

TPC 101

Class 6—The Life of the Church: Community & Service

THE HOLY SPIRIT'S RELATION TO THE CHURCH

(cf. John 8:21; 13:33; 14:18-19; 16:7; Acts 1:4-11; 2:22-41)

The Holy Spirit **calls** (gathers, forms) the church and **empowers** the church. The church consists of those whom the Lord has called out of the world into union and fellowship with Christ and into communion with each other.

WCF 25.1. The catholic or universal church, which is invisible, consists of the whole number of the elect, that have been, are, or shall be gathered into one, under Christ the Head thereof; and is the spouse, the body, the fullness of him that filleth all in all.

WCF 25.2. The visible church, which is also catholic or universal under the gospel (not confined to one nation, as before under the law), consists of all those throughout the world that profess the true religion; and of their children: and is the kingdom of the Lord Jesus Christ, the house and family of God, out of which there is no ordinary possibility of salvation.

WCF 25.3. Unto this catholic visible church Christ hath given the ministry, oracles, and ordinances of God, for the gathering and perfecting of the saints, in this life, to the end of the world: and doth, by his own presence and Spirit, according to his promise, make them effectual thereunto.

Ephesians 4:1-32

¹ I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, ² with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, ³ eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. ⁴ There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call— ⁵ one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶ one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. ⁷ But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift. ⁸ Therefore it says,

“When he ascended on high he led a host of captives,
and he gave gifts to men.”

⁹ (In saying, “He ascended,” what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower regions, the earth? ¹⁰ He who descended is the one who also ascended far above all the heavens, that he might fill all things.)

¹¹ And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, ¹² to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, ¹³ until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, ¹⁴ so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. ¹⁵ Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, ¹⁶ from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.

¹⁷ Now this I say and testify in the Lord, that you must no longer walk as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their minds. ¹⁸ They are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, due to their hardness of heart. ¹⁹ They have become callous and have given themselves up to sensuality, greedy to practice every kind of impurity. ²⁰ But that is not the way you learned Christ!— ²¹ assuming that you have heard about him and were taught in him, as the truth is in Jesus, ²² to put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, ²³ and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, ²⁴ and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.

²⁵ Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another. ²⁶ Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, ²⁷ and give no opportunity to the devil. ²⁸ Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with anyone in need. ²⁹ Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear. ³⁰ And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. ³¹ Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. ³² Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

COMMUNITY & SERVICE

Community (or “unity”)	the church’s relational bond	v. 2-6, 13-14, 25b, (cf. Acts 2:42-47; 4:32-37; Phil. 1:27; Heb. 10:24-25)
Service (or “building up”)	the church’s task(s)	v. 7-12, 15-16, 25a (cf. Gal. 6:10; 1 Tim. 3:7; 1 Pet. 2:11-12; Matt 5:1-16)

COMMUNITY

Is there such a thing as solo Christianity?

The New Testament church is the fullest manifestation of the kingdom of God until the consummation in the new heavens and the new earth. Never does the New Testament conceive of the Christian existing on a prolonged basis outside the fellowship of the church.

Ephesians 2:19-22

¹⁹ So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, ²⁰ built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, ²¹ in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. ²² In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.

Ephesians 3:14-21

¹⁴ For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, ¹⁵ from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, ¹⁶ that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, ¹⁷ so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, ¹⁸ may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, ¹⁹ and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

²⁰ Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, ²¹ to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

The Apostle Paul explains the doctrine of the church so that we might understand what God has done and so that we may understand who we are. And in calling us to understand who we are and what we are called to do, Paul says that we are the *church*. We are the church that God ordained from the foundation of the world. We are His *people*; we are His *household* (Eph. 2:19-22).

The church exists according to God's eternal purpose to redeem a *people* for Himself out of every tongue, tribe, people, and nation (1 Pet. 2:10; Rev. 7:9). He calls them out of the world and gathers them together to be a worshiping community in heaven and on earth.

The English word "church" is from the Greek word ἐκκλησία (ekklesia). The word ekklesia may be translated "congregation" or "assembly," but it carries with it the idea of being "called out" or "called forth." God calls His people out of the world and into His eternal kingdom. Paul highlighted the significance of the "gathering" element of the church when he wrote, "When you come together as a church (ekklesia)" (1 Cor. 11:18).

