

Life Groups

Ministry Handbook

About Life Groups

Life Groups are an integral part of what we do at Compass North Church. It is an opportunity to fellowship and to grow with other believers in an intimate, welcoming environment. Life Groups is where a large part of discipleship takes place within the church as we learn more about God's Word together, challenge one another, carry one another's burdens, and lift one another up in prayer.

Life Group Leader Qualifications

1. Must have attended a Life Group before leading a Life Group
2. Must have completed P.A.T.H.
3. Must have completed Leadership Pipeline 1
4. Must complete Life Group Leader form
5. Must be able to commit to meeting with their Life Group every week for the duration of the 8-week trimester

Life Group Leader Responsibilities

1. Attend leadership training sessions
2. Check e-mail and Slack regularly
3. Respond to group membership requests
4. Write 2 - 4 sentences about your life group including a group description, time, location, and type of group and give to the Life Group Director before the start of each trimester
5. Attend all three services on Life Group Launch Day each trimester to promote your group
6. Select an assistant and help them develop Life Group leadership skills by mentoring them
7. Pray for everyone in your group and for your Life Group directors
8. Contact members of your group on a regular basis. This can be done through phone calls, texts, email, one on one get together, or going out with them as a group. Build a sense of community among your group by assigning different group members different roles within the group, caring for those who have special needs as they occur, and meet for social events

on a regular basis. If a member stops attending, be sure to follow up with them.

9. Prepare for Life Group lessons using the Bible as the textbook for discipleship. Facilitate group discussion, questions, and challenges that will enable the group to grow deeper in their walk with Christ
10. Submit attendance to PCO Groups in a timely manner
11. Make yourself available to your group members for general pastoral care
12. Be faithful in attending and serving in weekend services

Expectations for Life Groups

1. Each Life Group will begin and end in coordination with each Life Group trimester. Each trimester will be 8 weeks long
2. Try your best not to cancel more than one week each trimester, and only do so if absolutely necessary (example: illness, dangerous weather, etc.)
3. 60 minutes long
4. Prayer time (have a set time to pray and ask how life is going)
5. Get an assistant that would start a new group the following trimester
6. Food sign up list
7. No alcohol
8. If there is a scripture to be read have different people read throughout meeting
9. The ideal size of a life group is 8 to 12 members. Once your group reaches or exceeds 12 members, it is time to speak with your assistant about starting a new group next trimester

Please remember that you represent the church. Be sure you are setting a good, Christ like example to group members in every interaction.

Reporting Attendance

Reporting attendance each week is a requirement of each Life Group leader. This is one very important way that the church is able to measure the health of the Life Group ministry and the health of the church. Please be sure to do this every week.

PCO will send you an e-mail each week from Compass North Church reminding you to report your attendance.

1. Click on the link.
2. Write the name of each member of your group, including yourself. Do not include the names of children. You will only need to write the names of your members the first time you report attendance. However, if more people join your group throughout the trimester, you will need to add those names.
 - At the beginning of each trimester, please be sure to update your member list. This includes removing members who no longer attend.
3. Check the box next to the name of each group member who was in attendance that week.
4. Submit your attendance.

Types of Groups

Each Life Group leader may choose one format. We ask that you limit it to one type of group in order to keep in line with the vision of the church and create unity within the church.

Ask the Life Group directors about which types of groups are offered by the day of Life Group leader training. Regardless of what type of group you choose to run, please remember to spend time preparing for your group each week.

Life Groups are so important to the culture of Compass North Church and by being a Life Group leader; you are a part of nurturing that life-giving culture. And, after all, it doesn't hurt that Life Groups are a whole lot of fun!