

Small Groups News Letter

June 2009

New Small Groups This Summer!

Westchester

Sunday – 6:00pm
Kick off BBQ - July 5
Jeff Dimick
8300 Gonzaga
L.A., CA 90245
(310) 227-3822
Jeffrey.dimick@juno.com

Long Beach

Sunday – 5:30pm
Kick off BBQ - July 12
Debi & Charly Collins
5021 Atlantic Ave. #24
Long Beach CA 90805
(310) 809-6174
debibagby@hotmail.com

Young Couples

Sunday – TBA
Ben and Sienna
Hopkins
2622 W. 145th Street
Gardena CA 90249
(310) 717-9493 B
(310) 717-0434 S
bhopkins@ea.com
siannahopkins@yahoo.com

Westchester- Alpha

Wednesday – In the
Fall
Allyn & Kathleen
Burke
& Jon Reed
7803 Naylor Ave.
Los Angeles, CA
90045

Women

Monday Evening
Planning Meeting TBA
Savita Devlin &
Monica Moreland
730 West Sycamore Ave
El Segundo CA 90245
(310)322-5757
monica@hilltopchurchofchrist.com
devlinsavita@yahoo.com



Sunday Night Worship On the Hilltop!

Sunday Night Worship on the Hilltop draws us closer in our relationship with God and each other through prayer, praise and worship, a weekly Bible lesson for adults and class time for children.

- † **Recently our group participated in a group evaluation that was designed for our unique situation. It resulted in increased opportunities for service.**
- † **We were also able to assess our weekly format, meeting time, worship time, topics of study & meal following the group.**
- † **One result of our evaluation was getting to know how the young people wanted to be involved in the different areas of worship and service - giving them opportunities to develop their skills as leaders in the church.**



Worship Jam

Let's Get Together!

This year our small groups are beginning to initiate some intra group interactions. Skip Davis is the first to organize a special time of worship together.

All small groups are invited to listen and participate in an evening filled with worship of all kinds! We are calling it a **Worship Jam!** Please come Saturday evening, July 11, from 6:30-8:00pm at Jeff Dimick's home in Westchester. Everyone is invited to bring finger foods and come worship the Lord together! If you have any questions give Skip a call at (310) 391-5364. Thanks Skip! We are looking forward to it!

If you would like to help create a Small Group Worship Jam or party please contact Kerrie or Monica at (310)322-5757!

WORSHIP JAM AT DIMICK'S

When:

Saturday, July 11
6:30 – 8:00pm

Where:

Jeff Dimick's home
8300 Gonzaga
L.A., CA 90245

What to bring:

Finger food and a

SMALL GROUP LEADER'S TRAINING

WHEN: Sunday, June 28, 6:30pm

WHERE: Hilltop, 717 E Grand Ave, El Segundo 90245

WHAT: Anyone interested in leading Small Groups is invited and welcome!

RSVP: To Kerrie or Monica at (310)322-5757

Ending & Beginning Well

Summer Break & Beginning Again in the Fall

The summer is upon us! Some of our small groups have decided to take a break for the summer. This is a great time to evaluate your group and to begin again with some new ideas and motivation!

† Small Group Evaluation Forms

Evaluation forms are available to help you communicate and grow together as a group. Some groups take Hilltop's evaluation and add more topics that need to be assessed for their group. A model evaluation form is found on page 4 of this news letter.

† Small Group Agreement Forms are located on page 5 of this news letter. For groups that are continuing through the summer and/or when groups begin again in the fall you can use the agreement on page 5 as a model for your new group agreement. Group Agreements are very good tools for helping small groups communicate about expectations and responsibilities. You can create your own agreement by talking through expectations and desires for the group with all of the group members. Then type up the final agreement and give everyone a copy.

† If you would like assistance or would like Kerrie to make copies for you – Contact Kerrie Clark or Monica Moreland at Kerrie@hilltopchurchofchrist.com or monica@hilltopchurchofchrist.com or (310)322-5757.

If You've Lost That Lovin' Feelin'... Find a loving family in *Small Groups*



This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers.

1 John 3:16

- † Because of Hilltop's growth it's just not possible to know everyone any longer, but we can love the ones we are with throughout the week!
- † Our close family feeling is found mostly in Small Groups.
- † Serving together helps us know each other and grow together as a family.
- † Families that stay together pray together...
- † Keep on loving each other as brothers. Hebrews 13:1

If we walk in the light as He is in the light we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.

