

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@ridgelifelife.org.

Administration Team

- ♦ Daytime Office Help
- ♦ At-home Admin Help
- ♦ Event Coordinators

Adult, Men's, & Women's Ministries

- ♦ Teachers
- ♦ Group Leaders

Building & Grounds

- ♦ Turf Team
- ♦ Plant Care
- ♦ Service Hosts
- ♦ Parking Attendants
- ♦ Security
- ♦ Fix-it Team

RidgeKids - Children Ministry

- ♦ Teachers
- ♦ Small Group Leaders
- ♦ Greeters/ Coordinators

Hospitality

- ♦ Global Café Barista
- ♦ Meal Ministry
- ♦ Set-up / Tear-Down

Production Team – Audio & Visual Support

- ♦ Sunday Services
- ♦ RidgeKids
- ♦ Alpha

RidgeCARE & Support Ministries

- ♦ Meal Preparation
- ♦ New Arrival (Baby)
- ♦ Hospital Visits
- ♦ Bereavement
- ♦ SPARK Buddies
- ♦ Support Group Leaders

Ridge Welcome Team

- ♦ Greeter
- ♦ Hub: Welcome Center
- ♦ Connection Communities Section Leaders

Worship & Creative Arts

- ♦ Worship Team
- ♦ Stage Design/ Construction

Junkyard - Youth

- ♦ Youth Sponsors
- ♦ Small Group Leaders

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.

Other areas to connect...

- ♦ Ridge Partnership Class – October
- ♦ RidgeRiders – Motorcycle Club
- ♦ 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. Go to www.ridgelifelife.org to sign-up.

Serve OUT in our Community

Contact info@ridgelifelife.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 4th Friday of the month.

Bless an Ankeny Family: Christmas Gifts

- Each Christmas season, our church partners with the Ankeny Service Center to provide Christmas gifts to families in Ankeny.

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 (Shoebox 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. Shoebox Distribution – October 22 & 29; Shoebox Collection – November 5 & 12.

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 for Ridge Kids with diagnosed special needs.

Save the date for 2018...

- Night to Shine Sponsored by the Tim Tebow Foundation Hosted by The Ridge – February 9th
- Single Mom's Morning Out – an outreach event May 5th
- Mission Trips – Summer 2018
- Love Lunches – June - August 2018

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.

Wednesday Story Time

- Bring the little ones for story time, free play, and crafts. 9:15-11:15am

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, Junkyard 89, and Junkyard. All groups meet Wednesdays.

The Ridge ♦ 825 NW 36th St. ♦ Ankeny, IA ♦ www.ridgelifelife.org ♦ info@ridgelifelife.org

Next Steps at The Ridge Fall 2017



GROW UP. CONNECT IN.
SERVE OUT.

Focus Sunday Evenings

In the busy – find your purpose.

Starting September 24th

Realizing that our community is busy through most of the weekend, we saw a natural opportunity with Sunday evenings to create an alternative to Sunday morning church. The focal point is a meal and worship, but then we allow you to choose if you want to be a part of hearing a message, support groups, Alpha, service opportunities... whatever you need. We call it FOCUS – recognizing that even in the busy you can find purpose.

Worship Service

This third worship service will take place from 6:00 – 7:00 pm each Sunday night. The teaching will be the same as Sunday morning (via video; live teaching once a month) with a more intimate feel.

Meal

Join us for a meal prior to worship (5:15-5:50) each week.

RidgeKids

After supper, bring your child (4 months – 4 years old) to the RidgeKids nursery area. PreK – 5th Graders will attend worship and then be dismissed to their class.

Alpha (101 - NHW – LT)

Alpha is an opportunity for you to come and learn more about the foundations of the Christian faith and to simply ask questions about God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit. Join us for the meal, drop your kids (4 mos – 4 years old) in nursery; come in for worship & then you & your PreK-5th graders will be dismissed to Alpha & RidgeKids.

Support Groups (groups start at 6:30 pm unless indicated; childcare provided)

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

- **Infertility Support Group (women)**
1st Sunday of the month beginning October 1st
- **Cancer Care Support Group**
2nd Sunday of the month beginning September 10th
- **Hopekeepers Chronic Pain & Illness (4:00 pm)**
3rd Sunday of the month beginning September 17th
- **Adoptive & Foster Parent Support Group**
4th Sunday of the month beginning September 24th
- **GriefShare** weekly beginning September 10th
- **DivorceCare (6:00 pm)** weekly beginning September 10th

Tuesday Evenings

Ridge Family Night...something for everyone

This fall Ridge U and JUMP are on the same evening. Bring the family for supper and stay for the evening – there are programs for the kids and you can serve at JUMP or attend a class. Childcare is available for 4 months – 5 years old.

- **Meal** Join us for a meal (5:15-6:00) each week JUMP & Ridge U are in session.

- **Adult Groups & Classes** (see details on next page); 6:15-7:15pm
The Story taught by Pastor Tony; Love Talk; Marriage Class; Purposeful Prayer

- **RidgeKids JUMP (Jesus Use Me Please)**
6:15-7:15pm; September 26 – November 14

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. Register your kids online now!

