



NEW LEADER TRAINING
LIFE GROUPS



**LIFE
GROUPS**

Life Groups

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Life Groups ---

Life Groups: An Overview

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Life Groups

Table Talk

When you think about leading a Life Group...

- *Introduce yourselves and share how long you have been at Mariners?*
- *What was your favorite part about the Rooted journey?*
- *As a Life Group Leader, what excites you most about your group this session? Why?*
- *What do you think will be the most challenging aspect of leading? Why?*

Life Groups

Mariners Mission Is:

**Inspiring People
to Follow Jesus
and Fearlessly
Change the World**

OUR MISSION

Life Groups

Transformational Loop



Life Groups

The Purpose of Life Groups

Our Mission for Life Groups:

Becoming disciples in a community committed to studying God's Word, practicing spiritual rhythms, and changing the world together.

Our Goal as Leaders:

To help create an environment where we can pursue this mission together.

Life Groups

Key Elements of a Life Group

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread, and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and signs were being performed through the apostles. Now all the believers were together and held all things in common. They sold their possessions and property and distributed the proceeds to all, as any had need. Every day they devoted themselves to meeting together in the temple, and broke bread from house to house. They ate their food with joyful and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. Every day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

ACTS 2:42-47

- **Do** life together
Not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another-and all the more as you see the Day approaching.
Hebrews 10:25
- **Study** God's Word
All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.
2 Timothy 3:16-17
- **Serve** others
Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms
1 Peter 4:10
- **Pray** for one another
For this reason also, since the day we heard this, we haven't stopped praying for you. We are asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding.
Colossians 1:9

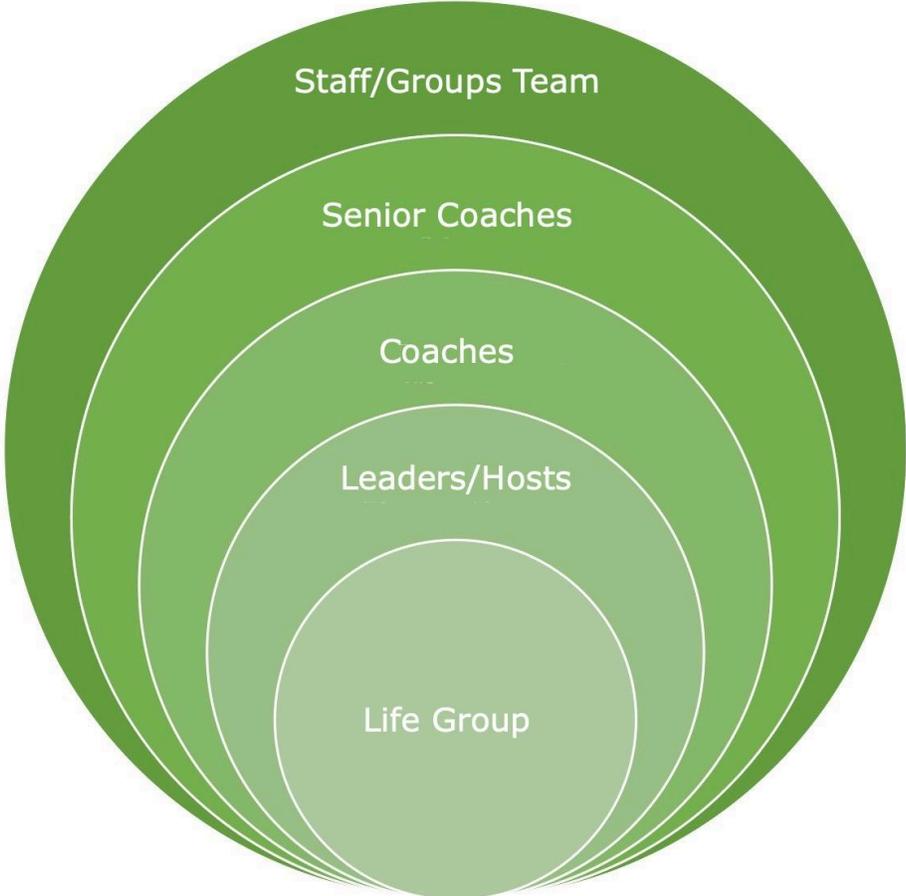
Life Groups

Life Group Leadership Structure

Leaders and Coaches

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Leadership Support Structure



Life Groups

Leader Role

Purpose

The Life Group Leader plays an essential role in discipling others in community to study God's Word, practice spiritual rhythms and change the world together.

Qualifications

A Life Group Leader is a follower of Christ who is a member at Mariners Church, and:

- Is a person of character: growing in obedience to Christ
- Is a person of competency: relates well with others, facilitates group meetings well
- Is a person who embraces our culture: buys into and promotes the vision, values and strategies of Mariners
- Is a person of commitment: faithfully fulfills the responsibilities listed below

Responsibilities

Keys areas of responsibility for the Life Group Leader include:

- Fulfills the purpose of the Life Group Leader
 - Helps create the environment and opportunities for group members to experience God and life transformation
 - Encourages and challenges one another to follow Jesus and fearlessly change the world.
- Is intentional in leading group members and meetings
 - Helps members connect with each other
 - Facilitates discussion times, sharing and prayer each week
- Maintains communication with Coaches & Life Group Team
 - Assures weekly attendance is submitted
 - Meets with Coach regarding the health of the group
 - Submits group updates 3x year (i.e. Group Update Form)
- Multiplying Influence
 - Develops new leaders in the group to help lead future Rooted and Life Groups after around 2-3 years
- Leadership Training
 - Completes New Life Group Leader Training
 - Attends all Life Group Leader Gatherings (2 Huddles & Equip)

Life Groups

Coach Role

Purpose

The Life Group Coach plays an essential role in helping to encourage and equip our life group leaders to serve and shepherd their group.

Qualifications

A Life Group Coach is a follower of Christ who is a member at Mariners Church and:

- Is a person of character: growing in obedience to Christ
- Is a person of competency: relates well with others and provides support and guidance for our group leaders.
- Is a person who embraces our culture: buys into and promotes the vision, values and strategies of Mariners
- Is a person of commitment: faithfully fulfills the responsibilities listed below

Responsibilities

Keys areas of responsibility for the Life Group Coach include:

- Prays for and with group leaders
- Connects with each leader quarterly via a call, text, or meet-up
- Schedules a meet-up for leader cohort quarterly (coffee on the patio, lunch, Zoom)
- Assists with onboarding and trainings for new Life Group Leaders coming from Rooted
- Attends and leads table discussions at Leader Huddles
- Consistently encouraging leaders to update their group rosters in the leader toolbox and to submit end of session update 3x year (i.e. Group Update Forms)
- Participates in quarterly Coach Community meet-ups

Life Groups

Shepherding 101

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"Whoever wants to be a leader among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first among you must become your slave"

Matthew 20:25-28

"Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, watching over them—not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be"

1 Peter 5:1-4

"The way of the Christian leader is not the way of upward mobility in which our world has invested so much, but the way of downward mobility ending on the cross".

Henri Nouwen

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Healthy Leadership Posture

We've realized that even though our most effective leaders are wired differently, they share four common characteristics.