1 John 1:7

Hilltop Community Church of Christ

Small Group Evaluation (Description on page 3)

INTIMACY (with God and one another)

Group members spend time with each other outside of the meeting.

| 1 = Never 2 = rarely 3 = sometimes 4 = often 5 = consistently |

The group is led to encounter the text effectively before attempting to discern its meaning.

| 1 = Never 2 = rarely 3 = sometimes 4 = often 5 = consistently |

There is a level of self-disclosure in the prayer requests of members that goes well beyond surface issues.

| 1 = Never 2 = rarely 3 = sometimes 4 = often 5 = consistently |

Everyone contributes equally in the Bible Study as opposed to a few people who seem to answer every question.

| 1 = Never 2 = rarely 3 = sometimes 4 = often 5 = consistently |

Group members seem to remember each others prayer requests and check-in regarding them.

| 1 = Never 2 = rarely 3 = sometimes 4 = often 5 = consistently |

The group focuses on who God is in worship and responds together when they gather.

| 1 = Never 2 = rarely 3 = sometimes 4 = often 5 = consistently |

The group makes occasions to celebrate things with each other.

| 1 = Never 2 = rarely 3 = sometimes 4 = often 5 = consistently |

Members leave the meeting each week with a solid grasp of the central point of the passage that was studied.

| 1 = Never 2 = rarely 3 = sometimes 4 = often 5 = consistently |

There is creativity and diversity in how the worship times are led.

| 1 = Never 2 = rarely 3 = sometimes 4 = often 5 = consistently |

Prayer times seem to flow naturally from what the group is experiencing and are not just an allotted time of the meeting.

| 1 = Never 2 = rarely 3 = sometimes 4 = often 5 = consistently |

IMPACT (in ministry and personally)

A group member could easily tell you what ministry they have been called to.

| 1 = Never 2 = rarely 3 = sometimes 4 = often 5 = consistently |

The group reaches out to this ministry by serving and proclaiming God's love.

| 1 = Never 2 = rarely 3 = sometimes 4 = often 5 = consistently |

Group members invite new people to join them or check out the group.

| 1 = Never 2 = rarely 3 = sometimes 4 = often 5 = consistently |

The group prays passionately for the people it's been called to.

| 1 = Never 2 = rarely 3 = sometimes 4 = often 5 = consistently |

Members leave the meeting each week with concrete applications that can be lived out that week.

| 1 = Never 2 = rarely 3 = sometimes 4 = often 5 = consistently |

The group responds together as a community to what the passage is teaching.

| 1 = Never 2 = rarely 3 = sometimes 4 = often 5 = consistently |

Group members are intentionally being invested in by the leaders and/or other members.

| 1 = Never 2 = rarely 3 = sometimes 4 = often 5 = consistently |

Group members hold each other accountable to the resolutions they make.

| 1 = Never 2 = rarely 3 = sometimes 4 = often 5 = consistently |

Potential leaders are being identified and invested in toward raising up new leaders.

| 1 = Never 2 = rarely 3 = sometimes 4 = often 5 = consistently |

Potential leaders are given chances to lead in preparation of the future.

| 1 = Never 2 = rarely 3 = sometimes 4 = often 5 = consistently |

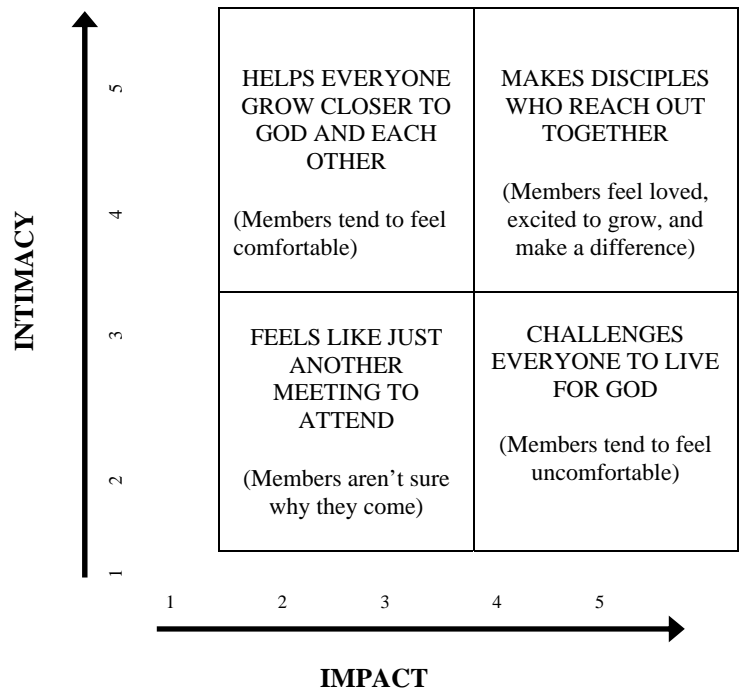
STEP 1: Fill out the questionnaire about your small group

STEP 2: Total your scores for Intimacy and Impact and average them by dividing each by 10, then fill in the spaces below.

