

Advent Small Group Guide

Circles of Concern

GOLD CIRCLE

Contact: Joe Vincent, E-mail: hundriver@earthlink.net ; Phone: 755—0204; Cell: 283-0854

Location: Mostly, but not limited to members homes in Cordova

Time: Second Sunday, 6:30pm

Bible: 15-20 minute devotion, sometimes a speaker

Mission: Gold Circle has sponsored Advent's annual fish fry to raise money for the Jon Schober fund. This year we changed to an Italian Festival. Two other circles helped. Another function of the Gold Circle seems to be "birthing" new circles.

Other Info: Our meetings are mainly for fellowship, but also include a small devotional, lesson, or an occasional speaker.

DORCUS CIRCLE

Contact: Dorothy Robbins

Location: Advent Library

Time: First Tuesday of the Month

Bible: We are studying the Horizons Bible Study, Journey through Revelation-Apocalyptic Hope for Today.

Mission: We have a mission for the shut-ins. We send cards and visit them. Our other mission is sending servicemen and women goodies.

Other Info: We have a small group of women of all ages.

AQUA CIRCLE

Contact: Rena Booth; Phone: 498-7261

Location: Meet in homes of each couple in the group on a rotating basis.

Time: 5:30 to 8:00pm on the second Sunday of each month.

Bible: We do 50% fellowship and 50% Bible study. Usually we do a bible study from a book. The person who is the host for the evening leads the study that month.

Mission: Make goody bags to hand out to persons waiting in emergency rooms at hospitals.

CIRCLE OF MANY BLESSINGS

Contact: Any member of the circle but Marsi and Phil Bellamy lead the circle.

Location: Meetings are rotated between members houses.

Time: Second Sunday of each month at 5:30pm.

Bible: Fellowship 90% and devotional 10%.

Mission: Our circle is mission oriented. We have picked Fayette Cares as our permanent support mission and we do others service projects throughout the year. A few of our members are participants in mission trips.

HOPE CIRCLE

Contact: Liz Gray; Phone: 405-4774

Location: In members homes

Time: Third Sunday of each month at 1:00pm.

Bible: At least 50% of our time is spent in Bible study and about 50% is spent in missions, fellowship and caring.

Mission: To deepen our commitment to Christ, to grow as disciples, to support the work and missions of Presbyterian Women church wide and locally, and to care for one another through fellowship and prayer.

Other Info: Women of all ages are welcome to join us. We have members not only from Advent but from other Presbyterian churches in our Presbytery.

KOINONIA CIRCLE

Contact: Tommy and Diana Veazey; Phone: 386-2450 and Jim and Debbie Flaherty; Phone: 383-1835

Location: In members homes

Time: Second Saturdays of each month at 5:30pm.

Bible: At least 50% of our time is spent in Bible study and about 50% is spent in fellowship and caring.

Mission: To deepen our commitment to Christ, to grow as disciples, and to care for one another through fellowship and prayer.

Other Info: Men and women; singles and married; some have children and some do not; current members are in our 40's and 50's, but that is not a group requirement. All are welcome.

EMERALD CIRCLE

Contact: Gerald Dykstra

Location: In members homes in Cordova/Bartlett area

Time: Third Saturday of each month at 5:30 pm.

Bible: Bible study for 30-40 minutes

Missions: Environmental issues at Advent and surrounding community

Other Info: We are looking for more members as we would like two or three more couples or singles.

BETTER TOGETHER CIRCLE

Contact: Dave and Linda Schieber

Location: In members homes in Cordova/Bartlett area

Time: Second Sunday of each month at 6:00pm.

Bible: Bible study 50% and 50 % fellowship

Missions: MIHN and First Presbyterian I.D. Program

CIRCLE AT THE LAKE

Contact: Richard and Betsy Shaw; Phone: 388-5005

Location: Homes of members in Lakeland/Arlington area

Time: Second Sunday of each month at 6:00pm.

Bible: 25%, we do a brief devotional/discussion

Missions: We recently have supported Rachel's Kids, the Food Pantry and MIHN. We like to be flexible enough to meet needs that arise in our community.

Other Info.: We have our Christmas party with two other circles.

GERMANTOWN/COLLIERVILLE CIRCLE

Contact: Cindy and Jonathan Schwartz; cschwartz@adventpres.com;
Phone: 731-443-9403 or 731-780-4225

Location: Homes of members in Germantown/Collierville area

Time: Third Tuesday of each month at 6pm—8pm

Bible: 30% of the time. This fall we have studied Bible characters from the Old and New Testament.

Mission: Still in development! We are new!

Other Info: Our age range is from 20-something to 70-something.

BIBLE STUDY-FOCUSED SMALL GROUPS

MONDAY NIGHT SHORT-TERM BIBLE STUDIES

Contact: Steve Schaffer; Phone: 355-2926; E-mail: sschaf5606@aol.com

Location: Room 205 at Advent

Time: Mondays during WNA at 6:45-8:30pm.

