



THE HUS CHURCH MINISTRY GUIDE 2007

A MISSIONAL CHURCH

Hus Church is seeking to become a “missional” church. A missional church calls people into a relationship with Christ, equips them for following Christ, and encourages them in the exercise of their ministry as part of God’s mission in the world. We do this by looking to the Bible as God’s Word, developing healthy relationships through the work of God’s Holy Spirit, and providing an atmosphere that frees people to explore where God is calling them to serve.

DISCIPLESHIP RATHER THAN MEMBERSHIP

In discipleship, every person is invited to discover a ministry about which they are passionate and are gifted by God to do effectively. When people are doing what God has gifted them for, they are free to leave behind the staleness of institutional membership for the life-giving experience of serving Christ through fellow believers and the needs of the world. This is the goal of Hus Church for every member, to discover God’s call and go far beyond minimal membership to the challenge and joy of being a disciple of Jesus Christ.

A BLESSING PLACE

A missional church is a “blessing place,” where people are free to unleash their imaginations and do great things in grateful response to God’s love. It is where the gifts of the Spirit are called forth in service to God’s purposes, where every member seeks in Christ’s name to offer themselves sacrificially as a servant to others, and where worship is a wonderland of God’s glory. It is a people who see life as a continual festival of thanksgiving before God, who nurture fervent faith with intelligence; and who express personal commitment in love for others. This kind of church is indeed the body of Christ bringing the healing grace of God into a suffering world.

EVERY MEMBER A MINISTER

At Hus Church, we want to be a faithful church that helps every member find his or her area of service. The scriptures are clear that every Christian has been called to ministry, and that the Holy Spirit has given each believer special gifts for the accomplishment of their ministry. This truth is especially highlighted in I Corinthians 12:4-5, Romans 12:6-8, Ephesians 4:11-13, and I Peter 2:4-5. If you are not familiar with this emphasis in the Bible, it would be good to read these passages before continuing your way through this guide.

EQUIPPING FOR MINISTRY

The faithful church will mobilize its resources to support Christ’s mission in all its many forms. It is our goal for all members to discover their area of service and the gifts God has given them for doing their ministry. The staff and elders at Hus Church seek to lead first of all by faith and example, and next by equipping and training people for effective mission.

MINISTRY GUIDE

This ministry guide is a tool designed to help you discover where and how you may serve God in this unique fellowship of disciples. Some opportunities require special training, which will be provided. It is helpful to know your spiritual gifts as you look over the opportunities listed. If you

need help identifying your spiritual gifts, please sign up for the next *Evoking Your Spiritual Gifts Workshop*, offered at least two times per year at Hus Church.

SEEK AND SELECT

A wide variety of ministry opportunities are highlighted here. Many of these are presently active and operating at Hus Church. Others are presently being developed. Still others are envisioned but have yet to be brought into reality. These ministries are awaiting activation by gifted and committed leadership, so only mark these if you are interested in a leadership role. Such ministries are identified by the letter (LN), which means “leadership needed.”

Since Hus Church is in the early stages of becoming a missional church, the session has designated certain ministries as priorities for 2007. These are identified by the letters (SP), which means “session priority.”

Prayerfully select those ministries to which you sense God’s Spirit calling you. If you do not find something listed that attracts you, you are invited to seek God’s guidance, and then offer a suggestion to the staff for a new ministry at Hus Church that would fit your call and gifts.

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

STEP 1 – Read through the list of ministry opportunities and place a mark by those which attract your interest.

STEP 2 – If you are aware of your spiritual gifts, write them down and then review the ministries you have marked in step 1. Place another mark by the ones that directly or indirectly use your spiritual gifts. (If you do not yet know your spiritual gifts, please continue, but take the *Evoking Your Spiritual Gifts Workshop* as soon as possible.)

STEP 3 – Now go through the ones you have marked and circle those that especially attract you and for which you sense a desire to serve. While it is helpful to be talented and skilled in a certain area, it is far more important that you sense a personal call to a ministry, regardless of your training.

