



Dear Potential Group Leader—

Thanks for your interest in leading a group at Harborside Christian Church. I know God is going to use you in a mighty way!

Our Winter 2012 session will begin the week of January 15 and continues through the week of March 26—11 weeks. **Please complete the form below** with the information about your group/study for the Winter 2012 session, **as well as the attached Group Leader Application**; and return them to me or to Karen Hoke at your earliest opportunity, but **no later than Sunday, November 20**. (If you'd prefer to complete a digital copy of each [Word documents], they may be downloaded from the Harborside website at HarborsideChurch.org.)

Also, please mark your calendar for **Sunday, January 8, following the 2nd worship service**, for our Group Leader Training. Lunch and childcare will be provided. We'll give you more details as we get a little closer.

Again, I'm excited about the prospect of spiritual growth among Harborsiders through our Discipleship Ministry, and the part you'll play in that as a Group Leader. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Tom Goodlet
Discipleship Minister

Connect Group Information Form

Leader's Name(s) _____

Name of Book/Study _____

Describe Book/Study in 2-3 sentences _____

Location (City or @ Harborside?) _____

Materials Cost (include shipping) _____ Day of Week _____

Time _____ Max Size of Group _____ Child care Needed? _____



CONNECT GROUP LEADER APPLICATION

Thank you for your willingness to serve as a Connect Group Leader at Harborside Christian Church (HCC). Our desire is for every person to fully utilize his/her spiritual gifts and abilities. HCC believes that those called to this position have a high calling from God and need to be men and women who are committed to a growing relationship with Jesus Christ.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE GROUP LEADER POSITION:

- **Qualifications**

- a. Accepted Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior
- b. Baptized by immersion
 - i. If the group leader has not been baptized by immersion, then the group leader can lead one session.
 - ii. During the session, the group leader needs to be baptized by immersion in order to lead subsequent sessions.
- c. Member of Harborside
 - i. If the group leader is not a member of Harborside, then the group leader can lead one session as a non-member.
 - ii. During the session, the group leader needs to attend the Membership Class and become a member of Harborside in order to lead subsequent sessions.
- d. Prior recent group leader experience
 - i. Prior recent group leader experience at another church will suffice.
 - ii. For group leaders who have never led a group, he/she will need to be a co-leader for at least one session before leading their own group.

- **Responsibilities**

- a. Commit for one session (approximately 8 to 11 weeks)
- b. Attend a one-day Connect Group Leader training
- c. Choose curriculum from approved list, or submit proposed curriculum for approval by the Discipleship Team
- d. Meet with your Team Leader as scheduled
- e. Complete an evaluation process with your Team Leader after each session
- f. Apprentice group members showing an interest in becoming group leaders
- g. Work with your Team Leader to evaluate new group leader candidates being apprenticed
- h. Pray with and for your group members
- i. Practice spiritual disciplines (prayer, Bible reading, devotions, etc.)

INFORMATION ABOUT YOU:

Name _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Cell _____

Work Phone _____ Email _____

1. How long have you been a Christian? _____
2. Have you been baptized by immersion? _____ If not, when do you plan to be? _____
3. Are you a member of HCC? _____ If yes, for how long? _____ If no, are you currently pursuing membership? _____
4. Have you read and do you agree with HCC's Mission, Strategy, Core Values and Beliefs as outlined in Appendix 1? _____
5. How many years of group leader experience do you have? _____
6. When was the last time you led a group? _____
7. Do you plan to co-lead a group? _____ If so, with whom? _____
8. In what ways are you active in service at HCC? _____
9. What are the reason(s) you wish to serve as a group leader? _____

10. What skills, spiritual gifts (see Appendix 2), talents and passions prepare you for service as a group leader? _____
11. Is there a specific type of group (e.g., young married couples, couples with children, singles, women only, men only, etc.) you would like to lead?

I feel I meet the qualifications to be a Connect Group Leader and accept the responsibilities of this position. I am willing to work under the spiritual authority of the Elders and the Discipleship Ministry. I acknowledge the information contained in this application is correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signed _____ **Date** _____

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

APPLICATION RECEIVED (DATE) _____

APPROVED BY: (NAME) _____

Appendix 1

Our Mission

To lead people into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ.

Our Strategy

...by creating environments where people are encouraged and equipped to pursue intimacy with God, community with insiders and influence with outsiders.

Core Values - built on the truth of Scripture

1. **Biblical Authority** - God has spoken to us through the Bible and we recognize it as the final authority for our lives.
2. **Intentional Relationships**
 - Intimacy with God - *Developing the intimate relationship God desires to have with each of us.*
 - Authentic Community - *exercising accountability, belonging, care, and spiritual growth with relationally connected believers.*
 - Relational Evangelism - *communicating God's message within the context of personal relationships.*
3. **Relevant Environments** - which effectively connect with those for whom they are designed.
4. **Strategic Service** - applying our hearts and hands in the places of greatest demand.
5. **Deliberate Apprenticing** - passing along to others the knowledge, skills, and opportunities that have been entrusted to us.

