including winter opportunities for engagement in women's ministry at The Ridge.
- **[Ladies' Retreat: Battling the Busyness by Embracing One Thing](#)**  
Friday January 25, 7-10 pm & Saturday, January 26, 8 am-2:30 pm at The Ridge  
Cost: \$40 includes snacks, meals and materials; register online.  
Join us as our guest speaker Michelle Christy shares Biblical passages & perspective on "Battling the Busyness by Embracing One Thing". We will also enjoy times of worship, food, fellowship & get to know you games, breakout sessions and MORE!
- **[Ridge Women's Circle](#)** 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month at 11:00 am.  
An organized traditional faith group, whose purpose is to personally know God and to experience freedom through Jesus Christ. With the help of the Holy Spirit, a creative, supportive fellowship is developed to expand the mission of the church.
- **[Women's Night of Prayer & Worship](#)** Tuesday February 19, 7:00 pm at Renew Community Church in Ames  
Gather some girlfriends, grab supper at Hickory Park and join us as we worship at our daughter church, Renew Community Church in Ames.

- **[Seasons: An encouragement to empty nest moms](#)**  
January 27, 1:00-3:00 pm  
All of you moms out there that just recently sent (or will soon be sending or sent a while ago), your kiddo off to college, the military, or out on their own, this event is for you! It could be your firstborn, your last, or one of your children in-between.... Please join us! Come...and be encouraged!

## Bible Study & Classes

- **[Monday 6:30-8:00 pm; Leader: Kris Schlemmer; Study: Sermon on the Mount](#)**  
Join us for a 9-week study on the Sermon on the Mount by Jen Wilkin. This study will challenge us to think differently about repentance, salvation, and sanctification. Cost for book \$13.
- **[Wednesday 6:00-7:00 am; Study: 1 Peter](#)**  
Join us for a 9 week study on 1 Peter by Jen Wilkin. Peter, a man of faith and flaws and eyewitness to the life of Christ, challenges us to look beyond our current circumstances to a future inheritance. Cost for book \$13.
- **[Wednesday 9:30-11:30 am; Oasis Women's Group; Study: Ephesians](#)**  
January 23 – April 24; childcare available (\$30/child) Are you thirsty? Do you long to know and hear God more? Join us! Do you want more for your marriage? More for your children? Gather with us! Do you want to how to be victorious over the enemy? Do you want to fall more in love with Jesus? Dig in with us! There's no better place to find these answers than in the infallible Word of God!
- **[Wednesday 10:00-11:30 am; Adventures in the Bible with Gloria Phifer](#)**  
A study through the Bible.
- **[Thursday 6:30-8:00 pm; Leader: Deb Murray; Study: It's Not Supposed to Be Like This](#)**  
April 4 – May 9; Book cost \$8; childcare available (\$17/child). What do you do when your reality is so different from the vision you had for yourself. In this Bible study for women with Lysa TerKeurst, she offers fresh biblical insight to get you through painful situations, and life-giving perspectives for living in between Eden and eternity.
- **[Friday 9:30 – 11:30 am; The Well. Leader: Helene Bergren; Study: Kingdom Woman](#)**  
In this session of The Well, we'll read the book, Kingdom Woman by Tony Evans. Along with that, we'll dig into New Testament scripture so we can learn what the Kingdom really is, what it's like and what that means to each of us for our walks with Jesus.

# Men

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

- **[Men's Breakfast](#)**  
Join us for breakfast, a teaching, and learn about Men's Ministry at The Ridge!  
Friday January 11, 6:00-7:00 am; The Square  
Friday May 10, 6:00-7:00 am; The Square
- **[Wednesday Morning Bible Study](#)** Wednesday [6:00 am](#) or [9:00 am](#)
- **[Men's Groups](#)**  
Wednesday 7:00 pm – North Panera Bread  
Thursday 7:00 pm – Prairie Trail HyVee  
Friday 5:30 am – Prairie Trail HyVee  
Friday 6:00 am – Prairie Trail HyVee, Chick-fil-A, Ames  
Friday 7:00 am – Prairie Trail HyVee
- **[Being a Godly Husband](#)**  
Sundays January 27 – March 10, 11:45 am -1:15 pm; Bring \$5 a week for lunch.  
Feel like you suck at being a husband? Have a good marriage but interested in making it better? Enjoy eating Pizza while watching TV?! Join us for this 7 week class as we explore this topic together using Craig Groeschel's series From This Day Forward.

## Kids & Youth

### [RidgeKids](#)

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

### [JUMP \(Jesus Use Me Please\)](#)

- Tuesday January 15 – February 26; March 5 – April 16; 6:15-7:15 pm; no registration just come the first night of each session. A fun and purposeful ministry that focuses on teaching kids to serve. We believe that kids are disciples in training. God has called each of us to serve others, and we provide kids ages K - 5th grade with an opportunity to make a difference.

### [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).
- **[Re:balance - A high school group experience to support life's ups and downs](#)**  
Tuesdays January 8 - March 12, Café Diem Private Conference Room; 7-8pm (the conference room is reserved from 6:30-8:30 pm so if you want to come early or stay late to hang out, do your homework, etc. you are welcome!) Cost: \$10 for the workbook; Facilitator: Kristen Petty & Mark McLaughlin  
A 10-week small group experience designed to help high school youth rediscover you're not alone through the ups and downs of your life. Redesign your daily life with simple, empowering tools to reduce stress and anxiety and help you navigate the highs and lows. Develop healthy habits to regain a sense of balance in your life.



Visit [ridgelife.org](http://ridgelife.org) or email [info@ridgelife.org](mailto:info@ridgelife.org) for more information or to register. **Not sure what your best Next Step is? Here are some great options...**

- 1) Join us at a Next Steps Coffee Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday at 10:30
- 2) Women – Attend the Women's Winter Kick-Off Event January 8
- 3) Men – Attend the Men's Breakfast Friday January 11 at 6:00 am