

Frequently Asked Questions

Do I have to be a member of the church to join a small group? Church membership is not required in order to join a small group, however to apply for church membership, identification with a small group is necessary.

How many people are in a small group? Most small groups consist of 10 to 14 individuals.

Where do small groups meet? Small Groups are currently meeting in homes throughout Avon, Brownsburg, Danville, Pittsboro, Plainfield, and Indianapolis.

When do small groups meet? We currently have small groups meeting on Sunday afternoon and Sunday evening as well as Tuesday evening, Wednesday evening, and Thursday evening.

How often do small groups meet? Small Groups meet three times a month from August – November and from January – April. This averages out to be around 26 weeks a year as we take a break during the summer and holidays. This schedule allows groups to build momentum through the fall and spring semesters and take some time off in key months that are typically busy.

Are there separate small groups for men and women? Generally there are not, although we do offer several small groups that are limited to only single women. We value diversity with unity, married couples having spiritual time together, and the opportunity for men to connect with other men and women with other women. Therefore, each small group meeting includes both a large group gathering as well as a break out time so that all of these values are accomplished.

Can I bring my child to small group? No. We kindly discourage the attendance of children in our small groups not only because of the distraction for the participants but largely because of the distraction for the parents. This means parents are responsible for arranging childcare during small group. This can include hiring a baby-sitter, swapping childcare with someone who meets with their group on a different night of the week, coordinating with the other parents in your group, or approaching the church family for assistance. At this time we have a limited number of small groups that provide childcare within the group (such as in the basement or in another room of the house), so we encourage everyone to find a solution that works best for your family.

How are small groups selected? While there's no formula for assigning people to a group various factors include: group size, availability, location, stage of life, requested person(s), and the overall dynamic of the group. The staff takes a great deal of time and prayer in assigning each person to every small group as we seek to avoid randomly plugging people into groups.

What will small groups be studying? Groups will rotate between a Bible or theology study in the fall and spiritual formation or discipleship study in the spring. Facilitators are allowed to select their group's material from a list of pre-approved resources chosen by the elders and pastors. Occasionally all groups are asked to study the same material as it relates to a church-wide resource.

What's the difference between a Small Group and a Bible study? The major difference is application and accountability. In a small group you will be taught how to apply God's Word to your life and will held accountable by the others in your group.

What does a small group meeting look like? Each meeting is structured for two hours. This time typically looks like 15 minutes of opening time to reconnect, 45 minutes of study time that centers around group discussion and life application, 45 minutes of mutual ministry break out for men-with-men and women-with-women accountability and prayer, and 15 minutes of wrap up.