



Connect Groups

September - November 2026

A ministry of
Our Redeemer Lutheran Church
Santa Barbara, California

Connect Groups

September - November 2026

We strongly encourage you to consider attending one of these groups. They are an important part of our ministry:

- They are a way that our church provides opportunity for members to get to know one another better.
- They are a way that we help new members assimilate, knitting them into the Our Redeemer family.
- They are a way for you to connect with your fellow Christians.
- They are a way for you to introduce your family and friends who are not currently active in a church to Our Redeemer.

There are three different types of groups:

- **Study Groups:** These focus on studying and discussing Scripture, as well as group prayer.
- **Service Groups:** These focus on serving the church or community in some way.
- **Social Groups:** These focus on recreational fellowship.

It is also important for you to act quickly if you see a Study Group that you like. We will cap our Study Groups at 12-14 people. (Service Groups and Social Groups may be larger.) Good discussion is difficult if Study Groups get too large. If you have any questions, contact Pastor Schroeder (pastor.orlcsb@gmail.com)

May God bless you as connect to Christ and to each other!



Our Redeemer Connect Groups September - November 2026

Study Groups

The Titus Ten

Service Groups

Beach Clean & Coffee

Mission Connections

Volunteer Trishaw Pilot

Social Groups

Chef's Connection

Garden Art

High Tea (Afternoon Tea)

Jesus Fills My Cup

Taste of Santa Barbara

The Traveling Fork

The Titus Ten

Type:	Study Group
Description:	A monthly gathering for men 18 and older. Limited to 9 guys plus me (Pastor). We share a rotating-host breakfast and discuss one chapter of the book <i>The Titus Ten: Foundations for Godly Manhood</i> by J. Josh Smith, read ahead of time.
Facilitator:	Pastor Schroeder (619) 852-2440; pastor.orlcsb@gmail.com
Intended For:	Men (18 and older)
The Pitch:	Guys, come hungry – for breakfast and for the Word. None of us is naturally a godly man; it's something we have to learn, pursue, and cultivate. Once a month we'll grab a meal (rotating who cooks) and dig into a chapter of J. Josh Smith's <i>The Titus Ten: Foundations for Godly Manhood</i> – ten qualities from Paul's letter to Titus that'll grow your understanding of the gospel, your identity, and your character. Real food, real talk, real growth as men who follow Christ. Only 9 spots – grab one.
Costs:	\$6 for the book plus whatever food and drink you provide for your turn.
Meeting:	At the parsonage (760 Vala Drive, Santa Barbara) on the second Saturday of the month Saturday, September 12, 9:00-10:00am Saturday, October 10, 9:00-10:00am Saturday, November 14, 9:00-10:00am

Beach Clean & Coffee

Type: Service Group

Description: We will be meeting on three Saturdays at a beach to clean up trash for one hour and then go out for coffee. We will wear Our Redeemer shirts to encourage people to ask us about our church.

Facilitator: Linka Schroeder (619) 852-2600; linka.schroeder.fl@gmail.com

Intended For: All ages, male and female

The Pitch: Three Beaches. Three Saturdays. Three opportunities to serve, connect, and enjoy some coffee together. Help care for our beautiful beaches God has given us, serve our community, and enjoy time together.

Costs: Cost of t-shirt (about \$20); cost of coffee

Meeting:

Saturday, September 12, 9:00am - Goleta Beach (Goleta)
Coffee: Old Town Coffee
5877 Hollister Avenue, Goleta

Saturday, October 24, 9:00am - East Beach (Santa Barbara)
Coffee: Little King Coffee
1801 E. Cabrillo Blvd, Santa Barbara

Saturday, November 14, 9:00am - Hendry's Beach (Santa Barbara)
Coffee: Handlebar Coffee Roasters,
2720 De La Vina Street, Santa Barbara

Mission Connections

Type:	Service Group
Description:	Correspond monthly with missionary families, nurses, and teachers serving worldwide.
Facilitator:	Jim Everson (805) 259-9948; jim_everson@yahoo.com
Intended For:	Adults
The Pitch:	Join our group to meet once a month to select a recipient, compose a message, and send it to them. Help us encourage those serving away from home and learn firsthand about what they do.
Costs:	No cost
Meeting:	Meet at Our Redeemer, once a month, at a time to be determined, for around one hour.

Volunteer Trishaw Pilot

Type:	Service/Social Group
Description:	MOVE Santa Barbara County offers trishaw rides—bicycles with front passenger seats—to seniors at care facilities in Santa Barbara, Goleta, and Carpinteria. The Volunteer Trishaw Pilot Connect Group supplies pedal power for electric-assist trishaws along set routes, sharing a love of biking with the senior community.
Facilitator:	John Favuzzi (805) 570-3377; jafavuzzi@gmail.com
Intended For:	This is an opportunity for anyone with a passion for biking and a desire to share the thrill of biking with seniors in our community.
The Pitch:	MOVE Santa Barbara’s volunteer trishaw program brings joy to older adults through the gift of a bike ride, building community and gathering stories unlocked by wind, wheels, and the beauty of God’s creation. The movement began in 2012 when Ole Kassow set out to get elderly Danes back on bicycles. His answer was the trishaw, offering free rides to nursing home residents. Partnering with Copenhagen consultant Dorthe Pedersen, they bought five electric-assist trishaws and launched Cycling Without Age, now active in 40 countries worldwide.
Costs:	Cost is expected to be just a little sweat and burned calories.
Meeting:	MOVE Santa Barbara requires all pilots to complete a three-step training program and ride with an experienced pilot before operating the trishaw solo. Qualified pilots then follow a sign-up calendar—maintained by MOVE Santa Barbara—listing locations, dates, and times where the Volunteer Trishaw Pilot Connect Group gathers to give seniors rides.

