CONNECT GROUP
LEADER GUIDE
Your Manual for Leading Groups at Harborside Christian Church
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Contains NEW Information
Please check out all the sections
... built on the truth of Scripture

**Biblical Authority**
Understanding the Bible as God’s Word establishes it as the ultimate authority and guide for our lives. 2 Timothy 3:16

**Worship As a Way of Life**
Loving God is a lifestyle that demands our praise (corporately and individually) and a pursuit of purity and obedience. Luke 10:27

**Continuous Spiritual Growth**
Growing in our relationship with Jesus Christ means becoming more like Jesus. Matthew 28:18-20

**Excellence in our Environments**
Doing everything to the best of our abilities honors God. 1 Corinthians 10:31

**Outreach Locally and Globally**
Sharing Christ with people locally and globally puts our faith into action. Mark 12:31
You are stepping into a role that will not only help you grow in your walk with Christ, but will put you in a position to see the people you lead grow too. As a leader at Harborside Christian Church, you already know that our mission is to lead people to a growing relationship with Jesus Christ.

As a Connect Group leader, your mission is to connect people to God’s word and help them grow in their faith. Our Connect Group leaders help people who attend our church become active participants, first by pointing each person to Christ for the answers and by modeling what an active, growing Christian looks like; guiding them to a deeper commitment by engaging in our three strategies:

- WORSHIP corporately, together weekly
- CONNECT with God’s word and God’s people
- CONTRIBUTE with our time, talents and finances

As a Connect Group leader, you can do this by continuing to serve in any roles you may already have, by bringing your tithes and offerings to the church, and by using your leadership role to help raise up more leaders within our church.

One of the deepest, most fulfilling and spiritual things a believer can do is use their gifts to bring someone else closer to Christ. This Connect Group leader manual is designed to give you the resources you need to maximize the gifts and passions that God has already placed inside you. We’re praying that God will move mightily on your behalf as you begin your new role at Harborside Christian Church. It’s exciting to welcome you as a Connect Group Leader, and it is our privilege to give you the opportunity to help reach people for Christ.
Connect Groups. What are they?
Connect Groups exist to connect people closer to God and God’s people.

Each group, no matter the topic, includes these basic elements:
- Prayer Time
- Bible Reading & Teaching
- Encouragement & Connection

WHEN
Connect Groups run in three annual sessions for 8 weeks:

Winter: January thru March
Summer: Mid May thru Mid July
Fall: September thru October

Care Groups run on a similar schedule, however the length of their study can extend beyond 8 weeks.

TIMELINE
LEAD A GROUP
New Leader Applications and Group Registrations are open online:

Winter: November
Summer: March
Fall: July

JOIN A GROUP
Online Connect Group sign ups:

Winter: December
Summer: April
Fall: August

JUMP IN
Once online sign ups close, people are still encouraged to join a group by contacting the Connect Group Leader directly via their email address listed in the ConnectMe app.
We want to maintain a profound respect for each other and those around us, and have created this Honor Code to enable us all to preserve the standard in which God has called us to as followers of Him. This applies to all staff, Connect Group leaders, ministry leaders, team leaders, and everyone serving during services.

By providing an example in speech and action, we encourage others to grow in Christ and become servant leaders themselves. This is a way of life measured by the heart and commitment of each leader in the Harborside Christian Church family. We regard it as an essential part of our development, not as an imposition or restriction.

As leaders at Harborside Christian Church, we have a responsibility to develop and exhibit mature Christian behavior. We want to glorify Christ through our actions, and not be an embarrassment to Him. Our conduct should never be an embarrassment to Christ, but should exemplify the best qualities of a believer and servant leader.

We want to exemplify the highest moral commitment. Harborside Christian Church’s leaders are to pursue a disciplined life of reading God’s Word, abundant prayer life and faithful attendance in weekend worship services.

We should refrain from:

- Ungodly speech - Proverbs 4:24
- Drunkenness - Luke 21:34
- Dishonest gain - Proverbs 11:3
- Illegal drugs or misuse of prescription medication - 1 Corinthians 6:19-20
- Social media discretion to the highest level - Ephesians 4:29
- Pornography - Matthew 18:9
- Sexual immorality - Ephesians 5:3
- Behaviors which might dishonor Christ and cause others to stumble - 1 John 2:10

Please contact Tom Goodlet or Jodi Costa if you have any questions, need clarification of anything listed in this Honor Code or if you need help in any of these areas.
prayer.

As believers, we have the privilege of tapping into the unlimited resources of our Heavenly Father at any time. Prayer is our direct and immediate access to God.

Pray with your Connect Group. Make it a habit each time you meet. Introduce different prayer strategies and give others the chance to lead this portion.

