

# Connect Groups



Church on the Rise is a place where we grow spiritually and relationally. Our goal and desire is to be able to provide an environment where you can find answers about your faith, strengthen your Christian walk, and build friendships with others. We believe that life change happens best in the context of a connect group with people who are committed to caring for one another and being intentional in taking next steps for growth. - "Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. And let us not neglect meeting together, as some people do, but encouraging one another...." Hebrews 10:24-25a

That's what Connect Groups are all about.

## What is a Connect Group

A Connect Group is a fellowship made up of a group of people who meet on a regular basis to share, study, have fun and support one another.

## Where and When Do They Meet?

Connect Groups meet on various nights of the week in homes and in the church. Most groups meet for an average of 1.5 hours either weekly or biweekly.

## How Long Do They Last?

Each Connect Group semester lasts 12 to 14 weeks. We have Fall, Winter & Spring sessions. At the end of each session, you will have the choice of staying in the same group, trying a new group or even taking a break. Most groups stay together throughout the entire year. There are even seasonal groups that only meet during certain times of the year.

## How Important Are Connect Groups?

Here at Church on the Rise, Connect Groups are the hub of our ministry. They're the place where the real ministry of the church takes place as we study God's Word, while supporting and sharing our lives with one another. We believe that meeting together on a regular basis is time well spent.

## How Do I Sign Up For A Connect Group?

We offer sign-ups for Connection Groups during the beginning of a new semester. However, don't let that stop you from joining anytime. Our groups are open for new members to start anytime. Just call the church office or contact the connect group leader.

## Connect Groups Provide:

- An opportunity to Study God's Word in community and discuss how it practically applies.

*The Bible is God's guidebook to daily living. In the same way we exercise our body for fitness, we need to exercise our minds to better understand the Bible. The group discussions sharpen our Bible skills and provides us insights on how to practically apply God's Word in real life situations.*

- An avenue for prayer to become more meaningful to you.

*We are totally dependent on God and prayer with God; our communication with God through prayer acknowledges our deep need to commune and converse with Him. Connect Groups provide you the opportunity to develop your prayer walk by allowing you to take small steps (such as one sentence prayers) without feeling pressured. The more comfortable we become with prayer the more we experience amazing results in our personal relationship with the Lord.*

- An opportunity to share your interest with other Christians

*Joy is a part of our DNA, and what better way to share your love of golf, exercise or some other passion, than with like minded people, while building your faith journey!*

Updated March 2011

## Growth

These groups gather to strengthen their Christian living. These groups focus on studying God's word through Bible studies, books studies and/or prayer.

### **The "Beach" Group**

Westlake • Monday evening, weekly  
Sanjay & Kristy Beach - kristybeach@roadrunner.com

### **Bible Stories**

Avon • Sunday evening, biweekly  
Anthony & Amy Hayibor - amy.hayibor@hotmail.com

### **Building Healthy Relationships**

Middlesburg Heights • Tuesday evening, weekly  
Dr. Dexter & Philomena Johnson - 440.263.8019

### **Financial Peace**

Church on the Rise • Sunday morning, weekly  
Charlie Spisz - cspisz@yahoo.com  
\* Cost / registration for class; class runs Jan-midMay

### **Healing**

Church on the Rise • Sunday morning, weekly  
Church Irsak & Ollie Mabra - cirsak@netzero.com

### **Hebrews Book Study**

North Olmsted • 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday evening  
Pastor Frank & Ardie Endei - 440-716-1591

### **Prayer Power**

Church on the Rise • 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday  
Donna Franks - donna.franks@att.net

### **Prayer: Sozo**

Cleveland • 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday evening  
Charlene Kupec and Lydia Ellinger  
ellinger113@sbcglobal.net

### **We Believe: Making Disciples**

Avon Lake • Tuesday evening, weekly  
Anthony & Lisa Garlington- garsmarts@centurytel.net

### **Women's Bible Study**

Church on the Rise • 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday evening  
Pastor Debbie Spisz - dspisz@churchontherise.net

## Affinity/Recreation

Here you will find groups that are gathering to share a common interest, bond or passion. They meet for fellowship, fun, and a short devotion.

### **Africans in American Life**

West Side • Saturday evening, monthly  
Sharon Johnson - sharonjnsn@yahoo.com

### **Agamos**

West Side • Saturday evening, weekly  
Tammi Pepin & Paul Armbruster  
agamos.44145@yahoo.com

### **FIT Club**

Church on the Rise • Thursday evening, weekly  
Ruben & Norma Ramos - 216-938-5835

### **Golf's Sacred Journey**

\*\*\*On winter break\*\*\*

### **JOY Fellowship**

Church on the Rise • Saturday afternoon, monthly  
Pastor Frank & Ardie Endrei- 440-716-1591

### **Moms in Touch**

Westake • Monday evening, weekly  
Betti Irsak - Bemiti4him@sbcglobal.net

### **Single Moms**

Church on the Rise • 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday evening  
Sandi Cirino - sandicirino@yahoo.com

### **Spanish Connection/Faith/Fellowship**

Varies • Friday evening, biweekly  
Ruben & Norma Ramos - 216-938-5835

### **Women's Prison Ministry**

Church on the Rise • 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday evening  
Karen Tuneberg - ktuneberg@yahoo.com

### **Zumba**

Church on the Rise • Monday evening, weekly  
Aisha Stack - reamarket@gmail.com

## Restoration

Here you will learn how to incorporate God into your daily struggles as others join you on your path of becoming who God has created and destined you to be.

### **Divorce Care**

Church on the Rise • Tuesday evening, weekly  
Tammi Pepin 440-309-6760 & James Pavlik

### **Substance Abuse Recovery**

If interested, please leave a private message at 440.808.0200 ext. 209.

For more information and details on each Connection Group, please visit our website at [www.churchontherise.net](http://www.churchontherise.net)

or

call Marsha E Snavelly,  
Connect Groups Director  
440.808.0200 X210

