



# Grace Presbytery

missional. relational. connectional.

## Resource: Facebook Pages vs. Groups

Facebook is an important social media platform that can help keep your followers informed and engaged with the happenings within your organization. There are three categories of accounts you can set up when you use facebook.

- **PROFILE:** A profile is for individuals and is the place to share information about yourself, such as your interests, photos, and videos. Every user who wishes to create a Page or Group, must first create a profile.
- **PAGE:** Pages are places on Facebook where organizations, nonprofits, artists, public figures, businesses, and brands can connect with their fans or customers. When someone likes or follows a Page on Facebook, they can start seeing updates from that Page in their Feed. Pages are the official channel of information flowing from the organization.
- **GROUP:** Groups are a place to communicate about shared interests with certain people. When you join a group on Facebook, you start seeing content from that group in your Feed. Groups are designed for community discussion and fellowship.

## Pages vs. Groups

When deciding your Facebook presence, you need to choose if you're setting up a Page or a Group (or both).

### Pages

- **PROS** You can control the flow of information coming from your organization. The posts showing in your feed will all be generated from you. The default setting for each post is to allow comments, but that can be easily disabled on a post-to-post basis, if desired. Pages also limit the number of comments to discourage runaway conversations (five comments per user, per post). It can also engage profanity filters and comment moderation. Pages also have enhanced analytics to track your engagement. It allows other widgets to integrate (such as adding a newsletter sign-up form from another platform into your social media page).
- **CONS** Some users prefer more of a sense of community and voice on an organization's page.

### GROUPS

- **PROS** This is a great place for members of a group to share in fellowship. When a group works well, it can be very uplifting for the people involved.
- **CONS** A group can become a runaway train, and can become dysfunctional at any time. Since it is not an official channel, people can post whatever they want, and it can lose focus very quickly. Also, if members only look at the group to get their information instead of also checking the page regularly, they can miss crucial information and updates that are official communications.