Chef's Connection

Type:	Social Group
Description:	Hands on cooking classes.
Facilitator:	Justin and Emily Schroeder (805) 259-8515; eschroeder@ucsb.edu
Intended For:	Everyone; Couples
The Pitch:	Each session the host and/or guest(s) will prepare an appetizer, main course, and dessert. We will discuss ingredient sourcing, preparation, cooking methods, and presentation. Participants will also share fellowship and a meal. Limit 12 participants.
Costs:	Food costs
Meeting:	Once a month (day to be determined) Either always hosted at our house (the Schroeders) or rotating houses of group members.

Garden Art

Type:	Social Group
Description:	Creating visual accents for garden
Facilitator:	Jan Scheffler (805) 964-4909; jan.mscheffler@gmail.com Pam Schueler (805) 452-9066; prschueler@gmail.com
Intended For:	Ladies
The Pitch:	Come to show creativity in making unique garden art. Examples provided at Connect Groups fair.
Costs:	Cost would be purchasing plates and accessories by attendees (various sizes). PVC elbows, rebar post, and glue - These will be provided and cost determined.
Meeting:	First Meeting - Sunday, September 13, after church - bring base plate to glue to PVC. Second Meeting - Friday, September 18, 3:00pm, in fellowship hall - to assemble plate flowers.

High Tea (Afternoon Tea)

Type: Social Group

Description: High Tea, November 6, 3:00pm, at Pam Schueler's home.
Ladies, bring a favorite Bible verse or hymn to share.

Facilitator: Pam Schueler (805) 452-9066; prschueler@gmail.com

Intended For: Ladies

The Pitch: Come for calories! Bring happy heart and Bible verse/hymn to share. Relaxed time to share.

Costs: No cost.

Meeting: Friday, November 6, 3:00pm
Pam Schueler's home
4546 Via Maria
Santa Barbara, CA 93111

Meeting once and others to be determined

Jesus Fills My Cup

Type: Social Group

Description: Meet at the Marketplace in Goleta to enjoy food and fellowship. Bring a favorite verse to share along with coffee and conversation, outside or indoors, depending on weather.

Facilitator: Barb Grunewald (805) 259-7142; gbgrunewald@cox.net

Intended For: Anyone & everyone

The Pitch: Jump start the day by enjoying fellowship and food with church members and friends. We will talk, laugh, encourage, and support one another as we walk with Jesus. Bring a Bible verse to share if you'd like. We can try venues like Anna's, On the Alley, or Starbucks.

Costs: The cost of your food and drink

Meeting: Start location: Anna's Bakery at 7018 Marketplace Drive, Goleta
Wednesday, September 2, 9:00-10:00am
Wednesday, September 16, 9:00-10:00am
Wednesday, October 7, 9:00-10:00am
Wednesday, October 21, 9:00-10:00am
Wednesday, November 4, 9:00-10:00am
Wednesday, November 18, 9:00-10:00am

Taste of Santa Barbara

Type:	Social Group
Description:	Meeting at different restaurants in the Santa Barbara area to try their cuisine and check out the atmosphere. And, most importantly, enjoying one another.
Facilitator:	Linka Schroeder (619) 852-2600; linka.schroeder.fl@gmail.com
Intended For:	Women - High school age on up
The Pitch:	What if three simple dinners could lead to new friendships, meaningful conversations, and a stronger sense of belonging at church? Join us to laugh, relax, and enjoy a night (or afternoon) out.
Costs:	The cost of your meal, appetizer, or drink (whatever you choose).
Meeting:	Tuesday, September 8, 6:30pm Timbers Roadhouse 10 Winchester Canyon Road Goleta 93117 Monday, October 19, 11:30am Cold Spring Tavern 5995 Stagecoach Road Santa Barbara 93105 Tuesday, November 3, 6:30pm Crocodile Restaurant and Bar - Lemon Tree Inn 2819 State Street Santa Barbara 93105

The Traveling Fork

Type: Social Group

Description: The Traveling Fork is a monthly meetup for Santa Barbara-area food lovers who want to explore the world one park picnic at a time. Each gathering centers on a different country's cuisine – Greek one month, German the next – and every member brings a dish that fits the theme to share with the group. It's a simple format that becomes something more: a rotating, homemade world tour and a genuine way to meet people in your community.

Facilitator: Pastor Schroeder (619) 852-2440; pastor.orlcsb@gmail.com

Intended For: Anyone 18 and older

The Pitch: Ever wish you could taste your way around the world without booking a flight? The Traveling Fork Connect Group brings the world to Tucker's Grove Park once a month – one country, one cuisine, one potluck spread of dishes you'd probably never make or order on your own. You'll leave with a full plate, a few new recipes worth stealing, and a few new faces you actually know by name. Bring one dish, meet a table full of people, and let next month's destination be a surprise.

Costs: The cost of your dish to share and drinks for yourself.

Meeting: At Tucker's Grove Park (4800 Cathedral Oaks Rd, Santa Barbara) on the third Saturday of the month

Saturday, September 19, 11:00am-12:00pm (Greek)

Saturday, October 17, 11:00am-12:00pm (German)

Saturday, November 21, 11:00am-12:00pm (French)

