

Unitarian Universalist Small Group Ministry Network Website
SMALL GROUP MINISTRY
Main Line Unitarian Church, Devon, PA
The Power of Small Groups
January/February 2003

Opening Words and Chalice Lighting:

We come together in an attitude of openness –
Not knowing quite what will happen,
Yet daring to receive a new idea, a new experience,
Sustenance for our minds and our hearts.
We come with an attitude of praise, expressing our thankfulness
For the good which has come into our lives.
We come with an attitude of humility, knowing how much we need one another,
How alone we can be in the world,
How vulnerable if we face life solely by ourselves.
We come in the spirit of love, seeking human warmth and fellowship
In the hands and faces of those around us.
We come in the spirit of joy, seeking reconfirmation and renewal of
Life, of love, and of hope.

(adapted from Peter Lee Scott)

Check-in/Sharing (approximately 30 minutes)

Focus Reading: Taking Risks

“The central task of the religious community is to unveil the bonds that bind each to all.
There is a connectedness, a relationship discovered amid the particulars of our own lives
and the lives of others.”

(Mark Morrison-Reed)

Focus Questions: (45-60 minutes)

What has been your experience in small groups?
What did you learn from it?
What did you like about it?
What disappointments did you experience?
What would you like from a small group such as this one?

Check-out/Likes and Wishes

Closing Words and Extinguishing Chalice:

Human beings become complete in community. Alone we stand, but one can only stand for so long; the moment you take your place in the circle you grow. If you can find people to share your life with, make of them a community. In sharing your life with others, you help complete their lives too. In sharing your life with others, you find more of them and more of you. In sharing their life with others, you will be a blessing and be blessed.