

Supper 8 Group Synopsis:

Q.: *What is Supper 8?*

A. Supper 8 is a different take on a relationship-building small group in a church congregation. It is a short-term, randomly generated small group designed to create and enhance a wide range of connections in the church and provide opportunities for further relationship development among members.

Q. *How does it develop relationships?*

A. Like its name suggests, the basis for Supper 8 is getting a group of 8 adults in the church community together for a series of meals. Through sharing time and intentional conversation together with members of the church you might not encounter as frequently, the Supper 8 concept gives us an opportunity to know more people in our congregation better in order to pursue further relationship. Supper 8 is designed to supplement the deeper relationships we develop in longer-term LIFE groups, so you are encouraged to join Supper 8 even if you are involved in another LIFE group.

Q. *How does it work? What is the commitment and time frame?*

A. Folks who sign up are placed into a group of 8 adults, which include one Coordinator. That group of 8 people stays together for 4 months, during which time they plan at least one meal together a month (frequency can increase if the group is interested), ideally with a different host couple each month. Meal plan ideas are decided by the Coordinator or current host, and each person contributes in some fashion to the meal each gathering as they are able. After that 4 month period, people are added and reshuffled into new combinations for a new 4 month period, and the process continues.

Q. *Who is this for? Can kids be involved?*

A. Anyone attached to Shelbourne as a member, attendee or visitor can sign up for Supper 8. There is no minimum time that you have to be here in order to be eligible. This is about levelling the relational playing field, whether you've been here 40 years or 40 days. :)

Anyone who is 18 years or older is eligible to sign up. This is for couples and singles, young and old, to get to know each other across life stages. Couples will be placed in groups together unless you specifically request otherwise.

Ideally, Supper 8 is for adults to develop relationship together, but we realize families are an important part of relationship building. We will leave it up to each group to choose whether to include kids for their current rotation or not.

Q. *How do I sign up for this? Do I have to sign up every time?*

- A. To sign up for our first rotation, please fill out the online or physical contact form and return it to the church office no later than Sunday, September 17th. Groups will be announced the following Sunday, September 24th so that they can begin coordinating for the October-January rotation. We will have signups again in January for a February-May rotation and then the Summer off, hopefully resuming again in the Fall.

If you decide you want to stay in after the first rotation for another one, you don't need to do a thing; we will keep you in the member pool automatically.

Decided that you need a break or this is not for you? No problem. Just let the office know and we'll be glad to remove you from the pool until you say otherwise.

Missed the deadline? We will have a 1 week grace period each rotation for latecomers to submit their forms, and if we can form an extra group with a willing Coordinator or attach you to an existing group that is willing to expand for a rotation, we will. Otherwise, we'll be glad to place you in the next rotation.

Q. *What are the responsibilities of a Coordinator? How do I become one?*

- A. A Coordinator simply acts as the point person for initial group contact, helping to set the initial meal date and getting members in touch with one another. While not necessary, it is often convenient for the Coordinator to also be the initial host if they are able. Supper 8 is designed to be a shared leadership and involvement experience, so a Coordinator should not feel that they have to organize the entire rotation unless they and the group are comfortable doing so. Travis will provide direction and support for any questions or troubleshooting a Coordinator might require.

To become a Coordinator, simply check the box showing that you are willing to coordinate on the contact form. Once in the rotation, simply contact the office if you wish to be added or removed from the pool of Coordinators.

Q. *So I've got a great question you didn't address here. What should I do?*

- A. Feel free to contact Travis or the office with any questions you might have and we will be glad to explore it with you.

Thanks for your interest in joining us for Supper 8, and we look forward to the connections that God will grow among us!

In His Grip,

Travis