

Small Groups at St. Paul's



Acts 2:42-47

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the communion, to the breaking of bread and to prayer....All the believers were together and had everything in common. Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need...They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people.

Vision Statement

Discipleship Groups at St Paul's L'Amoreaux exist in order to deepen faith and fellowship with God through meaningful engagement with scripture, growth in personal prayer, cultivation of authentic community, and encouragement of spiritual gift development and ministry; so that participants may increase in faithfulness and more fully experience the abundant life Jesus Christ promises his followers.

Ground Rules for Small Group Meetings

Prayer: I'll try to pray for God's blessing on group leaders and members, as well as their needs, on a regular basis.

Accountability: I'll show up every week unless there is good reason to be absent (each one must decide for themselves what constitutes a good reason). Regular attendance enhances the group experience for everyone.

Preparedness: Before each meeting, I'll try to do any "homework" and pray that God bless our time.

Confidentiality: I'll maintain complete confidentiality. What I hear and say in relation to my group members will not be shared with anyone outside my group.

Respect: I acknowledge that every person in my group is at a different place in their faith journey. And, I will value each one for who they are.

Courtesy: I understand that some of us are talkers and some of us are more contemplative. So, I'll recognize this by keeping comments succinct and on topic, and leave most of the discussion to others.

Encouragement: I understand that others will need encouragement in order to share and be open with their thoughts and feelings. I will allow them to share without being judgemental, trying to "fix" them, or offering unsolicited advice.

Authenticity: I'll strive to be as open and honest as I can with my contributions in order to help create an authentic communal experience for everyone.

Grace: Community can be challenging and conflicts are an occasional result. Thus, I'll be gracious to others, as I would have them be gracious to me.

Self-Awareness: I'll be aware of how I am personally affecting the group environment by my actions, words, and non-verbal communication.

Application: It's important that we ultimately use our meeting times to discuss the relevance of what we are learning. Hence, I will consider how the material most readily applies to my life as lived out in relation to God and the world around me..

Small Group Member Covenant

With God's help, as a discipleship group member at St Paul's L'Amoreaux Anglican Church, I covenant to carry out the following eight practices to the best of my ability. I will:

- 1) prepare as well as possible before each meeting,
- 2) attend as many meetings as possible,
- 3) actively participate in discussions,
- 4) share areas of personal concern with the group,
- 5) regularly pray for the needs and the spiritual growth of all members,
- 6) regularly pray for God's blessing on the meetings,
- 7) welcome new members when received, and
- 8) keep all personal sharing within the group or with group members confidential.

Name _____

Signature _____

Date _____