

What is Koinonia?

Koinonias are organic gatherings that occur throughout Ekko Church, centered around specific practices, readings, or activities and fellowship in Christ. These gatherings are not a replacement for Sunday gatherings, where the People of God gather to worship, or Orthopraxis, Ekko's introduction to discipleship and requirement for covenant membership with the church. Rather, Koinonias happen spontaneously and arise out of shared interests. Such gatherings are infused with an awareness of the Holy Spirit's presence amongst the group and the friendship through the bond of Christ.

Why Do We Need Koinonias?

Hebrews 10:24-25 says it like this:

"And let us consider <u>how to stir up one another to love and good works</u>, <u>not</u> <u>neglecting to meet together</u>, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near."

Scripture ties together the necessity of encouraging one another and meeting personally within the context of the local church—that in some mysterious way, we are being edified and built up when we gather in the name of Jesus!

Who Can Participate in Koinonias?

Anyone can participate!

However, due to the importance of the membership covenant, only members can host a Koinonia group. That being said, participants are free to invite others—newcomers, and even friends or coworkers—to the Koinonia gatherings. All are welcome to partake in a Koinonia, as long as they are willing to abide by the Koinonia policies.

Participants will be responsible for their own costs, food, and drinks.

How Will Koinonias Work?

Koinonias will take place seasonally. This is meant to provide a space for Ekko members to meaningfully and organically connect with one another throughout the week. At least once a week, at a time and place determined by the Koinonia host, groups will gather and undertake an activity together. These activities can range anywhere from soccer to jiu-jitsu, to even touring art galleries. The commitment to host a Koinonia will be for three months, from once a month to once a week.

In order to be officially recognized by Ekko as a Koinonia group, prospective hosts must agree to follow the policies set forth for Koinonia:

- Koinonias may not involve any illegal activities or the consumption of tobacco and/or alcohol.
- · Koinonias are open to all EKKO members and newcomers.
- · Koinonias must either begin or end with prayer.
- Indoor Koinonias require either proof of COVID-19 vaccination or a negative COVID-19 rapid test if unvaccinated. Outdoor Koinonias should continue the usage of masks when possible.

How To Sign Up for a Koinonia

- I. Go to ekkochurch.com/koinonia
- II. Filter by gender, type of gathering, region, or frequency
- III. Fill out the Koinonia form to sign up
- IV. Once your registration has been confirmed, the host will reach out to you with more information!

How to Host a Koinonia

- I. Submit a Koinonia hosting form to EKKO
- II. Attend a Koinonia Host Orientation with EKKO Staff
- III. Once approved, your Koinonia will show up on the site for signups!