Pray for your Connect Group during the week:
- contact them during the week to let them know you’re praying for them

Pray for your leadership before your Connect Group meets:
- ask for discernment and wisdom

Take prayer requests and praises:
- remind each person of their confidentiality covenant
- remember it takes courage for people to open up and share
- pray together as a group

**Deuteronomy 4:7**
What other nation is so great as to have their gods near them the way the LORD our God is near us whenever we pray to Him?
invest.

The third time he said to him, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, “Do you love me?” He said, “Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you.” Jesus said, “Feed my sheep...”

John 21:17

Just before Jesus left this earth, He instructed Simon Peter to care for the dearest object of His love—His sheep.

You are a leader now, and just as Jesus told Peter to feed His sheep, we’re asking you to feed the people God has entrusted to you. This may look different in every eGroup, but regardless, we want you to invest in the people God has called you to lead.

INVEST RELATIONALLY
Get to know them individually and build relationships accordingly.
Engage in social activities with them outside of the Connect Group setting.
Remember the special days in their lives.
Exchange contact information.

INVEST SPIRITUALLY
Challenge them to take these four steps
(volunteer, lead a Group, give financially, invite others to church)
Encourage them to develop a consistent and regular time with God through prayer and reading their Bibles.
Memorize scripture together.
Invite them to share their faith testimony.
Serve an Outreach partner together.

INVEST CONSISTENTLY
Start your Connect Group on time. End on time.
Send encouraging texts and emails. Be intentional. Express what you expect.

Remember, most of the time, discipleship follows fellowship. In order to build up someone spiritually, start by building friendship first.
Be shepherds of God’s flock that is under your care, watching over them—not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not pursuing dishonest gain, but eager to serve; not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock. 1 Peter 5:2-3

As a Connect Group leader, we are entrusting you with being the first line of care for your Connect Group members. Just as Peter wrote, this is the flock that God has entrusted to your care. We hope you’re excited to care for them.

CARE SPIRITUALLY
You are their shepherd, and we expect you to provide the spiritual care that they need.
- Listen to them
- Pray with them
- Share scripture with them
- Share resource ideas with them

CARE PRACTICALLY
As a Connect Group Leader, you are expected to both celebrate the great events of life, as well as support in the hard times.
- Support or celebrate with them
- Connect them to available resources

CARE PROFESSIONALLY
Each Connect Group Leader may face some major situations in the lives of your people. Some you might be able to handle, while others might be more than you can handle. We are not expecting you to be counselors.
- Listen to them
- Pray with them
- Connect them with leadership

Duty to Warn. If there are any of the following signs, you have a responsibility to report to someone on staff. You do not have to investigate. You have to refer.
[ ] If someone states that they have harmed themselves or someone else
[ ] If someone states that they are going to harm themselves or someone else

Contact: Tom Goodlet
727-726-0202 ext. 430
How do you know when you’ve “hit the mark”? As a leader, feedback is vital to move forward in being effective in your role. Likewise, the Connect Ministry team thrives on hearing from you.

RECOGNIZE VICTORIES AND CHALLENGES
There is no such thing as a small victory. Each and every step towards a closer relationship with Jesus Christ should be celebrated. And, before it becomes a problem, every challenge should be addressed.

SHARE WITH US
Email your good news. We love to post stories in the Leader Connection to encourage other leaders. (Names of participants are never used when shared in Leader Connection) We love hearing how God is showing up in the lives of others and how He guides and provides for you as a leader.

No story is too small.

_Do not despise these small beginnings, for the Lord rejoices to see the work begin ... Zechariah 4:10a_

SURVEY
Each session, we send out a survey to Connect Group leaders and participants. This tool is useful in showing us what we are great at and what we need to improve on.
Am I Ready?

You’re answering a spiritual calling to lead or you wouldn’t be reading this. God does not call upon those who are equipped, but He equips those He calls.

In accordance with Ephesians 4:11-13, you are empowered with a God-given set of gifts, abilities and passions. And, we want to help you maximize those gifts as you come alive in your new role as a Connect Group leader. This role is an opportunity to advance your influence, increase your spiritual walk and to build your journey in His Name.

COMMIT

As a leader, you are committing to contribute to the lives of the people around you, but you need to make a greater commitment to continue your personal spiritual growth. If you’re pouring yourself out, without being poured into, you will burn out quickly.

Never stop seeking ways to grow in Christ. Attend worship and absorb the message. Prioritize your prayer life. Carve out time to be in God’s word. And if at all possible, participate in a Connect Group besides your own.

As a Connect Group leader, you may develop your leadership skills, but if you aren’t growing in your walk with Christ, your leadership will not be grounded in Christ and will potentially crumble over time.

