

Interfaith Small Groups ~ Go Deeper Groups*
Minutes
November 1, 2016

Attending: Carole Moore, Lisa Striebing, Connie Winter-Eulberg, Kristi Denham

Our goal with the small groups is to deepen our relationships across traditions as well as deepen our understanding of one another. We want to create a safe environment where we assume good will so we can ask and answer hard questions.

We ask for a commitment from participants to meet together at least four times in one year for approximately two hours each time.

Discussion questions will be developed that can be used either to have one tradition do an in-depth presentation followed by questions and answers, or themes to be discussed by all traditions. Starter questions can be cut into strips, put in a bowl and then drawn out to be discussed by all. These will be feeling oriented questions rather than just informational. The Coordinating Team will provide these options in advance of the first meeting.

After seeing who is interested in our gathered group on November 7, we will reach out to congregations that may be under represented here to see if they are interested in participating.

In addition to the Coordinating Team who met today, we'll be looking for Group Leaders for each of the small groups. They will be asked to:

- Convene their first small group meeting
- Get suggestions for discussion from the Coordinating Team.
- Report back after their first gathering as to how it went, what help they need.
- Set a next meeting date with their group.

We recommend that for this first year we keep it simple. Begin with a potluck vegetarian meal so that food issues can be handled by individual participants and discussed together after that. And keep it for adults only for the first year. New groups can be formed with kid friendly alternatives, gatherings for nature adventures, picnics, hikes, there are so many options. But for this first year, a commitment to 4 gatherings, 2 hours each, with one small group is the goal.

We hope to launch in February, 2017.

Sign Up sheet will include:

Name/ email/ phone/ city location/congregation / availability: (Sat eve/Sun brunch/Sun Eve/weeknight?) Possible Group Leader?

*We are still looking for a name that works.

Respectfully submitted, Kristi Denham