



Union Baptist Church

The HUB • High Wycombe

www.unionbaptist.org.uk



LIFE Gro_ups

All that's missing is U!



LIFE (Living In Faith Everyday) Groups are for disciples of Jesus and provide a framework for intentionally walking together as disciples and encouraging each other to grow in maturity through trusting and obeying Jesus Christ. LIFE Groups meet weekly for a commitment of 10 months. The meetings consist of applied Bible study, prayer, and fellowship, through which members are equipped to live out the Christian faith in our homes, schools, and workplaces.

The 2024-25 LIFE Group leaders and their meeting days, times, and locations are as follows:



Gary and Judith Hamilton (co-leader Sam Lenton):

Gary and Judith have been attending Union Baptist for about 18 years and leading a Home Group for 2 years. The ethos of our group has formed around the idea of how to apply

God's Word to our lives each and every day, especially when we are at our most vulnerable.

Day: Sunday **Time:** 12:00-1:00 pm **Place:** The Hub



Ian and Lynn Manktelow:

We joined Union Baptist Church in 2000. We have been members of the Hazlemere/Prestwood home group, now LIFE group, since it first started. We are currently stepping in as leaders for the group following the bereavement of our usual leader. We have both served on the church leadership

team (both as deacons, Lynn as elder) and Lynn is on the church staff team. We find great encouragement in sharing together in Bible study and prayer, aiming to help each other grow in faith so that we can draw on God's strength to face the daily challenges life throws at us and share our faith with others.

Day: Monday **Time:** 7:45 pm for 8:00-9:30 pm
Place: Prestwood

Rachel and Chris Dillon (ZOOM Group):

We have been attending Union for nearly 30 years and since 2021 have been leading a home group on Zoom, which started during lockdown. We have enjoyed deepening relationships with fellow group members as we study God's Word together and seek to apply it to our lives.



Day: Monday **Time:** 8:00 – 9:00 pm **Place:** Zoom

Cathy McNerney Women's Group:

I have been a member of Union Baptist since 2018 having previously attended churches in different denominations (Presbyterian, Anglican, Free Evangelical (Switzerland)). Currently serving as Discipleship Deacon on the church leadership team, I am also a chaplain for the Buckinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust. Having led women's Bible study groups for many years, I most recently have been co-leader of Olie Wallbank's LIFE Group. I love studying God's Word, praying together and encouraging each other to grow as disciples of Jesus.



Day: Monday **Time:** 7:30-9:00 pm. **Place:** The Hub



Pete and Wendy Montague:

Apart from three years serving at Totteridge Baptist Church between 2018 and 2020, we have been members at Union Baptist Church for nearly five decades. Central to our growth as a fellowship has been the faithful preaching of God's Word and the application of this in small groups as we encourage each other to

practically live out our faith. Having previously led a Home Group, we love the prayer, study, and fellowship that is so important to each of us as we grow in the Lord Jesus together.

Day: Tuesday **Time:** 10:30 am-12 noon **Place:** The Hub



Jenny Rooke Women's Group (co-leader Veronica Waldron):

I have been a member of Union Baptist Church for 13 years and, with my husband, have been leading a Home Group for nearly 3 years. I am excited by the changes being introduced through the LIFE Group structure and feel called to lead a women-only group this year. I look

forward to seeing Jesus build up his followers and their connections to Him and each other as we meet weekly to study God's Word and intentionally seek to apply it to our daily lives.

Day: Wednesday **Time:** 10:30 am-12:30 pm **Place:** The Hub

Anthony and Chris Croft (co-leader Sarah Atwell):

Members of Union Baptist Church for 37 years, we have been leading a LIFE Group since January 2023. We have seen how God has moved through our LIFE Group over these months and are excited by the opportunity to encourage each other to serve as disciples on our 'frontlines'. We look forward to seeing Jesus build up his followers and their connections to each other as we meet weekly to study God's Word, pray together, and intentionally seek to apply it to our daily lives.



