

SMALL GROUP MINISTRY

FALL 2010 – Resurrection Lutheran



WHAT ARE SMALL GROUPS?

- Safe places that foster authentic relationships and individual growth.
- Intentional gatherings to accomplish an agreed-upon purpose.
- Community & fellowship based on people, not programs.
- Opportunities to grow in relationship with others to encourage spiritual growth.

WHAT TYPES OF SMALL GROUPS EXIST AT RESURRECTION?

The four primary types of small groups are...

- **Caring:** “Providing support for people with a specific need or interest”
- **Being:** “Building relationships and getting to know people with common interests.”
- **Learning:** “Learning through Bible study as the primary agenda”
- **Task-oriented:** “Focusing on projects or ministry tasks”

HOW DO I JOIN A SMALL GROUP?

First, begin by asking yourself...

WHAT is my main interest in joining a small group? Is it Bible study? Christian Fellowship? Getting connected to other families with children? Working on service projects with others? Getting spiritual or personal support?

WHEN do I have time to meet? What am I willing to re-arrange in my schedule to meet with the Small Group? How often would I like to meet?

Then,

LOOK THROUGH this Small Group Ministry Offering Brochure.

CONTACT the Small Group Leader directly, or Small Group Leaders: Sandy McAuley, or Kathy Eckert

CARING GROUPS

Providing support for people with a specific need or interest

- **Parents of Children with Autism** support group meets at RLC monthly during the school year on the second Thursday of the month from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Free babysitting and snacks for children. For more information and/or to sign up for babysitting, email Pastor Mary Armstrong-Reiner.
- **Good Grief** provides an outlet of support, encouragement and sharing for members who have lost a parent. Contact Jody Linton or Karen Dahlstrom for more information.

BEING GROUPS

Building relationships & getting to know people with common interests

- **RLC Men’s Softball Team** plays at Champion Field in Normal during the summer months. Contact Chris Ayers and Kelly Malinowski.
- **Stretch ‘N Pray** combines prayer and yoga postures for a 45-minute time of prayerful exercise and small group devotions. Mondays at 5:45 p.m. in RLC’s Education wing beginning September 13. Wear comfortable clothes and bring a yoga mat. Contact Kathy Eckert.
- **Young Couples Group** composed of young couples and their children, meets for Bible study, discussion and fellowship. Babysitting is provided. Contact Kelly Malinowski.

- **Dads & Kids** is a new opportunity for 2010. An event will be held every other month for dads and their kids. Events have included: fishing/bbq and geocaching at Evergreen State Park. Contact Dave Douglass or Steve Sewell if you are interested in attending this activity or future events.
- **Girlfriends Unlimited “G” Groups:** RLC women and friends form small groups for fun, fellowship and learning, based on similar interests in movies, cooking, games, scrapbooking, beading, hiking, reading great books, etc.

Watch the *Spirit*, the Girlfriends Unlimited bulletin board, and Welcome Center for “G” group activities.

On November 20 there will be a Holiday Shopping Trip to the Tuscola Outlet Mall. Meet at RLC at 8 a.m. for a light breakfast and devotions. Cost: \$8 for breakfast and fuel. Contact Marcia Fetzer.

- **The Abraham Group** for persons relatively new to RLC, meeting from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. on Sundays from November 14 to January 30. The group will be centered around a time of fellowship, making new friends, worship, prayer and a Bible study focusing on Abraham, led by Matt Sterrett and his lovely bride, Patti Niehm.

LEARNING GROUPS

Learning through Bible study as the primary agenda

- **Book of Faith: *God’s Extraordinary Church: Studies in Ephesians*** is the second course in our 2010-1011 series. Pastor David will lead this six-session study which looks at texts in Ephesians from historical, literary, Lutheran theological and devotional perspectives. The first session will take place at 7 p.m. in Grace Hall on Monday, Nov. 8. The cost of the study is \$8. Sign up at the Welcome Center.
- **Sunday Morning Bible Study** led by Pastor David Armstrong-Reiner and others in Grace Hall on Sundays at 9:30 a.m.
- **Women’s Bible Study and Lunch Group** is a women’s monthly Bible study and lunch group on the second Tuesday of the month from 11:45 to 1 p.m. The Bible study is printed in the *Lutheran Women Today* magazine. A \$12 one-year subscription to the magazine gives you access to all the Bible studies. All women, including friends are welcome. Contact Pastor Mary, to reserve your spot at the Grand Café.
- **Women’s Book Study** group meets every month for lively discussion. Participants take turns picking the book the group will read, leading the discussion and hosting the group in their home. This group is currently full. Coordinated by Trudy Vogel and Marla Cerven.
- **Encountering God’s Love** is a Wednesday morning Women’s Bible study that meets 9:30 a.m. the first and third Wednesdays of the month. Led by Gwen Scott. The group will study the book of Psalms beginning September 1, and welcomes new people.
- **Friday Morning Prayer and Share** meets weekly, Friday mornings at 6:30 a.m. at Letha Seip’s home for an inspirational book study and prayer together. Contact Letha Seip, with questions. The group welcomes new members as they are able to attend.

- **Noon Book Study for Men and Women** led by Dawn Dannenbring Carlson, currently studying “Everything Must Change” by Brian McLaren. The brown bag lunch group meets bi-monthly from noon to 1:30 p.m. at Illinois People’s Action, 510 E. Washington St., Suite 309, Bloomington. To join, contact Dawn Dannenbring-Carlson.
- **Dare to Be Uncommon Bible Study for Men of All Ages** led by Gary Weilbacher, begins Sunday, November 7, 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. at RLC. The seen-session study for men is based on Coach Tony Dungy’s *Dare to Be Uncommon: Discovering How to Impact Your World*. Study guides cost \$10.

RSVP to Gary or sign up at the Welcome Center.

TASK-ORIENTED GROUPS

Focusing on projects or ministry tasks

- **Rooted in Faith for “Life on the Vine”** is Resurrection’s getting-acquainted forum for prospective new members/disciples, as well as anyone with questions about what it means to be a Christian, a Lutheran, or a member of our congregation. Sessions led by the Pastors and RLC members, Patti Niehm and Matt Sterrett. Child care is available. New class forms in spring 2011.
- **Midweek Prayer Group** gathers in the RLC sacristy on Wednesday mornings at 10 a.m. to share scripture and prayer requests. Drop in and pray with us.
- **Stamping & Making Cards Event** is a monthly stamping/scrapbooking group on Friday evenings to make cards to donate to nursing home residents and cards to keep, led by Ann Hill and Chris Thomas. Beginners and novice stampers are welcome! Upcoming events are Nov. 19, 2010, Jan.21, Feb. 18 and March 18, 2011, from 6:30-10:00 p.m. in Grace Hall. For more information, contact Ann Hill after 5 p.m.
- **Fun, Fast & Frozen – Low Impact Cooking** coming in January 2011, this is a new ministry forming for men and women to prepare several easy, nutritious, freezable dishes together. Group members will gather at RLC on a regular basis to assemble and cook the meals. Costs will be shared. To be a participant or help on the planning team, contact Mayuko Nakamura or Kathy Eckert.

For other great service opportunities, see the RLC website, www.reslutheran.org

DON’T SEE A GROUP THAT FITS YOUR NEEDS OR AVAILABILITY?

Launch your own group! We provide leader training and on-going support.

Contact Sandy McAuley or Kathy Eckert.

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Communities claimed and empowered by God for hope and wholeness

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God’s Work. Our Hands.



Living in God's amazing grace