STEP 4 – Add up the point values of your selections. All ongoing ministry involvements (minimum of monthly participation) have a value of 2 points, and all occasional ministry services (less than monthly) have a 1-point value. Some ministries have both ongoing and occasional tasks available, so in these choose which involvement level you prefer. If you are employed full time, your total ministry value must not exceed 5 points. Those who are employed less than full time may have a maximum of 8 points.

While we encourage every member to be in ministry, it is not healthy to over-commit and burn out. Balance is part of God’s plan in helping us have an effective and life-giving ministry. If someone wants to be involved beyond what is suggested, they may request a waiver from the session.

STEP 5 – Review your selections after adding up their point values, and pray for God to guide you in choosing only those you have the most passion for and keep you within the healthy balance of ministry involvement.

STEP 6 – List your final selection of ministries, and place in the offering plate during worship. Of course, be sure to include your name, address, and phone number.

STEP 7 – The church staff will review your interests, and refer them to the appropriate team leaders, who will then contact you to discuss this together. If you and the team leader agree to proceed, the team leader will notify the office of your ministry placement. If you have not been contacted within three weeks, call the church office (363-0067) and inquire about the status of your selections.

THE BENEFITS OF SERVING WILLINGLY

Generally speaking, the church is served much better by people serving willingly in a ministry they feel called to rather than coerced into doing. So, we do not usually “recruit” volunteers at Hus Church, for the following reasons.

When people are asked to serve in a specific ministry, they usually feel reluctant to say “no.” They want to be nice, but end up frustrated and stuck in something they do not enjoy.

The church staff cannot assess and know the gifts, abilities, and talents of every member of a congregation. You are the one who can best determine where you should serve. While the church staff and fellow disciples can help, only you know what ministries you are passionate about, and only you discern the Holy Spirit’s leading.

When you prayerfully consider where you want to serve, you have a greater sense of purpose. You have responded in freedom to God’s call, and this leads to a fulfilling commitment that will yield fruitful results for you and the church.

You are a unique individual with distinctive gifts God has given you. Your own sense of self-esteem and spiritual health are divinely connected to your willingness to serve in a place and way that fits you and your gifts.

The decision is yours. While service to Christ, the church, and the world is a member expectation, no one is forced or coerced into anything. We can assist, encourage, challenge, and support, but only you can make the choice that is truly in line with God’s will in your life.

Remember, some ministry opportunities are occasional, maybe being every other month or only for a specific time during the year, while others are much more involved on an ongoing basis. Most people mix their involvement with occasional and ongoing ministries, keeping in mind the need to balance your involvement to avoid burning out.

SUMMARY OF STEPS

- Pray for God’s guidance.
- Read this booklet.
- Look over the ministry menu.
- Select ministries you are willing to serve in for at least one year.

For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Ephesians 2:10

WORSHIP TEAMS

Drama Ministry (occasional) –Prepares and performs skits for worship and special events, including an annual musical presentation.

Scripture Readers (ongoing, LN) –

Prepares and delivers scripture readings in worship.

Choir (ongoing) –Prepares and performs special music in worship.

Praise Chorus and Musicians (ongoing) – Prepares and leads congregational singing in worship.

WOW (Worship On Wheels) (occasional) – A ministry of the Praise Chorus and Musicians doing worship in locations other than Hus Church.

Audio/Video (ongoing and occasional, LN, SP) – Receive training and run audio and video equipment during worship services and special events.

Visual Arts Ministry (occasional and ongoing) – Works on the appearance of the church and sanctuary, involving banners, plants, shrubs, posters, and decorations.

Youth Worship Service (ongoing, SP) – A monthly non-Sunday service planned by and for high school and college youth.



WELCOMING TEAMS

Door Greeters (occasional, SP) – Friendly people who meet people at the door, giving an all-important first impression.