Day: Wednesday **Time:** 7:45-9:30 pm

Place: Various locations in High Wycombe and Marlow



Karen Bates (co-leader Helen Maling):

Karen has been attending Union for over 20 years and was a Deacon from 2018 to 2024. She supports the youth activities, regularly teaching on Sunday mornings and occasionally the children's work, including Holiday Club. She has been co-leading a home group since she retired from teaching in 2016. Our group enjoys following the Bible notes and challenging ourselves to apply the teaching to our lives. We support each other in prayer, sharing our challenges and worries.

Day: Thursday **Time:** 9:30-11:15 am **Place:** Various locations in High Wycombe



Luis and Salome Hidalgo:

Our LIFE group is made up of families with children of all ages. We meet for Bible study, prayer and mutual encouragement on Thursday evenings. We also gather as whole families at least once every half term for coffee and cake on a Saturday afternoon with the aim of deepening

our relationships with each other in an unhurried and informal setting. On a personal note, we have three children aged 12, 10 and 6 and we have been members of Union Baptist Church for the last four years. We have been leading a LIFE group for the last three years.

Day: Thursday **Time:** 7:45-9:00 pm **Place:** Downley

Paul and Linda Farncombe:



We have been members of Union for the past 30 years or so and have been involved in a number of home groups during that time, but this will be our first experience of leading a Life Group. We previously worked with Wycliffe Bible Translators overseas and in the UK. Linda has worked as a Health Visitor but we are both now retired.

Linda is involved in the women's prayer group on Zoom and Paul leads services at a number of smaller local Baptist churches from time to time. In our spare time Paul enjoys doing parkrun and Linda attends a weekly Pilates class.

Day: Thursday **Time:** 7:30-9:00 pm **Place:** Various locations in Totteridge

**Young Adults Group led by
Danielle Fung (co-leader Chris
Manktelow):**

I really enjoyed being a part of the Young Adults Group this past year as it is a great place to share our thoughts on the Sunday sermon and how to put into practice what we have learnt each week. It is also wonderful to be able to support each other in prayer as we face challenges and big life decisions. If you are like me and cannot make it to church every Sunday due to work or other commitments, it's also a helpful way to still feel a part of the community and not miss out on the wonderful teachings.



Day: Thursday **Time:** 7:30-9:00 pm **Place:** The Hub

For newcomers to UBC, new believers, or those seeking to refresh their faith, the 'Bible Course' course is for you.



The Bible Course will be led by Calvin Prentice (co-leader Olie Wallbank): I've been at Union since 1986 and lead the Welcome Team, so try to get to know everyone at least a little bit as they arrive and get settled in. The aim of the Team is to give a warm introduction and help newcomers integrate into our lovely church family, and this new group is intended to be a stepping stone in that xpath for those who are recent arrivals, those who are new to faith, and those looking to refresh their faith using The Bible Course as a focal point for discussion. The course presents a unique and broad perspective of the whole Bible and is relevant to people at all stages of their journey in faith.



Day: Wednesday evenings for 8 weeks starting on 1st Oct
Place: The Hub

If you are a seeker and haven't yet made up your mind about following Jesus but would like to explore the Christian faith more, the Alpha Course is for you.

The Alpha is hosted by Andrew and Miriam Wingfield:



Alpha is for the open minded, the curious and those who want to explore a little more about what Christian faith is all about in a relaxed, informal setting. This is a great opportunity to invite friends that you would love to share more with about the Christian faith.

If you're bringing a friend you can sign up for a LIFE group as well as the Alpha course and either do both or join the LIFE group on completion of the Alpha course.

At each Alpha session, you and your friend will be welcomed by the hosts, share a delicious meal together and watch a video on various questions about faith. Then you will have a chance to share your thoughts and hear what others think. You can say anything you like, or nothing at all.

Everyone's welcome. You're invited, no matter your background or beliefs. It's free and there's no pressure to come back.

Day: Wednesday evenings for 11 weeks starting on 25th September **Place:** The Hub



Sign-up for all groups will take place between 8 and 22 September. Groups will begin to meet during the week of 23 September.

Contact Cathy McNerney for more information:
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