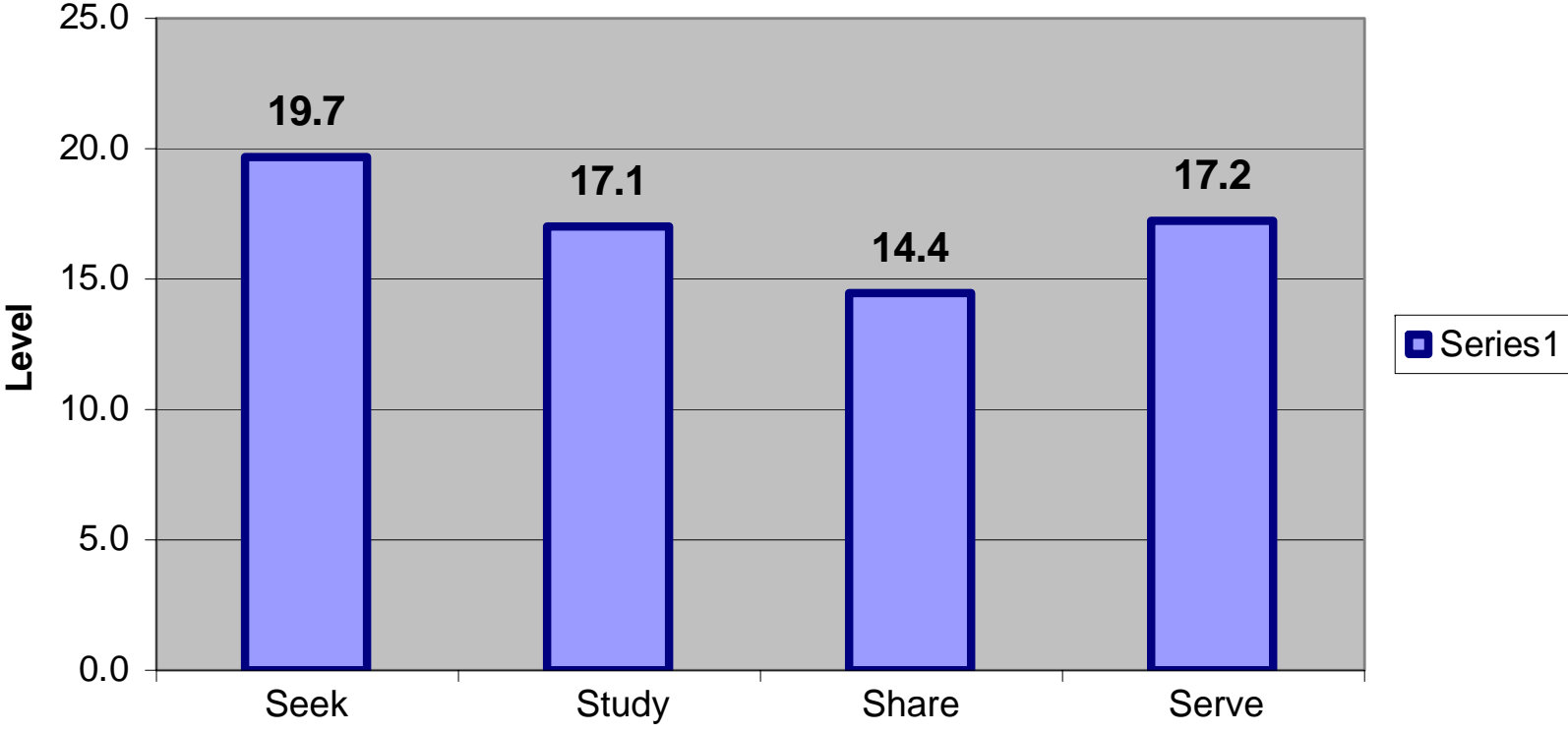


Life Group Compass Results



Average Total- 68.4
**21 Groups Reporting*

LIFE GROUP LEADER
APPRECIATION DINNER

MAY 18TH, 2008

5:30-7:00 PM

STUDENT CENTER

CHILDCARE
WILL BE PROVIDED

PLEASE RSVP TO DAWN
BY MAY 4TH, 2008

DAWN.SHIVELY@LAKOTACHRISTIAN.ORG

OR 779-8800 X22

Small Groups Conference:

On Campus April 18-19, 2008

NEXT STEPS



Brett Eastman

Life Together, Rancho Santa Margarita, CA (left)



Lyman Coleman

Littleton, Colorado (right)

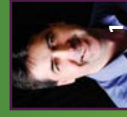
The CCU 2008 Small Groups Conference will help strengthen your church and its leaders for more in-depth ministry. Join us for two informative days of fellowship with others who share your passion for Small Groups Ministries.