1. Humility
2. Teachability
3. Curiosity
4. Intentionality

Life Groups

LEADER ESSENTIALS

Stay Connected

- Staying spiritually nourished is essential—not just for ourselves but for the growth of our group members.
- In John 15, Jesus uses the metaphor of the vine and branches to call His followers to “abide” in Him. When we stay deeply connected to Jesus, we open ourselves to His transformative work in us and through us.
- *Are you first staying rooted in your relationship with Jesus, recognizing that apart from Him, you can do nothing? How are you helping your group members stay connected to Him?*

Share Ownership

- A thriving group is one where everyone contributes.
- When members take part in facilitating discussions, hosting, bringing snacks, leading prayer, or planning social gatherings, it fosters a sense of shared ownership and commitment.
- *How are you empowering your group members to take an active role?*

Provide Care

- Genuine care is shown in both big and small ways.
- As the saying goes, “People don’t care how much you know until they know how much you care.” Creating a culture of care ensures that everyone feels seen, supported, and valued.
- *Is caring for one another a core priority in your group? How are you modeling and encouraging this?*

Pursue Spiritual Rhythms

- Spiritual rhythms don’t stop after Rooted—they are a lifelong pursuit.
- Daily devotions, prayer, serving the community, celebrating what God is doing in our lives and other spiritual rhythms are vital practices for growth and deeper connection with God.
- *Is pursuing spiritual rhythms a regular part of your group’s journey together?*

Multiply Influence

- Leaders don’t just lead - they empower others to lead. This essential challenges us to actively invest in and prepare others for leadership, whether in Rooted, Life Groups, or other ministries.
- By passing on knowledge, skills, and opportunities, you are preparing others for future leadership while sharpening your own.
- *Who are you intentionally investing in as a potential leader in your group?*

Life Groups

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Life Groups

LEADING GREAT MEETINGS

Set a Clear Schedule – Plan ahead by determining the frequency, start and end times, and a general flow for each meeting (e.g., welcome, discussion, prayer). Communicate this to the group to create consistency and expectations.

Example:

7:00p - Arrive & Mingle

7:10p - 5 minute heads up

7:15p - Worship

7:25p - Study Discussion

8:10p - Transition to Share & Prayer Time

8:15p - Share & Prayer

8:55p - Dessert & Mingle

9:00p - Night Ends

Use Smooth Transitions – Guide the group seamlessly from one section to another (e.g., from casual conversation to discussion, from discussion to prayer) to keep things flowing naturally and avoid awkward pauses. A simple phrase like, *“That’s a great thought—let’s transition into our discussion for tonight,”* can help.

Encourage Engagement – Encourage everyone to engage by asking open-ended questions, allowing space for discussion, and ensuring quieter members have a chance to share. Creating a welcoming and safe environment helps people feel valued and connected.

Life Groups

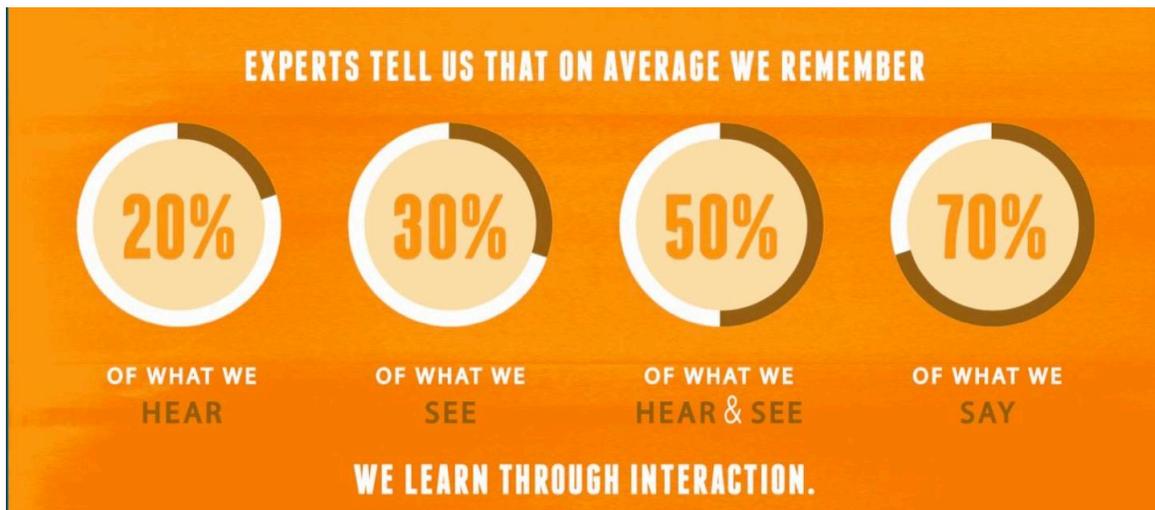
LEADING GREAT DISCUSSIONS

A Key Principle to Remember

We are facilitators not teachers

- Significant distinction

	Teaching	Leading Discussion
Process	Passive Listeners	Active Participation & Interaction
Focus	One Person's Knowledge	Shared Knowledge/ Experiences of Group
Result	Learning	Internalization, Transformation & Application



We must learn to...

- Listen Well
- Ask Good Questions

Life Groups

LEADING TO MULTIPLY INFLUENCE

Finding & Developing Leaders

IDENTIFY – Assess readiness:

- NOW – Ready to lead.
- SOON – Needs some development.
- SOMEDAY – Potential future leader.

Look for Character, Competency, Culture Fit, & Commitment.

INVITE – Ask & encourage:

- Invite them to consider leading.
- Ask them to pray about it.
- If they say yes:
 - Apprentice them (lead 3-5 times).
 - Submit their name to your coach who will then get them cleared through our Life Groups team.
- Pray with and support them.

INVEST – Develop & debrief:

- Give them leadership opportunities.
- Review what's working & what needs growth.

Life Groups _____

Tools of the Trade

Resources To Help You Thrive.....Page 19



Life Groups

Resources to Help You Thrive

Content & Resources

- Life Group Leader Resource Page
- Weekly Leader Letter
- Sermon Discussion Questions
- Leader Podcast
- Recommended Studies
- Content Pathway

Additional Resources

- **Sessions**
- **Sample Session Schedule**
- **90 Day Plan**
- **Group Agreement**
- **Serve Experience Ideas**
- Care & Recovery Resources
- Request Space On-Campus (Irvine Only)
- Updating Your Roster (Leader Toolbox)
- Guide To Opening Your Life Group (GroupFinder)
- Guide to Handling Conflict
- Any Questions or Concerns? Contact Our Team

Life Groups

Life Group Leader Resource Page

Content & Resources

<p>LEADER PODCAST</p> <p>SUBSCRIBE NOW</p>	<p>SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS</p> <p>ACCESS MATERIAL</p>	<p>DEEP DIVE</p> <p>REGISTER</p>	<p>WEEKLY LEADER LETTER</p> <p>SUBSCRIBE</p>
<p>Releases weekly on Mondays, this podcast will give you further insight into the weekly sermon discussion questions along with other leader notes and tips.</p>	<p>The “bread and butter” for our groups. Each sermon series will come with a complete, pre-packaged set of questions for each week of the series.</p>	<p>Deep Dive includes three distinct courses, all eight weeks in length, to equip you to study God’s word and deepen your practice of faith. Life Groups are invited to facilitate the course in-home using our on-demand teaching videos.</p>	<p>If you are a Life Group Leader and are not already receiving our Weekly Leader Letter, please email our team at lifegroups@marinerschurch.org and let us know! We want to make sure you are up to date on the latest in the groups world and for you to stay connected with our team</p>

marinerschurch.org/life-group-leader-resources

Life Groups

Recommended Studies

Sermon Discussion Questions

Most of our Life Groups follow the sermon series discussion questions as their primary study, and we strongly encourage all groups to do the same.

Each series comes with thoughtfully crafted questions to help your group engage more deeply with the weekend message. Using this resource not only enhances group discussions but also encourages members to attend church and even sit together.

As a leader, you'll be fully supported and equipped each week to make the most of these discussions. Our team provides:

- **A Weekly Podcast for Leaders** – Designed to help you prepare with insights, key takeaways, and practical ways to lead engaging conversations.
- **"If I Had More Time" Podcast** – A deeper dive into the weekend message, featuring guests and additional perspectives.

