

WELCOME TO



BELL CREEK

Community Church



MARCH 15, 2026

GOOD COMPANIONS ON OUR JOURNEY
EPHESIANS 2:19-22

SERMON BY: PASTOR FRED WRIGHT

CURRENT SERMON SERIES:
FOLLOW – OUR JOURNEY WITH JESUS

GOOD COMPANIONS ON OUR JOURNEY

EPHESIANS 2:19-22

Who We Are Together

How We Live Together

How We Grow Together

Where We are Headed Together

FOR NEXT WEEK

Read John 4:4-30.

**DAILY CHRONOLOGICAL
BIBLE READING**

MARCH 15: DEUTERONOMY 11-13
MARCH 16: DEUTERONOMY 14-16
MARCH 17: DEUTERONOMY 17-20
MARCH 18: DEUTERONOMY 21-23
MARCH 19: DEUTERONOMY 24-27
MARCH 20: DEUTERONOMY 28-29
MARCH 21: DEUTERONOMY 30-31

UPCOMING AT THE CREEK

NEW TESTAMENT THEOLOGY CLASS

Our New Testament Theology Class continues tonight at 6:00 PM in the Prayer Room. Please join us as we continue our study in the Apocalypse of John.

SPECIAL SUPPORT NEEDS PRAYER MEETING

Join us for a time of discussion and prayer for parents who have special support needs with family members who have underlying challenges that can limit the family's church attendance and involvement. We will meet on Saturday, March 21 from 9:00-10:00 AM in the Prayer Room. If you have questions, please contact Mike Henry (mhenry045@gmail.com).

ROAD TO CALVARY

Road to Calvary 2026, an open house interactive walk-through will be on Wednesday, April 1 from 12:00-9:00 PM. There will be various learning stations set up throughout the church to guide you through Jesus's final hours. It takes about 45 minutes to complete the walk, and the event is appropriate for adults and children. Please enter through the very back of the church at the end of the Kids' Creek hallway.

EASTER AT BELL CREEK

Our Good Friday Service will be Friday, April 3 at 6:30 PM. Easter Sunday service is Sunday, April 4 at 9:15 & 11:00 AM.

DAD-CO

A new community just for Dads is starting! DadCo is an opportunity for dads to build real friendships, share honest advice on parenting life, and find encouragement through monthly meetups and events. Whether you are a new dad or your kids are grown, DadCo equips you to thrive as a father, husband, and man-together in community. Join us at our launch on Monday, April 6 at 6:30 PM in the Prayer Room. Moving forward, meetings will be the first Monday of each month. Please contact Alex Quint or email info@bellcreek.org to learn more.

VBS 2026

We will be journeying to the *Emerald Crossing* the week of July 20-24 at Vacation Bible School. Every step along the journey will teach kids about our Good Shepherd and how He cares for His sheep. We will have engaging Bible lessons, crafts, games, snacks, music and so much more! Registration for kids Preschool-entering 5th grade is now open to Bell Creek members! Reserve your spot at www.bellcreek.org. Please visit the table outside of the Sanctuary to see donation opportunities!

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

PRAYER MEETINGS

WEDNESDAYS 6:30 - 7:30 PM

FRIDAYS 12 NOON

PRE-TEEN & MIDDLE SCHOOL BIBLE STUDY

WEDNESDAYS 6:30 - 7:45 PM

SUNDAYS AFTER WORSHIP

2ND SERVICE

AWANA

WEDNESDAYS 6:30 - 7:45 PM

SEPTEMBER-MAY

HIGH SCHOOL BIBLE STUDY

SUNDAYS 11:00 AM

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES
AND EVENTS AT BELLCREEK.ORG

OUR MISSION

MATTHEW 22:37-40

He said to him, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the greatest commandment. The second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself. All the law and prophets depend on these two commandments."

MATTHEW 28:19-20

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe everything I have commanded you. And remember that I am with you always to the end of the age.

STAY CONNECTED

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU HERE!

