

# Mebane United Methodist Church

[info@mebaneumc.org](mailto:info@mebaneumc.org)

Christian Life and Community  
Sundays @ 6:30 pm



## Small Group Ministry

*They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.*

Acts 2:42-47 NRSV:

## Small Group Ministry

Small Group ministry is meant to be an integral part of the **Christian Life and Community** experience here at Mebane United Methodist Church. It is important that if you are not already a part of a small group you should join one as soon as possible.

### Choosing a Small Group

During the month of December we will be distributing a list of available small groups for you to join. You should look for a group that will be compatible with your own needs and interests. Some people may choose a group because of geographical proximity. Others may choose a group with people of similar backgrounds and situations. Regardless of the reason you choose a particular group, you should choose one you will feel comfortable with.

### Purpose of the Small Group

The Small Group will provide an opportunity to grow in your Christian Life in an environment that provides *support* and *accountability*. Your group will be a place to share prayer concerns. It will provide opportunities for you to be in ministry. These are the people you will grow closest to in the church. These are the people who will serve as your strongest support during times of need.

### Frequency of Meetings

Ideally, your group will meet on a weekly basis and include a discussion of Sunday's service and worksheet. However, not everybody will be able to meet weekly so some groups may meet every other week or even monthly. Again, it is important to find a group that best meets your need, but, a weekly group best fits in with this plan for ministry.

## **Type of Small Group**

There are many types of small groups. For example a Bible Study group, or a Sunday School Class, or even the Praise Team form small groups. What we are talking about are groups that are specifically connected to the **Christian Life and Community** ministry. While you may be a part of several small groups already, we really encourage you to be a part of one of these groups.

## **Outreach in the Small Groups**

We want to keep these groups small, but from time to time you may feel called to integrate new Christians and/or church members in your groups. It is also hoped that you will choose to make a shut-in part of your group. (A list of shut-ins is available from the church office – 919-563-4301).

## **FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions)**

Q. My Sunday School class already functions like this type of small group. Do I really need to find another group?

A. No. If your class provides opportunities for study, prayer, ministry, and fellowship, it is already acting like one of these **Christian Life and Community** small groups.

Q. Must our group study the topics and use the related worksheets from the Believers' worship service?

A. No. Your group is responsible for deciding what the study aspect will cover. Perhaps you will use Experiencing God or Disciple Bible Study or another study. Perhaps you will use the worksheets for particular series, but not others. Whatever is done, it must be a group decision.

## **More Questions**

If this hasn't answered all of your questions about Small Group Ministry feel free to contact Dr. Swartz ([pastor@mebaneumc.org](mailto:pastor@mebaneumc.org)), 919-563-4301 (office), 336-380-0173 (Cell Phone with Voice Mail).