

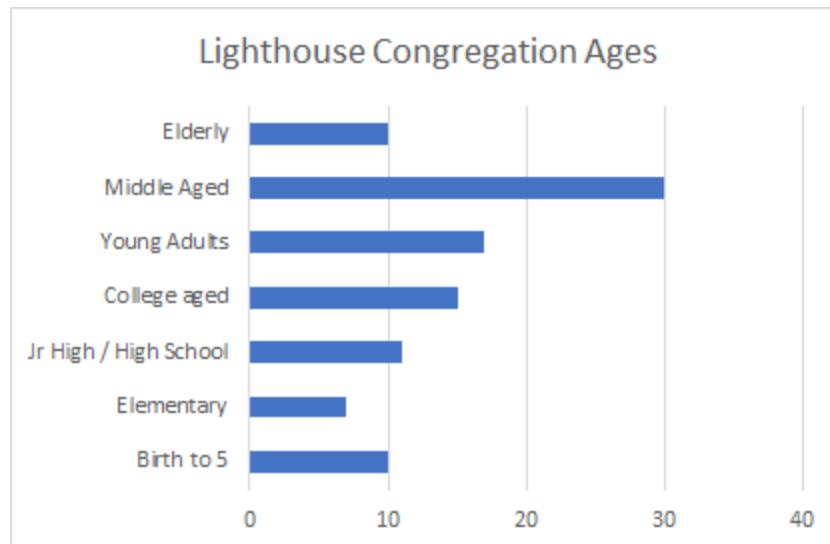
Church Profile - The Lighthouse Fellowship - 2020

The Lighthouse Fellowship - A Brief History

Our church started 15 years ago as a house church. Eventually the congregation outgrew the house and we decided to invest in a building. We were able to secure a piece of land in Corsica, built a basement and moved an older, small church in. About 5 years ago, the preaching elder who helped start the church left and the church leadership felt that it would be best to share a pastor with another congregation. The arrangement was initially meant to be short-term but the pastor was filling most of our needs so we did not pursue a change. Within the last year, it became clear that we needed to get a full-time pastor again. We met with our current pastor and he agrees; he has told us he will preach until Easter.

Geographic Area & Demographics

The Lighthouse Fellowship is located in Corsica SD, population approximately 600 people and is predominantly an agricultural community. The Congregation consists of members/regular attendees from Armour, Parkston, Platte, Plankinton, Stickney and Wessington Springs.



Elderly (65+), Middle Aged (40-65), Young Adults (25-39), College-aged (18-24)

What We Believe

Please read our statement of faith from our website: [Statement of Faith](#)

Our Church Life

We have multiple people that participate in worship, both contemporary and traditional music. Communion is the first Sunday of the month. Sunday school for pre-K through Adult is before our church service. Sunday school teachers are on a volunteer basis. Pre-K through 2nd grade has 8 children attending regularly, 3rd-6th grade has 3, and 7th-12th grade has 9.

AWANA is held on Wednesday nights starting with a meal followed by games and lesson. There are approximately 20-25 children from the community involved in AWANA.

Youth Group is also on Wednesday nights.

Mothers Uplifting Mothers (MUMs) meet monthly and there is a weekly women's Bible study. Many men of our congregation attend Men's Life in Stickney which is a monthly men's Bible study.

Vacation Bible school is a community effort around the week of Memorial day. Area churches rotate leading the event with many people from different churches helping throughout the week.

We strive to have one fellowship event about every month. February is the Sweetheart Supper, women's/men's retreat in March, Easter morning breakfast, Graduate potluck in May, Picnic in the park in July, Baptismal service at the river in August, AWANA kick-off in September, Pastor appreciation potluck in October, Chili Cook-off in November and women's Christmas party in December.

The Baptismal service is a weekend camping event at the river with boating, jet skiing, tubing, swimming, campfires and usually a volleyball/bean bag tournament. Church service is at a sandy beach with candidates asked to publicly declare their faith and then baptized in the Missouri River. A potluck follows.

Regular monthly support for nine (9) overseas and domestic missions. In the 15 years of the Lighthouse Fellowship, there have been numerous (maybe 6 or 7?) overseas mission trips (Kenya, India, Nepal) organized to encourage the pastors we support.

Additionally many have travelled to Guatemala to help with the Operation Christmas Shoebox distribution.

There are also regular outreaches established including a jail ministry and Aurora Plains Academy.

Most of the maintenance in the church is done by volunteers with the exception of a paid janitor. Sanctuary is wheelchair accessible; fellowship area is in basement with steps beginning to be an issue for some.

Strengths of Our Church

- Members seek Godly counsel through prayer
- Mission-minded
- Fellowship
- Strongly connected core body
- Generous
- Diversity of backgrounds
- Male leadership
- AWANA program / Youth Group
- Musically gifted
- Look for opportunities/open doors to witness.

- Bible studies/Classes exploring spirituality

Challenges of Our Church

- Aging congregation - need to attract younger families
- Facilities (fellowship area in basement; small rooms)
- Diversity of backgrounds
- Difficult to get kids to come with all the churches in the area
- On-line presence (Currently updating website)
- Traveling Distance for some