The weekly discussion questions are a simple yet powerful tool to help your group explore God's Word, apply it to daily life, and grow spiritually. Whether your group is new or well-established, using these questions ensures your time together is meaningful, engaging, and impactful.

Deep Dive

Deep Dive Studies

The Deep Dive series includes three distinct courses, all eight weeks in length, to equip you to study God’s word and deepen your practice of faith:

- **The Story of God**
- **Theology and the Mission of God**
- **The Image of God**

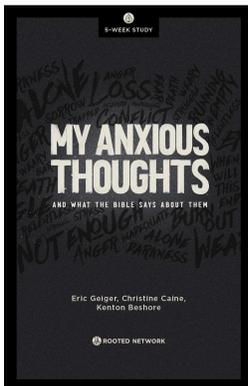
Life Groups are invited to facilitate the course in-home using our on-demand teaching videos or attend together when offered on-campus. .

marinerschurch.org/life-group-leader-resources

Other Studies from Rooted Network

(As of Spring 2025 with new studies released throughout the year. For an updated list, visit the Rooted Network other studies page.)

experiencerooted.com/collections/other-studies



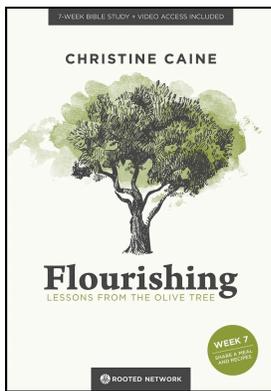
My Anxious Thoughts: And What the Bible Says About Them

This 5-week Bible study from Eric Geiger, Christine Caine, and Kenton Beshore will not only help you discover that you are not alone in your wrestling, but you will also see that God wants to meet you right in the middle of your struggles, interrupting your anxious thoughts with His words of truth, wisdom, and peace.



On The Table: Questions Confronting the Christian Faith

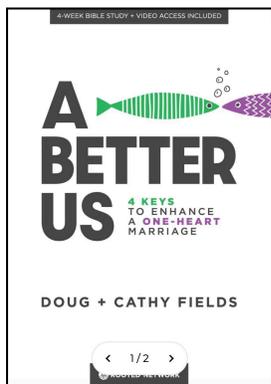
Tough questions like *Can we trust the Bible? Is there only one way to God? Why does God allow suffering? Why does God care about sex?*—and more—are answered with both grace and truth. Each talk is clear, thoughtful, and easy to understand, equipping you to grow in your faith and confidently share with others.



Flourishing: Lessons From The Olive Tree

Flourishing: Lessons from the Olive Tree is a 7-week, group-discipleship resource designed to inspire women to remain steadfast in every season of life through the rich thematic study of the olive tree throughout Scripture.

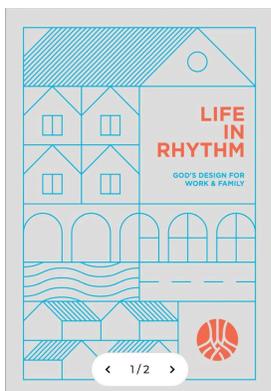
In addition to daily study through the *Flourishing Workbook*, Christine Caine shares biblical insights and personal stories through engaging teaching videos, guiding participants to gain wisdom and encouragement from the olive tree.



A Better Us: 4 Keys To Enhance A One-Heart Marriage

A Better Us is a 4-week marriage resource designed to present simple and practical truths and exercises for couples to move toward a healthier marriage. When a couple commits to embracing biblical principles around commitment, communication, conflict, and connection they will find a richer and more fulfilling marriage waiting for them.

Whether newlyweds or married and stuck in a rut, it's time to pursue a one-heart marriage and become *A Better Us*.



Life in Rhythm

Life in Rhythm is a 10-week group-discipleship experience designed to help group members integrate the 7 rhythms of a disciple into two of the most significant areas of life—work and relationships. *The Life in Rhythm Workbook* will help group members experience the abundant life God intends for them in both work and relationships

Life Groups

Content Pathway

The Content Pathway is our guided pathway for content and curriculum for all of our Life Groups. We recommend that you follow along with our guided path as you lead your groups in this next season.

Recommended Pathways:

- Path 1:** Sermon-Based Discussion Guide
- Path 2:** Deep Dive (in person at Mariners Irvine or on demand at any time.)
- Path 3:** Another Recommended Study

Yearly Pathway Example:

CONTENT PATHWAY				
	WINTER	SPRING	SUMMER	FALL
YEAR 1	SERMON BASED	SERMON BASED	FLEX	DEEP DIVE / OTHER STUDY
YEAR 2	SERMON BASED	DEEP DIVE / OTHER STUDY	FLEX	SERMON BASED
YEAR 3	SERMON BASED	SERMON BASED	FLEX	DEEP DIVE / OTHER STUDY

Think of your group as broken up into 3 sessions (three 10-12 week sessions), plus a summer flex. Each session would have its own unique content that your group would study together. Sermon based discussion guides are the default studies. They bring so much momentum to our church.

This is an example of what a 3 year pathway could look like for your Life Group. These can be interchangeable, but our recommendation would be for your group to do Sermon Based content 2x/year and pick a Deep Dive or another recommended course in the other open season.

Life Groups

Sessions

Winter Session:

Early January - Late March (10 weeks)

Spring Session:

Early April - Late June (12 weeks)

Fall Session:

Early September - Late November (12 weeks)

Life Groups ---

Sample Session Schedule

LIFE GROUP SPRING SESSION
APRIL 6 TO JUNE 22 (12 WEEKS)
7:00 – 9:00P

DATE	LOCATION	STUDY	SNACKS

BREAK – NO MEETINGS: July, August
SAVE THE DATE – FALL SESSION BEGINS: September 7

NAME	CELL #	BIRTHDAY

Life Groups

90 Day Plan

Choose A Study

- Decide on what your group is going to study.
 - Sermon Based Study
 - Deep Dive
 - Other Study from Rooted Network

Share ownership

- Most successful groups share roles and responsibilities. Here are a few role ideas to discuss with your group:

Prayer Champion _____

Serve Champion _____

What group serve experience have they scheduled?

**contact hedwards@marinerschurch.org for any assistance*

Date of Serve: _____

Location: _____

Social Planner: _____

Plan a few social gatherings to celebrate milestones, birthdays, or just being together this season. These events build deeper connections and add a sense of excitement.

Snack/Refreshment Coordinator: _____

Cultivate Relationships

- Create a group chat to regularly connect, share prayer requests, and give reminders for meeting times and location reminders.
- Connect with your coach regularly—they're your biggest advocate! They'll provide guidance, share fresh ideas, and collaborate with you to overcome challenges.

Provide Guidance & Resources

- Start your session with the group agreement to align on purpose and expectations.
- Taking a short break after a session can be a meaningful time of rest and reflection. If you are taking a break, decide on a re-start date.
- Subscribe to the Life Group Leader Podcast and take advantage of the Life Group Leader Resources.

Life Groups

Group Agreement

PURPOSE

The purpose of our Life Group is becoming disciples in a community committed to studying God's Word, practicing spiritual rhythms, and changing the world together.

ELEMENTS OF A HEALTHY GROUP

In order to do life together well, we commit to:

- Make spiritual growth our number one priority (Eph. 4:15).
- Treat each other with respect (Eph. 4:29).
- Keep our commitments to the group (Matt. 5:37).
- Give everyone a chance to share (James 1:19).
- Take care of one another (James 2:8).
- Accept one another (Romans 15:7).
- Honor confidentiality (Proverbs 11:13).

