

NNED Collaborative Learning Event on Small Group Ministry - *Groups: Vital Parts of Congregations*

WHEN: Saturday May 3, 2014 from 9:30 AM to 3:00 PM EDT

WHERE: Unitarian Universalist Society of Bangor (120 Park St., Bangor, ME 04401)

Congregations are invited to bring teams from various committees and parts of the congregation.

- **Celebrate** the groups in our congregations and their vital roles. The roles of Boards, Committees and Groups will be identified and celebrated
- **Explore** how groups include and exclude people who come to our congregations
- **Consider** the relationship between Small Group Ministry and other groups. What we derive from the church experience is influenced by involvement in a group or groups.

Many congregations find that Small Group Ministry enhances the life of the congregation, including committees and groups. This workshop explores the collaboration of the groups within the congregation and Small Group Ministry. There will be handouts for participants and a resource packet for each congregation

Facilitator: Rev. Helen Zidowecki, a retired UU minister, has been involved with UU Small Group Ministry for over 15 years, from congregation to the UU Small Group Ministry Network.

Cost: The total consultant fee of \$275 will be shared equally among the participating congregations. Teams of 3 - 5 are suggested, representing various groups within the church and those interested in Small Group Ministry.

No payment is required at the time of registration. The Northern New England District Office will invoice your congregation after the event.

Food: Coffee will be available on arrival. Bring your own LUNCH. Microwave and refrigerator are available.

Workshop questions and comments? Please email [Helen Zidowecki](mailto:Helen.Zidowecki@uuua.org) or call 207-582-5308.

Register on line at NNED <https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?llr=w8djbc dab&oeidk=a07e8z8h74sbae4ce27>

Registration Contact:

Joy Blanchette, NNED-UUA, 603-228-8704 or nned@uua.org

GROUPS: VITAL PARTS OF CONGREGATIONS

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Unitarian Universalist Society of Bangor

120 Park Street, Bangor, ME

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9:30 am Arrive, Check-In, Refresh!
Check/Sign in on the Congregation Groups “We Are Here” page

9:45am Chalice Lighting
The lighting of the chalice calls us to be present in this time and place;
to be present to our own gifts and needs and to the gifts and needs of others;
to be present to the blending of our spirits that makes our being together sacred.

Introductions to each other and to the Workshop
Celebrate the groups that are part of your Congregation
Break into Groups, decided by committees and groups represented by participants. Name something that the group does well toward the life of the congregation, in a few words, like a bumper sticker. This will be presented back to the total group.

10:15am Groups Galore! (Groups of about 5 each, selected as randomly as possible)

11:30am Total Group: Reflection from the Small Group session
How was the session for you?
Small Group Ministry: Similarities/Differences from other groups -- Handout

Noon Bring Your Own Lunch

12:30 pm Why We Come to Church (Same groups as in the morning)
The Twins – Small Group Session

1:45 pm Opportunities and Options
How was the session for you?
Small Group Ministry – process and options
Collaborative exploration and networking
Considering what is next regarding enhancing groups in the congregation
Resource packet for congregations

2:45pm Closing

3:00pm Leaving