We are in community whether we like it or not. We do not choose to be in community; by virtue of the resurrection of Jesus, this is the company we keep...There can be no maturity in the spiritual life, no obedience in following Jesus, no wholeness in the Christian life apart from an immersion and embrace of community. I am not myself by myself. Community, not the highly vaunted individualism of our culture, is the setting where Christ is at play. – Eugene Peterson

"There is no way you will be able to grow spiritually apart from a deep involvement in a community of other believers. You can't live the Christian life without a band of Christian friends, without a family of believers in which you find a place...Only if you are part of a community of believers seeking to resemble, serve, and love Jesus will you ever get to know him and grow into his likeness." – Tim Keller

Christ, who said to the disciples, "Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you," can truly say to every group of Christian friends, "You have not chosen one another but I have chosen you for one another." The Friendship is not a reward for our discrimination and good taste in finding one another out. It is the instrument by which God reveals to each the beauties of all others. – C.S. Lewis

What Christian Community is *not*:

- A nice add-on to my Christianity
- A place where individuals “focus on themselves in the presence of others”
- A vetted and curated group where the strong/cool/mature are admitted and the weak/weird/immature are turned away

Our welcome at the top of every bulletin:

“To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest; to all who mourn and long for comfort; to all who struggle and desire victory; to all who sin and need a Savior; to all who are strangers and want fellowship; to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness; and to all who will come, this church opens wide her doors and offers a welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.”

The Lord Jesus Christ is the only one who can fulfill the desires and needs of our hearts; however, he has ordained that his body (his physical presence on earth) participate in that satisfaction and fellowship.

Colossians 3:1-17

¹ If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. ³ For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴ When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

⁵ Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. ⁶ On account of these the wrath of God is coming. ⁷ In these you too once walked, when you were living in them. ⁸ But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth. ⁹ Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices ¹⁰ and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. ¹¹ Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all, and in all.

¹² Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, ¹³ bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. ¹⁴ And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵ And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶ Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with

thankfulness in your hearts to God. ¹⁷ And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

(See also Rom. 12:1-21; Eph. 5:1-21; Phil 1:27; 2:1-11; Tit. 2:1-3:11; 1 Pet. 2:1-5:5)

SERVICE (a.k.a. Gifting)

Since all believers are a royal priesthood (1 Pet. 2:9), God has given every member of the church gifts for ministering to other believers in the body of Christ. The gifts of the Spirit are gifts of grace granted by the Holy Spirit that are designed for the edification of the church. The ministry of each member of the body is an essential part of life in the covenant community.

WCF 26.1. All saints, that are united to Jesus Christ their Head, by his Spirit, and by faith, have fellowship with him in his graces, sufferings, death, resurrection, and glory: and, being united to one another in love, they have communion in each other's gifts and graces, and are obliged to the performance of such duties, public and private, as do conduce to their mutual good, both in the inward and outward man.

WCF 26.2. Saints by profession are bound to maintain an holy fellowship and communion in the worship of God, and in performing such other spiritual services as tend to their mutual edification; as also in relieving each other in outward things, according to their several abilities and necessities. Which communion, as God offereth opportunity, is to be extended unto all those who, in every place, call upon the name of the Lord Jesus.

1 Corinthians 12:1-31

¹ Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers, I do not want you to be uninformed. ² You know that when you were pagans you were led astray to mute idols, however you were led. ³ Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking in the Spirit of God ever says "Jesus is accursed!" and no one can say "Jesus is Lord" except in the Holy Spirit.

⁴ Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; ⁵ and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; ⁶ and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone. ⁷ To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. ⁸ For to one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, ⁹ to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, ¹⁰ to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the ability to distinguish between spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹ All these are empowered by one and the same Spirit, who apportions to each one individually as he wills.

¹² For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³ For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit.

¹⁴ For the body does not consist of one member but of many. ¹⁵ If the foot should say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁶ And if the ear should say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁷ If the whole body were an eye, where would be the sense of hearing? If the whole body were an ear, where would be the sense of smell? ¹⁸ But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. ¹⁹ If all were a single member, where would the body be? ²⁰ As it is, there are many parts, yet one body.