Come. Learn. It's all about Small Groups Ministries.

- How to get started and start changing lives
- Take your ministry to the next level
- Shepherd and feed your church
- Effectively train your leaders and coaches
- Find quality resources

Workshop Leaders:

- 1) Kevin Applegate, Ginghamburg Church, Tipp City, OH
- 2) Murphy Belding, White River Christian Church, Nobelsville, Indiana
- 3) Eric Bingaman, Batesville Christian Church, Batesville, Indiana
- 4) Dan Burton, LifeSpring Christian Church, Cincinnati
- 5) Duane Davis, Vineyard Community Church, Cincinnati
- 6) Roni Flischel, White Oak Christian Church, Cincinnati
- 7) Dorrien Hinsey, Compass Community Church, Cincinnati
- 8) Rick Lowry, Crossroads Christian Church, Evansville, Indiana
- 9) Mark Lutz, Vineyard Community Church, Cincinnati, OH
- 10) Kent Odor, Vineyard Community Church, Cincinnati, OH
- 11) Mark Pruden, Mark Pruden & Associates, Cincinnati, OH
- 12) Bill Search, Southeast Christian Church, Louisville, Kentucky
- 13) Rick Shonkwiler, First Church of Christ, Burlington, Kentucky
- 14) Larry Travis, Cincinnati Christian University
- 15) Keith Wilson, Lakota Christian Church, West Chester, OH



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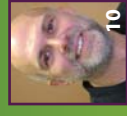
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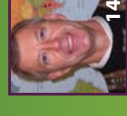
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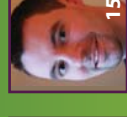
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15

⁴²They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. ⁴⁶Day by day counting with one mind in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they were taking their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart." Acts 2:42,46

Small Groups Conference:

Here's what 2007 attendees had to say:

"Excellent opportunity to become equipped in all levels of small group ministry."

Sandra – Cincinnati, OH

"I can't wait to get the things I learned into action at my home church!"

Tim – Cadiz, IN

"A fantastic conference that revealed the purpose at the heart of a small groups ministry. It transformed my thinking about direction and vision in ministry."

Bill – Lebanon, OH

Register Today!
www.HealthyChurches.org

Bring your staff and volunteer leaders. This conference is for everyone interested in small groups ministries.

- \$40 per single registration
- \$35 per registration (groups of 5 or more)
- \$10 for student registrations
- \$10 late fee after April 11

Conference begins at 1:30 p.m. on Friday, April 18 and concludes at 3:30 p.m. on Saturday, April 19, 2008

Call 513.244.8183 for more information

NEXT STEPS



CINCINNATI
CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

The Center for Church Advancement
2700 Glenway Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45204

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage

PAID

Permit No. 7808
Cincinnati, OH



Small Groups Conference:



April 18-19, 2008
tentative
SCHEDULE

12:00 pm Registration
1:30 pm Main Session
2:40 pm Break
3:00 pm Workshops
4:15 pm Workshops
5:15 – 7:30 pm Dinner
Break (on your own)
7:30 – 9:30 Main session
8:00 am Coffee, water,
donut holes
8:30 am Main session
10:00 am Break (with food)
10:30 am Workshops
11:30 am - 1 pm lunch
Breakout into size of
church and
level of experience
(beginning/advanced).
1:00 pm Workshops
2:15 pm Main session

The Center for Church Advancement exists to empower the church of Jesus Christ to fulfill the great commission

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Small Groups Conference:



2008 MAIN SPEAKERS

SESSION 1

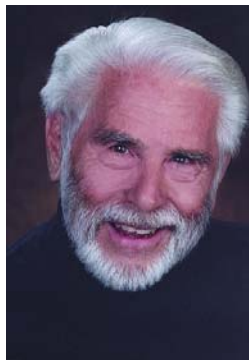
Dave Stone
Southeast Christian Church
Louisville, KY



Dave is the senior minister of Southeast Christian Church. Southeast is located in Louisville, Kentucky where over 18,000 attend each weekend. Dave has spoken at regional and national conventions in thirty-five states. His most recent book, *Refining Your Style*, won the *Preaching Magazine* Book of the Year Award. Dave graduated from Cincinnati Christian University (CCU) in 1983. He enjoys spending time with his wife, Beth, and their three children. Dave says, "For churches to grow larger they must grow smaller. Sometimes the best connections take place in relaxed sittings where spiritual community truly takes place."