GROUP COMMITMENTS

- Our Life Group will meet for _____ **weeks**. Our final meeting of the session will be on _____.
- The group will meet on _____ (**day of week**) and begin at _____ (**am/pm**) and end at _____ (**am/pm**).
- Our study for this Life Group session will be:
 - Sermon Based
 - Deep Dive: _____
 - Other Recommended Study: _____
- We plan on doing a social gathering together outside of our Life Group before week 6.
- We plan on doing a serve experience together over the course of the session through Mariners Outreach.
- We will attend and come prepared each week. If we cannot come to a meeting, we will let the leader know in advance.

SIGNATURES

By signing below, I commit, together with the other members of this group, to honor this agreement.

Printed Name: _____ **Signature:** _____ **Date:** _____

Life Groups

Serve Experience

HOW TO SIGN UP FOR A GROUP SERVE EXPERIENCE

Step 1: Log Into MyMariners Account

Login

Login to your My Mariners account by filling in the Username and Password fields below, then click the LOGIN button. If you don't have an account and need to create one, click REGISTER. Forgot your Username and/or Password? Click FORGOT ACCOUNT.

Username
dViva

Password

Keep me logged in

[LOGIN](#) [Register](#) [Forgot Account](#)

Step 2: Select your group

My Account

 **Dallas Viva**

[UPDATE PROFILE](#)

Account Info

- [Change Password](#)
- [Update Subscriptions](#)
- [View Giving History](#)

Groups

- [IR - Ogg \(Serve Champion\)](#)

Make Your Pledge

Make your pledge to the Multiply Campaign:

- Click the "Add Pledge" button below
- Fill out your personal information, if going as a business, fill out your business information

Step 3: Select "Sign Up For Outreach"

Group Toolbox

Groups

- [IR - Ogg \(Serve Champion\)](#)
- [Serve Champion](#)
- [Sign Up For Outreach](#)

IR - Ogg

Under 45 married group

Group Details:

Public Group Name: Ogg

Meeting Location Type: Meeting in Person

Area of Town: Irvine

Neighborhood: Apartment Complex where the group meets: Woodbridge

Group Start Date: 8/1/2021

Group Gender Category: Coed

Life Group Category: Married

Minimum Age: 27

Maximum Age: 33

Attendance Category:

Attendance Type:

Leaders:

Step 4: Check out the serve experiences. Select “View Details” to register your group

Calendar for September 2023. Filter by Campus: Irvine, Huntington Beach, Mission Viejo, North Irvine, Online, Oceanside, Santa Ana, Tustin at OC Rescue Mission.

Date	Time	Location	Summary
Sep 30	8:30 AM	Irvine	Come alongside Refugee Families and visit with them once a month to pray and encourage while building relationships.
Sep 30	10:00 AM	Irvine	Register your group to serve with us in Irvine at the Mariners Thrift Store!
Sep 30	12:00 PM	Irvine	Register your group to serve with us in Irvine at the Mariners Thrift Store!

Step 5: Register your group members for the serve

Select group members who will be serving
Selected Group: IR - Ogg

Life Group Members*

- Sarah Henderson
- Bryce Dunks
- Carlee Ogg
- Dallas Viva
- Willis Henderson
- Kelli Viva
- Alison Dunks
- Cody Ogg
- Trevor Brown
- Sierra Brown

REGISTER

OUTREACH

REFUGEE FAMILY VISIT AND FOOD DELIVERY

Volunteer Opportunity

Refugee Family Visit and Food Delivery

Irvine Campus | **Off Campus** | **Saturday, Sep 30 @ 8:30 AM**

Come and serve alongside Refugee Families by reaching out and creating relationships with families in our area. We have the opportunity to meet with and spend time relating with refugee families. We will be meeting at 8:30a to load up your vehicles. Please park in the Chapel lot and walk up to the Community Center dock to receive the groceries. We will assemble for a quick orientation and then send you off to make the delivery.

Life Groups

Care & Recovery Resources

Recovery Groups

Re:generation is an opportunity to walk toward healing, recovery, and freedom through a safe, small group community. We are a Christ-centered discipleship experience that leads to recovery for anyone experiencing various struggles. Re:generation offers real tools to stay connected and free, leverages tried and true principles of recovery in a group setting, and is rooted in the larger story of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Support Groups

Environments where people can, for a season, express intentional discipleship through a particular life stage of issue they are facing. (Groups that deal with mental, emotional, physical, relational health issues).

Relational Growth Groups

Environments for our people to grow emotionally and spiritually to become better versions of themselves while embracing God’s truths. (How We Love, Emotionally Healthy Spirituality, Emotionally Healthy Relationships, Emotionally Healthy Discipleship, Restore & Stretch).

All of these resources and more can be found on the Care & Recovery page. Also, check if they are available in your specific congregation.

marinerschurch.org/care-recovery

Additional Resources:

<p>MARRIAGE</p> <p>FIND OUT MORE</p> <p>If you are in a serious relationship or in need of restoration in your marriage, we have resources for every step of your marriage journey.</p>	<p>BENEVOLENCE</p> <p>REQUEST SUPPORT</p> <p>We seek to support individuals and families who are experiencing financial crises by developing a plan for sustainable living and, when needed, use Benevolence Funds to create a bridge.</p>	<p>MEMORIALS</p> <p>VIEW MEMORIAL PACKET</p> <p>If you have recently lost a loved one and would like to host a memorial at the Mariners Irvine campus, please contact Eric Heard at 949-769-8344 or ceremony@marinerschurch.org</p>	<p>THERAPY RESOURCES</p> <p>CHRISTIAN COUNSELORS LIST</p> <p>If you are seeking individual care for your mental health with a professional counselor or therapist, we have a list of counselors with whom we often partner. We encourage you to use this guide as you discern the right one for you.</p>
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Life Groups

On-Campus Room Request Form (Irvine Only)

Life Groups thrive in warm, home environments, but you can also meet in coffee shops, clubhouses, parks, backyards, or rotate homes. While finding a location can be challenging, home settings foster the best community connections.

If securing a space is delaying your group from launching, we offer limited-time access to the Ministry Center's rooms not being used. Space is only available certain days/times during the week and subject to room availability with Rooted groups as priority. To request a room, visit our **Life Group Leader Resources** page:

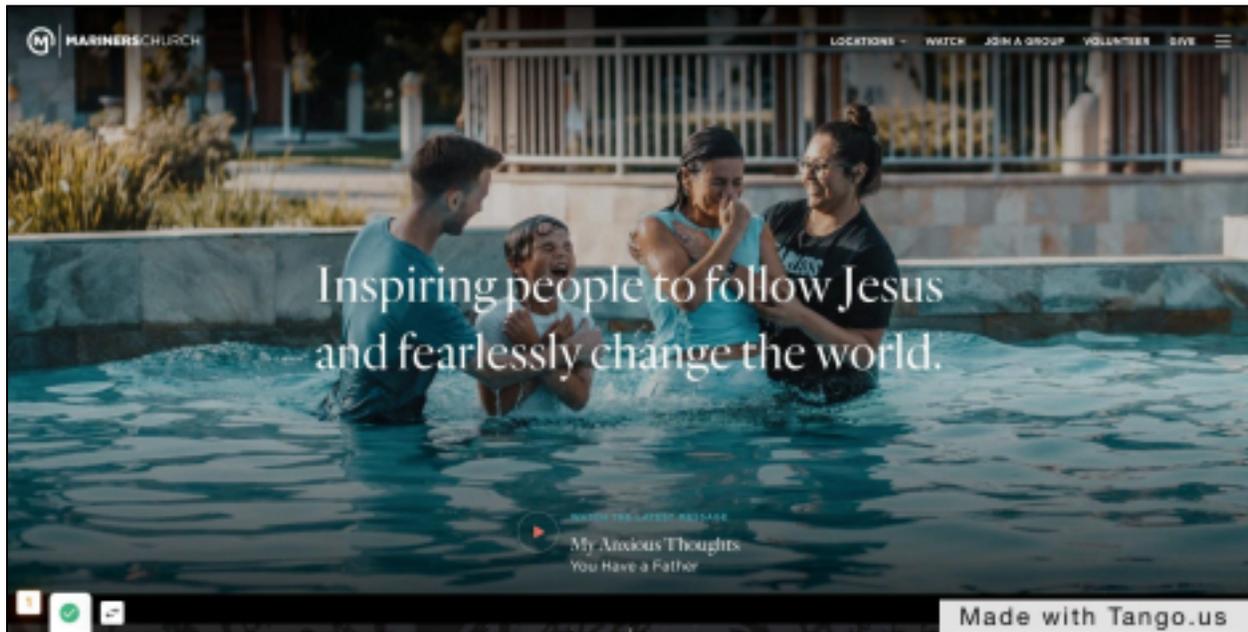
marinerschurch.org/life-group-leader-resources.