²¹ The eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you,” nor again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.” ²² On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, ²³ and on those parts of the body that we think less honorable we bestow the greater honor, and our unpresentable parts are treated with greater modesty, ²⁴ which our more presentable parts do not require. But God has so composed the body, giving greater honor to the part that lacked it, ²⁵ that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. ²⁶ If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together.

²⁷ Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. ²⁸ And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, helping, administrating, and various kinds of tongues. ²⁹ Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? ³⁰ Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret? ³¹ But earnestly desire the higher gifts.

And I will show you a still more excellent way.

1 Peter 4:10-11

¹⁰ As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: ¹¹ whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

What are spiritual gifts?

The gifts of the Spirit are gifts of grace granted by the Holy Spirit to individual Christians. These gifts are to be exercised under the lordship of Christ for the edification of his body, the church.

Christians are not to think too highly or lowly about the gifts that God has given them but are to remember that it is God who has sovereignly and wisely given them; each gift is needed. Each Christian is baptized in the Spirit at conversion, and thus each Christian is to be faithful to the gift that God has given them and, most importantly, seek to fulfill their gift in love for God and other Christians.

- God-given (they are indeed “gifts”)
- Abilities/skills (answering the question, “*What* should I do?”)
- Given to every believer (notice the reference to “each” in 1 Cor. 12:7, 11 and 1 Pet. 4:10)
- For the building up of the church (“common good”, “to serve one another”) and the glory of God (1 Pet. 4:11)

Gifts of the Spirit	vs.	Fruit of the Spirit
Skills/Abilities		Character/Virtues
Every believer has at least one		Every believer has all (though not to the same degree)
1 Cor. 12:8-10, 28; 1 Pet. 4:10-11; Rom 12:6-8		Gal. 5:22-23; 2 Pet. 1:5-8

DISCERNING YOUR GIFTS

“How do I discern my spiritual gifts?”

A better question may be: “How can I serve the body?”

1 Corinthians 12, Paul broadens the categories of gifts under the umbrella of the manifestation of the Spirit and argues that we evidence the Spirit when we serve one another in faith and in love (1 Corinthians 12:7; 13:1-3). Therefore, let us serve one another in faith and in love.

1. First, find out what help the body needs.

Ask the leadership of the church to find out what specific needs exist.

2. Once you see and begin to understand the needs of the body, PRAY!

Pray for the particular needs of the body. Pray that the Lord would raise up laborers.

Pray that the leadership of the body would have wisdom in guiding these ministries.

Then, ASK the Lord if He is calling you to serve in one of those areas.

3. **Ask yourself, “What do I enjoy doing?”**

If the Spirit has gifted us, and if we are growing in grace, then we will enjoy serving the Lord and the body with our particular gifts. (Though this may not always feel effortless.)

4. **Seek godly counsel – from elders (leaders), mentors, ministry leaders, etc.**

Mature Christians with whom you spend much time will be observing you and caring for you. They will be a valuable asset in either confirming or denying whether or not you have particular gifts in certain areas. Listen to them wisely.

5. **Serve!**

We don't have to wait until we have discovered our gifts to serve. Serve the church! As you are serving, you may even discover that you really enjoy it; the leaders in your church may confirm what they see, and you will have discovered one of the areas where the Spirit has equipped you to build up the body in love.

FINDING COMMUNITY & SERVICE AT TRINITY

Corporate Worship

As we have mentioned, this is the heart of our church. It's not just the "first step" or even the "foundation"; weekly corporate worship is both the foundation and the pinnacle of our fellowship together.

Christian Education

Christian Education for adults, youth (6th-12th grades), and children (5th grade and younger) takes place after worship each Sunday (11:10-12:10 a.m.). For adults, we typically have 2, 8-week classes per semester focusing on a book of the Bible, a theological topic (e.g., the Holy Spirit, election and predestination), a practical topic (e.g., marriage, evangelism) or a historical topic (e.g., the Reformation, Augustine of Hippo). Our classes this year have been Hosea, the 2nd Century Church, and we are currently in The Christian Family.

Midweek Gathering

A gathering for the whole church each Wednesday night of the ministry year from 5:30-8:00 p.m. We share a meal and fellowship together (5:30-6:30 p.m.) and then break into classes for adults, youth, and children (6:30-8:00). This is a time for us to grow together as a church body and grow to know, love, and follow Jesus more.