Classes, Studies & Groups

Grow in your relationship with God & Others

Visit www.ridgeliflife.org for more class information or email 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) |

- **Pastor Tony's Sunday Morning Class: Book of Revelation** (101/201 – NHW – NO)
Sunday mornings 8:00-9:00 September 10 – December 17. The biblical book of Revelation is not and has never been a description of the "end times." Come discover this book as God's comforting truth for all times.

- **Financial Peace University** (201 – HW – LT)
Option #1 - Sunday mornings 10:30-12:00; September 24 – November 19; childcare available. Cost is \$99. Taught by Travis Shelton.
Option #2 – Monday evenings 7:00-8:30; September 11 – November 6. Cost is \$99. Taught by Jeanette & Larry Weismantal.
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 20- November 19. Info mtg Aug. 20. Book cost is \$12. 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.

- **Ridge U: The Story** (201 – HW – LT)
Tuesday evenings 6:15-7:15pm; September 12 - November 14; childcare available (\$17/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 from Genesis to Revelation. (Space is limited)

- **Ridge U: Love Talk** (101/201 – HW – ST)
Tuesday Evenings 6:15-7:15pm; October 3 – November 7; childcare available (\$17/child for class). Book Cost \$25 Leader: Mason & Libby Van De Pol. Over and over couples consistently name 'improved communication' as the greatest need in their relationships. Love Talk is a deep yet simple plan full of new insights that will revolutionize communication in love relationships. (Space is limited)

- **Ridge U: Purposeful Prayer** (101/201 – NHW – NO)
Tuesday Evenings 6:30pm; Leader: Amy Thorson. Prayer is our unique opportunity to communicate with God. But prayer is more than saying grace before we eat or asking for traveling mercies, join us as we spend time learning about prayer and purposefully communicating with God. (no registration required)

- **Is Genesis History by Del Tackett** (201 – NHW – ST)
Thursday Evenings in October 6:30-8:30pm. Two competing views...one compelling truth. Join us on as we delve into Genesis 1-11.

Small Groups

- Join or start a **Small Group** to create smaller environments to connect relationally and grow spiritually together. New groups are starting all the time. Contact Brandy at info@ridgeliflife.org to learn more.

- **College-ish** (101 – NHW – NO)
Thursday Evenings; 6:30-8:30 pm. Starting September 7th. Exploring faith and community among college-aged (18-24) people. Whether you just started college, recently graduated, or find yourself somewhere in the middle of the college-ish age range, you are invited.

Women's Fall Kick-Off Event

Tuesday September 12th 6:30-8:30pm; Worship Center; childcare available, RSVP online "You have made us for yourself, O Lord, and our heart is **restless** until it rests in you."
- Saint Augustine

Join us for an evening of Worship, Testimonies, Speaker, Dessert, Fellowship and learning about all the opportunities for Women's Ministry at The Ridge this Fall!

- **Women of Worth: Healthy Living** (101 – NHW – NO) Monday Evenings at 6:30pm
- **Women of The Word Bible Study: Entrusted by Beth Moore** (201 - HW – LT)
Monday evenings 6:30-8:30; September 25 – November 6. In this 6-session Bible study, Beth will encourage you to guard what God has entrusted to you, further His kingdom by sharing Christ with others, and pour into future generations just as Paul once mentored Timothy.
- **Wednesday Morning Bible Study / Classes**
Leader: Mary Kohlsdorf 6:00-7:00am;; September 20 – October 25; (101– HW – ST);
Leader: Gloria Phifer. 10:00am (101/201 – NHW – NO)
- **Oasis Women's Group** (101/201 – HW – LT)
Wednesday mornings 9:30-11:30; September 27 – December 13 childcare available (\$22/child). Book cost is \$7. Do You Feel Like You're Missing Something? What if this feeling wasn't a bad thing? It could be a longing for more of God and a catalyst to living the life that was designed before the foundations of the earth were laid. (Deadline to register September 13th)
- **Ridge Women's Circle** (101 – NHW – NO)
1st Thursday of the month at 11:00am; Conference Room
- **The Well: Heaven by Randy Alcorn** (201 - HW – LT)
Thursday evenings 6:30-8:30; September 21 – December 14. Book cost is \$20. Develop a deeper understanding of our eternal destination and find the courage to strive for heaven while living on earth.

Men's Fall Kick-Off Breakfast

Friday September 29th 6:00-7:00am; The Square

Join us for breakfast, a teaching by Pastor Mike, and learn where Men's Ministry at The Ridge is headed this Fall!

- **Boundary Waters – September 5-9**
There are a few spots remaining for Men's Annual Boundary Waters Trip.
- **The Herd: Men's Breakfast** (101 – NHW – NO)
3rd Saturday of the month; 7:00-8:30am
- **Wednesday Morning Bible Study** (101/201 – NHW – NO)
Wednesday 6:00am or 9:00am
- **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 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



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

- 1) Join us at a Next Steps Coffee Sunday August 27th, September 10th, or September 17th at 10:30 am in the Conference Room.
- 2) Women – Attend the Women's Fall Kick-Off Event September 12th at 6:30
- 3) Men – Attend the Men's Breakfast Friday September 29th at 6:00 am