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# Celebrating God's Love

# St Andrew's Church, Countesthorpe



# **CONNECT** Groups

# **Romans 12:4-5**

For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.

# **CONNECT Group dates**

## **Group Sessions**

Most CONNECT Groups meet weekly in small groups except during weeks where there is a GATHERING event

#### **GATHERINGS**

19th May 2014

7.45pm in Church - Prayer and Praise

21st July 2014

From 7pm in the Church Grounds - social 'Bring and Share' BBQ

17th September 2014

7.45pm in Church - Table Talk & Testimonies

19th November 2014

7.45pm in Church - Prayer & Prayer Ministry

26th January 2015

7.45pm in Church - Tackling a topical issue.

#### **Missional Event Weeks**

During the following weeks CONNECT Groups are encouraged to hold a special event or do something practical as a way of building relationships with those outside the group and/or blessing others in the wider community. The nature of the events will vary from group to group.

Week commencing

23rd June 2014 18th August 2014 6th October 2014 15th December 2014

## **Holidays**

CONNECT Groups decide individually whether to meet during school holidays and half terms. All groups are encouraged to meet together in the weeks leading up to Easter for the Lent course which takes place at St Andrews.

For more information about CONNECT Groups please contact:

Revd. David Hebblewhite 0116 2784442 davidheb@talktalk.net

Revd. Jema Ball 0116 3677084 jemaball@hotmail.co.uk

Sue Gask, Parish Administrator 0116 2778643 standrewsoffice@hotmail.co.uk

Gail Mackley, CONNECT Group Pastor 0116 2778982 gmackley@btinternet.com

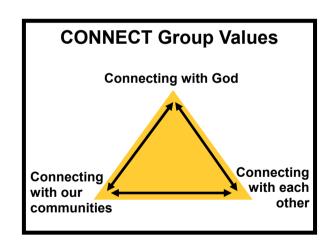
Geoff Kirk, CONNECT Group Pastor 0116 2778025

www.standrewscountesthorpe.co.uk

# What are CONNECT Groups?

At St Andrews we believe that it is important to connect with God, each other and with the wider communities that we are part of.

CONNECT Groups provide us the opportunity to grow spiritually and build friendships. They are the small communities which together make up the large church family at St Andrews.



# CONNECT Groups meet in the following ways

## **Group Sessions**

Usually CONNECT groups meet in people's homes on a weekday evening to share life's ups and downs, read the Bible, pray and worship together. These meetings are intended to be safe spaces to share questions and discuss faith together.

#### **GATHERINGS**

Every two months all the groups, and anyone else who would like to come along, will meet together (instead of in small CONNECT Groups) as a way of strengthening relationships between members of different groups. Throughout the year the GATHERINGS will focus on prayer, encouragement, teaching and worship.

#### **Missional Events:**

A key part of being a disciple of Jesus is to 'make disciples'. As a response to this, CONNECT Groups should be mission-focused. Every two months the groups are encouraged to engage in some form of mission activity. For example:

- Building relationships with not-yet-Christians
- Social events with a faith-sharing focus
- Meeting needs in the community (social action)

# **CONNECT Group details**

CONNECT groups are open to all, although some have a specific focus. If you are interested in joining one of the groups please contact one of the CONNECT Group Pastors (details below), speak to one of the church leaders or contact the Parish Office (details overleaf).

# **CONNECT Group Pastors**

**Gail Mackley** 

0116 2778982 gmackley@btinternet.com

Geoff Kirk 0116 2778025

# **Current CONNECT Groups**

The 'hosts' listed below are not necessarily the leaders of each group, but they will be able to give more information to anyone who is interested. If you are unsure who to speak to, please make contact with the CONNECT Group Pastors, Gail Mackley or Geoff Kirk.

# **Monday evening CONNECT Group**

Host: Helen Davidson

### **Monday evening CONNECT Group**

Host: Karen Kirk

### Wednesday evening CONNECT Group

Host: Anne Jelves

## Wednesday evening CONNECT Group

Host: Sue Darlow

# **Wednesday evening CONNECT Group**

Hosts: Liz Swift and Jill Cramp

# Thursday evening CONNECT Group

Hosts: Jema and Jonathan Ball

## **'Bucket'** (Youth CONNECT Group 14+)

Hosts: David Adamson, June and Trevor Ainge Meets on Monday afternoons from 3.30pm

# MAFIA (Men And Faith In Action)

Host: Paul Gask

Meets on the first Tuesday of the month and for informal socials at other times.

# **Healing and Wholeness Group**

Hosts: Gail Mackley and Sue Darlow Meets for prayer and Bible study on alternate Wednesdays in the daytime, and also on the first Wednesday of each month in church for prayer.