WWW.BELLCREEK.ORG/CONTACT-US

FOLLOW US!



BELL CREEK
Community Church

30000 FIVE MILE RD.
LIVONIA, MI 48154

Good Companions on Our Journey

Sermon Series: Follow - Our Journey with Jesus

Sunday, March 15, 2026

Ephesians 2:19-22 (and other Scriptures)

Scripture Reading:

“So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.” (Ephesians 2:19–22, ESV)

WHO WE ARE TOGETHER

We Are No Longer Strangers - Ephesians 2:19-22; Galatians 3:27-28

Paul says we are “no longer strangers and aliens.” This is a profound truth, especially powerful when we proclaim it in a society drowning in loneliness. Being “in Christ” gives us a new identity. We are fellow citizens of heaven, members of the very household of God. That cuts across every human division of ethnicity, family background, economic status, politics, and education. In Christ, we are bound together with a love that unites us to people we would never otherwise have chosen, and it is wonderful! We see the truth of Psalm 68:6, “God settles the solitary in a home.” We don’t earn our way into this home; we are adopted in. Together, we are a nation, a people, and a kingdom that will never end.

Together, We Gain a Spiritual Family - Philippians 2:1-4; Romans 12:9-13

Paul uses family language when he describes us, the redeemed people of God, the Church. He says we show “Affection and sympathy,” “Brotherly love,” and “honor to one another.” These words depict the deep, load-bearing love of people who are committed to each other. The spiritual family God gives us does what our biological families often cannot: it holds us through seasons of doubt, failure, and grief, because the bond is not DNA but the blood of Christ. Together, we discover that God fills the family-shaped voids in our lives with brothers and sisters who know the love and power of the Savior.

HOW WE LIVE TOGETHER

Together, We Grow Through Word, Worship, and Prayer - Acts 2:42-47

The early church “devoted themselves” to the apostles’ teaching, to fellowship, to the breaking of bread, and to prayer. “Devotion” means a heartfelt commitment to these things and to one another. This is God’s design for our growth. We read the Word together and notice things we might miss on our own. We pray together and find that our faith grows stronger through the faith of others. We take the bread and cup together, remembering that this is a shared table for forgiven sinners. Awe, gratitude, and praise flow when we worship God in each other’s company. These are the ways God shapes us into people who become more like Jesus.

Together, We Are Genuinely Loved and Practically Cared For - Romans 12:9-13; Philippians 2:1-4; Acts 2:42-47

Romans 12 emphasizes that love must be genuine. Philippians states that God's people will demonstrate comfort through love, affection, and sympathy. Acts 2 describes believers sharing possessions, meeting real needs, and breaking bread together in homes with glad and generous hearts. The early church wasn't just doctrinally sound; it was also materially and emotionally present for one another. When life falls apart, we have people who see, who show up, and who share.

Together, We Bear One Another's Sorrows and Share One Another's Joys - Romans 12:9-13, 15

Paul provides one of the most beautiful descriptions of Christian community in all of Scripture when he says we: "Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep." The church is the only community on earth where, in Jesus, rejoicing and weeping are equally embraced and where both find their meaning in Christ. We live in a world that desires our joy but quickly feels uncomfortable with our grief. Colleagues at work will celebrate our successes but avoid sitting with us during our struggles. The Church, however, is different. We are a people shaped by the gospel to enter into both the highs and lows of each other's lives. We can do this because we follow a Savior who wept at Lazarus' tomb and sang hymns the night before His crucifixion. We carry each other's burdens, rejoice in each other's joys, and in doing so, fulfill the law of Christ.

Question: Are you allowing the family of God to surround you with the love, encouragement, and care Christ intends for you, or are you trying to carry your burdens alone? You are not meant to carry your burdens alone!