Ushers (occasional) – Assist people in finding seating, help with any special needs, and take offering during worship

Elevator Attendants (occasional) –Run the elevator during worship and special events.

Nursery Attendants (occasional and ongoing) – Provide care for children up to age five in nursery. Parents with children in these ages are encouraged to help with this ministry.

Visitor's Table and Hospitality Center (occasional) – Be present at a special table set up for providing help and information to people coming into the church building.

Visitor Follow-up (ongoing, SP) – Make phone calls to visitors after their first visit, and write and send letters.

Newcomer Orientation (SP, occasional) – Three times a year prepare and assist with setting up an orientation class for new comers.

YOUTH AND FAMILY LIFE TEAMS

Elementary Ministry (ongoing and occasional, LN, SP) – Providing activities and ministering to this age group.

Middle School Ministry (ongoing and occasional, SP) – Providing activities and ministering to this age group.

High School Ministry (ongoing, SP) – Providing activities and ministering to this age group.

College And Career (ongoing and occasional) – Communicating and providing support for young adults in college and new careers.

Family Events (occasional, SP) –Planning occasional events that promote and support the health and life of families.

Parenting (occasional, LN, SP) – Provides support for parents in various stages of raising children.

Marriage Enrichment (occasional, LN) – Promotes the spiritual health of marriages through information and special events, including the *Marriage and Family Life Conference*.



CHRISTIAN LIVING TEAMS



Women's Ministry – (occasional and ongoing, LN) Planning spiritual growth opportunities for women, such as Bible studies, retreats, and special events, including *Women of Faith* conferences.

Men's Ministry (occasional and ongoing, LN) – Planning spiritual growth opportunities for men, such as Bible studies, and retreats, including *Promise Keeper* conferences.

Koinonia Groups (ongoing, SP) – Planning and support of home small groups meeting in homes for fellowship and spiritual growth.

Recreational Groups (occasional, LN) – Provide recreational opportunities for members and friends of Hus Church.

Heritage Ministry (ongoing, LN) – Recalling the history of faithfulness in this church through maintaining, and promoting an historical display area.

Hus Players (occasional) - An occasional gathering of young adults and those who wish they were for fun and fellowship. Events usually include a fall picnic and hayrack ride.

Lunch Bunch (ongoing) – This is a monthly fellowship group oriented to senior citizens, although all are welcome to participate.

Emmaus Reunion Group (occasional) – “Walk to Emmaus” alumni/ae who support Emmaus Walk events, and sponsor new “pilgrims” on “walks.”

Seniors Ministries (occasional and ongoing) Providing activities and ministering to senior citizens within and outside the congregation.



PASTORAL CARE TEAMS

Shepherding Ministry (ongoing, LN, SP) – A ministry of caring for members at Hus Church, “shepherds” provide oversight and encouragement. Training is required for this ministry.

Fellowship Meals (occasional) – A ministry of the Deacons, this group arranges meals on occasions such as funerals and fellowship events. You do not have to be a deacon to do this.

Card Ministry (ongoing) – A deacon's ministry, this involves sending cards in times of need and occasions such as birthdays and anniversaries.

Hearts Of Hus (ongoing) – A ministry of support to members who are not able to attend worship or church events due to health or age. Training is provided in Hearts of Hus meetings.

Prayer and Healing Room (ongoing, LN, SP) – A special space is set-aside in Hus Church for prayer, meditation, and healing. This team promotes this space, oversees its use, and provides spiritual assistance when requested.

MISSION SUPPORT TEAMS



Office Team (ongoing and occasional) – Involves helping with office tasks. Computer knowledge is not required.

Building Maintenance (ongoing) – A ministry overseen by the Trustees, this involves cleaning and maintenance of the church facilities.

Grounds Maintenance (ongoing) – A ministry overseen by the Trustees, this involves tending to the yard and parking lot of the church.

Technology Team (occasional and ongoing) – This involves maintenance of church computers and electronics.

