

Unitarian Universalist Small Group Ministry Network Website
SMALL GROUP MINISTRY
Unitarian Universalism
Main Line Unitarian Church, Devon, PA

Opening Words & Chalice Lighting:

“Being a Unitarian Universalist means taking personal responsibility for your own religious life. No one will try to remake you religiously. We won’t offer you ‘final and absolute truths’ or rigid dogma. Instead, we try to provide a stimulating and congenial atmosphere in which you are free to discover the best that is in you. We reject the idea that a book or institution is superior to the conscience and intellect of a morally responsible human being. We affirm that your spiritual life well-being is yours to determine. No one else can live your life for you.”

~ *Unitarian Church of Greensboro*

Check-In / Sharing: What’s on your mind today?

Focus Reading:

“Unitarian Universalism is a fierce belief in the way of freedom and reverence for the sacred dignity of each individual. With Jefferson, we have sworn eternal hostility against every tyranny over the mind.

Unitarian Universalism is cooperation with a universe that created us; it is celebration of life; it is being in love with goodness and justice; it is a sense of humor about absolutes.

Unitarian Universalism is faith in people, hope for tomorrow’s child, confidence in a continuity that spans all time. It looks not to a perfect heaven, but toward a good earth. It is respectful of the past, but not limited to it. It is trust in growing and conspiracy with change. It is spiritual responsibility for a moral tomorrow.”

~ *Ed Schempp, a UU layperson from Barrington, NJ*

Focus Questions:

1. When did you first become a part of the MLUC community, and why?
2. Why do you stay?
3. What does Unitarian Universalism mean to you?
4. What do you like best about it?
5. What do you experience as its weaknesses, strengths?
6. What would you like to see changed?
7. How do you feel about the changes in it over the years?
8. What do you imagine your life being like if there were no communities of UU’s?

Check-out /Likes & Wishes: How are you feeling after this session?

Closing Words & Extinguishing Chalice:

“We can offer you no titles to celestial real estate, but we can offer you ground to stand upon today. We can offer you no non-cancelable fire insurance for future protection, but we can be volunteer firefighters with you to extinguish current flame.

We can offer you no book on God’s final revelation, but we will share with you the loose-leaf pages of the ever-growing bible of human inspiration. Joining this church is not so much a commitment for eternity as it is an affirmation of society; it strengthens your bonds with the cause of freedom.

If your days are dark, our light may help you. If your days are bright, we need the help of your light.”

~ *From Christopher Raible*