



LIVE UPSIDE DOWN!

CENTRAL HOUSE CHURCHES



AN UPSIDE-DOWN WAY OF DOING COMMUNITY

WHAT IS A HOUSE CHURCH?

Since its foundation, the church has explored different ways of doing life together. Community remains essential to living out the Christian life since we were not created for isolation. Currently at Central, we seek to cultivate community primarily through house churches. Central's house churches are more than just another small group program—they are designed to be deep wells of support, mutual discernment, exploration, participation, and encouragement for all involved.



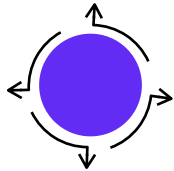
MEET REGULARLY

House churches meet, in a home, several times each month to build relationships & share life together.



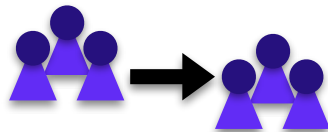
WORD & SACRAMENT

House church participants will gather around the Word (story of God) & Sacrament in the spirit of the "Priesthood of ALL Believers."



MISSIONAL

House churches (like all churches) exist for "the other." One of the purposes of these communities is to serve and bless others.



MULTIPLICATION

As each house church grows, they will naturally give birth to other, new house churches - like growing and expanding families!



ARE YOU PART OF CENTRAL'S HUB?

Visit www.clcelkriver.org and click the "Central Hub" pop-up to join!



FAQ'S



In addition to House Churches, Central has created another way for us to explore community together - the Journey Group. Journey Groups are small groups of men or women who want to intentionally commit themselves to each other for a year (or more). Journey Groups will meet regularly and explore a life centered on Jesus.

Consider joining a Journey Group with others! If you are interested, we will help you find (or create) one!

Contact Ryan Braley at ryan.braley@clcelkriver.org or call 763-441-2363 ext. 227.

DOES THE HOUSE CHURCH REPLACE SUNDAY MORNINGS?

The simple answer is "No." House Church is an extension of the Sunday morning community. But it looks different and can meet different needs. At a house church, it may be easier to be involved in each others' lives (caring for and supporting one another) since the group is much smaller and more casual. It is also easier to participate and contribute, which is a good thing! House Churches are like families and the Sunday morning gathering is like the family reunion. We need them both!

WHAT IS THE COMMITMENT?

People are busy. Really busy. The last thing we want to do is add "one more thing" to your calendar. But we feel that House Churches are meaningful and beautiful - not just another "program" but an expression of church. As such, like anything in life, you can be as committed as you are able and would like to be. House Churches typically meet every other week.

WHY JOIN ONE?

So many reasons. One of the most important is we live in a culture that promotes individualism and isolationism. This is unfortunate because God created us for relationships and for community. Central House Churches are a counter-cultural way for us to explore and experience genuine community and commitment to other people. It will not always be easy or perfect, but that is OK. We believe that it will be meaningful and transformational!

ARE THE HOUSES WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE?



Those with this symbol definitely are! (For all others you can call or email with questions.)



SUNDAYS

BEARD/TOBIAS HOUSE CHURCH

Meets: 1st and 3rd Sundays

Time: 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Location: Location varies - contact for details.

Description: Our house church includes a wide range of ages from toddlers to teenagers to adults. On a typical night we gather together for worship, lesson time and end with a potluck meal. Family is important to us and our kids are involved in our worship and lesson time as well as our service projects. Come and join us as we explore what it is like to live in community with each other.

Interested in this House Church?

Call Lindsey: 612-207-0473
or email lindsey.beard@clcelkriver.org

BROWN/GLOVER HOUSE CHURCH

Meets: Sundays (contact for specific schedule)

Time: 5:00 pm

Location: 1120 207th Ave. NW, Elk River, MN 55330

Description: Our house church includes ages from 1-75+ years. We gather at 5:00 pm for snacks, read scripture, and then discuss it. Kids are welcome to play outside or join the discussion. We send out a list of questions the day before; so if you want to read and think on the discussion points, you can. If you prefer to be spontaneous (that's what I do), that's great too. We try to be done by 6:30 pm, but some occasionally linger until 7:00 pm.

Interested in this House Church?

Call Ron or Carla: 763-441-7323 or email rbbowhunter@msn.com

THURSDAYS

SLADEK HOUSE CHURCH

Meets: 2nd and 4th Thursdays

Time: 6:30 pm

Location: Guardian Angels - Angel Ridge Chapel
280 Evans Ave., Elk River, MN 55330

Description: Our house church is unique in that we meet in the house of several people all at the same time! We meet at Guardian Angels in the Angel Ridge Chapel. Though many of our house church members live here, many others come from other houses. We meet twice a month and enjoy reading through a book of the Bible together. Afterwards we share some food or snacks and a time of catching up with one another.