QUALIFICATIONS

[ ] Read, understand and follow Harborside’s mission, vision, strategy, core values, and our beliefs. All found here: HarborsideChurch.org/what-we-believe

[ ] Read, understand and follow the Honor Code - page 7.

[ ] Before leading a Connect Group, we ask that you become familiar with the structure of Harborside by serving somewhere and attending a Group.

[ ] You may lead one session without being a member of Harborside Christian Church. Before you lead a second time, you must attend NEXT and become a member.

ALL THE ANSWERS

As a Connect Group Leader, we expect you to represent Harborside Christian Church at a very high level. But we don’t expect you to have all the answers or know everything. Write down things you don’t know the answers to, consult your Coach or staff person. Bring the answer back the following week.
[ ] **Fill out a New Leader Application online.** Part of this application asks if you agree with Harborside Christian Church’s mission, strategy, core values and beliefs. This information is provided in a link at the bottom of the group leaders page. Once approved, you don’t need to fill this form out again.
HarborsideChurch.org/group-leaders

[ ] **Membership.** You do not need to be a Harborside Christian Church member to lead a group for one session. However, before you lead a second session, we ask that you partner with us and fully understand what it means to be a part of Harborside Christian Church. To be come a member, start by attending a NEXT class. More info about that class is online: HarborsideChurch.org/NEXT

[ ] **Group Registration Form.** The Group Registration form asks questions about the group you will lead. What study, how many weeks the study lasts, when, and where. If participants need to purchase materials to attend your group, be prepared to provide the exact study guide, journal, book or workbook information.

New or returning leaders, **fill this out each session that you want to lead.** This is how the process starts. Off of this registration form, on campus rooms are reserved, join a group sign ups and Line Up sheets are created. HarborsideChurch.org/group-leaders

[ ] **Leader Connection Subscription.** This is our means of distributing information to the Group and Team Leaders. Subscribe online, then activate your subscription via the confirmation email. Also, make sure you allow these emails to your inbox so they are not marked as “spam” or “trash”. HarborsideChurch.org/group-leaders

[ ] **Leader Profile Photos.** Email a professional photo of yourself. Guidelines for pictures: 1) Professional looking shots only. No selfies or bikini shots. If you are leading as a husband/wife team, one photo together. 2) Portrait layout. 3) High resolution. Low res will result in a grainy photo. Look at samples at ConnectMeHCC.com

[ ] **New Leader Orientation.** Vision Casting & Equipping is coming on Sunday, August 21. We ask all leaders to attend this important event. Watch for more details in the newsletter and online.

[ ] **Your Group Members.** Harborside Christian Church promotes Connect Groups. That means your group falls under an umbrella of a bigger picture. We announce it from the stage, we offer promotional videos, bulletin announcements and have a lobby display. That is our part. Your part is to fill your group. Invite, announce and seek out people to join your group. We will offer as much support to you as possible.
What study should I lead?

CHURCH WIDE STUDY
One time per year, our church family participates in a study together. There is power when the whole church is unified in studying God’s word with God’s people. Although the study is the same for each Connect Group, each group reaches different spiritual maturity levels and seasons of life.

The next church wide study is scheduled for Winter 2017. Details will be available late 2016.

SELECT MY OWN STUDY
After you choose which group type you will lead (Men, Women, Parents, etc.), you may select a study that is right for you.

Here are a few different resources to help you select they study:

**RightNowMedia** - An online library of 10,000+ bible study streaming videos.
*Most materials needed to participate in these studies are not available on Amazon. Why is that important? Please see FAQ on page ___.

Request an account by emailing Jodi for access to RightNowMedia for FREE.

**Church Library** - We have many leader kits on site. There is an excel spreadsheet of each study we have on your Group Leader page on the Harborside website. Request the most recent version from Jodi. She will email it to you.

As part of the agreement to borrow Harborside’s curriculum, you also agree to:
- Return curriculum within 2 weeks of your group ending
- Return it in the same condition as you received it in (no writing in it)
- Do not lend out any portion of the material to anyone

**Your Own Study** - Perhaps there is a study that you put together yourself or one that does not have a traditional leader kit. Please include all information in the Group Registration form online. Submit an outline of the study for approval 4 weeks before the Lead A Group campaign deadline.
**Leader FAQ’s**

**Q:** The study I want to lead has materials that are not available on Amazon. Why is that so important?

**A:** Amazon is the most reliable resource for participant materials. Both delivery time and shipping costs ($0) are guaranteed.

Other vendors do not always provide timely or guaranteed delivery time, and shipping costs can be exorbitant.

