

House Groups

Small groups have been at the heart of the Christian faith since Jesus chose 12 disciples. The early church grew from small group meetings in peoples' homes.



Today, throughout the world, small groups are the building blocks of the fastest growing churches. Our House Groups carry on this great tradition and we encourage everyone to join a group.

Purpose

Jesus said "I chose you and appointed you to go and bear

fruit—fruit that will last". House Groups help us to grow and be fruitful.

Key Values

We seek to fulfil this purpose by:

- Growing into the likeness of Jesus through worship, meditation and prayer.
- Growing together into a community of love through friendship, sharing our lives and supporting each other.
- Growing in understanding of God's purpose for our lives through Bible study, courses and reading.
- Growing in service in every aspect of our lives and especially our life together, using the gifts God has given us and witnessing to his love.

What happens in a House Group?

Each House Group will develop its own character and have special areas of interest and service. They all seek to grow in the key values. They will also have a similar structure, but each group will plan a programme that flows from the life and work of the group and its members.

House Groups meet once every one or two weeks, either in the evening or afternoon. They meet in a home for about 2 hours and usually begin with refreshments.

A typical meeting will have time for:

- *Sharing* our news and concerns;
- *Worshipping* God that includes a time to unwind, come into God's presence, listen, praise, meditate and pray;
- *Learning* by studying the Bible and applying it to our lives;
- *Serving* others through the special interest of the group or some project in the community.

Groups have special meetings to welcome others.

Joining a House Group

If you are interested in joining a House Group, the following groups would welcome you to come along to one of their meetings. Please give the co-ordinator a ring.

Co-ordinator	Pam Conway (648 1222)
Location	93 Cornelius Drive
Meeting	7.30 pm 1st & 3rd Wednesday
Special Concern	Bible Study applied to life so we can grow spiritually
Co-ordinator	Carol Jordan (648 3683)
Location	5 Ainsdale Close
Meeting	2.00pm every Monday
Special Concern	Prayer for one-another and those in need.
Co-ordinator	Dave Burden (342 2877)
Location	90 Brimstage Road
Meeting	8.00 pm 1st, 3rd & 5th Wednesday
Special Concern	Care and Support of house-bound elderly and bereaved.
Co-ordinator	Hilary Bird (342 2274)
Location	5 Park Road
Meeting	8.00 pm 1st & 3rd Wednesday
Special Concern	Welcoming newcomers and visitors
Co-ordinator	Brian Dolman (648 3894)
Location	24 Ridgewood Drive
Meeting	8.00 pm 1st & 3rd Tuesday
Special Concern	Supporting men in their daily work
Co-ordinator	Chrissie Irlam (648 6516)
Location	6 Cestrian Drive
Meeting	8.00 pm 1st & 3rd Monday
Special Concern	Supporting Baptism Families and hospitality

If you would like to learn more, please contact David Trollope on 342 2648, or the Parish Office on 648 2404