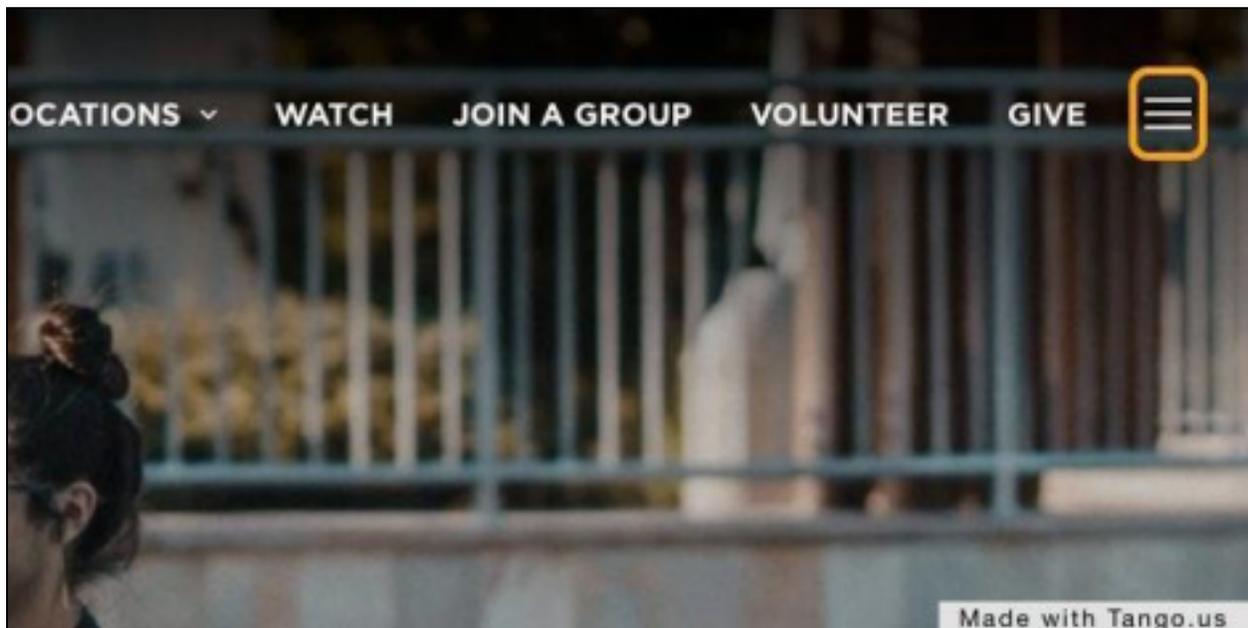
Life Groups

Editing Your Group Roster

1. [Go to Mariners Church website](#)

