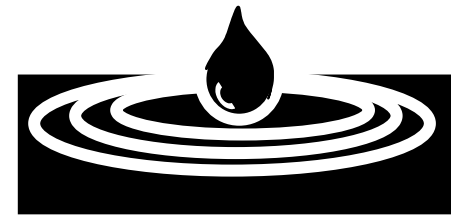


**From the Small  
Group Ministry  
Frequently  
Asked Questions  
(FAQ)**

**1.1 What goals are we attempting to reach by  
establishing small groups?**

To develop a growing network of small groups that:

1. Draw us into mutual ministry
2. Strengthen our congregation
3. Deepen our understanding of Unitarian  
Universalist principles and values
4. Continuously develop lay leadership
5. Challenge us to action and spiritual growth
6. Express our principles and values in the  
community
7. Help members identify their own calling  
and expression of lay ministry



**SMALL GROUP MINISTRY**  
FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH OF  
SAN JOSE

## **Getting to Know You**

<b>Preliminaries</b>	Deep listening, confidentiality, and letting the experience come forth anew.	<b>Sharing/ Deep Listening</b>	Please share the story of the object you have brought and what it means to you.
<b>Opening/ Chalice Lighting</b> Hymnal #448 By Christine Robinson	We gather this hour as people of faith With joys and sorrows, gifts and needs, We light this beacon of hope, sign of our quest For truth and meaning, In celebration of the life we share together.	<b>Singing</b> Hymnal #346	<i>First verse:</i> Come, sing a song with me, Come, sing a song with me, Come, sing a song with me, That I might know your mind.
<b>Check-in</b>	Going around the circle, take one or two minutes to introduce yourself to the group. Your introduction may include information about how long you've been coming to the church, your children, your job, your hobbies or any other facts you consider important.		<i>Chorus:</i> And I'll bring you hope, When hope is hard to find. And I'll bring a song of love, And a rose in the wintertime.
<b>Responsive Reading</b> Hymnal # 439 By Sophia Lyon Fahs	We gather in reverence before the wonder of life — <i>The wonder of this moment</i> The wonder of being together, so close yet so apart — <i>Each hidden in our own secret chamber,</i> Each listening, each trying to speak <i>Yet none fully understanding, none fully understood</i> We gather in reverence before all intangible things That eyes see not, nor ears can detect — <i>That hands can never touch, that space cannot hold, and time cannot measure</i>		<i>Other verses:</i> Come, dream a dream with me...  Come, walk in rain with me...  Come share a rose with me...
<b>Sitting in Silence</b>	Think about the object you have brought to share and what it expresses about you and your life. Why is it significant to you?	<b>Closing</b>	(stand and join hands) In one phrase or sentence please share your hope for this group.
		<b>Extinguishing the Chalice</b> Hymnal #420 By Annie Dillard	We are here to abet creation and to witness to it, to notice each other's beautiful face and complex nature so that creation need not play to an empty house.