



What is a CONNECT Group?

At OCC our vision is to see everyone, everywhere – experience and be transformed by the love of God. And GROUPS are **critical to the vision as this is *where* church happens.** Here people are living out, growing and practicing their faith in community with one another.

Connect Groups are groups of people who connect in community and fellowship around something they share in common. It could be those in your same parish, a similar hobby, a similar stage in life, or perhaps a common interest in studying something together.

What is the SCHEDULE?

Connect groups can be a one-time event, can meet multiple times, or can be an ongoing group with different people each time! For example, you could host a virtual game night just one night, or a game night every Monday for 5 weeks and different individuals can join each week. Your schedule is up to you!

What is the FORMAT of a Connect Group?

It's up to you! Think creatively! Maybe it's a multi-family hike, maybe it's a meet up at the park, maybe a virtual game night, or maybe it's doing a book study together. Whatever hobby or activity you love, we bet there might be a few others in the OCC family that would love to join you!

Who can JOIN my group?

Anyone! A Connect Group could be with a circle of friends or coworkers. It could be with your neighbors, folks you've met at OCC or even OCCers you've never met before! Regardless of who you are in a group with - the goal is the same... to CONNECT with ONE ANOTHER.

What is my ROLE as a Leader?

Your role is to cultivate a place of belonging and connection for those in your group and to help them grow in care and love toward one another in community. See tips on the next page for how to connect with folks in your group!

Tips for Connecting in your Group // Follow N.A.M.E

1. **Names** – Be sure to ask and learn everyone’s names! Names are important and remembering them reminds people that they matter!
2. **Ask Questions** – Everyone appreciates a space to talk about their lives! Ask simple questions about their families, their hobbies, interests, how ow they got connected to OCC, etc.
3. **Make a Connection** – Try to find something you have in common and explore it! Maybe it’s the very activity you’re doing together! Or maybe it’s a ministry you both serve in! Find something you have in common and build off that!
4. **Express Belonging** – In a hard season, many OCC families are missing connection, belonging, and their church family. Maybe they just need someone like YOU to remind them just how much they matter! In your time together, express how much you enjoy their company and how much they matter to our great OCC family!