For this reason, if your study materials needed for participants are not available on Amazon, Harborside does not guarantee that the materials ordered by participants will be in by the time your group begins. This applies whether the participant purchases online on their own or through Harborside registration process.

**Q:** What if someone can’t afford the materials or children’s programming costs?

**A:** Harborside has scholarship funds set aside. The person must complete a very short Scholarship application online. It is confidential.

Direct them to: www.HarborsideChurch.org/resources

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**Galatians 5:13-14**

You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love. For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: “Love your neighbor as yourself.”
Software Platforms

There are three different software platforms used to make Connect Groups happen. Here are brief descriptions to help you know the difference.

**HarborsideChurch.org**  This is where it all starts. Most of the information needed is located on the Leaders page: HarborsideChurch.org/group-leaders

This is what you can do here:
- Find out how to become a leader
- Fill out new leader application and group registration
- Subscribe to the Leader Connect newsletter
- View & Download the Leaders Guide & Starter Kit
- Register to attend group events (Vision Casting, etc.).

**ConnectMeHcc App**  All of the information each leader fills out on the Harborside website (listed above) gets manually transferred to the ConnectMe app. There is a team of technical volunteers that make this happen. That is why it is very important that the information provided in the forms is accurate and complete. (ConnectMeHCC.com)

This is what you can do here:
- Browse Connect and Care Groups
- Day, time, & location of group
- If materials needed
- If childcare is available
- How many weeks long is the study
- Study description & group type (Men, Women, etc.)
- Leader profile with photo and email the link
- Register to attend this group

**SPECIAL FEATURE:**
Find your group, and use the SHARE button to invite people to your group.

**HarborLink**  This is the final destination for groups. All registrations received via the ConnectMe app are manually transferred over to a HarborLink group. Again, this is not an automated process. You will not see people in your HarborLink account once they start registering. Watch your Leader Connection newsletter to find what date it's available.

This is what you can do here:
- Add / Remove participants
- See your Roster
- Email your group

**NOTE:** Compose message outside of this HarborLink. Copy and paste into the email component of HarborLink. There is a timeout feature that will log you out while typing and you cannot recover the message.
Purpose: Instructions on how to manage your group online at: Harborside.infellowship.com

REGISTRATION (for new users)
1. Go to the website and click REGISTER (top right corner)
2. Complete the registration form
3. Click CREATE AN ACCOUNT
4. Verify your account through the confirmation email

Once you’ve been added into the system as a Connect Group Leader, you will be able to view your group under GROUPS YOU LEAD. This is a manual process by the Connect Ministry Team.

ADDING PEOPLE
1. Go to YOUR GROUPS
2. Go to GROUPS YOU LEAD
3. Use the right navigation box to choose ADD or INVITE
4. Follow the instructions to add or invite someone

TRACKING ATTENDANCE (optional)
1. From YOUR GROUPS, select the correct group.
2. Click the ATTENDANCE tab
3. Select ENTER ATTENDANCE
4. From the drop down menu, select ADD YOUR NEW EVENT
5. Enter the DATE of your meeting, then check off each attendee
6. If you don’t track attendance, please track the average number of participants

EMAIL YOUR GROUP
1. From YOUR GROUPS, select the correct group.
2. Use the right navigation box to choose SEND AN EMAIL
3. **It is best to compose your message outside of this software, then copy it into the message area.
4. You may select the whole group, or choose which people you’d like to email.

We do not require you to track attendance via HarborLink, but we will request a final average count at the end of each session. Tracking attendance is easy and can be delegated to a participant in your group. Ask Jodi Costa for that person to be added in the system as a leader and they’ll have attendance tracking capabilities.
Filling My Group

Approximately 5 weeks before groups begin, “Join A Group” begins. This is where you begin personally inviting people to join your group.

The Connect Ministry does a terrific job of advertising Connect Groups. We have it on the website, pre-service promotional slides, mentioned from the stage on Sundays, eNotes from Kurt, bulletin mentions and in the corner of the lobby.

However, nothing draws people in better than a personal invitation from you. You are asked to actively pursue participants for your group. You may use email and social media, but a good old fashioned face-to-face invite works best.

Lobby Promotions

Three Sundays before the online registration closes, we promote groups from the stage (Sunday Mornings) and in the lobby corner. This is a big deal. It creates energy and urgency to join a group!

Group Leaders are asked to take a shift or two to assist people in getting into a group. It’s a terrific way to meet people and to help them find the group that is the perfect fit for them. It might even be your group!

Watch for the announcement in the Leader Connection for time slots to serve.

