



# Life Group Leadership Team

## October 11, 2025

### Personal & Group Prayer Requests (10:00am – 10:25am)

See list in Subsplash for all shared requests

### Administrative Nuts and Bolts (10:25am – 10:45am)

#### Group Roster Updates

- Brandy will arrange updates with individual group leaders via email

#### Follow Up on Summer Life Group Fellowship Gathering

- Went well! We will pursue this again next summer!

#### Missionary Adoptions

- Having a missionary your group has adopted gives you the opportunity to regularly remember that God is active everywhere and always! This is a source of encouragement to the faith of your group members and helps prevent becoming too inwardly focused by regularly focusing on how God is using your support to meet the needs of others.
  - This is mutually beneficial, since being on the mission field is often an isolating and wearisome experience; knowing there is a loving and supportive group that cares about you back in the US means more than you know!
  - Your group is not obligated to adopt a missionary; this is not an opportunity that every group is in a position to take on currently, and that's okay
- All missionaries GCC supports have been adopted!
  - Compassion and GFA sponsored children are still available for a group to adopt
  - We can double up if more than one group wants to support the same missionary
- Current Missionary – Life Group Pairings:
  - Sanfords – Eldridge Life Group
  - Caseys – Moulton Life Group
  - Ruiters – Simpson Life Group
  - Gasangwas – Miller Life Group
  - Hernandezes – Collins Life Group
  - Palmers – OWLS Life Group
  - Ed & Tilly – Hoffman Life Group
  - Dee Cook – Richters Life Group
  - Our Friend at TEAM Middle East – Eckelman Life Group
  - Holmstroms – Norton Life Group

- What Life Groups do to support adopted missionaries (*AKA minimum expectations*):
  - Sign up to receive the newsletter/other communication your missionary provides; update the group regularly (or better yet, have everyone in the group sign up for their newsletter!)
  - Hold your missionary up in prayer together as a group on a regular basis
  - When the missionary is in town, organize a meal for them (can be just with your group, or a for a wider audience, depending on missionary's needs/preferences)
  - If your missionary is in town for a longer stay, invite them to participate in your group
  - Regularly contact your missionary with a note of encouragement (though they are often unable to respond, know they are very appreciative!)
  - Do your best to provide a person in the foyer on Sunday mornings to answer questions/share how the missionary is doing during the month that your missionary is the featured global ministry partner
    - Brandy will give you a heads up of when that is coming
- Optional activities you can consider, to build greater depth in your relationship with the missionary:
  - Learn their birthdays and send greetings (and possibly gifts)
  - Send holiday greetings (and possibly gifts)
  - Learn if someone is traveling to their country and could carry something to them
  - Learn their needs and see if you can find resources in the church body to help
  - Video call once in awhile if possible
  - Ask them to be honest in what is helpful to them and what is actually a burden
    - Sometimes our well-intentioned support actually makes more work for them, like if we send over surprise supplies that they then need to organize and distribute to those they serve
- If your missionary is on home assignment (back in the US), keep in mind that is typically more expensive than on the field; consider some optional extra supports in that case
  - Help them with housing when back in the States
  - Help them with a vehicle
  - Help them navigate doctor, dentist and other appointments
  - Provide babysitting
  - Gifts cards for groceries or other necessities

### Spirit of Christmas

- This Advent season, GCC will be encouraging loving service and gospel support through *The Spirit of Christmas*, a collection of two local ministry opportunities and one global outreach
  - This year the opportunities are bell ringing with the Salvation Army, a giving tree to collect gifts for local people in need, and aligning with Compassion International to provide gifts to families overseas
  - Feel free to encourage your group members to participate, or even sign up to participate together as a group!
  - We are intending for this to become a part of the annual rhythms at GCC

## Well-Rounded Christian Faith (10:45am – 11:30am)

Discussion – Colossians 1:3-14

What can we learn from Paul's prayer for the Colossians about what well-rounded faith looks like?

- JESUS – Becoming more Christlike
- Pleasing God
- Loving each other
- Growing in wisdom and understanding of the Spirit
  - The Holy Spirit empowers all of it – He's the teacher, we are the facilitators, we are joining Him to cooperate in what He is doing in and through our groups
- Gratitude and thankfulness
- Prayer
- Faith and its fruit – external evidence of how God is at work in us
- Brokenness bumping up against each other – watching how God works to refine us through how we interact with one another
  - Consider praying that God would bring conflict where it is needed to produce increased unity in your group through working through differences
- Walking in a manner worthy of the Lord
- Obedience to God
- Trusting that God is working for our good
- Humility – recognition that we are here for and because of Him
- Giving the glory to God
- Increasing in the knowledge of God
- Recognition that we have been rescued
- Remembering when and how He's answered prayers
- Being strengthened by His power
- Endurance and patience with joy
- Doing good works He has prepared for us
- Being long-suffering
- Remembering the benefits of faith – sharing in the inheritance of God, redemption, forgiveness of sins, being in light instead of darkness

What practical steps can we take in our groups to encourage well-rounded faith?

- Pray about this between now and next meeting, including identifying strengths/spiritual gifts in your group and areas in which your group can focus attention to encourage growth

## **Mark Your Calendars!**

- **Upcoming Life Group Leadership Team Meetings**
  - February 28, 2026
  - May 9, 2026
- **Get Connected Lunches**
  - February 1, 2026 – Collinsees and Eldridges Host
  - April 12, 2026 – Wards and Simpsons Host