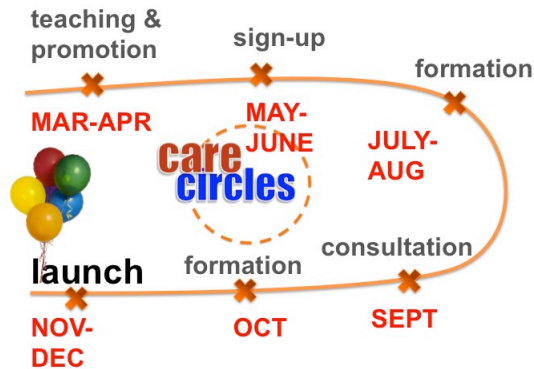


Q&A 6:

What's the process for CareCircles from here?

The diagram here gives an overview ...



Once sign-up forms are gathered by the end of June, via our Pastoral Care Ministry Area, four key things will happen:

1. Most folk who for some reason have not returned a form will be contacted.
2. Draft circles will be formed, and Hosts/Supports will be recruited.
3. In September, a series of draft CareCircles will be displayed in the Oxley church foyer, with opportunity for feedback.
4. After initial resourcing of Hosts & Supports, CareCircles will be launched, with the first CareCircles get-togethers taking place by late November/early December. Consider a Christmas "do"!

Q&A 7:

I have some questions to ask about CareCircles.

Who should I contact?

Dale MacGregor dvmacgreg@optusnet.com.au 0438 392 802
Rev David MacGregor dmacgreg1@optusnet.com.au 0414 392 802



the basics

CareCircles is how we plan to share in the care and compassion of Jesus Christ among our church family at Oxley-Darra Uniting Church. This will involve the congregation, across its three services formed into between 8 and 10 Care Circles.

Q&A 1:

Am I (or my household) automatically part of a CareCircle?

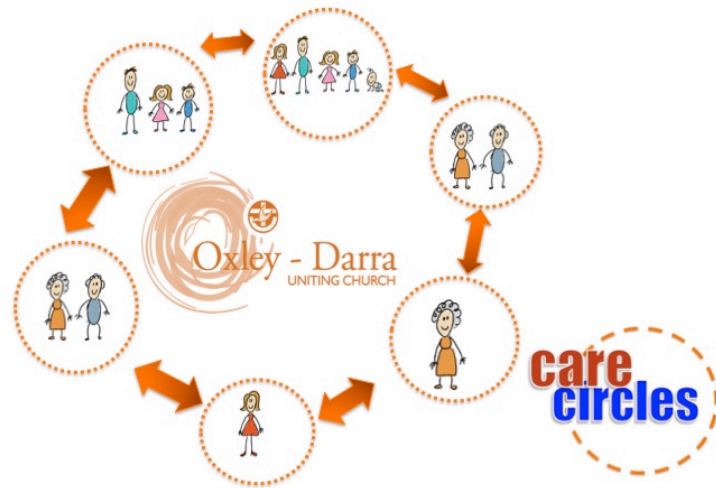
No – we invite you to “opt in”, using the coloured sign-up form provided. The hope though is all but a small number of the church family at Oxley-Darra Uniting will choose to be part of CareCircles. June is sign-up month.

Q&A 2:

Who is the most important member of any CareCircle?

No – it's not you, it's your **neighbours** (i.e. the households either side of you in your CareCircle. True to the teaching of Jesus, CareCircles is about extending care, neighbour to neighbour. **Neighbours** are basic to CareCircles. We believe that Jesus calls every Christian to care. Some of us do it better than others, but that doesn't excuse any of us.

Passages like: John 13:34-35 & Luke 24:13-35 are helpful in understanding what's behind CareCircles.



neighbour-focused care
in the love of Christ

Q&A 3:

How will CareCircles work?

- **Your CareCircle meets socially around 4 times a year.** This may be for morning tea or afternoon. It could even be a meal. Entirely up to your circle. Your circle (optionally) may even choose to take up a missional or environmental focus. Each circle will develop their own identity based on interests of their members.
- **You ‘neighbour’ your neighbours.** (and they neighbour you). Your neighbours are either side of you in your circle. Each member will be provided a listing of permission-given contact details for their circle’s members. This is meant to be a low-key and down-to-earth as possible.

This could mean things as simple as: a chat after church, the odd phone call, sms or email. For some this will mean the occasional meeting for coffee. Flexibility is what it’s about.

Q&A 4:

How are CareCircles led, managed and resourced?

Each circle has two folk (or perhaps couples) who as well as being neighbours themselves also serve as **SUPPORTS**.

These people will be responsible for:

1. helping CareCircle households do their ‘neighbouring’
2. facilitating the quarterly get-togethers
3. communicating with the ministry team should specialized caring be needed with particular CareCircle members and scenarios.
4. attending yearly-scheduled training afternoons.

Oversight and management for all of the CareCircles will come from the combined gifting and resourcing of:

- David & Dale MacGregor (both experienced with CareCircles in other congregations)
- Sharyn Sinnamon along with the Pastoral Care Ministry Area.

Q&A 5:

Do I have a say in who will be in my circle?

The honest answer is “yes” and “no”. “Yes” in that the coloured sign-up form gives you the option of naming up to three individuals, couples or families you’d like in your circle. The planning process will endeavour to recognize this

“No” in so much as CareCircles is a great but simple & effective way for us to look beyond our immediate group of friends. Jesus looked beyond the seemingly “most desirable” folk when deciding with whom he would hang out. There’s a lesson there for us.