

## What is a small group?

A small group is a gathering of five to fifteen people who fellowship through the study of God's word, encouraging one another, and sharing together in a specific ministry or task. The purpose of these groups is to help people to connect with Christ, with each other, and with First Church.

## Where do groups meet?

Maybe the easier question is where do they not meet. Small groups can meet in homes, in restaurants, in your back yard, on your deck, in your car (okay, that might get a little crowded), in a park, or anywhere people can gather.

## How long do they meet?

Groups can form for six to eight to thirteen weeks. They also may form again after a brief break. Some groups will be on-going. Weekly meetings can last from 1 to 1 ½ hours.



“Next time, let’s make sure the ice-breaker doesn’t include questions about politics.”

## What can you expect from your small group?

... it changes your life through relationships. We humans all need to have a relationship with others as a support mechanism in our daily life. Very few humans survive as hermits because God created us as social animals. If we do not have fellow humans to interact with, we are left to drift in a sea of distraction. By joining a small group we place ourselves in contact with like minded Christians who seek to stay focused on the common goal of salvation. – *Dan Hoffman*

## Top Ten Benefits Of Small Groups

10. If you’re moving or need to paint your house, your group may help you.
9. If you ever feel like nobody really understands you, your group will give it a try.
8. If you have a big problem, your group will pray for you.
7. If you have a big joy, your group will party with you.
6. If you want to grow, your group will feed you (snacks too).
5. If you don’t know how to study the Bible, your group will guide you.
4. If you mess up, your group will forgive you.
3. If you feel like the church is getting too big, your group will keep you connected.

2. If you feel like your faith is too small, your group will inspire you.

1. If you want to serve others, your group will give you that chance.

## What is expected of small group members?

Group members are expected to be regular in attendance and to participate in the group life. Each group will be in three activities: Bible study, support, and ministry.



*Well, I haven’t actually died to sin, but I did feel kind of faint once!*

I love the accountability aspect of our small group as we share from week to week our struggles and victories and are encouraged by others who are going or have gone through the same trials.  
-- *Billy Boyd*

## CONNECT GROUP REGISTRATION

To join a small group, complete the following, tear it off, and place it in the offering plate or on the information table in the 'Connect Group' box.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Please check all that apply:

- I would like to be part of a small group
- I would like to host a small group in my home
- I would like to discuss being a small group leader

What evening(s) can you attend a small group meeting?

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Is there a specific topic or Bible book you would like to study?

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*The leadership of First Church of Christ encourages each individual to become part of a small group community. Each small group in our church family comes together to provide encouragement, support, spiritual growth, fellowship, and community. This is a wonderful way to connect with people who have similar interests, as you continue to grow in your walk with God. Consider yourself invited to experience God's love through a small group.*

For more information contact:

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I can ask for prayer for certain things on Monday nights and by the next Wed. night or Sunday everyone one of our group will find me to ask me how its going and if things are better. You know they truly are concerned about you and have been praying for you all week.  
-- Marsha Boyd

**CONNECT GROUPS. . .**  
*a group of people unwilling to settle for anything less than redemptive community.*



*'As a church grows larger, it must grow smaller.'*

**First Church of Christ**  
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[www.firstchurchofchrist.net/connectgroups](http://www.firstchurchofchrist.net/connectgroups)