

We do and strive. We grasp and cling. Fighting for control, we seek a tangible solution; something that will seemingly fill us and give us momentary relief.

But all this running "to" is really a running "from": running from the only One who can truly fill those needs and shoulder those hurts; running from the only One who can bring peace in despair, perspective in the chaos, purpose in the mundane.

We run and escape.

Here's the question, friends: Are we running to our heavenly Father--the all-sufficient God of the Universe--with our broken hearts, or are we fleeing Him? Are we convinced that He hears our pleas; that He identifies with our hurts; that He invites us to bring our disappointments, our inadequacies, our failures, and our sins and cast them all on Him?

It's not a matter of doing more or escaping. It's a matter of being still. "Be still and know that I am God." Psalm 46:10 Jesus says to us as he said to Martha in Luke 10, "...one thing is necessary...." Sit. Listen.

Come.

"Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls." Matthew 11:28-29

Ladies' Christmas Brunch

The Christmas season brings with it unique opportunities to share with others the hope that we have in Jesus. Our annual Ladies' Christmas Brunch is designed for that very purpose: to provide a beautifully festive, non-threatening gathering for you to invite your friends to hear the hope of the gospel. This year we are delighted to welcome Janet Aucoin as our guest speaker.



This year's brunch will be held on Saturday morning, December 7. Guests will enjoy a delicious meal while seated at beautifully decorated tables. Our theme is "O Holy Night," and we're currently recruiting table designers who are willing to bring their creative touches to our tables. Never designed a table before? No problem! A meeting for all table designers will be held in the multi-purpose room on Monday evening, September 16 at 6:30pm. We will review designer guidelines, provide inspiration, and answer any questions you may have. Additionally, all table designers in attendance will be entered in a drawing to win a full table of free brunch tickets. That's 8 tickets--an \$80 value!







On Saturday, August 10, women of all ages came together for a sweet morning of fellowship at our annual Mugs & Muffins gathering. The morning provided opportunities to learn better how to get connected and engaged at eFree, whether through Bible studies, volunteering, or a host of other ministries. Michelle Kautzer brought a devotional from God's Word, testimonies were shared, and our hearts were filled.

As we transition from summer to fall, we encourage you to prayerfully consider where and how you might get plugged in this new ministry year.

- Life Groups are the first place of connection. They're groups of 8-12 people who come together in homes twice a month to apply God's Word, encourage one another, and pray together. The Life Group kick-off will take place on Sunday evening, September 22. Contact Pastor Jon at 452.6520 for more info.
- Equip is held at 9:30am each Sunday morning and exists to train you to impact your homes, your neighborhoods, and this world. Watch the bulletin for this year's offerings. Contact Kim Buhr at 452.6520 for more information.
- **Titus 2 Groups** (various days and times) beginning in October. Watch for further details this September.

BIBLE STUDIES

- **Kingdom Woman** (Tuesdays beginning September 10 at 6:30pm at Nancy V's home).
- Even Better Than Eden (Tuesday evenings or Wednesday mornings). Contact Lora L.
- Wednesday Morning Women's Bible Study 9:30am at church. Contact Vicki M.
- First Love: Becoming a Woman After God's Own Heart
 David Through the Psalms (Wednesday mornings beginning September 11 at 9:30am). Contact Summar C.
- **Seeking Him** (Wednesday evenings beginning October 2 at 6:30pm). Contact Nikki M.

"We need (women) whose prayers will set the church ablaze not in a showy, know-it, noisy way, but in an intense quiet heat that melts and moves everything for God." E.M. Bounds

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

- BabyCare Contact Marge V.
- Ladies' Christmas Brunch Contact Nikki MacDonald at 452-6520
- Children's Ministries & Awana Contact Gwen MacDonald at 452.6520
- Nourishing Body & Soul Meals Ministry and Funeral Reception Volunteers – Contact Nikki MacDonald at 452-6520
- Faith Community Nursing Contact Kristie Ahlborg at 452-6520
- Welcome Team Contact Nikki MacDonald at 452-6520
- Contemporary Worship Contact Pastor Aaron at 452-6520

Details and additional information is provided in the Women's Ministries resource packet in the Welcome Center.



"Women's Ministries seeks to support the church's mission and vision to multiply disciples of Jesus Christ. Committed to the Word as our authority, we're passionate about nurturing a culture in which Titus 2 discipleship (older teaching younger) can thrive by providing opportunities, resources, and support for women of all ages to connect with one another and the Lord Jesus Christ."