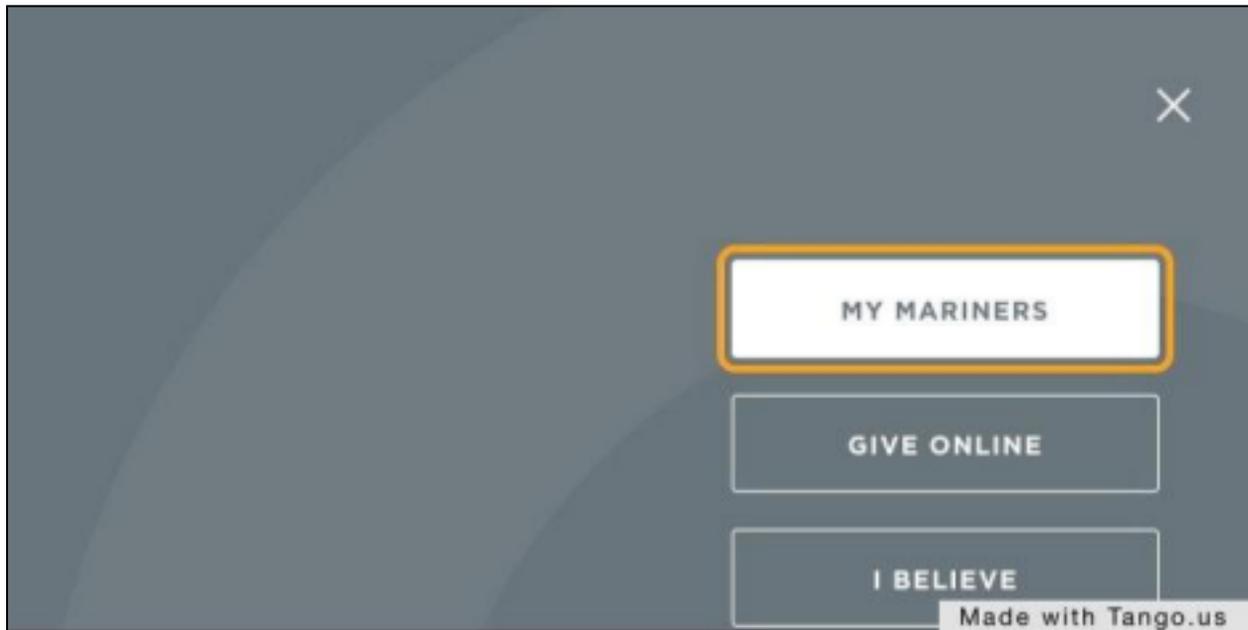


2. Click on Menu (three lines at top right)

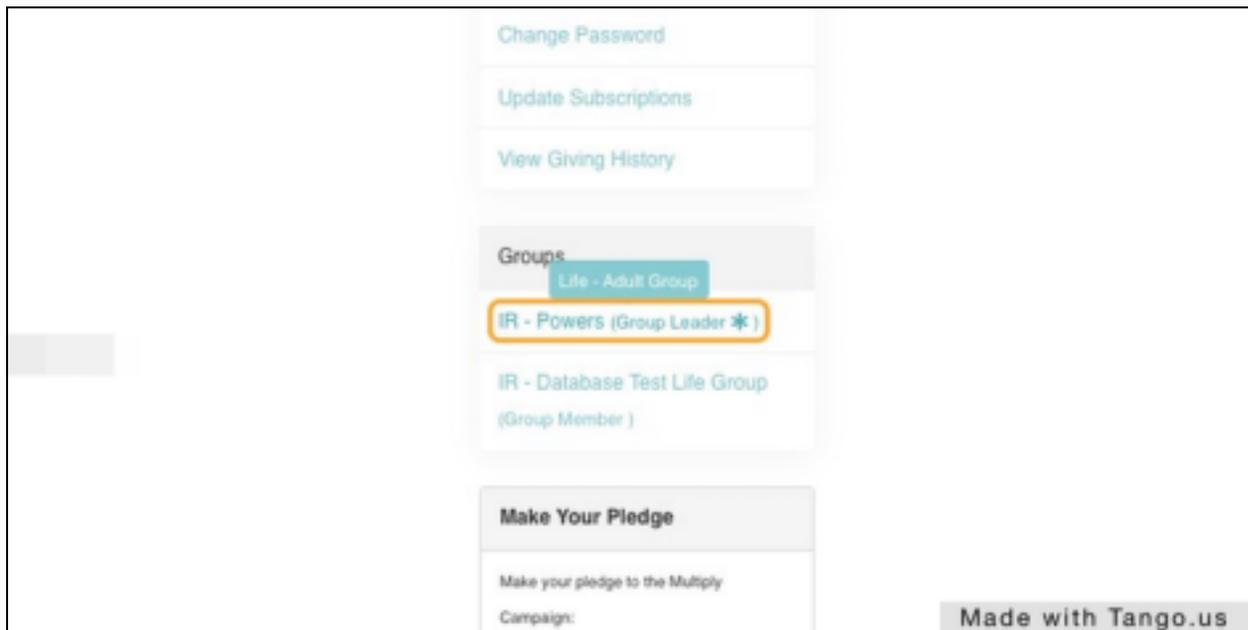


3. Click on MY MARINERS & log in

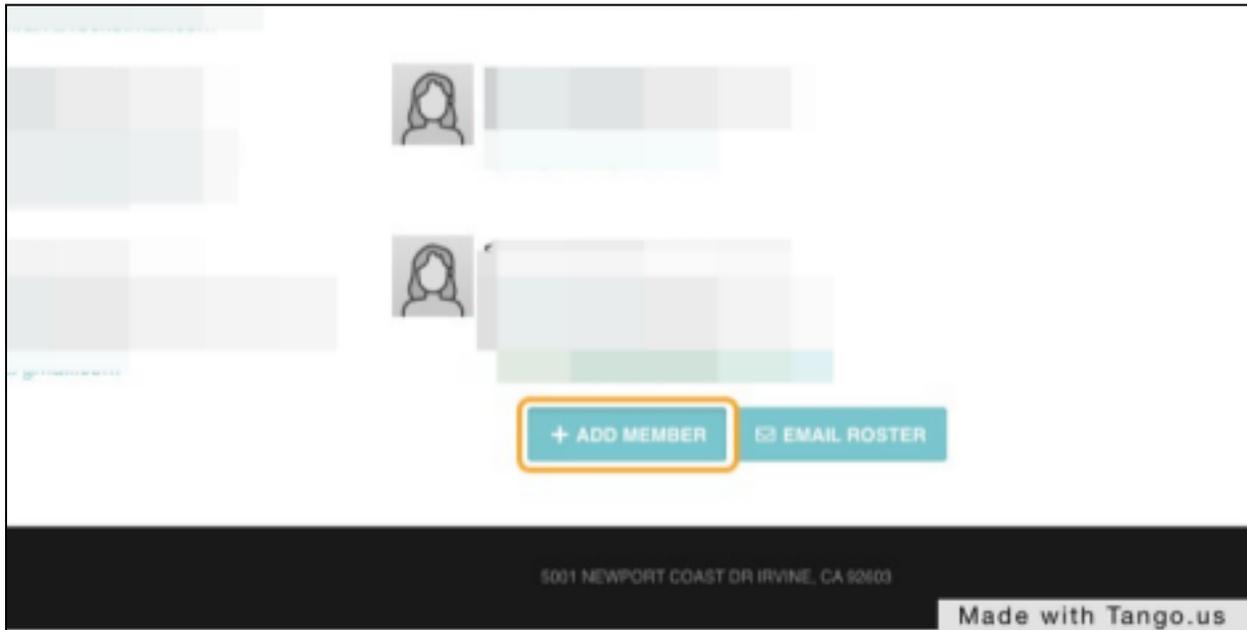
If you have any issues with your log in, please reach out to our team at database@marinerschurch.org



4. Click on your group under the "Groups" section

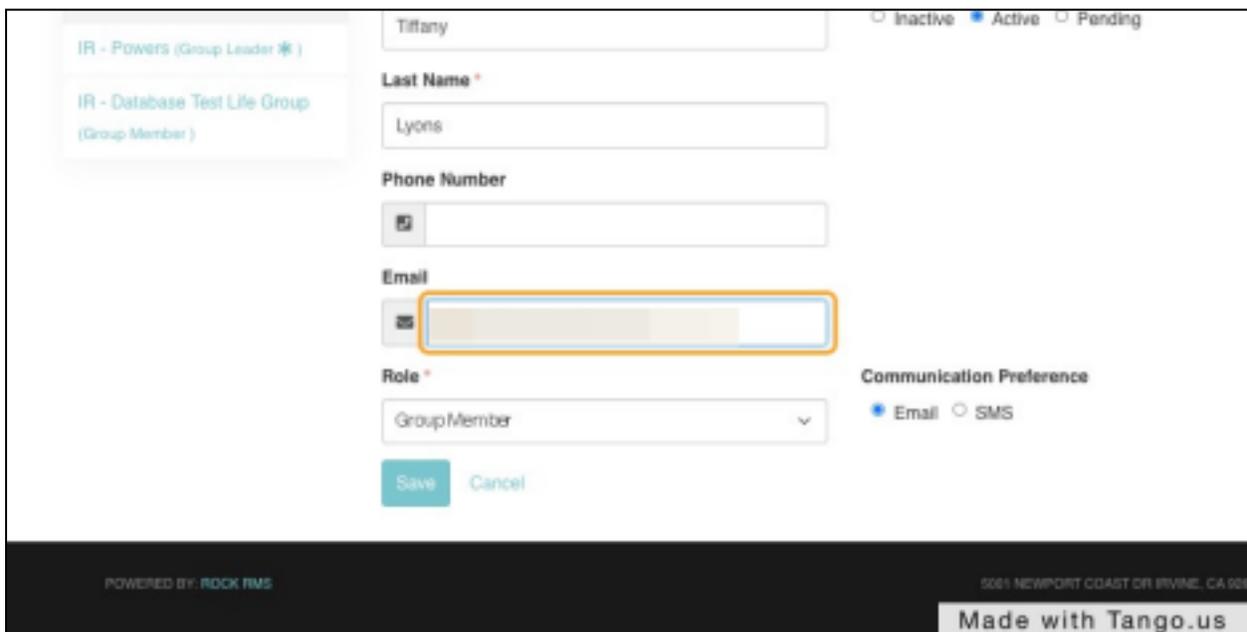


5. For roster additions, click on "+ Add Member"



6. Type in new member's information

Please ensure that all information you enter is the one associated with your group member's Mariners account