SESSION 2

Lyman Coleman
Littleton, CO



Lyman is one of the pioneers of the small group movement. He is a graduate of Baylor University, where he first became involved in small group ministry through the Navigators and Young Life. At New York University, he wrote his first program for small groups, *Growth by Groups*, which combines the spiritual disciples of the Navigators with the group accountability of Alcoholics Anonymous. Since the 1960s, Lyman has produced many training courses that have trained over 500,000 people in seminars held

throughout North America.

SESSION 3

Brett Eastman will not be able to join us. We are working on getting a replacement for this session.

SESSION 4

Joe Boyd
Vineyard Community Church
Cincinnati, OH



Joe has been the Teaching Pastor at Vineyard Community Church in Cincinnati, Ohio since 2007. Joe helped to plant Canyon Ridge Christian Church and Apex Church in Las Vegas in the 1990's after graduating from CCU and before embarking on a five-year career as a professional actor, writer and film producer in Los Angeles. Joe sees himself primarily as a storyteller and a "house church guy" with "big church gifts." Joe lives in northern Cincinnati with his wife, Debbie, and their two sons, Eli and Aidan. Visit his blog at www.rebelpilgrim.blogspot.com.

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CHURCH LEADERS LOCAL CHURCHES CHURCH PLANTING RESOURCE CENTER



WORKSHOP LIST FOR '08 CONFERENCE

The workshops listed alphabetically below are subject to change.
Some workshops will be offered more than once. A few are repeated from the 2007 conference.

1. Advanced Methods for Small Group Meetings – Taking Your People Deeper
2. Assessing Strengths & Gifts for Small Group Leaders
3. Avoiding the “Rut Factor” in Small Group Ministry
4. Beginning from the Ground Up – Starting Small Groups from Scratch in a Church from 300-800 in Attendance (for Churches Over 300 and Up)
5. [How To] Birth Effective New Groups
6. [How To] Blend Varied Cultures in Small Groups Ministry
7. [How To] Build Authentic Community in Your Small Group
8. Characteristics of a Healthy Small Group – What Do Successful Small Groups Look Like?
9. Connecting A Limitless Number of People to Your Small Group Ministry
10. Developing & Training Coaches in the Coaching System
11. Don't Lead Alone: Planning for & Developing Shared Leadership & Ownership in Your Groups
12. Effective Small Group Ministry with Middle School & High School Students
13. Effective Small Groups in Men's Ministry
14. Finding Paid or Volunteer Small Groups Ministers/Leaders/Coordinators
15. Finding, Developing and Using Effective Curriculum for a Small Group Ministry
16. [How To] Handle Tough Situations – Questions, Psychological Problems, Grief, etc.
17. How People Grow: Creating an Environment for Spiritual Transformation in Your Small Groups.
18. Is Small Group Recovery Ministry Right for Your Church?
19. [How To] Measure Spiritual Growth in a Small Group Community
20. [How To] Organize & Administer a Total Small Groups Ministry
21. [How To] Organize & Execute an Effective Small Group Ministry in a Smaller Church (for Churches Under 150 in Attendance)
22. [How To] Plan for, Organize & Lead an Effective Discussion in a Small Group Meeting
23. Organizing, Administering & Utilizing an Effective Coaching System
24. Purposes & Types of Small Groups & How They can be Utilized in Your Church
25. Recruiting, Training & Developing Small Group Leaders
26. Serendipity 101
27. Simple Small Groups - The Three C's – Connect, Change, Cultivate
28. Small Group Curriculum Based on the Sunday (weekend) Sermon (1)
29. Starting Effective Small Group Recovery Groups in Your Church
30. Structuring Your Small Group Life to Encourage Greater Life Transformation
31. The Ginghamburg Model – Getting People to do Life Together in Discipling & Cell Groups
32. The Spiritual Life of the Leader – How To Keep Yourself Alive & Growing
33. Unique Characteristics of Small Groups for Women
34. Using Small Groups to Shepherd Your People
35. What Goes into a Really Effective Small Group Meeting?

