

Meadowlake Life Groups

JOIN ONE AND START GROWING TODAY

Christ's Vision for Meadowlake is Coming together - to be transformed - by Christ's love! We are transformed by everything Christ calls us to do together - But the foundation for our transformation is formed when we come together in small communities of faith: Sunday School Classes and Small Groups.

In his book, *Building a Church of Small Groups*, Bill Donahue "makes the case" for transformation through close-knit communities within the church:

"Church after church, story after story, churches have experienced the benefits of coming together in classes and groups - It is the church as God intends...."

The purpose of classes and small groups includes knowing the truth (information) and knowing the answer to personal problems (introspection) - but, ultimately, the goal is transformation!

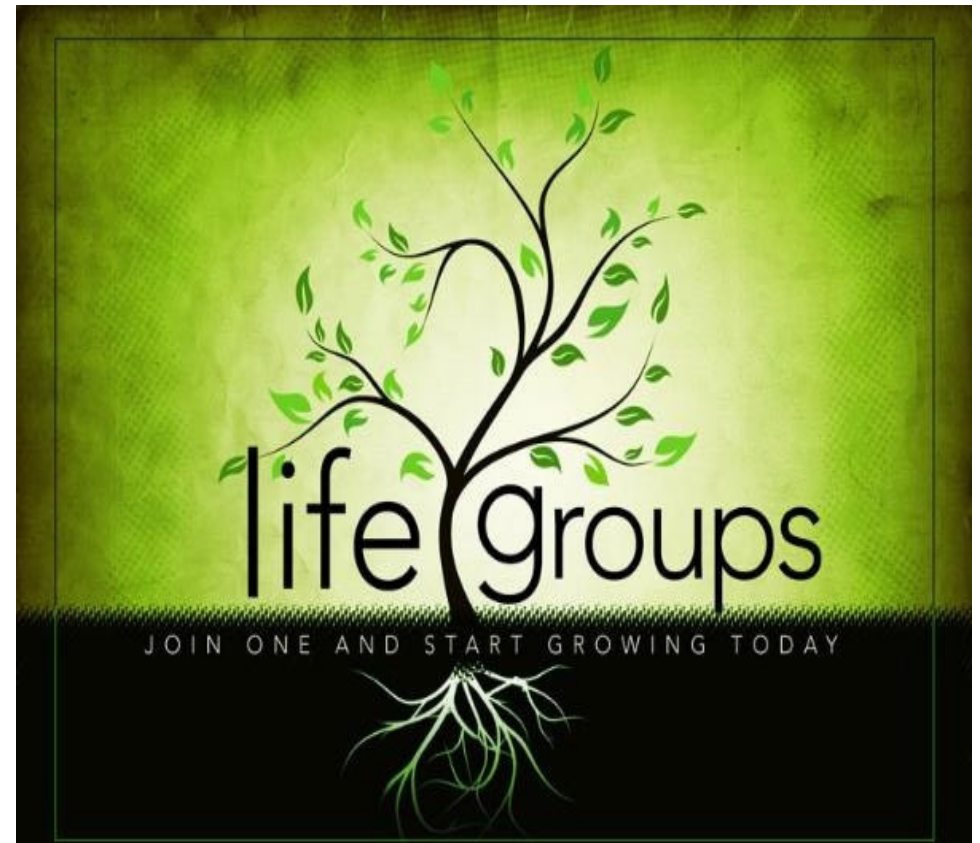
We are transformed when our classes and groups connect truth with life, and life with truth. Groups seeking to change lives explore the truth about God and me - not just me and not just God. Members are not obsessed with information but strive toward transformation. People ask, 'How do I become like Jesus Christ?'

The goal is what John Ortberg describes as 'a well-ordered heart,' a heart that is organized around what Jesus would think, say, and do in our place. ***We venture boldly beyond the realm of a well-informed student or a well-understood self to develop a well-ordered heart, a heart being transformed into Christ's image."***

Meadowlake Church

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Website: www.MeadowlakeChurch.com



Meadowlake Church

*Coming Together
To be Transformed
By Christ's Love!*

Children

Sunday School (9:30)

Live B.I.G. - "Belief in God" (Two classes: K-2nd Grades; 3-5th Grades):
January's B.I.G. Theme: "Stories About Jesus". January's B.I.G. Idea: We believe that the stories about Jesus help us understand that Jesus is the Son of God. January's Bible Verse: The child Jesus grew. He became strong and wise, and God blessed him. Luke 2:40

Three B.I.G. Truths for January:

God is a great big God.

God loves us with a great big love.

We are part of God's great big world.

- **January 8:** Jesus in the Temple at Twelve (Luke 2:41-52)
- **January 15:** Jesus' Baptism (Mark 1:4-11)
- **January 22:** Jesus Begins His Ministry (Luke 4:14-30)
- **January 29:** Jesus Heals Peter's Mother-in-Law (Matthew 8:14-17; Mark 1:29-34; Luke 4:28-41)

Youth

Sunday School (9:30)

Youth Sunday School - Faith Questions: We explore questions posed by youth from across the country, looking to Scriptures, our faith traditions, and our experience for relevant life responses.

- **January 8:** Where did the Bible come from?
- **January 15:** Why do we need so many versions of the Bible?
- **January 22:** Do we take the Bible literally?
- **January 29:** Why does God, in the Old Testament seem so scary and cruel, while Jesus, in the New Testament is for peace and love?

Confirmation Class (9:30)

- **January 8:** Awesome God
- **January 15:** Something Comes from Nothing
- **January 22:** God and the Broken World
- **January 29:** Something Good in the Neighborhood

Youth Fellowship (5:00)

We alternate times of fellowship with times of service - preparing now to lead A Souper Bowl of Caring!

Adults

Sunday School (9:30)

Bible Journey: Our Bible Journey Class is taking a *journey through the entire Bible!* Join us, at any point along this journey, to explore God's Word, to walk more closely with Him, walking now through 2 Samuel. (Facilitated by Fred Lowrance)

- **January 8:** God Provides - Antidote for Despair. 1 Samuel 30; 2 Samuel 1
- **January 15:** God Provides - A Voice for a Mobile God. 2 Samuel 7
- **January 22:** God Provides - Consequences and Cleansing of Sin. 2 Samuel 11-12
- **January 29:** God Provides - Warnings for Our Families. 2 Samuel 13

Life Lessons: *Love Is Always Right*, by Norm Geisler & Josh McDowell. We explore the moral and ethical decisions we face every day.

Small Groups

Bible Basics - Led by the Band - *Everyone welcome:* Every other Friday. Contact Tim Lane (lane2@metlife.com) if you are interested.

Discovery - Every Wednesday (7:30): *The Tender Warrior: The Life of David*, by David Jeremiah. The life of David appeals to every man and woman because we can all identify with his struggles. We will explore the victory over Goliath and the high cost David paid for his success; see how he treated people, look at his mistakes, and examine his darkest days. (At church - Gary Lichtfeldt, facilitator; John Morris, coordinator)

EPIC (Encouraging People in Christ) - 1st and 3rd Thursday (6:30): *The Ragamuffin Gospel*, by Brennan Manning. (Linda Dwyer, coordinator)

Reasoning For Believing - Explore the questions of the Christian faith through reasoning, rationality, and respect, now exploring *Mere Christianity* by CS Lewis. Next Meeting: January 15 (6:00) (John Colberg, coordinator)

***Soon to begin** - We are forming a new group in January. Contact Gary Lichtfeldt, Tanya D'Amico, or Pastor Fred if you are interested in "getting connected" and growing in this wonderful way in the New Year!