

Creating Stronger Connection Within NDPC

In 2014, NDPC created parishes as a way to maintain a close-knit community within a growing church environment. Parishes are meant to provide an environment for growth in a deeper, richer faith life.

What is a Parish?

A parish is a group of 5-8 families (15-20 people), organized by the proximity of members' homes. Every adult and child member of NDPC is part of a parish. Regular visitors who are not members are invited to participate in the life of the parish closest to their home. Whenever new members join the church, they are immediately assigned to an existing parish, which serves as their "welcome committee" and helps them feel at home at NDPC.

What Do Parishes Do?

Parishes meet in member's homes, at minimum, 4 times per year. At each parish gathering, there is a meal or light refreshments, worship and/or prayer, and informal time to talk together. Each parish has the flexibility to grow and adapt as it chooses. Parishes might choose to meet more often to celebrate special events in the life of parish members (anniversaries, retirements, births), for monthly dinners, or for service to their neighborhood. In addition to regular meetings, parishes provide a reliable ongoing structure for ensuring that every member of NDPC has access to pastoral care, prayer, meals, and visitation.

We believe, in time, parishes will help answer many questions as the church continues to grow:

- How do new members find an immediate home at NDPC?
- How do we create vital intergenerational spaces?
- How can we help families learn how to worship at home and introduce meaningful faith practices into family life?
- Can we find more spaces in which to share faith stories and sacred conversation?
- How does a church that is getting larger still feel "intimate" and "tight-knit"?

Date / Time

Parishes meet quarterly at members' homes.

More Information

For more information about Parishes at NDPC, Rev. David Lewicki at david@ndpc.org.