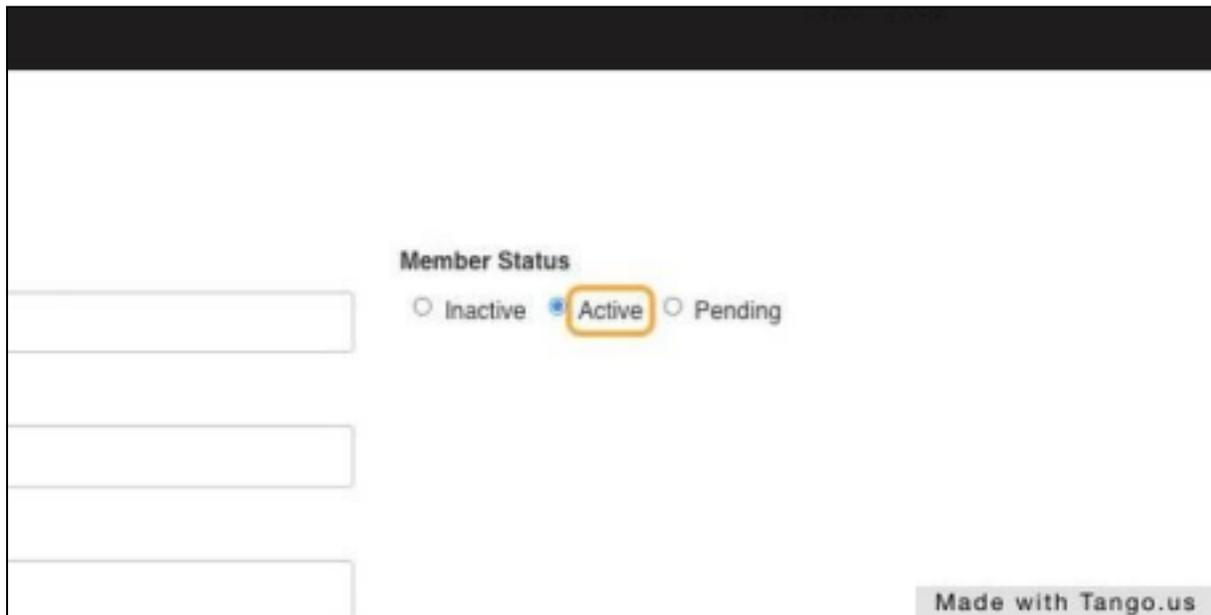


A screenshot of a web application interface for adding a new member to a group. The form includes the following fields and options:

- Group Selection:** A list of groups on the left, including "IR - POWERS (Group Leader)" and "IR - Database Test Life Group (Group Member)".
- Name:** A text input field with "Tiffany" entered.
- Last Name:** A text input field with "Lyons" entered.
- Phone Number:** A text input field with a phone icon on the left.
- Email:** A text input field with an email icon on the left, highlighted with an orange rectangular box.
- Role:** A dropdown menu with "Group Member" selected.
- Communication Preference:** Radio buttons for "Inactive", "Active" (selected), and "Pending". Below this, radio buttons for "Email" (selected) and "SMS".
- Buttons:** "Save" and "Cancel" buttons at the bottom.

At the bottom of the page, there is a footer with the text "POWERED BY: ROCK RMS" and "5001 NEWPORT COAST DR IRVINE, CA 92603", along with a "Made with Tango.us" logo.