LEADER FAQ:

Q: I only had 2 people sign up for my group. Now what?
A: First, please don’t be discouraged or take it personally. It happens just about every session. Tom or Jodi will notify you if your sign ups are low and we’ll have a conversation about options.

Merging with another similar group
Keeping it open, just in case
Close it for now and join a group
Children’s Programming

During Connect Group sessions, your kids have something to do as well.

**INFANT THRU 5TH GRADE**
Age appropriate games and lessons are available from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. There is even a place for school aged children who have homework.

**REGISTER:** They must register each child with the appropriate link for the correlating evening. That can be done at the same time they register to attend the group.

**COST:** There is a small fee of $24 per child to participate. This fee covers up to 8 weeks of care and must be paid up front at the time of registration.

**LEADERS:** Connect Group Leaders are asked to register their children if care is needed. Since the fee is already reduced, there are no additional discounts offered to leaders for care. However, if this is a financial burden, we are happy to cover the cost in full.

**SCHOLARSHIPS:** Scholarships are available for leaders and participants: www.HarborsideChurch.org/resources

**CANCEL CARE:** If a child is sick or will not be attending for any reason, please email PAM@HARBORSCIDECHURCH.ORG as soon as you can to let her know. We staff paid care workers according to how many are registered.

**NOTE:** No refunds are available for evenings missed as this is a subsidized fee that Harborside pays the remainder of.

**MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL**
Student Motion follows the same sessions as Connect Groups. Every Wednesday night for 8-weeks, your 6th-12th Grader will be fully engaged with God and with God’s people. For more information about the Middle School program, visit: www.HarborsideChurch.org/studentmotion

Leader FAQ’s

**Q:** What if someone can’t afford the materials or children’s programming costs?
**A:** Harborside has scholarship funds set aside. The person must complete a very short Scholarship application online. It is confidential.

Direct them to: www.HarborsideChurch.org/resources
Q: Do I have to re-apply for each session I lead?
A: No. Once you are an approved leader, you don’t need to re-apply. The only thing necessary to lead a session is the Group Registration form. That is what gets the process started.

Q: What if I don’t get my Group Registration form in on time? Can I still lead?
A: Yes. If you weren’t able to get your Group Registration form in on time, there will be a delay in getting your group information duplicated across the different software platforms. It is requested to submit the online forms by the deadline.
Purpose: New Leader Orientation is a time of encouragement, instruction, prayer and connection with other leaders.

Watch for online registration for this event. Food and children’s programming (infant thru 5th grade) is available as long as you register your attendance. The event will be announced in the Leader Connection newsletter.

Fall 2016
August 21 after third service
1:00 - 2:30 p.m.

Online Registration:  www.HarborsideChurch.org/vision
Keep it fresh

The Starter Kit does a good job of describing why and how to set the atmosphere of a Connect Group. If you’ve been leading a Connect Group for a while, you may not need to hear about the importance of setting the atmosphere. You already know. But before the atmosphere turns stale, consider revitalizing to keep it fresh!

CHANGE THINGS UP. Do something different with your Connect Group. Meet someplace new. People value consistency, but don’t be afraid to change the scenery every once in a while. A park. The beach. A restaurant. Fire pit.

DO SOMETHING FUN. We’ve empowered you to lead a Connect Group to grow closer to God and God’s people. And groups that have fun together can grow together. Make it a habit to break from routine in the name of fun. You’ll be refreshed and ready to dig deeper into God’s word, once you’ve invested one evening to fun.

THINK INSIDE THE BOX. What do you have at your disposal to make things fresh and different? Try a new seating arrangement. Include a meal together where each person brings one thing as part of the meal. Change up your format - switch discussion and prayer. Partner up and have a small series of questions each pair can discuss. Meet someplace else. Theme night. Game night.

CHALLENGE YOUR COMFORT ZONE. By now, you may have noticed some strengths and weaknesses and what generally works in your Connect Group. Play to your group’s strengths but don’t settle for what’s comfortable. Present challenges. If they are a quiet bunch, introduce something interactive. For a wild group, do something that requires they slow down. Growth only happens when it’s outside of your comfort zone.
The purpose of ice breakers are to get to know each other. But once you know your group, here’s how you can have fun growing deeper together.

[ ] Share one word to describe the person next to you

[ ] Write a word on a white board or piece of paper describing one person in your group. Have the others try to guess who it is.

[ ] Have each person finish this sentence: “When I was in high school, I wanted to be most like (blank) and why.

[ ] Each person gets a piece of paper and writes down as many scripture verses as they can think of. Book, chapter and verse gets extra points.

[ ] Each person gets a piece of paper and writes down a name of someone who has influenced them positively. Time to share if they want to.

