

Church Background/History

- Located in the village of Riverdale, NE population of about 247 people. 5-6 miles northwest of Kearney, NE (pop. 40K). Small, rural/country church. Building and church are approx. 130 years old and completely debt free. Healthy diversity of younger and older families with homeschool and traditional schooled children. Members come from many different communities up to 50 miles away.
- We support a wide variety of missions locally as well as globally. When we can we try to have missionaries and organizations come to our church to give an update from the mission field. Every other year we focus on our church body by going on a church retreat. The off year we focus primarily on missions.
- Our church is the only church in Riverdale.
- Sunday Attendance:
 - Sunday School - Adult: 15-18
 - Sunday School - Teen: 8-14
 - Sunday School - Kids: 10-15
 - Sunday Service: 70-80
 - Wednesday Night Bible Study:
 - Every 2 weeks
 - 12-16 people
- Pastor is considered a "Regular Pastor" meaning that he is just our regular pastor who preaches on most Sundays.
- Since we are a small church, we can not afford to hire a full time pastor. Candidates would have to have a "normal every day job", be retired, or be otherwise financially stable.
- Current pastor of 36 years is retiring.

-Our church became independent from other denominations in the 1970's, making our church a non-denominational, Bible believing church that reads, follows, and believes the Bible is completely true and without error. Our congregation is tight knit and very much a family body. Everyone in the church uses their talents and abilities to help out wherever they can. People volunteer to mow, shovel snow, move tables/chairs, prepare communion, make bulletins, pack (Operation Christmas Child) shoe boxes, cook meals, interior renovations. Basically, wherever there is a need, our members help out where they can. We've rarely had to hire out help. The children are also encouraged to and are great at helping out as they can.

- Sunday morning -

Sunday School - Our Sunday mornings start at 9:30 where we begin the Sunday School hour singing a couple songs out of chorus books as well as some "action" songs for the kids till about 9:45. Then we are dismissed to go to our Sunday School classes. The adults tend to visit for a while till close to 10am before beginning. All Sunday School classes are led by volunteers from the body.

- Church service - At 10:30/10:35, all SS classes return to the sanctuary where we open with a hymn. Our pastor reads announcements and asks for prayer requests from the pulpit. Since we are very informal in our morning exercises, the church family will give updates on different topics

as well as share their prayer requests. We then move on to communion and offering where two elders (on rotation) pray and serve the trays to two ushers who then disperse to the congregation. We sing a couple more songs before the Pastor begins his sermon. He usually leads with a couple jokes. After he is finished, we end with one more song upon dismissal. We usually get done around 11:45 or so. People usually hang around and talk well after noon..... We don't take ourselves very seriously and are okay with making mistakes or being the butt of jokes. We understand that we are all human and have flaws...

- Wed Bible Study - We have an adult Bible study every other week at 7:30. Our current pastor usually leads this, but if he is unavailable, he will ask if someone would like to lead so we don't have to cancel study. He teaches from a wide range of topics, but they're usually ones that have some current application. Study usually goes till 8:30 or 9 depending on how much discussion there is.

At this time, there are no Wed night children's activities.

We do host a CEF 5-day club meeting once a year during the summer (in place of VBS). It's for children ages 4-14.

Board members meet monthly, sometimes more.