Men's Ministry

The men gather each Tuesday from 6:30-8:00 p.m. at the church. They begin with fellowship and a provided meal (usually off the grill or a pizza; 6:30-7:00) and then discuss a theological topic or article (7:00-8:00). Kevin Krahenbuhl (Kevin.Krahenbuhl@mtsu.edu) leads the Men's ministry.

Women's Ministry

The women typically have two Bible study options each fall and spring. They also have regular get-togethers, and annual events (e.g., Christmas brunch, women's retreat). The Women's Ministry is led by Laurie Newman (plnewman@comcast.net).

Children's Ministry

The Children's Ministry (5th Grade & younger) meets each Sunday during the CE hour for age-specific classes. They also have occasional events to build community among the children like Drama Camp each summer, an Easter Egg hunt, etc. The Children's Ministry is led by the Children's Ministry Director, Sherry Nowlin (children@trinitymboro.com).

Youth Ministry

The Youth Ministry (6th-12th Grade) meets each Sunday during the CE hour for class. They also have weekly gatherings on Wednesday nights from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. and occasional events (e.g., RYM Summer Conference) to facilitate growing deeper in God's word and in Christian fellowship amongst our youth. The Youth Ministry is led by our Assistant Pastor, Rev. Ryan Hudson (ryan@trinitymboro.com).

Church Life Events

We have annual and occasional events in the life of our church. These include Sunday potlucks, the Dance at the Kirk (October), Thanksgiving Dinner (November), Holy Week dinners, Easter Sunrise potluck breakfast, and occasional celebrations. We love getting together as a whole church when we can and always cherish these times.

Ministry Teams

The ministries below are the primary areas you can serve in our church. Under each ministry are the various ways you can serve. Some of these are “just show up and help” and some require a bit more training/skill, but we would love to know where your interests and willingness lie. We’ll send you a link to an online interest survey soon.

- **Nursery** (Kelley Pellegrin; nursery@trinitymboro.com)
 - Childcare on Sunday morning during worship (9:30–11:10 a.m.)
 - Infants, Toddlers, Pre-K
 - Childcare on Sunday morning during CE (11:10 a.m.–12:10 p.m.)
 - Infants/Toddlers
 - Childcare during other ministry events
 - Sunday afternoon School of Theology (3:00-4:30 p.m.)
 - Thursday evening English Language Classes, for children of students (6:00-7:30 p.m.)
 - Thursday morning Women’s Bible Studies (9:30-11:30 a.m.)
- **Hospitality Team** (admin@trinitymboro.com)
 - Greeting on Sunday mornings (monthly rotation)
 - Setting up communion prior to Sunday service (monthly rotation)
 - Setting up coffee prior to Sunday service (monthly rotation)
- **Children’s Ministry** (Sherry Nowlin; children@trinitymboro.com)
 - Teaching Christian Education (CE) on Sunday mornings for ages:
 - Kindergarten & 1st Grade
 - 2nd & 3rd Grade
 - 4th & 5th Grade (Catechesis)
 - Serving in the nursery classes during CE
 - Infants & Toddlers
 - Pre K
 - Serving in the Children’s Ministry during Midweek on Wednesday nights
 - Nursery (Infants & Toddlers)
 - Teacher assistant (PreK-2nd Grade, 3rd-6th Grade)
 - Helping with Planning and Setup for Occasional Events (Easter Egg Hunt, Christmas Party)
 - Drama Camp (help with planning and volunteers during the week)
- **Women’s Ministry** (Laurie Newman; plnewman@comcast.net)
 - Attending Women’s Bible Studies (Monday evenings, 6:00-8:00 p.m.; Thursday mornings, 9:30-11:30 a.m.)
 - Attending Women’s Get-Togethers and annual events (Christmas brunch, retreat, etc.)

