

LIFEGROUPS

Caring Communities

SUMMER TRIMESTER 2022



Edited May 2022



**CUYAHOGA
VALLEY
CHURCH**



1226 SUBSTATION ROAD
BRUNSWICK, OH



www.cvcbrunswick.org |
330.225.4600



Welcome!

***“For where two or three are gathered in my name,
there am I among them.”***

Matthew 18:20

At CVC, we're passionate about inviting people to new life in Christ.

Like a tree that goes through the progressive stages of rooting, growing, maturing, and multiplying, your desire to live new in Christ will drive you to grow spiritually.

LIFEGROUPS: Your next step to connect at CVC.

To help you along in your journey, we encourage you to participate in a LifeGroup where you can connect and grow with other believers.

Please take a few minutes to read through this booklet which describes the purpose of LifeGroups and also lists our current groups. Feel free to contact any LifeGroup Leader for more information on their group.

Want to be personally connected into a LifeGroup?
Contact our LifeGroup Connector:

Kathy Nemec

330.225.4600

knemec@cvconline.org

WHAT IS A LIFEGROUP?

LifeGroups are small groups, usually 8-12 people, that gather regularly and intentionally to pursue the fruit of new life.

LifeGroups are the vehicle by which our adults, students, and children actively journey toward greater spiritual growth and authentic Christ-centered relationships.

We passionately believe that every person at CVC should live in authentic community that is rooted in Christ, grounded in God's Word and established in love. We believe that growth happens best when we are in community-- not in isolation-- so that when we face life's problems, we have a group of people around us praying for us, encouraging us, checking in on us, visiting us, and challenging us toward spiritual growth and maturity.

Hebrews 10:24-25; John 13:34-35; Acts 2:22-27; Philippians 2:3-4; 1 Thessalonians 2:8; Colossians 3:16; Matthew 22:37-40; 1 John 3:16-18

WHAT ARE THE DYNAMICS?

LifeGroups are an environment where people relationally experience our church's six Passions, sometimes known as "Values": Living Truth, God Dependence, Caring Community, Linked Generations, Equipped Leadership and Missional Living (see the CVC Vision Guide.) These six passions define the way we relate to one another and carry out our mission. They capture our uniqueness, define how we serve together and help define the personality of CVC. If a LifeGroup is successfully living out our Passions, then when the people in that community think "LifeGroup", they will think: growth, discipleship, community, life on life learning, care, support, hospitality, encouragement, accountability, organic relationships, authentic friendships, a safe and disarming environment, service, Bible, prayer, the power and presence of God.

HOW DO YOU FORM A LIFEGROUP?

Ideally, LifeGroups form organically through natural relationships, but we are aware that oftentimes CVC will need to provide opportunities to develop new relational connections through special meetings or groups. Some LifeGroups will gel and some will not. It's ok if they don't. We will encourage people to stick it out and then try another group until they feel a fit.

WHAT'S THE STRUCTURE?

LifeGroups will have various compositions, primarily based on age, stage of life, geographical location, interests and needs. Most groups will be either an affinity group or a mixed group. We encourage and promote intergenerational groups.

HOW DO YOU CHOOSE LEADERS?

LifeGroup Leaders are individuals who answer the call to be a shepherd, teacher, mentor, leader, caregiver, discipler and facilitator for their LifeGroup. It is an exhilarating honor to step into the role of a shepherd in God's Kingdom. We encourage LifeGroup Leaders to thoughtfully and prayerfully consider this role of leadership, looking to Jesus as their model for learning how to shepherd their group well.

John 10:14-15; Psalm 23:1-3; Mark 6:34-35; Isaiah 41:11; 1 Peter 2:24-25; Hebrews 13:20-21; 1 Peter 5:1-4

SELECTING LEADERS

Aspiring LifeGroup Leaders step forward and volunteer themselves or they are identified and invited into leadership by a current LifeGroup Leader that is willing to incubate them and then launch them. They can also be identified by church leaders or other members of the church and invited into a group leader training process.

SCHEDULE

LifeGroups meet weekly or bi-weekly on a trimester system (spring, summer and fall semesters ranging from 12-16 weeks long.) Each trimester we desire to have a clear start date (on ramp) and a clear finish date (off ramp). This allows group members the opportunity to enter or exit a new group.

At the beginning of each trimester each group will have the opportunity to gain new members if they have open space. If the group is 12 or larger, the LifeGroup Leaders will be encouraged not to add new members to the group because of the challenges and limitations that larger groups bring. Each LifeGroup Leader is encouraged to pursue training up new leaders to launch new groups if their LifeGroup becomes too large.

