



**Wymondham
Baptist Church**

An authentic church with a place for everyone

HOMEGROUPS



Our homegroups at WBC...

Homegroups are small groups (usually 7- 10) who meet during the week to share, discuss the Bible, pray, develop great friendships:

- **Friendship** – we get to know each other and share our lives together at a deeper level
- **Fellowship** – we grow spiritually by studying the Bible together, listening and learning in a relaxed, friendly environment
- **Family** – we encourage and care for one another, pray for and support each other in different ways
- **Food and fun** – we enjoy relaxed social time together.

WBC homegroups meet for about 1½ hours every fortnight, gathering either in someone's home or at the church.

We currently have seven groups with different meeting times and locations or online.

Why are homegroups important?

- ✓ Jesus calls us to a community of believers who share their lives with one another and enjoy fellowship together.
(Acts 2:42-47; Hebrews 10:24-25)
- ✓ As Christians, our love for one another and our commitment to each other are hallmarks of our faith.
(John 13:35; Philippians 2:1-4)
- ✓ Homegroups help people build deeper friendships than Sunday gatherings alone. In a large crowd it's easy to feel unseen, so having a small circle of friends you already know makes it easier to connect after services and in the week.
- ✓ **We encourage everyone at Wymondham Baptist Church to join a homegroup.** Here's what people say...

I love my homegroup!!!

Together, we learn, we worship, we share, we pray, and we encourage. Like others at WBC, last year was a very difficult time for our family and my homegroup was a lifeline. I was able to lean into the love of my dear homegroup friends who came alongside me, supporting me in prayer and reminding me of God's promises. I am so thankful for them all!

Nicki

It's an opportunity to share more personally about your struggles and triumphs in the Christian walk.

The age range also makes sharing – both from God's word and from life experiences – much more enriching.

Mathew

If anyone is not in a homegroup I'd thoroughly recommend you join one. The benefits of a small group are far-reaching, learning together, building strong relationships.

*Don't miss out – join one! **Kathleen***

*Our homegroup is where we can learn, share and listen. It's a safe, welcoming place in which I've been able to both receive and give unconditional love. **Mary***

Groups have an 'Inward – Upward – Outward' focus

- An '**inward**' focus – towards each other – encouraging and caring for each other and growing closer in fellowship
- An '**upward**' focus – towards God – deepening our relationship with Him in worship, prayer, discipleship
- An '**outward**' focus – towards those outside the group:
 - A welcoming and inclusive atmosphere, open to new members to join the group.
 - Supporting an outward-facing church activity such as a mission partner, Samaritan's Purse.
 - Promoting Christian witness and outreach.

Keeping close to the centre...

Our homegroup leaders are WBC members who have a heart for God's people and understand the value of small groups. A key part of their role is to encourage all group members to participate, creating a safe space for sharing and prayer.

Homegroup leaders meet together regularly for encouragement, prayer, learning, sharing and inspiration.

They also hear directly from our pastor, Paul Smith, who shares updates on our shared vision and how homegroups are a vital part of our pastoral care. This keeps everyone closely connected to the heart of the church's vision, just as Jesus calls us to remain in Him, the True Vine (*John 15:5*).



Want to find out more?



Our homegroup leaders team

If you're interested to join a homegroup or if have any questions about anything in this leaflet, please speak to Vera Cooke, Homegroup Co-ordinator (contact details in the Fellowship Handbook) or drop a line to the church office office@wymondhambaptistchurch.org.

We ask that you've worshipped with us at WBC for 3 months or more before joining a homegroup – this gives you time to get to know us, what we're about and what we believe – and also for us to get to know you so that we can find a homegroup that will be best match for you.

Our homegroup team would love to help you find the right homegroup within the Wymondham Baptist Church family, and to enjoy the blessings it will bring.

Wymondham Baptist Church

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