Our Beliefs

• **The Bible - absolute TRUTH without error**

We believe the Bible is the divinely inspired Word of God and serves as final authority on what we believe and how we live. It is our guide to understanding God and the meaning of life. 2 Timothy 3:16 – 17; Matthew 5:18

• **Sin - our greatest PROBLEM**

We believe every person has worth as a creation of God, but that all have sinned and separated themselves from fellowship with God. Romans 3:23

• **Jesus Christ - fully God, fully man, and our only MEDIATOR to God**

We believe God sent Jesus, His only Son, to earth to restore our relationship with Him and that Jesus will return someday for His people. 1 Timothy 2:5; John 3:16; John 14:1-6

• **Salvation - an UNDESERVED gift**

We believe forgiveness of sin--a restored fellowship with God--and the promise of eternal life are available to every person who trusts in Christ as Savior and Lord. Romans 6:23; Ephesians 2:8-9

- **Obedience - a humble RESPONSE to God's gift of salvation**

We believe Jesus requires those trusting Him to turn from a life of sin, confess their faith in Christ and be baptized into Him through the biblical pattern of immersion, to identify us with His death, burial and resurrection. Romans 6:1-7; Romans 12:1-2

- **Water Baptism - a public RESPONSE identifying oneself with Jesus Christ**

We believe baptism is an outward symbol that a person has entered into a relationship with Jesus Christ. At Harborside Christian Church we immerse because we believe Scripture shows that Jesus modeled it for us as the method for acknowledging faith in Him. Total immersion is symbolic of the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Mark 1:9; Acts 2:36-39

- **The Holy Spirit - God in us...an unseen POWER**

We believe the person of Holy Spirit dwells in the life of every Christian to provide understanding of spiritual truths, strength for living, and empowerment to uniquely serve. The Holy Spirit is part of the Trinity—God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. John 14:26

- **The Church - a spiritual FAMILY**

We believe the church is God's family on earth to spread the good news of abundant life, both now and for eternity. The Church is referred to as Jesus' bride. Acts 2:46-47

Appendix 2

Spiritual Gifts

Administration: the gift that enables a believer to formulate, direct, and carry out plans necessary to fulfill a purpose. Biblical References: I Corinthians 12:28, Acts 14:23.

Discernment: the gift that motivates a believer to seek God's will and purpose and apply that understanding to individual and congregational situations. Biblical References: John 16:6-15, Romans 9:1, I Corinthians 2:9-16.

Evangelism: the gift that moves believers to reach nonbelievers in such a way that they are baptized and become active members of the Christian community. Biblical References: Matthew 28:16-20, Ephesians 4:11-16, Acts 2:36-40.

Exhortation: the gift that moves the believer to reach out with Christian love and presence to people in personal conflict or facing a spiritual void. Biblical References: John 14:1, II Timothy 1:16-18, III John 5-8.

Faith: the gift that gives a believer the eyes to see the Spirit at work and the ability to trust the Spirit's leading without indication of where it all might lead. Biblical References: Genesis 12:1-4a, Mark 5:25-34, I Thessalonians 1:8-10.

Giving: the gift that enables a believer to recognize God's blessings and to respond to those blessings by generously and sacrificially giving of one's resources (time, talent, and treasure). Biblical References: II Corinthians 9:6-15, Luke 21:1-4.

Hospitality: the gift that causes a believer to joyfully welcome and receive guests and those in need of food and lodging. Biblical References: Romans 12:13, Romans 16:23a, Luke 10:38.

Intercession: the gift that enables a believer to pray with the certainty that prayer is heard and when requests are made, answers will come. Biblical References: Matthew 6:6-15, Luke 11:1-10, Ephesians 6:18.

Knowledge: the gift that drives a person to learn, analyze and uncover new insights with regard to the Bible and faith. Biblical References: I Corinthians 12:8; I Corinthians 14:6, Romans 12:2.

Leadership: the gift that gives a believer the confidence to step forward, give direction and provide motivation to fulfill a dream or complete a task. Biblical References: Romans 12:8, John 21:15-17, II Timothy 4:1-5.

Mercy: the gift that motivates a believer to feel deeply for those in physical, spiritual, or emotional need and then act to meet that need. Biblical References: Luke 7:12-15, Luke 10:30-37, Matthew 25:34-36.

Music: the gift that gives a believer the capability and opportunity to present personal witness and inspiration to others through singing or through the playing of a musical instrument. Biblical

References: Psalm 96:1-9, Psalm 100:1-2, Psalm 149:1-2, Psalm 33:1-5, Psalm 150, I Samuel 16:14-23.

Pastoring (Shepherding): the gift that gives a believer the confidence, capability and compassion to provide spiritual leadership and direction for individuals or groups of believers. Biblical References: I Timothy 4:12-16, I Timothy 3:1-13, II Timothy 4:1-2.

Service (Helps): the gift that enables a believer to work gladly behind the scenes in order that God's work is fulfilled. Biblical References: Luke 23:50-54, Romans 16:1-16, Philippians 2:19-23.

Teaching: the gift that enables a believer to communicate a personal understanding of the Bible and faith in such a way that it becomes clear and understood by others. Biblical References: I Corinthians 12:28, Matthew 5:1-12, Acts 18:24-48.

Wisdom: the gift that allows the believer to sort through opinions, facts and thoughts in order to determine what solution would be best for the individual believer or the community of believers. Biblical References: I Corinthians 2:6-13, James 3:13-18, II Chronicles 1:7-11.