LOCATIONS

Homes, church, restaurants, coffee shops, etc. Where they gather is not the emphasis, the spiritual growth that is accomplished when they meet is. Having a consistent location encourages regular group attendance.

MATERIALS

Preferably sermon-based study guide. We believe that syncing the church through a shared study promotes more cohesion, strength and community within the church at large. The study guide is provided online, emailed to leaders, or available at the info center. Ideally it is best to have group members fill out the study guide in advance and then come prepared to share their answers at LifeGroup. We will not exclusively use the sermon-based study guide and are ok with groups selecting their own material. We prefer that any material used by a CVC LifeGroup Leader is approved by the Pastor of Community Life prior to beginning the study.

LIFEGROUPS WITH CHILDREN

With our passion for linked generations, the presence of children for a LifeGroup will occur often, but we also know that the presence of children can create unique needs for the group. We encourage something to engage the kids in learning during LifeGroup, not just seeking out childcare.

Here are several options that families with children can consider:

- Have them as part of the group.
- Adults within the group take turns providing care for children each week onsite.
- Have/hire older teens to care for younger kids onsite.
- Hire someone outside the group to care for them on or offsite.
- Each family is responsible for providing their own care for kids offsite.
- In some cases, church provides childcare for LifeGroups meeting on campus.

Prayer Groups At CVC

"And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people." -Ephesians 6:18

Prayer is an opportunity, a privilege, a blessing, and also an obligation. Most of all, it is extremely important as it is strongly encouraged by God Himself.

We have many great opportunities at our campus to use this privilege and blessing.

Would you join us as we are in the formative stage of developing a prayer team and providing many opportunities to pray and to encourage each other to grow and be obedient in prayer?

If you have an interest in this budding ministry, please contact:

Bill Amacher

kamacherw@juno.com // 216-990-5826 or talk face to face on a Sunday.



Prayer Group

Tuesdays 6:30-7:30am

Josh Stone

630.877.6728

jstone@cvconline.org

ALL GROUPS OPEN. COME ANY TIME.

Women's Studies

Unique opportunities to connect with other women through large group teaching followed by small group discussion.



WOMENS STUDIES

Kathy Nemec

330.225.4600

knemec@cvconline.org

Wednesdays (every other) 6:30-8:30pm *starting 06.15.22
CVC Brunswick Campus

Men's Studies

Unique opportunities to connect with other men through large group teaching followed by small group discussion.



MENS STUDIES

John Campbell

216.403.5891

jcampbell@proforma.com

Brave by Faith: God-Sized Confidence in a Post-Christian World By Alistair Begg

What does it look like to live with joy in a society that does not like what Christians believe, say or do? It's tempting to grow angry, keep our heads down, retreat or just give up altogether. But this isn't the first time that God's people have had to learn how to live in a pagan world that opposes God's rule. In his realistic yet positive book, renowned bible teacher Alistair Begg examines the first seven chapters of Daniel to show us how to live bravely, confidently and obediently in an increasingly secular society.

Wednesdays (every other) 6:30-8:30pm

***starting 06.15.22**

CVC Brunswick Campus

Mixed Groups



Every other Sunday 12:30pm
Location: CVC Brunswick Campus
Josh and Ashley Faltot
216.440.0625
ashleyfaltot@yahoo.com



First and Fourth Thursdays 6:30pm
Location: Brunswick
Tim and Jackie Brooks
440.665.1929
papatim10@gmail.com



Thursdays 6:30pm
Location: Brunswick/Strongsville
(rotates)
Trent and Ruth Ricks
251.769.0943
senoraricks@gmail.com



Second and Fourth Thursdays 7:00pm
Ted and Sue Chase
Location: Hinckley and Zoom
216.645.6599
suechase@gmail.com

Mixed Young Adults

Ages 18-29

YOUNG MARRIEDS



Mondays 7:00pm
Location: CVC Brunswick Campus
Steve and Lauren Mazanec
fsf238@gmail.com

YOUNG ADULTS



Thursdays 7:00pm
Josh Hudak | Vince Pozar
330.635.4193 | 216.970.4522
j.hudak585@gmail.com

STUDENTS - GRADES 6-12



Kevin Lorow
klorow@cvconline.org
330.225.4600

CVCYouth

Wednesdays 6:30-8:30pm

Location: CVC Brunswick Campus

Students from 6th Grade up to 12th Grade, this is the place to be! Every Wednesday night at CVC Brunswick we'll have food, games, and most importantly some time learning to know, love, and serve God! Bring some friends, your Bible, and be ready for the highlight of your week!

