

WINTER 2016 GROUPS



- ✓ *Connecting with everyone*
- ✓ *Discipling small groups*
- ✓ *Mentoring individuals*

pleasantvalley
ASSEMBLY • OF • GOD

LIFEGROUP Mission:

An extension of our church mission, which is, “Ministering Kingdom Principles to City Issues”. We believe for every problem facing our community, there are biblical principals set in place to counteract those issues.

LIFEGROUP Purpose:

Life groups exist to connect people together outside of the corporate experience so as to build relationships, biblical understanding and its purpose in our every day lives.

LIFEGROUP Format:

Life groups will meet informally throughout the month. Some groups meet weekly while others meet every other week. Groups can meet at the church but most meet in host homes. Often the leader of the group and the one hosting are one in the same but this isn't always the case. The leader of each group will determine where and when to meet.

LIFEGROUP Growth:

We are always looking to expend the opportunities for new groups. If you have a desire to lead a group, please contact Pastor Troy Ferguson at the office. Also, if you would be interested in hosting a group in your home, but would prefer not to lead the group discussion, we would be interested in talking with you about this as well.



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Women's Groups • Men's Groups • Adult Groups • Young Adults

1 **Fervent** (Priscilla Shirer)

Group for: Women

Leader: Kathy Salyards

Meet: Every Tuesday from 6:30-8:30 for 7 weeks

Begin: January 12th

Where: Lower level hall of main facility (1001 S. 1st St.)

Cost: None (besides book)

Childcare: None

You have an enemy . . . and he's dead set on destroying all you hold dear and keeping you from experiencing abundant life in Christ. What's more, his approach to disrupting your life and discrediting your faith isn't general or generic, not a one-size-fits-all. It's specific. Personalized. Targeted.

So this book is your chance to strike back. With prayer. With a weapon that really works. Each chapter will guide you in crafting prayer strategies that hit the enemy where it hurts, letting him know you're on to him and that you won't back down. Because with every new strategy you build, you're turning the fiercest battles of life into precise strikes against him and his handiwork, each one infused with the power of God's Spirit.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

On occasion we have other events for women in addition to the groups listed. If you would like more information about other women's ministry activities, contact the office at 944-1948.

2 Men's Bible Study

Group for: Men

Leader: Jeff Lingafelt

Begin: Now (2 meeting options)

Meet: Every Sunday @ Burger King - 7:30am

216 East Pleasant Valley Blvd, Altoona

Meet: Every Thursday @ McDonalds - 6:00pm

406 East 25th Ave, Altoona

Cost: Food (optional)

Childcare: None

Join us weekly as we have an opportunity to build friendships, study the bible, open up, develop accountability with one another as well as enjoy some food together (optional). This is a great time to share struggles, victories and everything in between. We utilize different tools as the foundation for discussion such as Promise Keeper's materials as well as other men's ministry directed resources.

3 5 Chasing 100

Group for: Men

Leaders: George Bell

Meet: Monday mornings @ 7:30am

Begin: Now

Where: Former church sanctuary

Cost: None

Childcare: None

"Five will chase a hundred" is a prayer strategy gleaned from Leviticus 26. This begins with one person desiring accountability and prayer covering.

We believe God is calling us to function in relationship with others who will commit to mutual daily covering prayer. The word states, not suggests, it decrees that five will chase or harass a hundred and a hundred will harass ten thousand.

How many times do we glibly say, "I will pray for you." Or "you are in my thoughts and prayers"? These are typically nothing more than polite brush-offs to people who present with difficult circumstances that are out of our control or situations we do not want to be bothered with. What if we actually did intercede for these burdens? What if we did pray as Paul prayed for the saints as described in Colossians 1:9? Join this group of men Monday morning to find out more.

4 **Extraordinary** (John Bevere)

Group for: Men & Women

Leaders: Troy & Kelly Ferguson

Meet: 1st and 3rd Tuesday at 6:30pm

Begin: Now

Where: Troy and Kelly's Home (307 Shelley Ave, Altoona Pa)

Cost: Approximately \$12 for materials

Childcare: None at this time

Isn't it true that we long to see the extraordinary, experience the extraordinary, do the extraordinary? Yet, so often we settle for mediocrity when greatness is within our grasp.

