

# Sign me up to be in a Connecting Group

\_\_\_\_\_  
First Name                      Last Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City                      State                      Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone (most accessible)

\_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail

I would like to host a Connecting Group.

Minutes you can travel one way?  
 1    5    10    20    50    100    Any

Who would you prefer in your group?  
 Men    Women    All  
 Single    Married    No Preference

Which days are you available?  
 Sun    Mon    Tues    Wed    Thurs    Fri    Sat

Which age category do you prefer?  
 College    20's    30's    40's    50's    60+    All

If you prefer a group with other families with kids, then what ages are your kids?  
 No Kids    Infant    Toddler    Elementary  
 JR-HI/SR-HI    Empty Nesters

If you have further questions, contact  
 Tim and Erin Kittila-RV  
 (651.587.7327 or erinkittila@gmail.com)  
 Mike Emmert-WB  
 (651.762.9187 or emmert@calvarychurch.us).

## CONNECTING GROUPS!

May we serve you in the process  
of connecting at Calvary?

To Join, Facilitate, and/or Host  
a **Connecting Group**,  
register at the Connecting Group Center,  
or contact one of the following:

### Tim Kittila

Leadership Team Coordinator  
651.587.7327 • tkittila@gmail.com

### Erin Kittila

Leadership Team Coordinator  
651.324.2801 • erinpiehl@gmail.com

### Char Veenstra

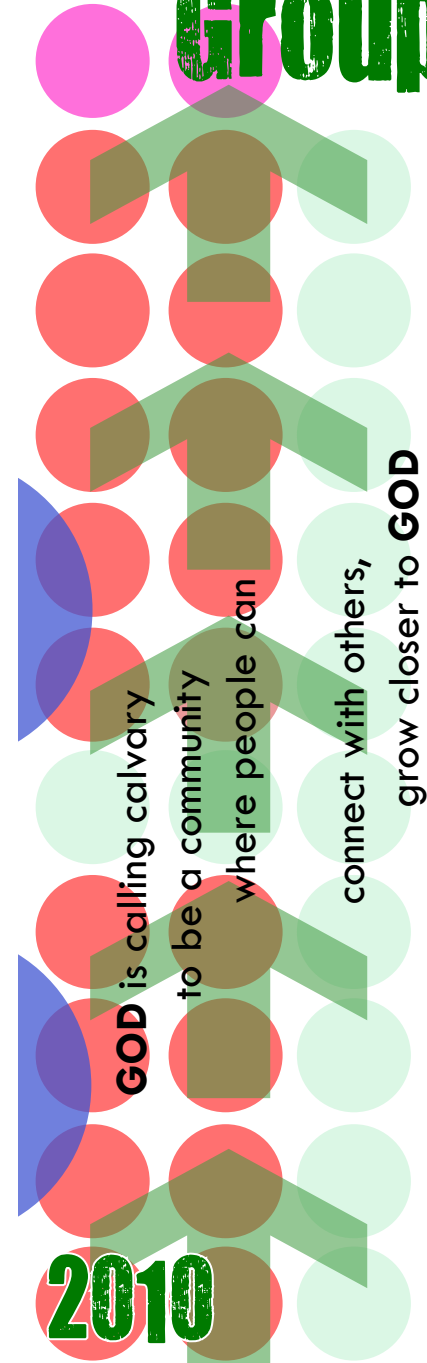
Director of Community Life  
Calvary, Roseville  
651.487.2855 • cveenstra@calvarychurch.us

### Mike Emmert

White Bear Campus Pastor  
Calvary, White Bear  
651.762.9187 • emmert@calvarychurch.us



# Connecting Groups



and be blessed by His people

2010

# Connecting Groups



The most important question church leaders must keep asking is, *How do we help people grow spiritually?*

Small groups are vital to spiritual growth! We believe that without community, people may attend worship and participate in meetings, but they are not truly connected within a church family. We believe the most effective life-change environment is a grace-oriented, small-group community where God's Word is applied in the context of growing relationships. We believe spiritual growth is nurtured through two basic commitments:

*to God and His Word  
and  
to significant Christian relationships.*

**CONNECTING GROUPS**  
provide the environment for practicing these commitments and supporting you in the journey of

**PURSUING GOD  
TOGETHER WITH FRIENDS!**

Our ultimate goal is to nurture the connection of your heart's innate longing for God and His heart for life-giving companionship with you, His precious child. It is a journey He longs for you to share in spiritual community with others. As we pursue His heart together with friends, we become more like Jesus, His precious Son.

## HOW CONNECTING GROUPS WORK

- **Form every 10-12 weeks** – each group being “intentionally inclusive,” providing more frequent “jumping in” points for new people to connect.
- **Meet weekly** through a sermon series (10-12 weeks), discussing and applying Sunday's message.
- **Purpose** is to deepen relationship with God and begin new relationships with others through Fellowship, Scripture Study, Prayer, Service.
- **Commitment is short term** – individuals may choose to stay in the same group for another session, or try a new Connecting Group next session.
- **New participants** may step into a Connecting Group at any time during the sermon series, at the invitation of a current participant, or may be assigned to a group by the leadership team.
- **Groups do not meet** during the summer months.

*There are two things  
we cannot do alone.  
One is to be married;  
the other is to be a Christian.  
--Paul Tournier*

## GROUP LINK!

Prior to each sermon series (10-12 weeks), a gathering may be scheduled for signing up with a Connecting Group. **Register** in advance at the Connecting Group Center in the Lobby, and **attend** Group Link to meet your group and group leader!

## GOING DEEPER

### WEEKLY DISCUSSION GUIDE

The sermon-based study guide is available in the Sunday worship folder, as well as on our website at calvarychurch.us. The questions are meant to help your group enter into meaningful discussion, reflection, and application that will stimulate spiritual growth in becoming more like Jesus. The discussion guide is developed within the following categories.



**GATHERING TOGETHER** – questions, reflection, or story sharing designed to speed the process of getting to know one another on more than a superficial basis.



**GROWING DEEPER** – questions designed to get group members into the Bible – not only the sermon text, but related topics and passages.



**GETTING REAL** – “connecting questions”- to process and share on a deeper level what you have experienced, and how you feel, relative to the current topic.



**FURTHER REFLECTION** – additional related Scripture passages or quotes in which your mind and heart can linger and learn.



**SPIRITUAL PRACTICE** – ideas for developing life-giving habits that open you up to God's Spirit for renewal and transformation.



**IDEAS FOR SERVING TOGETHER** – ideas for demonstrating our love for Jesus by our deeds of compassion for others.

