

# Welcome to the Family!

Joining the Stamford Church of Christ



## *Who We Are*

Living a life of love. That's what this church is all about. Jesus declared that the greatest commandments for humanity to pursue are to love God with heart, soul, mind and strength and to love neighbor as self. This is what we are striving to do, learning every day how to love better.

We are committed to growing more kind, more selfless, more compassionate, and more forgiving to ourselves and to others. We value critical thinking, study, honesty, and good questions over easy answers. We prioritize serving our local community.

We are a multi-ethnic church, inclusive of all, regardless of gender or sexual orientation, and egalitarian in our leadership (*please read more about our gender and LGBTQ+ inclusion [here](#).*)

We believe that this life of love is

- **formative**, experienced through spiritual practices and habits, especially the contemplative ones;
- **missional**, expressed through the pursuit of justice, evangelism and mercy; inclusive, building bridges across lines of race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, culture and class;
- **ecumenical**, drawing from every stream in the Christian tradition; and
- **wholistic**, nurturing deep spiritual, emotional, mental and physical health.

“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself.” (Lk. 10:27)

# As you join our family

we invite you to adopt the following practices ...

- **Participate in our Love in Training** (see schedule on right column). These five five-week seminars on Wednesday nights take up content related to Jesus' five-fold definition of love: loving God with heart, soul, mind and strength and loving neighbor as self. These stand at the core of our commitment to equipping you to live a life of love.
- **Choose some basic spiritual disciplines which you can practice throughout the week.** Honestly, the bulk of your life of love will be lived apart from our weekly gatherings. Finding a handful of spiritual practices that encourage and empower you in living love day to day will be vital. Seminar 2 in our Love In Training workshops will provide you assistance in this (see column to the right). Chris' book [Ten Minute Transformation](#) is a helpful resource as well.
- **Use your talents and experience to serve others.** You may choose to do this by participating in one of our existing ministries like in education, Worship Planning, Hospitality, or Meals for the Homeless (see more here). Or you may be called by God to serve in new ways in the community. Either way, we will support you and encourage you in your service. Seminar 5 in our Love in Training will give you basic guidance for this. *Embrace* frequently contains opportunities for service.
- **Participate in a Care Group.** These small groups, led by elders and staff, are great ways to connect more deeply with others at Stamford. Currently, these groups meet approximately bi-monthly. Watch *Embrace* and your email Inbox for meeting notifications from Care Group leaders.
- **Attend worship and a class regularly.** We know it's unlikely that can attend everything we offer. So, we urge you to prioritize attendance at our Sunday worship gathering, and to choose at least one class you attend regularly. Our hybrid model enables you to participate on-site or online (worship is streamed via Facebook; classes are streamed on Zoom (the link is in *Embrace*)).
- **Give regularly to our ministry contribution and special contributions.** Our week to week ministry is made possible by your gifts to our ministry contribution. You can give online here or place a check in the contribution plate in the church foyer on Sunday morning. In addition, at several times during the year we have a special contribution for one of our ministry partners (like Hope For Haiti's Children, Shiloh, etc.).
- **Share Christ with others in your life.** God has gifted you with relationships with people at work, in your family, at school and in your neighborhood. Pray for opportunities to share with these people what Christ means to you.



## LOVE IN TRAINING SCHEDULE (2022)

*These 5 week seminars each take up one component of Jesus' definition of love: loving with heart, soul, strength, mind and loving neighbor as self. Each year these seminars are repeated, but with new content.*

SEMINAR 1  
LOVING WITH STRENGTH  
PHYSICAL HEALTH  
AND A LIFE OF LOVE  
WEDNESDAY NIGHTS,  
JAN. 5 - FEB. 7 PM

SEMINAR 2  
LOVING WITH SOUL  
SPIRITUAL HEALTH  
AND A LIFE OF LOVE  
WEDNESDAY NIGHTS,  
MAR. 2 - 30, 7 PM

SEMINAR 3  
LOVING WITH HEART  
EMOTIONAL HEALTH  
AND A LIFE OF LOVE  
WEDNESDAY NIGHTS,  
JUNE 1-29, 7 PM

SEMINAR 4  
LOVING WITH MIND  
INTELLECTUAL HEALTH  
AND A LIFE OF LOVE  
WEDNESDAY NIGHTS,  
SEPT. 7-OCT. 5

SEMINAR 5  
LOVING OUR NEIGHBOR  
RELATIONAL HEALTH  
AND A LIFE OF LOVE  
WEDNESDAY NIGHTS,  
NOV. 16-21  
(SKIPPING NOV. 23 FOR  
THANKSGIVING)