Prayer Warriors (ongoing) – People who pray for the church, special requests, and intercede for community.

Pledging Ministry (occasional, SP) - The funding ministry of Hus Church, this group encourages members of the congregation in the spiritual discipline of tithing, and seeks new and creative ways to presents this challenge as a positive spiritual experience.

Ministry Guide Team (occasional) – Canvasses members regularly to encourage ministry involvement.

COMMUNITY SERVICE TEAMS

Quilters (ongoing and occasional) – This ministry uses quilt making to raise money for mission projects, minister to families in need, and share friendship.

Parents Night Out (occasional) – A ministry providing an evening out for parents in the church’s neighborhood,

Need Focused Workshops (ongoing and occasional, LN, SP) – Provides workshops and seminars targeting the needs of people in the community, such as single parenting. The team selects subjects, makes arrangements, and publicizes workshops.

Saltshaker Ministries (occasional, LN, SP) – A ministry organizing projects to demonstrate Hus Church’s partnership with the community, such a doing repair work in a school. This group organizes at least two church-wide community projects each year.

MAHP (occasional) – This involves working on houses that are being refurbished for low income buyers by Mid-America Housing Partnership.

Ice Cream Carnival (occasional) – Help to plan and publicize annual carnival for the neighborhood. Promotes the Sunday School program.

Annual Rummage Sale (occasional) – An event to provide a service to the community and raise funds for a special projects.

1st Presbyterian's Sunday Evening Meal Program (occasional) – The youth of the church serve homeless meals at 1st Presbyterian Church every other month, and an adult group during selected weekdays.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH TEAMS

Exploring God’s World Sunday School (ongoing and occasional, SP) – A rotational learning stations approach for grades 1-5. There are many exciting opportunities to serve in this highly rewarding ministry.

Middle School Class (ongoing) Help with class for 7th through 9th graders.

Adult Education Team (ongoing) – Oversees and plans workshops and classes for adults, including the “School of Christian Living.”

PTR Week (occasional, LN) – Plans an annual *Preaching-Teaching-Reaching* event featuring a noted speaker or group with a week of special activities.

MISSION OUTREACH TEAMS



Alpha Course (occasional and ongoing, SP) – This is a ten week course geared to pre-Christians and is offered twice a year for people who are interested in exploring Christianity in a safe, non-threatening atmosphere. Training is required for teachers only.

Advertising and Publicity (ongoing and occasional, SP) – This involves planning Hus Church's communications in radio, TV, newspapers, and mailings.

World Service Projects (ongoing and occasional) – This team coordinates and promotes connections between Hus Church and worldwide missions, such as World Vision.

Linn County Association of Evangelicals (occasional, LN) – This ministry connects Hus Church with other evangelical churches in Linn County. Team members communicate LCAE activities to church members.

Presbytery of East Iowa (ongoing and occasional, LN, SP) – Involves the congregation in and strengthens communication with the work of the Presbyterian Church USA through a positive and affirming relationship with the Presbytery of East Iowa.

Presbyterians For Renewal (occasional, LN) – Encourages participation in a positive and effective renewal organization in the PCUSA.



If after looking over this menu, you are sensing a call to something not listed here, please talk with the staff.

If you are already active in a ministry not listed, within or outside Hus Church, please write your name and ministry on a piece of paper and drop it in the offering plate so we can know and refer others who may be interested.

Remember that "LN" indicates a ministry awaiting leadership. Only sign up if you are willing to lead.

Christ makes each of us something unlike any other creation ever fashioned by God --- something wonderful, exciting, unique; something specifically needed in the total Body of Christ. This uniqueness, this very self that is so hard to describe, this charismatic person, is the gift of the Holy Spirit. It is the primary gift that we bring to the Body, and without it the Body is immeasurably impoverished.

- Gordon Cosby

(From the Church of the Saviour's *Handbook For Mission Groups*.)