How would you change the world with $1M?
What is your favorite childhood memory or story?
What was the best or worst thing that happened to you this weekend?
What’s the kindest act you have ever seen someone do?
What are you most talented at doing?
If you were given 24 hours to live, what would you do?
Who was your favorite teacher and why?
Who was your hero when you were a child, and what did you do to be like them?
Name a turning point in your life that makes you smile/cry.

GOING DEEPER:
Open discussion topic:
Where do you feel you need God’s direction the most?
How is God speaking into your life today?
How do you want to be thought of?
Name a spiritual goal you’ve set for yourself and achieved.
Groove vs. Rut

There is a fine line between finding a groove and being in a rut. As the leader, be aware that a comfort zone could be both your groove and rut. Encourage your group to engaging discussion time. Here are some suggestions:

CHANGE UP THE ATMOSPHERE.
Referring back to the importance of atmosphere in your Connect Group, simply providing a different environment may result in new dialog and fresh perspectives.

EMPOWER A SECOND VOICE.
Maybe each person feels “the groove” with how you lead discussion time. Raise up a co-leader by asking someone else to take over the discussion time. If that’s too much, have them take half of the questions.

SPLIT INTO GROUPS.
Pairs, half and half, boys and girls, count off 1,2,3,4. Smaller groups within your Connect Group may find a rhythm that spurs on creative outcomes.

USE ACTIVITIES.
Google is your friend. Find creative ways to apply the discussion and it will make life application more personal to each person in your Connect Group. The goal is to draw people to engage beyond listening. Ask them to bring a verse or passage pertaining to your discussion topic that has affected them personally.

BE A BETTER LISTENER.
By actively listening to your group, you may find that they are giving you plenty of information. You may just need to pick up on that by digging deeper into their thoughts, struggles and victories.

The Starter Kit contains a list of other Discussion Tips.
Ready for more?

PERSONAL SPIRITUAL GROWTH.
The purpose of this Connect Group Leader Guide is not just to tell you how to lead your group, but also to inspire you to use resources to advance God’s calling in your life.

ONLINE RESOURCES:
SpiritualGiftstest.com
Find out your spiritual gifts

BlueLetterBible.org
Blue Letter Bible provides powerful tools for an in-depth study of God’s Word through our free online reference library, with study tools that are grounded in the historical, conservative Christian faith.

ON THE GO GROWTH:
The Bible App YouVersion.com
Prayer Tracker / Reminder EchoPrayer.com

BOOK SUGGESTIONS:
The Most Excellent Way to Lead - P. Noble
Lead Like Jesus - B. Hybels
Real Life Discipleship
Not A Fan - K. Idleman
What on Earth Am I Here For? - R. Warren
Crazy Love - F. Chan
If You Want to Walk on Water - J. Ortberg
Mere Christianity - C.S. Lewis
5 Love Languages - Gary Chapman
Wired for a Life of Worship - Louis Giglio
Contagious Christian - Hybels & Mittelberg
Teach Me to Pray - Kay Arthur
Chronological Bible in a Year

HARBORSIDE SERMON ARCHIVE:
HarborsideChurch.org/media
The importance of serving

LEADER is mentioned six times in the King James Version of the Bible. SERVANT is mentioned over nine hundred times.

SERVING. Serving should be a part of each Christian’s walk. It imitates the model of Jesus Christ more so than any other act. Look beyond Connect Groups and books and studies .... to truly spiritually grow, you must serve.

For even I, the Son of Man, came here not to be served but to serve others, and to give my life as a ransom for many”  Mark 10:45 NLT

Serving Testimonies: “I serve because .... :
... it’s amazing watching children grow with God, and it allows me to grow too!
... someone did it for me, and they made a difference in my life!
... I want to make an impact on the younger generation. I want to be the hands and feet of Christ. It is such blessing to me to get to know the kids and see them come to know the Lord!

OUTREACH. One of our core values at Harborside Christian Church is OUTREACH - both local and global. We believe outreach is a tool which will allow you the opportunity to grow in your personal relationship with Jesus Christ. We consistently witness men adn women who are forever changed because they take the risk of getting out of their comfort zones and reaching out to those in need. Come alongside us as we change the world by changing ourselves.

Upcoming OUTREACH Opportunities:

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD - October 2016
FERTILITY WALK - Fall 2016

HarborsideChurch.org/serve
HarborsideChurch.org/outreach
Purpose: It’s our expectation that you are thinking of the next generation of Connect Group Leaders. You are thinking about those in your group that can take the mantle of leadership and step into their own Connect Group. We encourage the role of a Co-Leader within your Connect Group.

DEFINING A CO-LEADER: A ‘co-leader’ is someone who is learning to lead a Connect Group by observing and helping with a current Connect Group.