HOW WE GROW TOGETHER

Together, We Are Stirred Up Toward Holiness - Hebrews 10:24-25; Philippians 2:1-4

Hebrews uses a strongly assertive word here; it says to "provoke" (ESV: "stir up") one another to love and good works. Left to ourselves, we often tend to coast. We often make peace with the sins that we should be fighting. The church community contains the relationships God designed for our ongoing sanctification. Our brothers and sisters see in us what we cannot see in ourselves. They pray for us, ask us hard questions, model faithfulness in the face of struggles, and won't let us slip into spiritual mediocrity. Together, we become more like Jesus than we ever would alone.

Together, We Have Shepherds Watching Over Our Souls - 1 Peter 5:1-4; Hebrews 13:7, 17

This is one of the most overlooked benefits of being part of a church! Hebrews 13:17 states that our leaders are "keeping watch over our souls." Someone is paying attention to us, not just our actions, but also our spiritual well-being. Hebrews 13:7 adds that we have role models of faith worth following in worthy individuals. Therefore, we should observe their lives, see how they handle suffering, and watch how they cling to Christ as they grow older, so that we can imitate their faith. Together, we gain from spiritual guidance and examples of faith, both gifts from God meant to protect us and lead us.

WHERE WE ARE HEADED TOGETHER

Together, Our Unity Is a Witness to the World - John 17:20-23

Jesus prays that the church would be one, “so that the world may believe that you have sent me.” Our love for one another is not a secondary fruit of the Gospel; it is an argument for the gospel. When the watching world sees people from radically different backgrounds genuinely loving one another, they encounter evidence of the resurrection that cannot easily be dismissed. Together, our belonging to this community is itself a witness.

Together, We Are Being Built Into a Dwelling Place of God by the Holy Spirit - Ephesians 2:19-22

We are being “joined together” and “growing into a holy temple.” Every individual believer is a building block, but the structure being formed is a “dwelling place for God by the Holy Spirit.” No single stone is the temple, but together, we are. We, the redeemed people of God, the local church, are the place where God dwells on earth.

Together, We Share a Common Hope of Resurrection - Colossians 1:18-22

Christ is “the firstborn from the dead,” and that changes everything about how we face the future. We were once alienated and hostile to God, but now He has reconciled us through Christ’s body to “present us holy and blameless before Him.” The people beside us in the seats are not merely our companions for this life; they are “resurrection people.” If Christ carries, we will die, but we will rise from the grave just as He did. Together, we confess that the grave does not have the last word over our lives. Jesus does. No other community on earth can make that claim about its members! This shared hope transforms how we live, die, suffer, and grieve.

Together, We Get a Foretaste of Heaven - Acts 2:42-47; John 17:20-23

Acts 2 describes a community where “awe came upon every soul,” and people were praising God with glad hearts. Jesus prays for a unity among His people that mirrors His own relationship with the Father. When the church gathers to hear the Word, at the Table, in prayer, and in song, we experience something that does not fully belong to this earthly realm. It is a foretaste of the new creation. Together, in the gathered assembly of God’s redeemed, He reminds us of where we are going and gives us an experience of it now.

Question: Do you know Jesus? Would you like to know Him? He’s the best Friend a person will ever have! Because Jesus invites you into something far greater than a religion or just “going to church.” You are invited into the very household of God, a community of forgiveness, belonging, and resurrection hope!

For those of us who do know Jesus, let’s ask ourselves, are we fully embracing the joy and privilege of belonging to God’s family? Are we investing in the life of the church so that we can grow, worship, pray, and walk with Jesus and His people?

BENEDICTION

“So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind.” (Philippians 2:1–2, ESV)



Good Companions on our Journey

1. What did you think of the sermon "Good Companions on our Journey"?

2. Has being part of our church helped you experience the reality of being part of God's family, and in what ways can you help others feel that same sense of belonging?

3. Which practices (the Word, prayer, breaking bread, caring for one another's needs, worship together) do you think our church does well? What practices do you think we could grow in?

4. Have you found role models of faith in our congregation? Who has helped you with faithfulness in Christ, and how is God calling you to do that for someone else?

5. How does our shared hope of the resurrection change the way we face suffering, loss, and death together?

