

FAQ about GroupLink

Commonly Asked Questions and their Answers

What is the date and time of the event?

Saturday, September 29 - Event runs 4:30-6:00pm - Doors open for refreshments at 4:00

Are kids allowed at this event?

No, childcare is not provided. And because it is an adult environment only, children are not allowed to attend the event with their parent(s). Infants are the exception - a parent can bring their baby, if needed.

Will food be served?

Hors d'oeuvres will be served at GroupLink.

Do I need to register for GroupLink?

Yes, everyone who is planning to attend GroupLink must register. If registering for a Couple's group, both members of the couple must register. Once the online registration form is submitted, a message on the screen will confirm its receipt and you will receive a confirmation email.

How do I register?

Visit journeyrva.com/grouplink to register. Registration will be open August 19 - September 18, 2018.

What types of groups are available?

When you register you will be asked to select the group type that interests you, including Men's, Women's, Couples, Mixed, Young Adults or Young Adult Couples.

Within Couples groups there is the option of "Children Present" and "Children Not Present," which means that some groups elect to have the children in the same home during the meeting (typically on another floor with a babysitter(s) hired and paid for by the group) while others elect to have only adults present.

Is there a guarantee that my preferred group type will be available?

(For example: Do you have a homeschooling moms group? Do you have a men's group that meets on Wednesday mornings?)

Our hope and desire is to have new groups forming in as many areas of town and group types as possible. However, our ability to do so is dependent upon volunteers who commit to facilitate and/or host in their home. Ultimately, the logistics are finalized once the group forms. If you are open to facilitating and/or hosting, there is a space to indicate so on the registration form.

While some group seekers find value in looking for a group of people in the same stage of life, we encourage all group seekers to consider the possibilities of engaging with a more diverse community.

What is a Mixed group?

A *mixed group* is a group comprised of members not organized by gender, marital status, or stage of life. These groups typically gather around belonging to a common area of time or are launched as a continuation of a Short Term Group. The availability of these group types is dependent upon volunteers who commit to facilitate and/or host in their home. If you are interested in facilitating and/or hosting a mixed group, please indicate so in the notes section of your registration or contact our Groups Director Kambui at ktendaji@journeyrva.com.

What if I don't find the group I'm looking for?

In the event that there is not a new group forming in your area, you may join a group in a neighboring area or sign up at the event to host/facilitate a group. At that point, Kambui our Groups Director will reach out to you.

What if I can't make the event?

If you cannot make the event, you can still join a group. Please register for GroupLink and in the notes section, indicate that you will not be able to attend the event. Our Groups team will contact you in the week following GroupLink and provide you with details on how to get connected into a group with available space.

What is a formative group?

At GroupLink, typically a handful of people will discover that they have a lot in common and would like to form a group, however there is not a pre-appointed group leader scheduled to lead that group. A **formative group** is a group that forms without a pre-appointed leader. In order for a formative group to be established at GroupLink, the group will need a contact person and a host home to commit for the 8-week starter period of a new group.

How often do the groups meet and for how long each time?

Typically, groups meet weekly (the same day/time) for between 90 minutes and two hours; the group decides this together.

What do groups do during a meeting?

Each time a group meets they spend time building relationships (social), exploring Truth (Bible/study/discussion), and supporting each other in prayer. Groups also share Communion together, and occasionally substitute the typical meeting for a social outing or a community service opportunity.

What will we study?

All groups begin with our 8-week Connect and Grow study. From there, groups typically decide together what type of study they will do next.

How long do groups last?

Community Groups are designed to last 12-24 months, following an 8-week starter period. At the end of the 8-week starter period, you decide if you want to continue with the group for the remaining 12-24 months.

How are groups formed?

Groups are typically formed around area of town and day/night of availability. In order to assist your group search at the event, you will be placed in an Initial Connection Point with people who are looking for a similar group type - which is based on the information you provide us when you register.

How many people are in a group?

Couples groups are composed of 4-6 couples. All other groups are composed of 5-10 individuals.

Where do Community Groups meet?

Typically, 2-3 members of the Community Group will volunteer to host in their home on a rotational basis. The exact locations will be determined once the group forms.

Do any Community Groups meet at the church?

No. (See the previous question.)