They learn by doing, under the supervision of a seasoned (mature and skilled) leader. Co-leading is closely related to mentoring—a developmental relationship in which a more experienced person helps a less experienced person.

They grow in maturity along with the rest of the Connect Group, but he or she receives special attention and more pointed direction from the mentoring leader.

HOW TO SELECT A CO-LEADER: A Connect Group Co-Leader is an emerging leader. This person is someone who has been identified by you, the Connect Group leader, as a good candidate for leading a future Connect Group, based on a variety of observations. They include, but are not limited to:

A growing and vibrant relationship with Christ and passion for the vision of Harborside Christian Church and our Connect Groups.

An understanding of the role and the ability to live out the role as defined in the ‘Expectations of a Connect Group Leader’ section earlier in this manual.

A person that you would least like to lose from your Connect Group. It’s true that the person you would least like to lose is probably the person that you need to raise up and send out the most.

HOW TO DEVELOP YOUR CO-LEADER:
As important as it is to select the right co-leader, it’s equally important to mentor the Connect Group co-leader. Follow these four steps:

1. MODEL. Have your Co-Leader watch as you do the ministry, just as Jesus did with his disciples (Matthew 9:32–38). Let them see a highly effective Connect Group leader in action.

2. MENTOR. Next, have your Co-Leader take over some responsibilities or lead various aspects of the Connect Group as you watch, assist, correct, and encourage—again, just as Jesus did with his disciples (Matthew 10:1).

3. MOTIVATE. Encourage your Co-Leader to act on the potential that God has placed inside of them.

4. MULTIPLY. Work toward transition. The goal is for the Co-Leader to eventually be confident enough to lead a group of his or her own. The timeframe and the look of the transition will vary from Group to Group; that is okay. The important thing is for the process of development to take place and for new leaders to be raised up.
HARBORSIDE CARES - KNOW WHERE TO REFER

We are not meant to go through life's struggles alone. A church family deals with life issues together. We all need a group that cares about our health, our healing and our spiritual growth.

Harborside Christian Church offers Care Groups, designed for God’s people to hold each other up in times of trials, and to help move forward in this life together. Care Groups meet each individual at whatever spiritual level they are in order to promote health, healing and a growing a relationship with Jesus Christ.

COUNSELING:
Carol Burmood, LMHC
Licensed Mental Health Counselor
On-site Counseling: LifeImpact Counseling
Carol@HarborsideChurch.org
727-726-0202 x499

FOR MEN:
Contact: HarborsideChurch.org/MEN
Men of Harborside have a vibrant band of brothers who are not only connected through Christ, but also connected through ongoing ministries and activities.

A monthly breakfast connection on every second Saturday morning offers one-on-one fellowship and a guest speaker addressing encouragement, solutions and practical how-to’s for the guys. Men also have many small group meetings where study and accountability produce “iron sharpening iron” (Proverbs 27:17). Sports activities bring guys together in friendly competition: golf, softball, basketball and volleyball. Workdays are scheduled to add manpower for the upkeep of our building and campus, and often reaching out into our neighborhood to a assist those who cannot accomplish household and personal tasks. EXTRA, a bi-weekly e-newsletter keeps more than 900 men informed and focused.

Bottom line: Men of Harborside equips men to be godly leaders in their personal lives, their homes, and areas God guides them.

FOR WOMEN:
Contact: Jessica O’Connor - jessica.oconnor@genesishcc.com
INFERTILITY SUPPORT FOR WOMEN: A support group for women who are struggling with infertility and recurrent miscarriages looking for encouragement and answers to some of their hardest questions. This group will teach you how to balance your emotions, get the support you need, deal with painful situations by incorporating faith, hope and health.

No sign up. No registration needed.
2nd Mondays at Harborside at 7pm

ABORTION RECOVERY FOR WOMEN: Contact: Deb Bryan, Harborside's liaison at 727-460-7828
If you or someone you know has had an abortion, God wants to heal your hurt and your heart in a safe, supportive environment. “Forgiven and Set Free” is a Bible study/support groups that offer help and hope.

Call Diane at the Pregnancy Center - 727-940-2636
For more information and to register - Calls are confidential

*Groups are conducted by trained volunteers who are under the direction of the Pregnancy Center. The study and group are not intended to be a substitute for professional counseling.
resources

PRAYER PARTNERS/GROUP: Contact: Doris - doriskasold@gmail.com
Prayer Partners are available every Sunday after worship service. They gather in front of the stage and would love to pray for you and with you.

There is also a Prayer Group that meets every Sunday @ 8:30 a.m. in room 219. There is no sign up needed.

