

# Community LIFE

*modified 4/17/11 MG*

## **Vision:**

LIFE Groups are a way of helping you develop transforming relationships with God, others, and your community. As you cultivate these relationships and “do LIFE together” you will continually be a Life Changed by Christ.

## **What’s a win for Community LIFE?**

Connecting the unconnected into LIFE groups, to grow in their relationship with God, each other, and their community.

## **Purpose:** Connect with God, each other, and your community

- *Connect with God*  
As we share our stories and study the bible with each other, we are challenged to grow in our relationships and become more like Christ.
  - Bible Study
  - Prayer
  - Worship
  - Sharing our Stories
- *Connect with Each Others*  
Meeting regularly in LIFE Groups provides us with the opportunity to spend time together and get to know each other in a warm, friendly atmosphere.
  - Authentic Relationships
  - Spurring each other to exercise Spiritual Gifts
  - Eating together
  - Having fun together
  - Discussion times
  - Care and Support for one another
- *Connect with your Community*  
Relationships are strengthened and God’s love is shown in a practical way as we have the opportunity to serve one another in our group and in our communities.
  - Serving the community
  - Missional mindset
  - Inviting

**Curriculum:** Groups will be encouraged to follow the LIFE Cycle of recommend meeting dates for LIFE Groups. Groups will be able to choose which type of study they will follow during that time.

**LIFE Cycle:** 6 week periods throughout the year. Groups are encouraged to meet every week.

- *Bible Study*  
Groups can utilize bible based curriculum that have been created or develop their own.
- *Topical*  
Groups can utilize the resource library for curriculum that has been created by the church or others.
- *Church Wide Curriculum*  
LCBC will produce a DVD curriculum 2-3 times a year and encourage all groups to go through the same material. At least one time a year the curriculum will correspond to the weekend series.
- *Sermon Alignment*  
Groups can print out discussion packets from the web that correlate to the sermon that weekend.

## **LIFE Group Placement Process**

### **1. Contact**

- Bulletin
- On-Line
- Phone
- Booth
- Face to face

### **2. LIFE Group Link**

- Vision of Groups
- Form a Group
- Get to know your group
- Start your group

### **3. 6 week study**

- Directors of Community LIFE or Campus Pastor will follow up with new leaders during the 6 week time period
- Meet as a group
- Use *doin' LIFE together* DVD Curriculum

### **4. Continue to meet as a group or revisit LIFE Group Link**

- If continuing the Directors/Campus Pastor will assign a Coach for that LIFE Group Leader that will continue to be a support to them.

## **LIFE Group Leader Process**

### **1. Contact**

- LIFE Group Link
- LIFE Group Participant
- Group birthing leader

### **2. LIFE Group Link**

- Form Group at the link
- Find your own group and bring them to the link

### **3. Watch New Leader Orientation DVD**

### **4. 6 Week Study**

- Follow up with director/campus pastor

### **5. Complete LIFE Group Leader Application (If continuing to lead)**

### **6. Attend New Leader Training**

### **7. Continue to lead a LIFE Group**

### **8. Additional Trainings and Interactions**

- Huddles -4x a year
- LIFE Line- Monthly E-Newsletter
- Touches by Coaches – 5x a year
- Renovate – Every other year

# **LIFE Team Objectives**

## **LIFE Group Leaders Objectives**

**Objective:** Leaders will help facilitate people to connect and grow in authentic relationships with God, each other, and their community.

- Will attend new leaders training after 6 week DVD Curriculum
- Will be confirmed as a LIFE Group Leader by a LIFE Group Director or Campus Pastor after the new leader application is filled out and accepted.
- Provide leadership for weekly meetings and facilitate discussion.
- Will attend at least two of the four huddles offered each year
- Will complete Staying Connected Form
- Will help create a warm and safe environment, communicate clearly with others, and ensure healthy discussion.
- Will delegate responsibilities to others (hosting, snack, current roster with information, prayer notes, etc.)
- Will identify apprentice leader during the course of the year.
  - This is for leadership purposes not splitting of groups.
- Will commit to being a LIFE leader for one year intervals.
- Will meet with their LIFE Group Coach one time during the course of the year.

## **LIFE Group Link Coordinators Objectives**

**Objective:** Coordinators will help with set up of Link and ensure a smooth placement process by networking with people at the LIFE Group Link an.

- Selected by Community LIFE Team
- Will be informed by Community LIFE Admin. Asst.
- Will attend LIFE Group Links (3/year)
- Are responsible to see that people desiring to get in a LIFE Group are placed appropriately, by school district and, if preferred, desired life stage, mainly through participation in a LIFE Group Link
- Coordinators are accountable to Link Director
- Coordinators may help facilitate miscellaneous projects like a regional Community LIFE picnic, or a regional service project.
- Coordinators will commit to the team for one year intervals.

## **Community LIFE Team Coaches Objectives**

**Objective:** Coaches will be a link between the LIFE Group leader and the church. **The responsibility of the coach is to make sure their LIFE Group leaders feel connected, supported, and appreciated.** Community LIFE Coaches will be a resource to existing groups.