Interested in this House Church?

Call Tim or Marie: 763-441-0472 or email tmsladek@msn.com



TUESDAYS

MCCARTY HOUSE CHURCH

Meets: 2nd and 4th Tuesdays

Time: 6:30 pm

Location: Location varies - contact for details.

Description: Our house church has a great group of people ranging in age from 50 to 90. We meet twice a month for home baked treats, discussion around the bible, community, and communion (the second night of each month).

Interested in this House Church?

Call Keith or Janet: 763-234-5282 or email janet@virtualbookkeeping.us

WEDNESDAYS

EBERSVILLER HOUSE CHURCH

Meets: 1st and 3rd Wednesdays

Time: 6:00 pm

Location: 16150 Kamacite St. NW, Ramsey, MN 55303

Description: Our house church meets around a light meal, where we catch up on the goings on in each other's lives, then move on to music, prayer and praise requests, listen to a short talk or video, discuss, then close with prayer. Currently no families with kids are attending, but we'd love to have some!

Interested in this House Church?

Call Todd or Mary: 763-427-0940 or email wanderings@gmail.com

GAGNON/KING HOUSE CHURCH

Meets: 1st and 3rd Sundays

Time: 4:00 pm

Location: Location varies - contact for details.

Description: Our house church welcomes people of all ages with a special welcome to families with young children. Since many of us have little ones, we know there will be unexpected interruptions, and we are OK with that! We all pitch in to make each night happen, like a village (which is why we welcome all ages!). Our gatherings include worship, teaching time for our kids, an adult discussion (the children are welcome to participate or enjoy some time playing), and we close our night with communion and a potluck meal. Come and join our energetic group!

Interested in this House Church?

Call Christine: 612-244-5749 or email christine.m.gagnon@gmail.com

GRAMSTAD/TERLINDEN HOUSE CHURCH

Meets: 2nd and 4th Sundays

Time: 6:30 pm

Location: 14111 197th Cir. NE, Elk River, MN 55330

Description: Our house church has a mix of ages with several families and lots of school-aged kids (including teenagers!). We gather at 6:30 pm around some snacks, hang out, catch up, and then we spend some time learning from Scripture and from each other. The kids typically head off together at some point in the night (to go do kid stuff), but are always welcome to stick around for the chat around the Scripture. We usually end around 8:00 pm.

Interested in this House Church?

Call Anita: 763-241-8735 or email a_gramstad@yahoo.com



MONDAYS

BRALEY/RUPRECHT HOUSE CHURCH

Meets: every Monday night

Time: 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Location: Location varies - contact for details.

Description: Our house church has a mix of ages: some older, some younger, and lots of young kids. We gather at 6:00 pm for a potluck style meal, eat together and catch up. Then we spend some time learning from Scripture and from each other. We usually end by sharing communion together. Some head out right at 8:00 pm, others hang out longer. Oh, and occasionally we have music!

Interested in this House Church?

Call Ryan: 763-222-6385 or email ryan.braley@clcelkriver.org

JURKOVICH/VOLZ HOUSE CHURCH

Meets: 1st and 3rd Mondays

Time: 6:30 pm

Location: 8293 Parkington Ave NE, Otsego, 55330

Description: At our house church we gather together to worship through song, study the bible, enjoy dessert along and pray together. We typically wrap up by 8:30 pm. Outside of our gathering, we participate in various hometown mission opportunities.

Interested in this House Church?

Call Gayle: (612) 516-4962 or email scharagayle@gmail.com

THE CUCHARA HOUSE CHURCH

Meets: Every other Monday

Time: 6:30 pm

Location: Location varies - contact for details.

Description: Our house church has a mix of families: both retired and empty nesters, young and matured families with teenagers. We meet every other Monday evening at homes of our families. We gather around a potluck meal in prayer and move into casual, open dialogue about Scripture and how it applies to our lives. The teens in our group are active and engaging in conversation and all we do. We are missional, serve communion monthly, and are blessed with music often by our teens. Cuchara means "spoon" in Spanish and reflects our passion for doing ministry down in Costa Rica, where we travel every so often to serve.

Interested in this House Church?

Call Sonja: 612-219-6130 or email sonja.knutson@clcelkriver.org