

PRC Launch

- **Who is Peine Ridge Church anyway? (See it... Hear it... Sense it... Tell you now)**
 - Peine Ridge Church Exist for one purpose, and one purpose only: We live to EXALT Christ!

A very legitimate question: What does it mean to **exalt**?

- The most simple way I can explain it... it's **to lift up high in honor & praise**.. like Psalmist proclaims:

Psalm 57:5 Be exalted, O God, above the heavens! Let your glory be over all the earth!

Psalm 97:9 For you, O LORD, are [A](#) most high over all the earth; you are exalted far above all gods.

God IS most high over all the earth, whether we acknowledge it or not – but the Psalmist calls us to continually exalt God in His greatness
Consider an example with me... the momentous occasions of life

- When you team won the little league championship (lifted trophy..)
- When you married your husband (grasped hands & lifted...)
- When you had your first child (with tears flowing you lifted...)
- When your Marine grandfather dies (lifted.. flag 1 more time)

Why do we do this? B/C to lift high is to put in the place of honor/celebration
But more than the Treasure of trophies, beauty of babies, and the flying of flags

Here at Peine Ridge Church, we believe the only Holy thing worthy to be continually & forever honored, praised, extolled, worshipped, glorified, magnified and celebrated... is the name of Jesus Christ

- This is who we are, and that's what we'll do... exalt Christ.

- **How will we do this as a church?**

- At Peine Ridge Church, we want you to know that we love the Church... not just Peine Ridge, but the 'community of all true believers' that make up Christ Church
- Though the church can be messy and it's filled with sinful broken people, we love the Church because Christ loved the Church... to the point of His death:

Ephesians 5:25 Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her.

And as we plant this church, we don't intend to do anything new, but to be a new church, in a young community, doing something really, really old.

- To join Matthias Lot Church, and 2Rivers Church, and Joy Bible Fellowship down road... in God's ultimate plan for those churches and every other church that has ever existed
- To nurture (or EQUIP) those who have already believed in Jesus Christ
- And to reach (or ENGAGE) those who are still dead in their trespasses and sins

That's not new! That's old...

- Equipping is what the apostle challenged the early church in Ephesus to do almost 2,000 years ago...
 - “to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ” (Ephesians 4:12)
- And engaging it’s what Jesus called the first disciples to continue after his death and resurrection ...
 - “that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem.” (Luke 24:47)
- That’s why our mission statement says, “We live to exalt Christ by equipping Christians and engaging our community...
 - The two ways we will lift Christ name high is by continually helping
 - Christians grow deeply in their love & knowledge of God
 - And non-Christians in our community & world to know Jesus

◦ How will we equip?

If you come back next week, I’d like to give you a vision for what you’ll experience

As you walk through the double doors, you will see a green banner with a table sitting in front of it that says, “Equip”

- On that table, you’ll see a 75 page booklet that our pastors have been working on for the past 3 months – it’s a worship guide that will accompany us through the study of our 1st book – JONAH
- It contains an overview of the book, weekly study questions, prayer focus, resources for parents, ideas for missional living, commentaries
- We’ll encourage you to pick that up and join us in the service

Then, in the worship gathering, you will hear us read God’s Word, preach the Word, pray the Word, and sing the Word... then, you’ll see us respond to the Word as we take Weekly Communion

- When we preach, we’ll preach expository sermons... verse by verse
- We won’t take culture and apply it to scripture... but rather take historical scripture and apply it in our cultural context

Then in August, we’ll launch our Peine Families

- Small groups meeting weekly in homes
- Sharing meals, sharing in the Word, and sharing life

◦ How will we engage?

The Triangle - While initially my wife and I weren’t certain why God had called us to live off Peine Road, that calling in the past 3 years has become clear

- The area of land that exist between Wentville Parkway/ West Myer, Point Praire, and 40/61 makes up an almost perfect triangle
- In that triangle over the past 8 years, almost 2000 homes have been built, equaling somewhere around 6,000 new people

If our estimations are correct, of those 6,000 people 5,500 in this community are either unchurched or underchurched

- And in that triangle, there are only 2 small churches to reach them
- Our efforts of evangelistic focus as a church will begin here
- Could it be all of Wentzville? Yes. Will we be happy when other people come? Yes! But Wentzville is a big place, 6,000 people is plenty of people to focus on, and there is a great need in this community for a gospel centered church.

Square – The heights subdivision will be our 2nd area of focus for missional living

- Why did we choose the heights? 90% of all crime in Wentzville happens in the heights subdivision. It has the highest concentration of domestic abuse and child neglect. It is considered a blighted area by many in the city.

And when we asked, “who needs the most help?” this is where we came.

When we consider Jesus, and wonder where he might have been found in Wentzville spending most of his time, this is where we think he would be.

Circle – And finally, we will together reach the world. While God has not given us a specific people group or region to focus on yet, we will passionately take the gospel to all end of the earth

- It is our prayer that missionaries would arise from our midst
- And there would be a face with the resources that we will send to foreign lands

**HOME = engagement doesn't begin with the church in T, S, or C... it begins by restoring the home...
At Peine Ridge Church, this is what it will look like to exalt Christ...**

- One final question you have that we would like to answer today... why?
 - Why would we plant a church? Why would we exalt Christ? Why equip and engage?

Because at Peine Ridge Church, we believe there is one God... and he is the Maker of heaven and earth. And God made us in His image and likeness, male and female, with one overarching purpose: to glorify Him. We were made for worship, but we chose to sin against Him and disobey His commands. As a result, all men and women since Adam are separated from God and continue to live in disobedience.... choosing sin all the time. Daily we are weighed down by guilt and grief, plagued by our conscience that we were made for something more while living in the shadow of God's original purpose. And yet, while we lived in the midst of our sin, this God who had created all things chose to come down from heaven and enter history as the person of Jesus Christ. He was born of a virgin and lived a perfect life though He was tempted by Satan in every way. He fulfilled His mission by going up to the cross and becoming a substitute for all people who would put their faith in His perfect and atoning sacrifice for sin. During the crucifixion, Jesus body was beaten and broken (**breaking bread here**) in place of sinners who should have rightfully received their punishment for sin. While on the cross, his blood dripped down (**holding up communion bowl**) on the same tree that our blood

should have dripped down. Jesus was able to make this payment for sin, but only because He was perfect. If He would have sinned, then He would rightly be making His own payment! But the story doesn't stop there, Jesus' dead body lay in a guarded tomb. Then, on the 3rd day, on a Sunday, Jesus rose in victory proving he was God. He conquered sin, death, demons, and hell. Then He commissioned all Christians to be missionaries, telling of His love and forgiveness to all the world! He ascended into heaven, and there he rules over all things at all time.... He is King of Kings and Lord of Lords... This is why we exalt!

If you believe in this Jesus, and you have trusted Him as Lord and savior of your life, we now invite you to partake of the communion ordinance Christ instituted. As we eat of the bread and drink of the cup, we remember, proclaim, and by faith are spiritually nourished in the sacrifice of Christ which he made to redeem us from hell and bring us back into God's presence spotless and blameless. Today we will take communion by intinction, which means we will dip the bread in the cup.

If you are here today and you have not put your faith and hope in Jesus Christ, we want you to know that communion is only for those whom have believed. However, if God has stirred your heart today and opened your eyes to His gospel: repent of sin and put your faith in Christ! If you have done this today, please let us know by talking with us after the service or filling out an info card at the red entry table.