



Leader Information Packet

The Purpose of LFC Groups

At Lakeside Family Church, LFC Groups help people share life, grow spiritually, build relationships, serve others, and stay connected to the church family.

What Is an LFC Group?

LFC Groups are small communities within Lakeside Family Church where people gather around a shared interest, season of life, or spiritual focus to connect, grow, and support one another.

Types of LFC Groups

Interest & Activity Groups

These groups unite people around a particular hobby, interest, or activity. The activity serves as a natural starting point for building relationships and sparking conversation.

Golf	Craft groups
Basketball	Fitness groups
Frisbee Golf	Book Club
Car Clubs	Board games
Outdoor or recreation groups	Mowing groups

Relational & Life-Stage Groups

These groups are based on common life experiences or seasons. Shared context enables members to support one another through similar challenges and transitions.

Couples' groups	College hangouts
Young adults	Senior adult fellowship
Parenting groups	Single-parent groups
Blended family groups	Empty nest groups
Caregiver support groups	

Spiritual Growth Groups

These groups focus on deepening faith through Scripture, prayer, and practical spiritual practices. Some are discussion-based, while others are action-oriented.

Bible discussion groups

Prayer groups

Men's or women's discipleship groups

Outreach-focused groups

Sermon-based discussion groups

Accountability groups

Mission & Service groups

Church-Wide Connection

Regardless of format, each LFC Group is part of the larger church family and is dedicated to fostering connection, spiritual growth, and meaningful community. Throughout the year, groups join together with the wider church for worship, service projects, shared testimonies, and celebrations, helping maintain unity and a shared vision.

LFC Group Structure

<p style="text-align: center;">Leadership</p> <p>Two co-leaders share responsibility, care, and communication for the group.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Group Alignment</p> <p>All LFC Groups operate in alignment with the values and mission of Lakeside Family Church.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Location</p> <p>Groups may meet anywhere: homes, church spaces, coffee shops, parks, gyms, or any location that supports their focus.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Meeting Frequency & Schedule</p> <p>Groups are expected to meet at least once per quarter, with weekly, monthly, or seasonal schedules all acceptable based on the group's purpose and needs.</p>

Expectations for LFC Group Leaders

- Create a welcoming and respectful environment.
- Help the group remain relationally and spiritually connected.
- Facilitate conversation rather than teaching or dominating the group.
- Model healthy boundaries and Christian character.
- Communicate with church leadership when support is needed.

What LFC Group Leaders Are Not Expected to Do

- Serve as a pastor, counselor, or crisis responder.
- Solve relational or spiritual problems.
- Have all the right answers.
- Carry emotional weight alone.
- Meet every individual need within the group.

When to Involve Church Leadership

Group leaders should reach out to church leadership in the following situations:

- A group member is experiencing a crisis.
- There are ongoing conflicts that leaders feel unequipped to handle.
- A group member needs pastoral care or counseling.
- Leaders feel overwhelmed, stuck, or unsure of how to proceed.

Support from church leadership is always available. Seeking help is a sign of healthy leadership, not failure.

Church App & Group Communication

LFC Groups are supported by the church app, which helps leaders stay organized, communicate effectively, and keep everyone connected. Church leadership will assist in setting up the group in the app. Once active, the app becomes the primary tool for scheduling, communication, and updates.

Scheduling Group Gatherings

- Leaders use the app to schedule meetings or events.
- Set dates, times, and locations for meetings.
- Add brief descriptions or notes for participants.
- Once an event is scheduled, group members can view it in the app.

Adding Members to Your Group

- Leaders are notified when someone joins or requests information through the app.
- Contact information is provided to the leader.
- Leaders can follow up directly, welcoming new members or answering questions.
- A personal message helps newcomers feel comfortable and connected.

Communicating With Your Group

- The app enables leaders to message the entire group or individuals.
- Share reminders, updates, or last-minute changes easily.
- Using the app helps keep communication clear and centralized.

Managing Group Information

- Leaders can update basic group details, such as meeting frequency and location.
- Group descriptions can be updated with help from church leadership.
- Church leadership is available to assist if anything is unclear or if help with the app is needed.

Next Steps for Group Leaders

1. Complete the LFC Group Leader Brainstorming Worksheet to clarify your group idea and leadership preferences.
2. Identify a co-leader. Shared leadership is essential.
3. Complete the form in the Lakeside App under *Lakeside Family Groups*. In the *Further Details* field, indicate your interest in leading and describe the type of group you'd like to start if it's not listed. Church leadership will follow up with you.
4. Church leadership will assist with group setup in the app and provide guidance on communication tools.
5. Launch your group and lead with confidence. Faithfulness, availability, and care matter most; perfection is not required.