



The Purpose of a Sermon Based Small Group (to be read at the beginning of each gathering)

The purpose of our small group is to actively pursue Christ through grace filled relationships.

READ ALOUD BY ALL (allow this prayer to shape your time together)

Dear God, help me in this dialogue to be humble & suspend judgment. I recognize that we are all created in your image. Give me courage to stay curious about each other by asking questions. Thank you, God, for this opportunity to meet together and in so doing grow closer to you. AMEN

What is your favorite thing about small group?

How well did your small group stick to living out the above prayer?

In what ways have you felt you have grown in your faith these last 9 months?

Bible Reading

Reading the Bible is about reading for practice and spiritual formation – spiritual formation, in which the reader seeks to be formed by the Spirit of God.

Passage: Acts 2:42-47 (CEB), ⁴²The believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, to the community, to their shared meals, and to their prayers. ⁴³A sense of awe came over everyone. God performed many wonders and signs through the apostles. ⁴⁴All the believers were united and shared everything. ⁴⁵They would sell pieces of property and possessions and distribute the proceeds to everyone who needed them. ⁴⁶Every day, they met together in the temple and ate in their homes. They shared food with gladness and simplicity. ⁴⁷They praised God and demonstrated God's goodness to everyone. The Lord added daily to the community those who were being saved.

What word or phrase stuck out to you and why?

Practically, how did your small group live into its purpose as outlined by this passage?

Digging Deeper on Your Own: Join us this summer as we "Dig Deeper"

- **The Bible in One Night - Monday June 15th 6:30-8:00pm - North Oak**
Presenters: Rev. Bryan Rezen & Steve Girard

The Bible in One Night is a fast-paced, engaging workshop that walks through the entire story of Scripture, from Genesis to Revelation, in a single evening. Instead of getting lost in details, you'll see the big picture: how every part of the Bible connects and points to a unified story of God's purpose and redemption. Whether you're new to the Bible or have read it for years, this experience will help you understand it more clearly and confidently.

- **What is Methodism and Why Should I Care? (Understanding Wesleyan Theology)**

Tuesday July 24th 6:30-8:00pm - Presenter: Richard Beatty

In an ever-changing world that seems to reward new ways of thinking, there is one message that is never changing. This is the message of the United Methodist Church: *To make disciples of Jesus Christ to transform the World.* Join us as we take a deep dive into why we are United Methodist through examining the Identity, Theology, and Mission of the United Methodist Church and why its message of the "good news" is even more relevant today.

- **Laughing and Crying Through the Old Testament**

Wednesday August 12th 6:30-8:00pm – Presenter: Karson Davis

The Old Testament is full of more than laws and serious stories; it also contains surprising humor, honest grief, sharp questions, and deep emotion. In this one-night Digging Deeper workshop, we'll explore how biblical writers used both laughter and lament to reveal who God is and what it means to be God's people. Together we'll look at stories that may make us smile, texts that give voice to suffering, and discover how these often-overlooked parts of Scripture invite us into a richer, more honest faith.

Personal Prayer Request

Share a one or two sentence prayer request with the Small Group for this next week. Remember these prayer requests are about **your life**, not someone else's.

(Sample Prayer)

God, we thank you for your presence with us. We lift up these requests to you knowing that you care deeply about us...we pray for _____ and _____ and (fill in prayer requests) ... God we know that you have heard our request, and we release all outcomes to you and your glory. It's in your Son's name Jesus that we pray...**AMEN.**

Share your Story

Has involvement in your small group transformed your life? We'd love to hear about it. Share as much or as little as you'd like by clicking the QR code below.