# Our Pledge to You

- **We will welcome you unreservedly.** We are committed to Christ's work of bridge-building and barrier-breaking, especially when it comes to things like race, ethnicity, gender and sexuality. You'll find no walls up here. You can participate fully and completely.
- **We will help you grow fully.** We will provide resources, encouragement and relationships that will enable you to become the very best "you" you are. We'll help ensure that you experience ongoing progress in your life of love, especially in living it out in the day-to-day life of home, work, school and relationships. We'll help you learn spiritual growth from multiple streams and traditions within the Christian faith.
- **We will empower you to serve fruitfully.** We pledge to help you understand your abilities and talents and aid you in finding ways to put them to work for the sake of God and others.
- **We will aid you in worshipping authentically.** Through corporate worship, we help model the kind of worshiper you desire to become, magnify your voice by joining it with the larger Christian community and pray and praise for you when you cannot.
- **We will partner with you to share Jesus effectively.** We will lift you up in prayer and befriend those you befriend as we seek to work together to express Jesus and his Way to all.



## STAFF

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## WEBSITE

[www.stamfordchurch.com](http://www.stamfordchurch.com)

## FOLLOW US



# *For More Information*

## *Introducing the Gospel*

Maybe you've reached the time in your life when you're beginning to sense how big the real issue is: how wounded and scarred people can be, how hopeless and powerless many feel, how stressed our relationships sometimes are, how we may have hurt those whom we love including our kids, how fragile our families are, how deeply almost everyone hurts..

[Read more...](#)

## *Introducing the Joy of Scripture*

We all know that we ought to read the Bible if for no other reason than just to be literate. Its echoes are everywhere from the pages of the bestsellers we read to performances on Broadway. And yet we don't often read it, and in general we feel quite bewildered by it.

[Read more...](#)

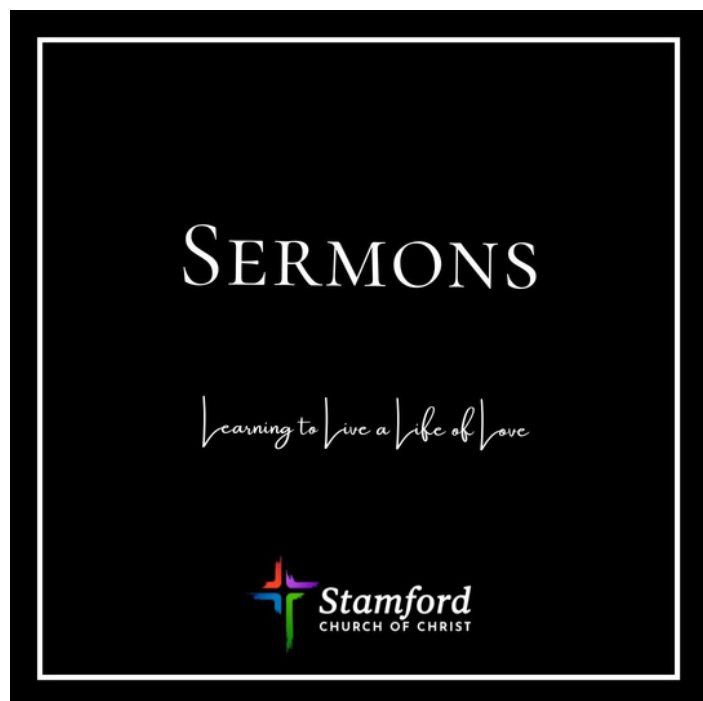
## *Breeze Instructions*

Breeze is our online database and directory. Stamford Church of Christ members with families can edit the contact information for their household.

[Read more...](#)

## *Sermon & Class Content Archives*

To access past sermons and class content click on images below which will bring you to our website.



*Learning to Live a Life of Love*