STEP 3: Plot your score on the chart

Intimacy _____

Impact _____



Hilltop Community Church of Christ
Small Group Agreement & Guidelines (Description on page 3)

We Agree to the Following Values

- Clear Purpose To grow healthy, spiritual lives by balancing growing inward, outward and upward.
- Group Attendance To give priority to the group meeting (call if I am absent or late)
- Safe Environment To create a safe place where people can be heard and feel loved. We will be careful with being judgmental, giving quick answers and offering simple fixes to complex situations.
- Be Confidential To keep anything that is shared strictly confidential and within the group.
- Conflict Resolution To avoid gossip and to immediately resolve any concerns by following the principles of Matt 18:15-17 which begins with going directly to the person with whom you have an issue.
- Spiritual Health To challenge and encourage one another to live a healthy and balanced spiritual life that is pleasing to God.
- Limit our Freedom To limit our freedom by not serving or consuming alcohol during small group meetings or events so as to avoid causing a weaker believer to stumble.
I Cor 8:1-13; Rom 14:19-21
- Welcome Newcomers To invite our friends who might benefit from this study and warmly welcome newcomers.
- Building Relationships To get to know one another even outside the group time and pray for one another regularly.
- Shared Responsibility To work with each other to grow to where God wants us to be.

Day and Time of Small Group _____

Who will lead the group discussion – Shared leadership is encouraged _____

How will meals/refreshments be supplied _____

Who is the Coach/Mentor for this Small Group _____

Who will help this group plan service projects _____

I will support and assist my group in this way _____

If you agree to all of the above statements please sign below.

Name _____ Date _____

Be Still & Know God

The Lord's at Work Be Patient Be Still

By Cindy Van Kirk

For knowing God's will is a path to take, but it takes keeping your eyes and your ears open all day from the time you wake.

The evening will come and the setting sun, but God's still at work, His job's never done.

He knows if you are listening, He knows if you see, so stay on the right path and let the rest be.

For He knows where He wants you it's not your will, so be patient, attentive and quiet and still.

Listen for direction and if things don't work out, you can believe God is still working, there is never a doubt.

Some things may seem just right and some things not so, but God is still working you must always know.

A place and a time is prearranged you always will know it when things feel a little strange.

But be patient and listen, keep your senses aware and always know God is always there.

Know in your heart with never a doubt, it's very true - with the Lord Jesus it will all work out.

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness

1John 1:9

Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with God's people who are in need. Practice hospitality. Bless those who persecute you, bless and don't curse. Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to

Summer Small Groups

Day & Time	Name	Telephone & Address
Sun - 5:00pm	Hilltop , Hudsons & Edwards	310.322.4898 (Hudsons) 717 E Grand Ave, El Segundo, CA 90245
Sun - 5:00pm	Smith, Fred & Linda	310.641.8495 8312 Creighton Ave., Los Angeles, 90045
Sun - 5:00pm	Dimick, Jeff	310.227.3822 8300 Gonzaga, Los Angeles, CA 90045
Sun - 5:30pm	Burke, Allyn & Kathleen	310.216.9187 7803 Naylor, Los Angeles, CA 90045
Sun - 5:30	Collins, Debbie	(310) 809-6174 5021 Atlantic Ave. #24, Long Beach CA 90805
Mon - 8:00am	Reed, Sherry (Women)	310.322.3271 844 Virginia St., El Segundo, CA 90245
Mon - 7:00pm Every Other Week	Devlin Ladies Group - Moreland, Monica	310.322.5757 (Monica) 730 West Sycamore Ave, El Segundo, CA 90245
Mon - 7:00pm	Hilltop , Riley	310.640.9575 (Mike Wyant) 717 East Grand Ave, El Segundo, CA 90245
Mon - 7:00pm	Campbell, Morrow, Mitchell	626.378.8737 (Rob Campbell) 2020 Delaware Ave., #7, Santa Monica, CA 90404
Tue - 8:30pm	Men - Dimick, Jeff	310.227.3822 8300 Gonzaga, Los Angeles, CA 90045
Wed - 7:00pm	Young Adults Grinley, Bob & Diane	310.837.9472 10812 Wagner St., Culver City, CA 90230
Wed - 7:00pm	Albrights & Holenstein	310.546.5479 (Albright) 922 10th St, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266
Wed. - 7:00pm	Buttles, Steve & Linda	310.306.5282 12620 Rosy Circle, Los Angeles, CA 90066
Wed - 7:30pm	Young Couples Mitchell, Nick & Nataliya	310.864.6818 9797 National Blvd., #23, LA, CA 90034
Thu - 9:00am	Hilltop , Ladies - Marriott & Moreland	310.322.5757 717 E Grand Ave, El Segundo, CA 90245
Thu - 11:00am	Shields, Millie (Women)	310.643.5775 5360 W. 124th Place, Hawthorne, CA 90250
Thu - 12:00pm	Hilltop , Lunch Time Prayer Group	310.322.5757 717 E Grand Ave, El Segundo, CA 90245
Thu - 7:00pm	Clark, David & Kerrie	571.236.6704 646 Bungalow Drive El Segundo, CA 90245
Thu - 7:00pm	Ng, John & Vivian	310.541.6717 28524 Cedarbluff Dr Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275
TBD	Hopkins, Ben & Sienna	310.717.9493 2622 W. 145th Street, Gardena, CA 90249