

WHAT FACILITATORS SAY:

“Last week we all commented on how much this group adds to our lives with our rich and enlightening conversations.”

“We are diverse in education, financial situation, beliefs, and personal style, but we fit together like a glove.”

“There are times when the group feels holy or sacred, and then there are times when all we do is laugh.”

“We have created a space of trust and safety where sharing differing views and personal experiences is welcomed.”

“There is such positive energy created when we are together and a true feeling of caring and friendship.”

“We have grown to deeply respect and care for one another and are willing and able to express and share our feelings and ideas openly and honestly.”

*“Together we have truths.
Together we have a story.
Together we have community.”*

~ Penny Hackett-Evans

Listen and be heard. Join today.

To find a Small Group Ministry at MLUC,
send an email to:
smallgroupministry@mluc.org.

“The most precious gift we can offer others is our presence.”

~ Thich Nhat Hanh

SMALL GROUP MINISTRY GOALS:

- To encourage personal connections and a caring community that fosters our sense of the larger meaning of life.
- To reflect upon the mysteries of our world and spiritual paths.
- To develop one’s capacity for deep listening and reflecting.
- To support each other in becoming our best selves and in growing into our Unitarian Universalist values.



MAIN LINE UNITARIAN CHURCH

816 South Valley Forge Road
Devon, Pennsylvania 19333
610-688-8332 | www.mluc.org

SMALL GROUP MINISTRY



Building Community
Ten People at a Time

smallgroupministry@mluc.org



MAIN LINE UNITARIAN CHURCH
WWW.MLUC.ORG

WHAT IS SMALL GROUP MINISTRY?

People come to Main Line Unitarian Church (MLUC) to find friends and community. They come for a sense of intimacy and for a place to belong—a safe place where they can be accepted. They come to be lifted from the mundane and to wrestle with life's ultimate questions.

Small Group Ministry at MLUC began in 2002 when our community felt the need to offer more than committee meetings and coffee hours to help members and friends find a sense of belonging and meaning for our lives.

Small Group Ministry invites people into deeper, more constant, and more reverent relationships. It has the capacity to profoundly transform and strengthen our lives. By listening and sharing, Small Group Ministry helps each person discover what they truly value.

These groups enrich our community with the sort of personal sharing that happens rarely in our busy lives. Small Group Ministry provides a way to meet members' needs for worship, community, and service, and to grow in understanding and spirituality.

“Let us speak to one another of convictions and dreams.
Let us speak even of doubts and anxieties. To speak, to listen, to communicate, even beyond words, this is the gift of life and the way to understanding.”

~ Clinton Lee Scott, Universalist Minister

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?

Small Group Ministry is open to any church member, friend, or visitor who wishes to participate. Groups of about 10 people gather twice each month, and separate short-term groups meet for month-long sessions. Trained facilitators guide the groups and meet regularly with the Associate Minister. Groups meet at church or in homes, and adhere to ground rules including respect, privacy, and confidentiality. They also commit to one service project each year for the church or larger community.

WHAT HAPPENS IN A SESSION?

The Small Group Ministry format includes an opening reading, check-in and sharing, and discussion on a subject related to personal or spiritual development. Topics are sometimes related to the Sunday sermon. After pausing for feedback, the group closes with a final reading. Sessions last about two hours.

GROUPS WORK BEST WHEN:

- Members commit to attend the bimonthly meetings and be present in mind and spirit.
- Members openly share their stories and listen deeply.
- Members exhibit a willingness to participate in an open, supportive, and nurturing environment that promotes and facilitates spiritual growth and mutual, interactive care for others.
- Members abide by established ground rules.

PAST TOPICS INCLUDE:

- Friendship and Humor
- Prayer and Sacred Places
- Living Simply
- Giving and Receiving Advice
- This I Believe
- Personal Religious Journeys
- How Our Stories Shaped Our Lives

To find a Small Group Ministry at MLUC, send an email to: smallgroupministry@mluc.org.