Why are we drawn to stories of heroic triumph over seemingly impossible circumstances? In our fascination with adventure movies, superheroes, and tales of incredible human feats, do we reveal an inherent desire for something larger and greater in life? Maybe what we think is a need to escape or be entertained is actually a God inspired longing...for the extraordinary.

5 **B-Sides**

Group for: Men & Women

Leaders: Shane and Julie Heckmen

Meet: Every other Saturday at 6:00pm

Begin: Now

Where: Shane and Julie's Home

Cost: To Be Determined

Childcare: Yes (\$5 per group to provide care and healthy snacks)

Whether you have grown up in the church or just visiting, there are Bible stories and verses that have been popularized and played over and over again that like an over played record, their tone seems dull and the memorized lyrics have lost much of their initial luster. Often times we then shelf these worn recordings and only think about them when the John 3:16 banner is prominently displayed in the end zone on any given Sunday, or when Hollywood feels that it is time to play a cover version with the newest pop star and added visual effects. But as with all cover songs, the passion by which the song was originally written is often lost or replaced by the emotion of the cover band. The desire of B-sides is to take that old record off the shelf and flip it over to hear it new. To listen with new ears and focus on the layers that exist below the catchy melody, to the rhythm and beat of the verse and how it's luster never went away and its passion was just waiting for us to blow off the dust and listen to the b-sides.

6 Ephesians (N.T. Wright)

Group for: Young Adults (18-29)

Leader: Lindsay Salyards and Jennifer McConnell

Meet: Every other Thursday (until December)

Begin: Now

Where: Lindsay and Jenn's home

(Address provided upon request)

Cost: None

Childcare: None

The purpose of the Young Adult group is to create a community of young adults where its safe to ask the hard questions and grow in your faith. As we walk alongside each other's faith journey, we believe we will build real relationships, encourage each other, and really become the living, breathing church.

To accomplish this, our goal is to get into the word of God, study it, find out what it means for our lives, and then apply it so we can mature in our faith. We are continuing our study of the bible in the Winter 2016 semester with the book of Ephesians. No preparation is needed to join; as the study is walk-in friendly, any young adult is welcome to join at any time!

7 Christian Foundations

Group for: Young Adults (Age 18-30)

Leader: Matt Lingafelt

Meet: Thursday's at 6:30pm

Begin: Now

Where: Ellen Sederdahl's apartment

Cost: None

Childcare: None

We will be diving into apologetics which is exploring the existence of God, the legitimacy of Scripture, and the Resurrection of Christ.

Life Groups Are . . .

A ministry opportunity where a group of 5 – 15 people come together to connect with one another outside the weekly Sunday service gathering.



Groups are designed to meet needs and interests of the church community. All groups will have a spiritual root system but may be driven by a variety of aspects.

Life Groups Meet . . .

Together on a regular basis. Some groups meet each week, while others meet bi-weekly. Each group will meet different days, different times and even different locations based upon convenience.



The time period in which groups will meet together will change based upon the type of group. Some groups may meet seasonally to study something specific for a period of time. While, other groups may continue to meet regularly throughout the year.

Life Groups Because . . .

Spiritual and emotional stability occurs best when done within the development of relationships. Our desire is to help one

another grow in these aspects of our life as we do so within Life Groups.



As the groups develop, we will see people share life together, become disciples of Jesus Christ and build mentoring relationships in the process.

Common questions about **LIFEGROUPS**

Why should I join a group?

We consider life groups to be one of the most important ways to experience connection and community at PVAG

How do I join a group?

Life groups are always open to add members. If you find a group that meets conveniently for you, you may contact the leader of that group about joining.

Is there childcare available?

Each group leader will assess the needs of their group and organize childcare if necessary.

Why are there different types of groups?

We desire to meet the needs of our church community in a variety of ways. The common thread is to do so through connecting with one another. With that being said, connection can occur through Bible Study Groups, Topic driven groups, Similar Interest groups as well as Teaching Groups. We encourage you to seek out the type of group that will minister to you specifically.

What if I can't afford the cost for materials?

Although there may be a cost for books and/or workbooks, please don't let that be a hindrance in your decision. If you want to be a part of a group and are unable to pay for materials, contact Pastor Troy and we'll make other arrangements if needed.



If you have additional questions, feel free to contact Pastor Troy Ferguson, our **LIFEGROUP** director, by calling the office at 814-944-1948 or via email at tferguson@pvag.org.

Pleasant Valley Assembly of God

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