

The Goal

Giving people a reason to come to church by creating a community where people can build relationships, grow in their faith, and be authentic.

Guidelines

All connect groups will **follow Love Joy's schedule**. Meeting two semesters a year, the fall and spring.

Fall Semester – starts in September, ends in December.

Spring Semester – starts in February, ends in May.

Connect groups have the option to meet either **weekly or bi-weekly** during the semester.

Connect groups should not meet on a first Wednesday of any month.

Each group will have at **least one party** or celebratory event per semester.

Connect groups should be reflecting and reviewing **Love Joy's process, love, serve, lead**.

Each semester every connect group should **serve the community** as a group.

If any problems or questions arise they must be reported to the connect group leader. They will then report it to the proper channels.

Connect groups can vary in size, ranging from 4-15 people. Groups that exceed 15 will have the opportunity to multiply by sending out leaders to start another group.



Connect Groups Leaders

The Goal

Giving people a reason to come to church by creating a community where people can build relationships, grow in their faith, and be authentic.

Guidelines

Connect group leaders should be **regularly giving to and attending church**, and have been approved by leadership.

Connect group leaders should be **regularly checking their email** and responding to them when appropriate.

Each connect group leader is the **best recruiter** for your group.

As a connect group leader you should do your best to **develop another connect group leader** from within your group.

Attend our bi-annual connect group leaders training.

Listen/watch leadership-training materials we may give you.

When a problem or question comes up you should call Uta Milewski at the church 716-651-0400 or email her at uta@lovejoy.org.

Take attendance every time your group meets by responding to the email you receive the next day.

As a connect group leader, you represent our church, you should know our process, **love serve lead**, and **mention it at every meeting**.

Leaders should encourage their group to participate in Sunday service, First Wednesdays, and other church courses if you see a need for it. For example, Next Steps, Discover my Ministry, and spiritual healing courses.

The church should approve all curriculum. Submit to uta@lovejoy.org.