

# MICHELLE'S STORY

After moving to Columbus in 2020 for a new job, I struggled to find a church where I felt at home and just as importantly where I felt a connection with others. After receiving an Ethos mailer, I made the decision to come and check it out. That is a decision that I will never regret.

As I started attending Ethos regularly, I joined a couple Small Groups in the Fall of 2021. It was in that moment that I was truly made to feel welcomed, comfortable, and that I found a sense of home. The leaders of the groups I joined were so welcoming into their homes and lives that I felt like they were friends that I had already known for years. The relationships that I cultivated truly gave me a sense of belonging in Ethos.

Being a part of Small Groups has shown me the beauty in being intentional about building relationships with others. All because I have seen and experienced the value of it first-hand. It is so easy to go to church, say your polite hellos or waves and leave; ultimately to then feel a lack of belonging. I have been guilty of that. Groups, however, gave me an avenue to change that stigma. As someone who tends to be private, groups has created a safe environment to share more about myself, while also learning about others in a meaningful way. And that has been transformational and invaluable to me.

As someone who has grown up in church, the main perspectives I always received were those of my pastors or my parents. But being a part of groups has given me an opportunity to learn perspectives from others; and the chance to walk with them in their triumphs, failures, or struggles. I have gained so much peace in knowing that I am not alone in the struggles that I face in life. And I have joy and confidence knowing that I have a beautiful support system to walk with me in both the difficult times and the joyous times in life. I am so thankful for all that Ethos has brought to my life, a wonderful church home, a community of friends, and relationships that make me a better woman. I am so hopeful and expectant for my future!



## YOUR STORY MATTERS



# *Fall Calendar*

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## **AUGUST**

28th - New Series: "Philippians" + Devotional Begins

28th - Small Group Registration Opens

## **SEPTEMBER**

7th - YA Worship night

11th - Ethos 101

11th - Small Group Open House

11th - Ethos Kids Opens New Classroom

13th - YTH Launch (first three Tuesdays of each month)

18th - Small Groups Launch

21st - YA Worship night

25th - Outdoor 4-Year Celebration @ Orange MS

26th - Alpha Launch

## **OCTOBER**

2nd - Ethos 301 (\*Ethos 101-201 available online)

2nd - New Series: "Following Jesus in a Post-Christian Culture"

5th - YA Worship night

9th - Serve Sunday (\*special event)

10th - Team Night

19th - YA Worship night

30th - Ethos Kids Costume Sunday

## **NOVEMBER**

2nd - YA Worship night

6th - Legacy Offering

6th - Thanksgiving Basket Donation

6th - Ethos 301 (\*Ethos 101-201 available online)

13th - Special Event

19th - Thanksgiving "I Love My City Project"

27th - New Series: Advent 2022 + Devotional Begins

## **DECEMBER**

4th - Ethos 301 (\*Ethos 101-201 available online)

7th - YA Worship night

23rd - Christmas Eve Eve

25th - No Service

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