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Life Group Leader Summer Training

Something NEW for Summer 2008!

CORE Classes for Life Group Leaders

We will be offering 6 different CORE classes for Life Group Leaders throughout the summer. Each session will be offered twice to provide optimum opportunity for you to find information to fit the needs of your Life Group situation!

Please plan to attend a minimum of 4 sessions sometime throughout the summer.

Check out the schedule below and start planning now for a summer of learning and renewal as you gear up to invigorate your Life Group in the fall of 2008!

Leader Class	June				July				August			
	8	15	22	29	6	13	20	27	3	10	17	24
Effective Facilitation								9:30			11:00	
Engaging Your Members			9:30				11:00					
Taking Life Group Beyond the Walls of Your Home		9:30								11:00		
Becoming a "Spiritual Parent"				11:00							9:30	
Scintillating Studies	11:00				9:30							
Shepherding Your Life Group									9:30			9:30

<p>Effective Facilitation How do you get the most out of your Life Group discussions? How do you get people talking or keep someone from dominating the conversation? How do you get the group to "go deeper" in their sharing and discussion? We will address these and other facilitation challenges. Please come with your own experiences and ideas!</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Brent Carter</p>	<p>Engaging Your Members If your Life Group attendance has waned or your membership has changed, this class can help. We will address ideas for developing "complete commitment" from your Life Group members, as well as topics on irregular attendance, assimilating new members, and dealing with leaving members.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Betsy Carter</p>	<p>Taking Life Group Beyond the Walls of Your Home This class is designed to help you, as a leader, develop a culture of service and outreach as a regular part of group life. You will discover new ways of deepening relationships within the group while serving Christ among your community, neighborhood and church body</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Keith Wilson</p>
<p>Becoming a "Spiritual Parent" In this class we will explore ways of developing leaders within your group. As a "spiritual parent" you will evaluate and approach each LG member with a mindset of leadership development. You will learn practical ways to challenge each member's personal leadership, growth and service in the group. Kingdom impact becomes a ripple effect when we develop leaders within groups effectively.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Keith Wilson</p>	<p>Scintillating Studies Not sure what to study next in your Life Group? In this session, we will investigate study and discussion ideas for your Life Group. We will look at books, DVD studies, Bible studies and more. Bring your own ideas to share!</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Betsy Carter</p>	<p>Shepherding Your Life Group In the new Testament, discipleship is a group event. As a group leader, you can create an environment that promotes and facilitates spiritual growth. This class will provide a vision and steps to "grow your group" in Christ.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Scott Heid</p>

Do you have a burning issue or topic that is not addressed above? Please contact us and share your ideas!!

Update

Life Group Summer 2008

During the first summer of Life Groups (Summer 2007), loose expectations were established that Life Groups might meet occasionally for social events. Our experience was that, while some groups maintained connection in that form, many groups lost connection and were not able to spend time together. Connections take time to make and are too easily lost – so this summer (Summer 2008), we are requesting that Life Groups find a schedule that allows a more continuous connection throughout the summer.

The following Life Group schedules provide a variety of choices:

- The Life Group continues through the summer as is, with weekly meetings
- The Life Group creates a schedule of choice for members:
 - Some members continue with the regular meetings and social activities
 - Others join in on monthly social gatherings
- The Life Group continues through the summer on a bi-weekly basis
- At a minimum, the Life Groups meets monthly for social events

Maintaining Connection is the primary goal!

Social gatherings could involve:

- Planned events such as a trip to the zoo, attending a Red's game, playing miniature golf, etc.
- Dinner, picnics, etc. with fun activities
- Service projects

For groups that want to maintain a study portion as well, the Sermon Guides will continue to be available. Perhaps your group would enjoy choosing a book or study a little on the lighter side – like the Walk Across the Room which included a video portion.

Remember the Open Chair! Continue to be on the lookout for someone else that needs connection. Summer often provides more opportunities to be connected to neighbors and other folks that might be interested in visiting your Life Group!

Look forward to a fun-filled and connected summer with your Life Group!