

A Bit about Life Groups...

Sunday Night Women's Group

The Sunday night women's Life Group (7 p.m. at Esther Chapman's house) is filled with women of all ages and all life experiences. We enjoy laughing together, although we also like to get deep when we talk about spiritual matters. We are great at encouraging and building one another up. Each Sunday we share prayer requests and promise to pray for each other throughout the week. Several times a year we go out for a fun time together – a meal or movie – to build on our friendships and enjoy one another's company without any other agenda. We welcome any new members and promise not to put them on the spot if they just want to sit and listen. (*Esther Chapman*)

Sunday Morning Jr. High Group

I share leadership of the Jr. High life group with Kim Char and Patrick Vaughn, held after the sermon during the early service every Sunday except communion Sundays. It's a fairly short duration (about 20 minutes) meeting designed to give our younger congregants a chance to pray, think and talk about school, life and the sermon they just heard. It also allows some escape from a prayer and offertory time that can seem like an eternity and tax the patience of a 13-year-old. As a bonus, Manley's Donuts are sometimes consumed. (*Jeff Brown*)

Thursday Night Women's Group

We are a women' group who meets Thursday evening in the home of one of our members in either the Pocket or Elk Grove areas. We range in age from 40-70 something. We gather each week hoping to seek God in His word & carry His message in our hearts & into the world, encouraging each other along the way. We laugh and cry & share our joys & sorrows. And as we spend time together, we have become Sisters in Christ & friends for eternity.

P.S. We share a common interest in our love of books & reading, thus forming our own book club of sorts. (*Gail Kinkennon*)

Group Monday Afternoon Men's

We are a men's group, and though most of us are retired, we haven't retired from life! Our time together is engaging and energetic, sprinkled with good humor and wisdom. We laugh a lot, ask hard questions, and continue to wonder how God wants to direct us in our lives. We meet at the church every Monday afternoon at 1:30pm and usually meet for about one hour. (*Jim Zazzera*)

Tuesday Evening Women's Group

This women's Life Group enjoys reading and discussing books on spiritual formation. We have delved into topics such as healing, mission, prayer, and Christian community---all as a means of drawing closer to God, Jesus, the Spirit, our church, and each other. We currently have nine members ranging in age from 35 to 55 who live in Land Park and Pocket areas. We meet at our leader's house in North Natomas on Tuesday evenings. Sharing our lives (both personal and professional) is a vital part of our Life Group. God has continually guided us in learning, growing, grieving the loss of group members, and embracing the addition of new companions in Christ. (*Alice Parente*)

Monday Night Co-ed Young Adults Group

I would say that we are twenty-something's trying to learn to cope with the onset of adulthood in our personal, professional, and spiritual lives. Although most of us grew up at this church, we have a variety of opinions and convictions which make conversations interesting and lively. We exist in the space between children and adults, so we are growing together and strengthening our faith with new revelations and epiphanies each week. We are a fun and social group whose friendship extends outside our weekly meetings: we end our life group discussions on time (at 8:30), but often hang out after to check-in and chat. Learning to be an adult is hard enough; our group vies to make the spiritual part easier. *(Claire Leader)*

Tuesday Morning Men's Group

We are a group of men who meet from 6:30-7:30 a.m. most every Tuesday morning over hot coffee or tea at Caffé Latte (a local coffee shop on the corner of Greenhaven and Pocket). Though some of us are retired, many of us still have to hustle off after the meeting ends to our jobs. However, we all share an enjoyment of our time together each week as we wrestle with issues raised in scripture, the sermon, and our lives. We pray with and for each other. We are a group that is always welcoming in new members and even gladly includes those who, because of other commitments, can't be there every single week. *(Jeff Chapman)*

Tuesday Night Mixed Group

Our mixed (couples, singles, genders) life group: shares, prays, ponders, laughs, teases and wonders together each week. We are all challenged by: the sermons, the bible readings, the Next Step questions, other questions that these prompt, diversions of good spirit, and the commitment to attend the meetings regularly. We have shared: cheers, worries, joys, questions, doubts, affirmations, fellowship, and food. We feel: blessed, loved, forgiven, prayed for, part of Faith Church, and part of the church universal. We hope: for life abundant, for blessings of the spirit unseen, to live lives closer to God and more like Jesus, for you to share the joy of a life group, for fruits of the spirit, to see the miracles God places before us, and to serve our community and world. *(Chuck Bell)*

Tuesday Night Women's Group

Our newly formed Elk Grove life group is just beginning to find its way. After a somewhat erratic start we have settled on meeting early Tuesday evening in member's homes. We are a small group of women of all ages - some married, some not. Some have young children, and others have adult children and grandchildren. We share the common bond of desiring the support of women who also want to deepen their relationship with God. Our meeting plan includes catching up with each other, discussing the sermon, and a time of prayer. In reality, we spend a lot of time laughing and just enjoying being together, but we usually make it through the discussion questions and always have time for prayer. You are welcome to join us! *(Terri Bacon)*

Thursday Morning Men's Group

We are a men's group and on average have five to six people attending. We don't claim to be experts or follow the questions, but we do have interesting conversations about how the sermons challenge our lives. We often break into current events or our personal experiences. If you work downtown or are willing to travel to the Capitol, we have room for you. We meet on Thursday mornings at 7:10 and are done at 8:00 a.m. sharp. *(John Rodriguez)*