Small Group Ministry

Group Session Plan

**Our Own Ministries**

**Opening Words**

“The mission of the Unitarian Universalist Church is to address the social isolation and rootlessness that is characteristic of modern life, to minister to the hurts and hopes of those in our community, and to radically define our community beyond our membership borders, seeking to bring people who need our support into our churches and into our lives.” Rev. Glenn Turner

**Check-In**

**Topic/Activity**

We each have a *vision* of what our congregation can do in a community. That is part of what draws us to this place. There are times when the vision is bright, there are times when the vision is dim. Sometimes the vision gets clouded by concerns of membership or resources. But when our vision is relational, involving people rather than things, we renew the spirit.

 What draws you here?

We all have a *ministry*. Ministry is how we care for each other, how we encourage each other on our spiritual journeys, how we give of ourselves for the enhancement of the community. A shared ministry, a ministry that involves each of us, is like the song, “From you I receive, to you I give, together we share, and from this we live”. (*Singing the Living Tradition* #402)

 What do you receive from this community?

 What do you give to this community?

Together we have a *mission* to make a difference, in ways both small and large. We give to the world from the sense of abundance and of deepening connection with our faith community. This is our collective power.

 What do you take with you from your connection with this group and the larger church

 community?

 How do you make a difference each day in the lives of people you meet?

**Check-Out/Likes and Wishes**  How was this session for you?

**Closing words** “Wake, Now, My Senses”(*Singing the Living Tradition*, #298)

Sing the hymn or use the last verse: by Thomas J.S. Mikeson

 Wake, now, my vision of ministry clear;

 brighten my pathway with radiance here;

 mingle my calling with all who will share;

 work toward a planet transformed by our care.

Created by Helen Zidowecki for Unitarian Universalist Community Church, Augusta, ME 11/2011