

# What to Expect at Our Gatherings

We pray that you will **enjoy God's Word, God's Spirit, and God's People** when you meet with us to glorify the Lord Jesus Christ. **Midweek Meetings** are in two locations (N. Holland and Allendale) and last about 60 minutes. **Weekend Worship** at our location in Holland lasts about 90 minutes, but we're certain you won't be bored—because of all the **different and exciting** things that are going on!

- **Word-Filled Services**

Weekend worship time begins with a, “Scripture Picture” session—a brief time for the children to have the **highlights of the Bible** presented to them in a visual and an understandable way. The children enjoy prayer and praise with the adults until preaching time, when they are excused for children's ministries. We typically have an inspiring congregational recitation of a, “Proclamation” which contains **personalized passages from the Bible**. **Scriptures are creatively shared** when various leaders come forward for: prayer requests and praise reports, receiving the offering, leading in praise, and coordinating Communion. Our regular and guest speakers are dedicated to **proclaiming the Word interestingly, accurately and applicably**.

- **Spirit-Filled Services**

We are **vibrant in our prayers and praises**. We are also careful to be sensitive to the presence of the Lord and are therefore **intentionally non-ritualistic** in our worship. The elements of our worship are **not in any particular order each week** (commonly: prayer, praise, communion, offering, preaching). **We try not to rush** whatever God seems to be blessing at the moment. It is our hope that we will minister unto Him—and that He will minister to us—in whatever ways seem appropriate at the time. We also allow for the **occasional operation of spiritual gifts**, but only in a decent and orderly manner (as described in 1 Corinthians, Chapters 12-14).

- **People-Friendly Services**

The atmosphere at all our meetings is **casual and informal**. Come as you are! We have a **friendly** congregation and we're sure you'll find a warm welcome. We start our Weekend Worship with **food and fellowship**. Our music is contemporary and our **praise is expressive**. We have **communion** each week, and encourage our guests to partake if they are Christians and so desire. We have a “**no pressure**” philosophy and are careful not to make our guests feel obligated to pray aloud with us, give in the offering, respond to the preaching, or participate in any way they may feel uncomfortable.

For many, this **non-traditional, non-structured, non-predictable**, Word and Spirit-infused atmosphere is a spiritually refreshing experience. Often, people exclaim they enjoyed a **life-changing encounter with the resurrected Christ**...and when they do, our prayers are answered. If you are spiritually hungry and looking for a church—where you can **enjoy God's Word, God's Spirit, and God's People**—we may be the church you are looking for!



Sr. Pastor, Lighthouse Christian Fellowship

# What Folks Like About Our Church

The following comments were compiled from a survey of our congregation and guests:

## We Enjoy:

### God's Word

- **Preaching** is bold, straightforward, Bible-based, truthful, interesting, relevant, and focused on the original messages of Christ and His Apostles as found in the Gospels, Acts, and Epistles.
- **Teaching** is dynamic, inspiring, accurate, well-rounded, and includes both Old and New Testaments, with a wide variety of helpful subjects.
- **Scripture** is used abundantly in services, with participation from many different people, along with engaging audience interaction.
- **Bible Classes** for children have lessons, songs, arts and crafts, as well as performing arts, including: choir, drama and dance.
- **Home Bible Studies** are available for sharing the Gospel of Christ with potential disciples; building marriages and families, and for any personal questions that anyone may have.

### God's Spirit

- **Prayer** is offered genuinely, fervently, intensely and with heartfelt concern for all needs and requests...and the answers come!
- **Praise** is given expressively and exuberantly with lively participation by all ages—and with a contemporary music style.
- **Worship** is entered into with reverence, awe, and humility—being careful to honor the moving of God's manifest presence and power.
- **Gifts of the Spirit** operate among members because attention is given to identify, and promote the use of, the abilities God gives to all.
- **Fruit of the Spirit** is displayed in righteousness, peace, joy, love, patience, goodness, gentleness, faith, meekness, and self-control.

### God's People

- **Leaders** are personable, loveable, available, capable and caring.
- **Members** are accepting, loving, kind, non-judgmental and committed.
- **Relationships** are warm, close, fun, harmonious and understanding.
- **Fellowship** is welcomed and promoted in services and activities.
- **Involvement Opportunities** are plentiful—people work cooperatively together and give generously to those in need, at home and abroad.