7. Select member status

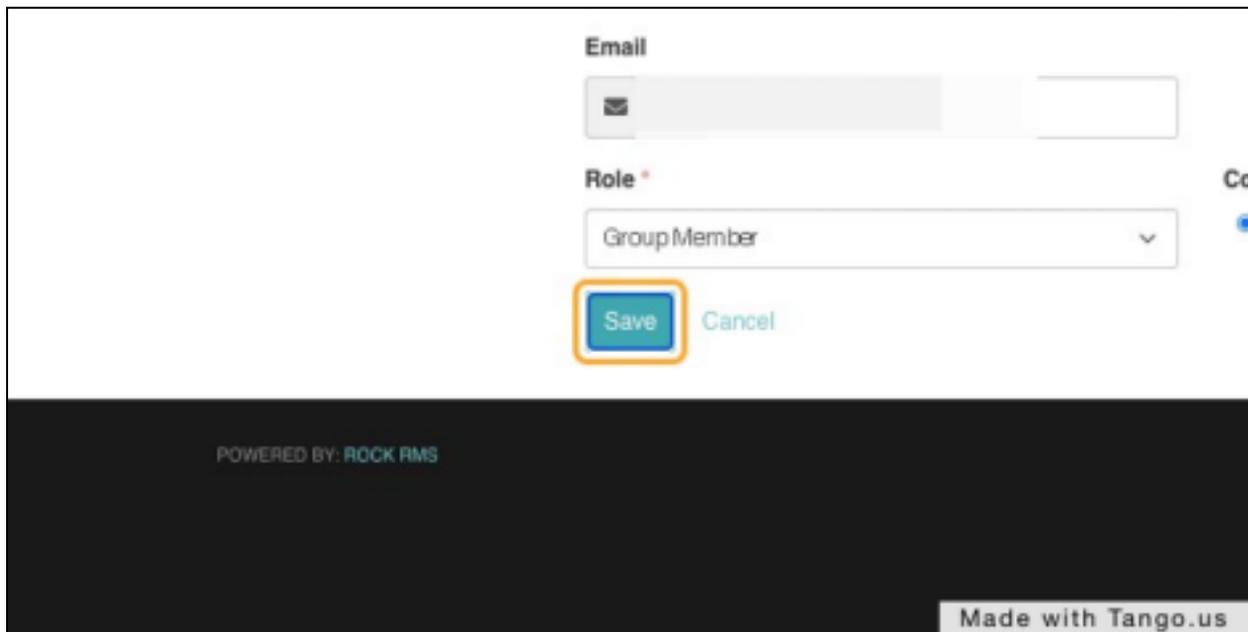


Member Status

Inactive Active Pending

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8. Save



Email

Role *

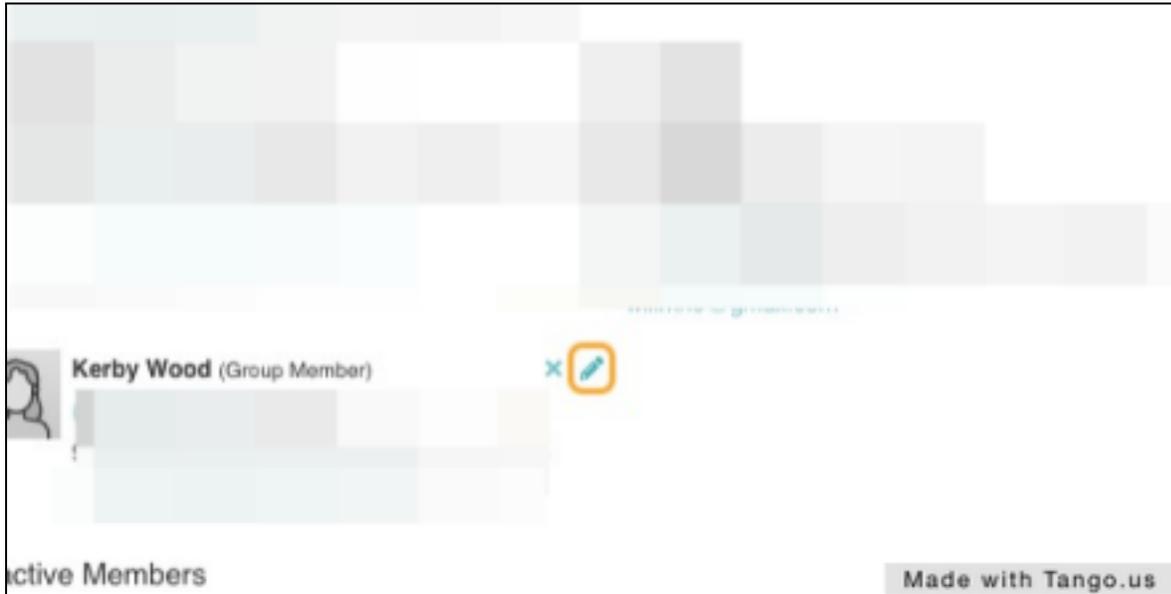
Group Member

Save Cancel

POWERED BY: ROCK RMS

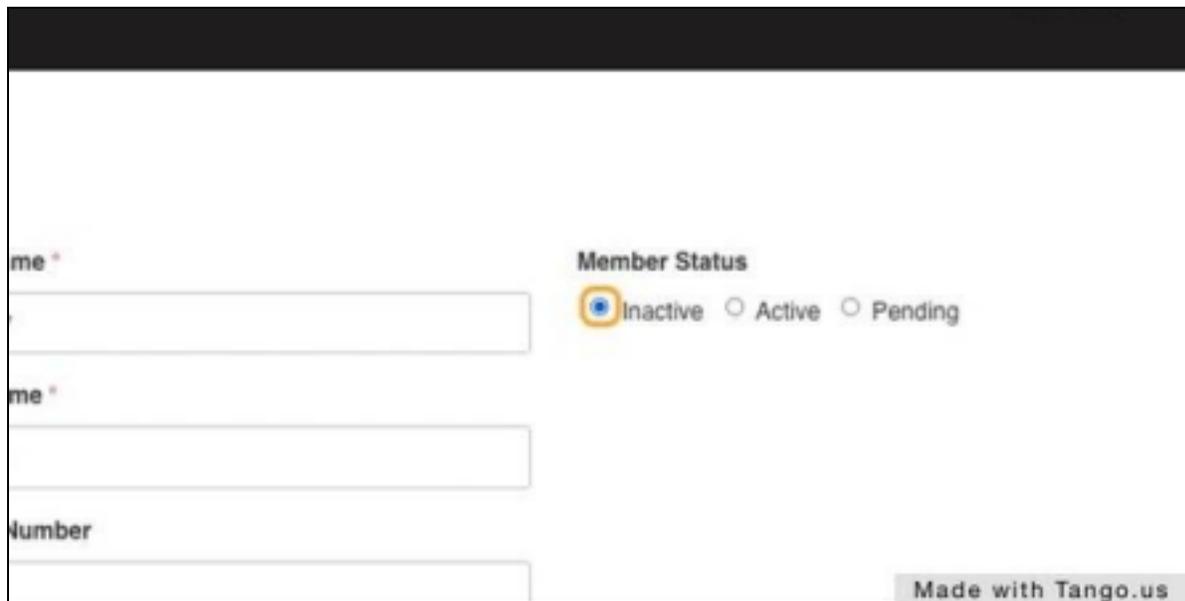
Made with Tango.us

9. To change member status, select the "edit" pencil

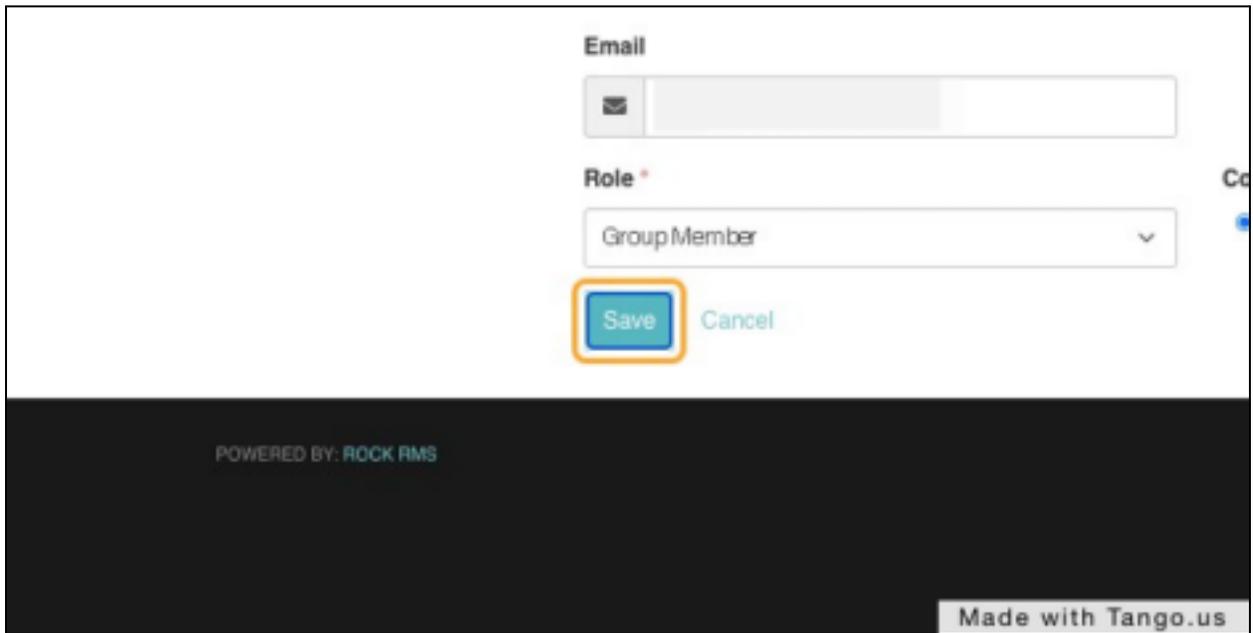


10. Select Member Status

For someone who is no longer a part of your group, please select "inactive"



11. Save



The image shows a screenshot of a web form. At the top, there is an "Email" field with a grey background and a white input area. Below it is a "Role" dropdown menu with "Group Member" selected. To the right of the "Role" dropdown, the letters "Co" are visible. Below the "Role" dropdown are two buttons: a blue "Save" button with a white border, and a light blue "Cancel" button. The "Save" button is highlighted with a yellow square. At the bottom of the form, there is a dark grey footer area containing the text "POWERED BY: ROCK RMS" on the left and "Made with Tango.us" on the right.

Email

Role *

Group Member

Save Cancel

POWERED BY: ROCK RMS

Made with Tango.us

Life Groups

Guide To Opening Your Life Group

Why Open Your Group?

God calls us to steward and share His gifts—including our Life Groups! We create a space for discipleship and care while also practicing radical hospitality by inviting Rooted grads currently not in a Life Group. It is also an opportunity for established groups in need of adding more members to their existing group.

Questions to Consider Before Opening Your Group

Our **Group Finder** tool opens **three times a year** (Fall, Winter, Spring). If you choose to open your group, we'll help ensure your details are accurate. Before deciding, ask:

- Does our group agree on adding new members?
- How many new members can we accommodate?
- Is our meeting rhythm consistent?
- Is our group spiritually healthy?

Steps to Welcoming New Members

1. **Prepare Your Group**
 - Ensure 100% buy-in and a shared conviction on why you're opening your group.
2. **Respond Quickly**
 - Reply within **24 hours** to inquiries with basic details: meeting time, location, and group makeup. Email scripts are available.
3. **Invite & Follow Up**
 - Personally invite them to a meeting, provide all necessary details, and follow up afterward to check in and answer questions. Review the group agreement together and host a social gathering or potluck.
4. **If They're Not a Fit**
 - Be gracious! Remember, you were once strangers too. However, some situations may require redirection:
 - They haven't completed **Rooted**.
 - They can't commit to your group's schedule.
 - They need a **Care & Recovery** group.
 - They require accommodations your group can't provide (e.g., childcare).

In such cases, contact your **Coach** or our **Life Groups Team** for guidance on the best next steps.

Life Groups

Guide To Handling Conflict

As we work to resolve conflict, let's follow the biblical principles in Matthew 18:15-17: first, address the person directly; if they don't listen, bring one or two others; if needed, involve the church.

Handling Conflict in Ministry: 7 Key Steps

1. **Take Initiative** – Don't wait. Start the conversation with humility, using "I" statements instead of accusations.
2. **Pray for Wisdom** – Invite God into the process, praying together if possible.
3. **Own Your Part** – Be the first to acknowledge your role, no matter how small.
4. **Listen Well** – Truly hear the other person's perspective before responding.
5. **Speak with Grace and Truth** – Be honest, but choose words that build up, not tear down.
6. **Solve the Issue, Not Assign Blame** – Focus on resolution, not who's at fault.
7. **Prioritize the Relationship** – Unity matters more than winning the argument.

Final Thoughts

Difficult conversations are inevitable in ministry leadership, but handled well, they lead to stronger relationships, deeper trust, and more effective teams. As leaders here at Mariners Church, let's approach them with prayer, humility, wisdom, and a commitment to growth.

Life Groups

Contact Our Team

General Email

lifegroups@marinerschurch.org

Life Groups Team

Contact your congregation's Discipleship team.

