

Want to find out more?



Here's our homegroup leaders' team – they would love to help you find the right homegroup within the Wymondham Baptist Church family, and to enjoy the blessings it will bring.

If you're not sure what to expect in a homegroup, why not go along and try it out?! We can arrange for you to visit a homegroup to see for yourself – you will receive a warm and friendly welcome (and no doubt a cuppa!).

When you are ready to join a homegroup, or if have any questions about anything in this leaflet, please get in touch with Gill Price or Vera Cooke (contact details in the Fellowship Handbook) or contact the church office office@wymondhambaptistchurch.org and we'll get the ball rolling...



Wymondham Baptist Church HOMEGROUPS



Our homegroups at WBC...

Homegroups are small groups of people (usually between 8 – 12) who meet during the week to share together, pray, discuss the Bible and develop great friendships. They are a vital part of our church life, providing an opportunity for:

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

WBC homegroups generally meet for 1½ hours every fortnight, getting together either in someone's home or in our church lounge. At the moment we have 6 homegroups with a variety of meeting times, weekdays and locations in the Wymondham area.

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 allow people to build friendships at a deeper level than is possible by only meeting together on a Sunday. It is easy to get 'lost in the crowd' in a large gathering, so it's great to have a group of friends you already know and can chat to after service or during the week.
- ✓ **We encourage everyone at Wymondham Baptist Church to join a homegroup.** Here's what people say about their homegroup...

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

I love my homegroup!!!
Together, we learn, we worship, we share, we pray, and we encourage. Like others at WBC, 2023 was a very difficult time for us as a family and my homegroup was a lifeline. In those difficult months, 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

Our homegroup is where we can learn, share and listen. A safe and welcoming place in which I have been able to be myself and receive, and give, unconditional love.

Mary

...it's an opportunity to share more personal details about your struggles as well as triumphs in the Christian walk. The age range also makes sharing – both from God's word and from life experiences – much more enriching.

Mathew

Inward – Upward – Outward

Each group has an 'upward', 'inward' and 'outward' focus:

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

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 several times a year for mutual encouragement, learning and sharing inspirational ideas.

And especially important, they hear from our minister Paul Smith who updates them on our shared vision and how it applies to homegroups. This way, we are all connected into the heart of the church's vision, as Jesus told us all to remain connected to Him, the True Vine (*John 15:5*).