What we are looking for:

- Someone active in their faith and the life of LCBC
- Someone who connects well with people
- Someone who can commit to this role for a year
- Someone with leader skills that is in a LIFE Group

What we are asking you to be committed to:

- Will be an available resource for 5-10 LIFE Group leaders in your School District
- Will attend 2 huddles a year (there are a total of 4 huddles a year).
- Will make follow up contact with assigned leaders Staying Connected Form.
- Will meet with a Community LIFE Director or Campus Pastor 4 times a year
- Will make recommendations to Community LIFE Directors of potential Coaches, Coordinators, and LIFE Group Leaders.
- Staying connected to what is going on for LCBC LIFE Groups and leaders so you are informed
- Will make 5 touches a year with LIFE Group Leader (This includes huddles and response to Staying Connected Forms)

### **What are “touches”?**

Touches are a way of making some type of contact with a person so they feel connected, supported, and appreciated.

*Examples of touches:*

- Christmas card
- Phone call
- Thank you note
- Invitation to an event
- Face to face conversation
- Gift
- E-mail
- Sharing a meal together

# LIFE Group Organization

Groups will be primarily geography based to provide a closer circle for people to do LIFE with each other. Groups will be able to still look for life stage type groups with in their area. A greater emphasis will be on building community as a part of a larger community. As our LIFE group communities grow in a particular region, that area will be able to have mid-size gatherings that may meet during the year. As the larger community grows and becomes established, additional campuses could result out of the community that has already been established and empowered.

## Short Term Goals:

- Simplify the placement process with LIFE Group Link.
- Ensure all placements are getting placed and feel comfortable with the process.
- Geography based design will allow for a better coaching and training network.
- More accurate and personal evaluation of LIFE groups and how we can better serve leaders and participants.
- Allow more opportunities for people to connect in their community settings.
- Provide opportunities for people to work through the discipleship process of Connecting and Serving in their surrounding areas.

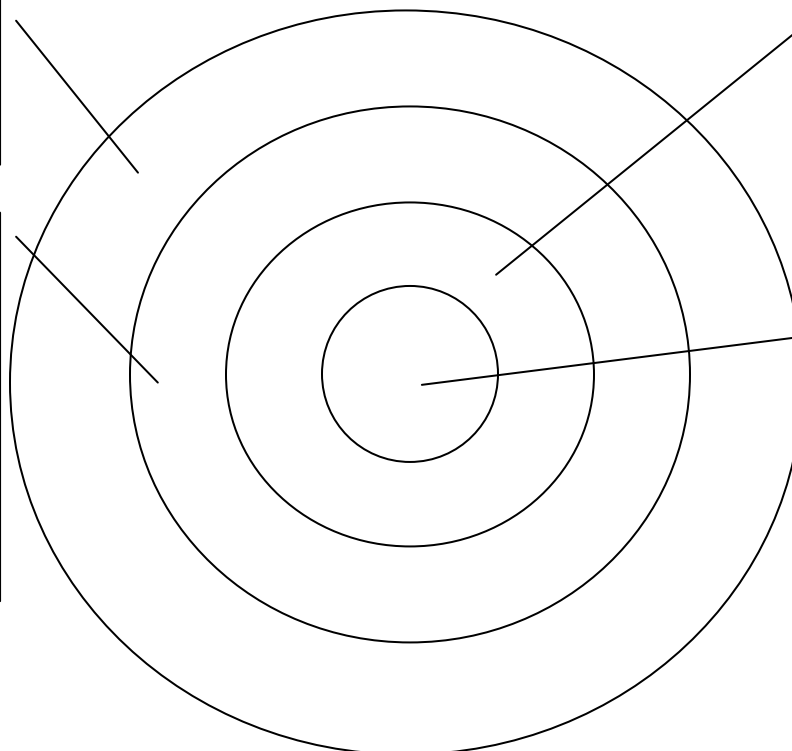
## Long Term Goals:

- Encourage other small group settings to focus on a geography based approach to allow peoples circles of influence to overlap. (Example- Men's, Women's, YA, Student Min. Kid Min.)
- Establish steps between ministry areas for connection in and out of LIFE Groups
- Establish various on ramps into groups from Mid-Size gatherings
- As the numbers of LIFE Groups grow in a particular region, that region could be divided up according to different school districts.
- As a region grows, assign potential campus leaders to work within that community, preparing for a future campus.
- As a campus becomes larger, define borders for the surrounding areas and make regions. The process will then start over.

## SPHERES of COMMUNITY at LCBC

**Public 200+ people**  
- Weekend Gatherings  
Various Campuses

**Social 50- 200 people**  
Mid-Size Gatherings  
Example:  
- Community Picnics  
- Men's Frat  
- She Communities  
- Saturate  
- PrimeTime 55+  
- Alpha



**Personal 6- 12 people**  
Example:  
- LIFE Groups  
- Campfire group  
- Women's small group

**Intimate: 2-3 people**  
Example:  
- A person from your LIFE Group  
- Spouse  
- Mentoring  
- Emerge