Bible: 40% key topics, 40% Bible study, 20% fellowship

Mission: To provide Christian walk enhancement and advancement, personal discipleship development & scripture learning discipline as well as true Christian fellowship.

Other Info: Open to anyone interested in participation!

FOUNDATIONS (PREVIOUSLY CHRISTIANS UNDER CONSTRUCTION)

Contact: Mike Karel; E-mail: mikey1776@aol.com

Location: Upstairs in the small chapel at Advent

Time: 9:00 am. On Sunday morning

Bible: 75% Bible study

Mission: Reaching out to our church members and our friends outside the church.

Other Info: We are an adult class. Ages ranging from 24 to 99, married, single. Anyone over 99 has too much wisdom for us.

CHRISTIANITY 201 (Sunday School Class)

Contact: Mike Moss—michaelmoss@bellsout.net

Location: Room 203 upstairs in the Schieber Building at Advent

Time: Sundays at 10:00 am.

Bible: For the coming year we will offer the following studies: The Case for Christmas by Lee Stobel, It All Goes Back in the Box by John Ortberg with Stephen and Amanda Sorenson, The Prodigal God by Timothy Keller, The Power of a Whisper by Bill Hybels, Your Move by Andy Stanley, and The Life You Have Always Wanted by John Ortberg.

Other Info: Our class is open to all age groups, married and singles.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Location: Meet the first and third Tuesdays of each month

Time: 2:00 pm

Bible: As we work on our shawls we pray for the recipients and for the members of our group and socialize and keep up with each other.

Mission: The initial objective was to make shawls and afghans to give to people who are in need of love, comfort and healing for physical or emotional needs. As the group met, however, a second objective developed, that of a small group caring for each other.

MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST

Contact: Terry Easley and Dave Schieber

Location: Meet Friday mornings at Advent except first Friday of each month when we meet at Danvers next to Crazy Cleaners on Germantown Rd. In June, July, and August, we meet at Danvers each Friday.

Time: 6:45 am.

Bible: Dave continues to attend and almost always has a devotion. From time to time we have done video studies that go as long as six weeks.

Other Info: Small core of faithful attendees, seven to ten. We welcome anyone interested.

THE MEN'S ROOM

Contact: Jonathan Schwartz or Dave Hudson

Location: Advent Church, 2nd Floor

Time: Sunday mornings at 10:00 am.

Bible: Typically 50% study and 50% discussion/fellowship and prayer

Mission: Advent Philippines mission, still determining long term goals

Other Info: The class is a men's only group and all ages are welcome.

Other Men's Ministries are led by Dexter Tutor on Monday and Wednesday mornings — early! Check with Dexter or Chris Scruggs for more info.

DOORKEEPERS REUNION GROUP

Location: We meet Saturday mornings at at Advent

Time: 8:45 am.

Bible: Our theme verse is Psalm 84:10. “Better is one day in your courts than a thousand elsewhere; I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.” We follow the published “Order of Reunion Group” as it seems to work well for us.

Mission: We regularly discuss better ways of connecting with the men of the church. Our short retreat last weekend was a direct response to a request from one of the men in the group who wanted a day away from the regular routine.

PEBBLES AND BOULDERS

Contact: Robin Ballou

Location: Advent Library

Time: Gathers on a weekly basis on Monday mornings at 9:30am and offers a nursery. (Sept.—May)

Bible: Typically 50% study, 50% discussion/fellowship and prayer

Other Info: Women’s Group— We have studied Beth Moore, Priscilla Shirer, and others. All ages are welcome.

WOMEN OF PRAISE

Contact: Joy Karel; Phone: 270-5686 and D’Ann Averwater; Phone: 246-3815

Location: Advent Library

Time: Wednesday mornings from 9:30 — 11:30 (nursery provided)

Bible: 60% Bible study and share time, 25% prayer and share and 15% fellowship.

Mission: Spiritually growing to automatically “Breathe Jesus”

Other Info: Women of all ages, from mothers with newborns to great grandmothers and all in between!

WOMEN IN MINISTRY PRAYER GROUP

Contact: Jari Dykstra; Phone: 373-3594; E-mail: jaridayle@bellsouth.net

Location: In the homes of our members

Time: Fridays at 7:30 —9:00 am

Bible: Use scripture in prayer occasionally

Mission: For prayer for ourselves and for Advent

IRONMAN GROUPS

Contact: Dexter Tutor

Location: Advent Library

Time: Mondays at 6:00 a.m.

Location: Dexter's home

Time: Wednesday's at 6:00 a.m.

THE BIBLE STUDY GROUP

Contact: Gail Buckman; Phone: 757-5375

Location: Steve and Gail Buckman's home

Time: Thursday nights at 6:30 p.m.

Bible: Start with pot luck dinner followed by 45 minutes of Bible Study and 15 minutes of prayer concerns.

Mission: To develop a deeper relationship with God through the Study of His word. We participate in mission projects.

Other Info: The Bible Study Group is a mixed group of singles and couples.