Dear Family:

We are preparing to enter a new season of ministry here at our church. This will be a wonderful opportunity for all of us to “turn up the heat” spiritually, and encourage one another as we connect everyone in small groups.

There is nothing like the synergy and joy that is experienced when we do ministry together as a spiritual family.

* The wisest man in the Old Testament, Solomon, understood the value of teamwork when he wrote, “Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil.” (**Ecclesiastes 4:9** ESV)
* D.L. Moody understood this principle when he commented, “I would rather put a thousand men to work than do the work of a thousand men."
* The Chinese express this principle as "many hands make light work."
* African proverb, "If you want to go fast, go alone, if you want to go far, go with others."

We are encouraging everyone to attend a small group and we will be hosting a small group launch next month where you can sign up for a group that best fits your interests.

We are still looking for those who desire to lead a small group, since we cannot have more groups without having more leaders. We will be hosting a small group leader luncheon in two weeks following Sunday services at 12:30 pm. Please return the enclosed paid postage interest card, so we know how much food to order. This is where we will answer questions about what it means to lead a group. By attending, you are not committing to lead, but we hope that the information provided will help you to make the right decision for you.

We will have special training in LifeOutfitters where we will answer questions to fill in the blanks for those who are willing and ready to lead a group. If you facilitated the discussion during our “Purpose Driven Life” campaign, I believe you will have a good feel for what you will be asked to do as a leader/facilitator.

* **Small Group Leader Orientation: Sunday, April 3rd, 12:30pm in the Small Auditorium.**
* **Small Group Launch: April 9-10th & April 16-17th** weekends we will be displaying “sign-up” boards on the patio, to encourage everyone to choose a group. We will have a list all of the group information in a group directory to assist in choosing groups.

Groups will begin meeting the week following April 16-17th**.** Most groups will begin with a dessert or potluck to get to know one another while anticipating what to expect by joing the group.

The series will conclude at the end of June, and groups will be encouraged to take the summer off. Then the next session will begin in September.

With love and great respect,

***Pastor Stan Lubeck***