SENIORS: Contact: Ron Carlson - rcarlso2@tampabay.rr.com
Living Stones is a weekly year-round class for men and women 55+. The class meets for study each Sunday morning at 10:00 am – room 225, and includes a time for prayer, praises and announcement of events happening in the class or events of interest to class members. Some Sundays we join in singing familiar songs.

Though the class focuses on no specific life-issue, many opportunities of service for class members and those outside of the class regularly take place. Virtually every class member is involved in other Harborside ministries besides the class itself. This is encouraged and cheerfully done, sometimes individually as a need arises, and sometimes in small groups who join together in a project or an outreach ministry. Sometimes the whole group meets for social events, like picnics, banquets, luncheons, concerts, or celebration parties.

As a result of this active participation, the class – made up primarily of senior citizens – serve others and are personally served in times of need: spiritual, physical, financial and emotional.

MARRIAGE: Contact: Marriage@HarborsideChurch.org

GRIEFSHARE: Contact: Sarah & Greg Wybo: SWybo@live.com
GriefShare is for people grieving the death of someone close to them. It may be hard for you to feel optimistic about the future right now. If you’ve lost a spouse, child, family member, or friend, you’ve probably found there are not many people who understand the deep hurt you feel. This can be a confusing time when you feel isolated and have many questions about things you’ve never faced before.

DIVORCECARE: Contact: Mary Molina – marymolina7@yahoo.com
DivorceCare is a friendly, caring group of people who will walk alongside you through one of life’s most difficult experiences. Don’t go through separation or divorce alone.

The leadership team for DivorceCare consists of people who understand how you feel and have a real concern for individuals who are experiencing separation and divorce. Many DivorceCare leaders have been through divorce themselves and are examples of the healing and restoration that can occur after the breakup of a marriage.

SINGLES 35&UP: Contact: Sylvette Sola - sylv0155@aol.com
Harborside's Singles35&UP Ministry offers opportunities for divorce, widowed, or never married singles to connect with Jesus Christ and one another through spiritual growth, outreach, & fellowship. We seek to support Christian singles to live godly and fulfilling lives as they negotiate the personal, professional and societal challenges, and pressures of being singles.

CELEBRATE RECOVERY: Contact: Sherry Alvarez - 727-678-1209 eeparties@gmail.com
Do you get angry when others don’t do things the way YOU think they should? Do you cry but don’t know why? Do you isolate or act out when stressed, overwhelmed, or feeling guilty? Do you feel unworthy of God’s unconditional love? Do you think areas of your life are out of control? Join us at Celebrate Recovery on Friday nights where, through the 12 Steps and 8 Principles of CR, based on scripture, we learn to accept God’s grace in coping with our hurts, habits, and hang-ups.

Other areas of our program:
The Landing for Teens (6th-12th grade) Fridays 8 - 9:30 pm
Facebook.com/TheLandingHarborside
Celebration Place (children ages elementary aged) – Fridays 7-8pm

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BROKEN, NOW BEAUTIFUL:  Contact:  Diana Journy - diana@thejourneythrough.com 
For spouses hurting from betrayal. We meet on the 1st & 3rd Thursdays of the month in room 218 on the Harborside campus.  
Men and Women are encouraged to attend. No materials or sign up is needed.

MOPS:  Contact:  Harborsidemops@gmail.com 
MOPS stands for Mothers of Preschoolers, a group comprised of women with children from birth through kindergarten. All women are welcome to experience authentic community (real friends), practical help (support) and personal growth (relevant teaching) all while our children enjoy programming specially designed for them. Our ministry exists to rejuvenate and encourage mothers as we strive to find our identity by journeying alongside one another. We believe better moms make a better world. 
Online: www.harbor sidelchurch.org/mops

MOMSNEXT:  Contact:  Laura Baker – momsnext@harbor sidechurch.org 
A MOMSnex t group is an open, accepting place for all mothers of school-age kids to come, just as they are, to experience authentic community, personal growth, practical help and spiritual hope. MOMSnex t will encourage, equip and develop moms in the next phase of mothering. A mother’s influence is great during the school years. Join us to reach more mothers with community and hope that is life changing.

We meet on the 3rd Tuesday of every month during the school year  

FAST (Foster & Adoption Support Team):  Contact:  Kristyn McNally - Kristyn@KMcNally.net 
FAST (Foster and Adoption Support Team) is Harborside’s Care Group aimed to support, encourage, and grow foster and adoptive parents. Whether you’re new to the journey, or you’re a seasoned mom or dad, this group is for you! Connect to others who are passionate about local or international orphan care, and learn how God has already equipped you to fulfill your calling. 
Families interested in foster care or adoption are encouraged to attend.