

## INTRODUCTION TO STONECROFT MINISTRY GUIDE AND SUPPLEMENTS

### What is the Ministry Guide?

The Stonecroft Ministry Guide outlines our mission, values, and principles for Stonecroft leaders. It is the essential guidebook for all of our Stonecroft volunteer leaders.

### Who is the Ministry Guide specifically for?

If you are leading with Stonecroft, this guide is for you (examples: planning team members, individuals serving in a regional or national role, a speaker, a guide). **Please note, this Guide is not marketing material.** If someone is interested in only attending (not leading) a Women's Connection or study, this guide is NOT for them. The guide is for Stonecroft leaders.

### What is included in the Ministry Guide?

The Ministry Guide contains important information every Stonecroft Volunteer Leader needs to know. It includes our Vision, Mission and Values. You'll find an introduction to the history of Stonecroft, learn how to explore the various outreaches available, read about successful elements and best practices of a Stonecroft Outreach Team and more. It is vital that every leader serving within Stonecroft be familiar with the information in the Ministry Guide.

### What is a "Supplement" and how is it different than the Ministry Guide?

The Ministry Guide is the core document for all of our volunteer leaders and outlines all the essential information each leader might need, regardless of their role or the type of outreach or group they are leading.

Outreach Supplements provide a way for us to continue adding to the types of outreach programs offered by Stonecroft without disrupting our core document, the Ministry Guide.

Supplements are tailored to a specific volunteer role or type of outreach group. For example: a small group guide and a chair of a Women's Connection planning team both need to have the Ministry Guide as they are each leading a type of Stonecroft outreach. However, the small group Bible study guide does not need all the information for a Women's Connection group and vice versa.

While both leaders would receive the Ministry Guide, the small group guide would receive the Supplement pertaining to leading a Stonecroft Bible Study as well. The Women's Connection Chair would receive the Women's Connection Supplement.

## Why is the old handbook being replaced with the Ministry Guide?

**One Central Source:** We currently have several handbooks for different types of outreaches and volunteers at Stonecroft, many of which repeat the same information. Our goal is to create one main guidebook for all volunteers leading in Stonecroft, providing them with the essential information to do their work efficiently and in line with our mission. This guidebook is this Ministry Guide.

**Consistent Review:** We also ensure that our documents are reviewed regularly and updated as needed.

- By having our core requirements streamlined into [this one Ministry Guide document](#), we can ensure volunteers are receiving all the essential updates in a timely manner.
- By separating out Supplements by outreach type, documents can be reviewed and updated quickly.

**Up-to-date Information:** The Women's Connection Handbook was last updated in 2018, so a review was long overdue. We hope the recent updates highlight the most essential practices and clearly communicate our vision, mission, and values.

## Who will receive this? Does this completely replace the Women's Connection 2018 Handbook?

Yes, the Stonecroft Ministry Guide, along with its supplements (more information below), will replace the 2018 Women's Connection Handbook. This leaner version gives room for Stonecroft's ministry programs to grow and expand current offerings, and makes it significantly easier to find the information you are looking for.

## How often will the guide be updated and who is reviewing the content?

The Ministry Guide will be reviewed regularly, with an annual review for any major updates. As the Guide and any other essential documents are updated, they will be posted on the website first, with notification sent out to the volunteers.

The Ministry Guide and its Supplements are reviewed by a combination of volunteers and staff. This ensures that the content reflects volunteer input, maintains excellence, and showcases the best of our ministry work. Additionally, the materials are checked to ensure they comply with Stonecroft's governance, legal requirements, and essential ministry documents.

## What Supplements will be offered and when/how will they be available?

All up-to-date Supplements will be available on our website at [Stonecroft.org](https://www.stonecroft.org).

The new **Ministry Guide** will launch in October 2024, along with the Supplement for Women's Connection and Speakers. **Volunteers who are in leadership roles in our ministry will be required to provide a digital signature indicating they have received and agree to abide by the new Ministry Guide, including the Statement of Faith that is contained within the Guide.** The National Staff will update Stonecroft volunteer leader records to indicate signing of the Statement of Faith and receipt of the Guide. **Please note: Once we launch, leaders must complete the signing process by November 4, 2024 in order to gain access to the leader side of the website.**

We will also be creating Supplements for each of our major ministry areas, including Women's Connection, Speakers, and Small Group Study/Guides in the coming months. Additional Supplements will be created as appropriate.

Stonecroft has an incredible variety of outreaches happening! As God continues to grow and expand our outreaches and programs, please refer to our website for a more robust list.

## How do I access the required docs to sign and obtain the ministry guide and supplements?

In October, you'll receive a series of emails that outlines the process, includes links to all documents, and instructions for completion.

## Who do I contact if I have questions about the content?

Please call us at 800.525.8627 or email your questions to [Connections@stonecroft.org](mailto:Connections@stonecroft.org).