



why join a small group?

“To connect with others”

“It deepens faith and relationship with God”

“It adds a personal connection to life at Trinity”

*“To connect with God and each other
in prayer and conversation”*

NO EXPERIENCE REQUIRED

trinity
small
groups

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus.

- PHILIPPIANS 2:5

Trinity Small Groups was formed to engage members and non-members as they walk their journey in faith, as well as guide them in developing a deeper sense of connection to one another and to the community at Trinity.

If you've been wondering if small groups are for you, we can assure you that they are! This pamphlet has been put together to answer any questions you may have about small groups.

Why is a small group important to our faith?

One of the things that makes Trinity such an awesome place to be is the community we have here. But when the only time we come to Trinity is to worship, we are missing a great opportunity to build relationships with others who, like ourselves, are also walking this journey of faith. Studies of vibrant churches show them with active, thriving small groups. Being in a small group opens participants up to greater connections with others and a deeper relationship with God. These connections enrich faith and have a positive impact on the life of the entire community; clearly, the Holy Spirit works in and through small groups!

Many small groups are built around Bible studies or educational resources—both of which are worthwhile, but generally don't touch on spiritual formation. And when the faith part of our lives—our story—is left unshared, we miss the most important thing God intends for us: the transformation of our lives by the Holy Spirit to make us more and more like Christ. Within the setting of a small group, sharing the stories of our faith shapes us in profound ways and raises our awareness of God's presence.

What is a small group?

A small group is made up of 6 to 10 people who have found a church home here at Trinity, member or not. Think of a small group as a tiny community you've moved into where you may not know everyone at first, but every time you meet, connections are made and friendships grow.

Small groups come together for any number of reasons. For years at Trinity, members and others with similar interests have gathered regularly to knit prayer shawls or make quilts. There are groups who do book studies, groups who gather for Bible study, as well as many who have taken part in the all-Trinity studies that have corresponded with seasonal worship themes.

I'd love to be in a small group! Where do I start?

You may add your name to any current group looking for new members or contact Pastor Ann or Jill. Volunteer to be a leader or gather people with like interests and start your own group! Here are a few ideas: motorcycle/car/cycling enthusiasts; empty-nesters; gardeners; NASCAR fans; theatergoers; cigar aficionados; foodies; hikers; animal lovers; 40-somethings; pickleball players; stay-at-home parents; photographers; or (*fill in the blank*). Just let us know and we can help get the word out for you.

When and how do we meet?

Your small group schedule can be flexible, meeting monthly, weekly, or bi-weekly. Find a regular time to meet—whether at Trinity, through Zoom, hybrid, or elsewhere—then let us know the details and how we can help. While there is never any requirement for your group to do a formal study, because it is formed through Trinity Small Groups with the goal of developing a richer understanding and deeper relationship with God, we suggest a short devotion or other faith-related element be included in your time together.

What if my group is brand new and we don't know each other?

First, set a time limit for your meetings—60 to 75 minutes is perfect. Take a session or two to get familiar with each other. Learn one other's stories by asking questions related to faith: How did your family celebrate the holidays? What is one of your earliest memories about God/Jesus? etc. As you get to know one another, decide as a small group how you'd like to move forward. Pastor Ann can help you get started.

Is there training for leaders?

Currently there is no formal training for group leaders but written into each Trinity-produced study is all a leader needs, and Pastor Ann is available to answer any questions that arise. Taking turns leading within each small group is not required but encouraged.

Small groups are about connection, relationships, & faith!

Exactly! Those who participate in small groups through their faith communities agree that one of the best things about being in a small group are the connections and relationships built through them.

Additionally, small groups are places to discover where and how God is present and at work in your life. In small groups, we tell our own—as well as hear others'—stories, which can be used by the Holy Spirit to nourish and grow our faith as individuals, which then enlivens and renews the entire faith community. Through small groups, big things happen! Transformation happens!

Thanks be to God!

*We invite you to be a part of this
renewing and transformational ministry
by joining a small group!*



scan code or text **SMALL** to indicate interest
and learn about newest study

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