- **Men's Ministry** (Kevin Krahenbuhl; Kevin.Krahenbuhl@mtsu.edu)
 - Attending Weekly Men's Ministry (every Tuesday, 6:00-8:00 p.m.; meal and theological discussion)
 - Cooking/grilling for weekly meeting, including buying the food and being reimbursed
 - Fall and spring retreats
 - Attending and serving at occasional men's service projects
- **Youth Ministry** (Rev. Ryan Hudson; ryan@trinitymboro.com)
 - Being the second adult in Youth CE on Sunday mornings (11:00 a.m.–noon)
 - Volunteering on Wednesday nights with the youth group during Midweek (Wednesday nights, 6:30-8:00 p.m.)
 - Hosting a Sunday night youth fellowship gathering in your home
- **Audio/Video** (David White; tech@trinitymboro.com)
 - Assisting with sound and slides on Sundays during worship (9:30-11:00 a.m.)
- **Missions Team** (Tim Dunn; tpdunnga@aol.com)
- **English Language Classes** (Melodie Widener; melwidener@comcast.net)
 - Teachers
 - Help with childcare for ELC students
- **Special Events Team** (Becky DiPiero; admin@trinitymboro.com)
 - Plans Church-wide events (Dance at the Kirk, Thanksgiving Dinner, potlucks, receptions after church, etc.)
 - Flowers/Décor
 - Setup/Teardown
 - Serving Food
- **Music Team** (Kimberly Robertson; music@trinitymboro.com)
 - Singers (choir and song leaders)
 - Instrumentalists
- **Meal Team** (Stephanie Cardel; thecardels@yahoo.com)
 - Scheduling meals for those who are sick, recently had a baby, or in need of meals for some other reason
 - Making meals for those people

Other Ministries and Missionaries TPC supports:

Missionaries

- **Nate and Nikki Bonham** currently reside in Rionegro, Colombia, serving with Mission to the World, providing university ministry, theological education, and mercy ministry that is all based around church-planting efforts.
- **Rob & Claudia Holmes** support Bible translation with The Seed Company and are based in the U.S.
- **John & Judy Lehner** have been serving in Spain with Serge since December of 2022. As members of the "church resource team" they serve their community in a variety of ways. John participates in preaching, facilitating the men's Bible study, discipling the men of the church, and networking with other evangelical pastors throughout Andalusia. They have 5 children: Abigail (14), Aiden (12), Wyatt (9), Owen (6), and Isabel (4).
- **Pete Mitchell** is serving with Mission to the World (PCA), church planting in Toulouse, France.
- **Tom & Catalina Nachtgergaele** are serving with Mission to the World (PCA) based in Brussels, Belgium, supporting and encouraging pastors and church plants across Europe.
- **Matt & Emma Hegler** are serving with Mission to the World (PCA), in Nagoya, Japan. Matt and Emma hope to come alongside the fading Japanese church and reach out to the youth with the gospel.

Local Ministries

- **Bridge Family Ministries** actively recruits volunteers and partners with local churches, creating a broad network of support focused on ministering to foster families. From respite care and meal trains to organizing community fun and activities, they are committed to offering a comprehensive support system so that foster families will feel the tangible love of Jesus and recognize they are not alone on this journey. Their initiative also includes encouragement and life skills training, ensuring youth in foster care have the tools and support they need to thrive. Their ministry's goal is for every foster family to experience the warmth of a community eager to help them succeed and flourish.
- **RUF (Reformed University Fellowship) at MTSU** meets with students weekly for Bible study to spend time building relationships with God and each other.
- **English Language Learning classes (ELC)** are available free of charge on a regular basis. Classes are open to any adults for whom English is not their first language. Students are taught by trained teachers, one evening per week at the church.
- **Special Kids of Murfreesboro** is a ministry that seeks to serve Jesus Christ by ministering to the needs of children with special needs in Middle Tennessee.
- **Portico of Murfreesboro** is a ministry to women facing unplanned pregnancies in Middle Tennessee.

- **Doors of Hope** is a non-profit organization sharing the Gospel and providing soon-to-be-released female inmates with group mentoring/life skill classes.
- **Greenhouse Ministries** has been operating in Middle Tennessee since 1999. Greenhouse reaches out to underprivileged individuals and families in Rutherford County to provide assistance with food, clothing, job skill training, adult education classes, and counseling.
- **Harvest USA**, located in Philadelphia, is a ministry of truth and mercy proclaiming Christ as Lord to a sexually broken world, bringing the power of the Gospel of Jesus Christ to transform the lives of those affected by sexual sin.