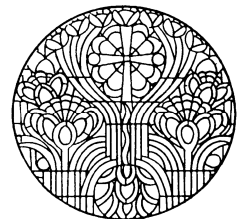
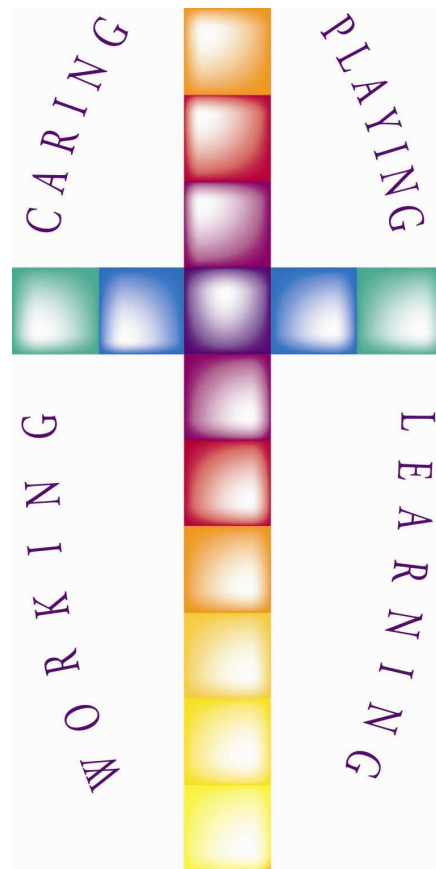


Small Group Ministry FAQ's

"For where two or three are gathered in
my name, I am there among them."
Matthew 18:20



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Why does Eden have Small Group Ministries?

When the congregation chose to move to Policy Governance on March 1, 2009, all committees except for Stewardship and Finance, M&P and Trustees (mandated by UCC) were disbanded. In their place, people were encouraged to form Small Group Ministries based on their interests and passions. Rather than sit on committees in which some of the work may not be of interest, individuals are now freed up to get involved more directly with the interests and passions they wish to act on. This also enables more people to get involved!

What is a Small Group Ministry? (SGM)

A SGM is a group of 10 -12 people with a passion or an interest in common who choose to gather together at a time and place of their selection and for a time period that they decide on in order to support the work of the church and/or to develop a sense of community at Eden, caring and sharing together.

Who can join a SGM?

Members and Adherents of Eden plus family, friends, community members -anyone who shares the interest and passion and supports our Vision, Mission and Core Values.

Who helps with Eden's SGM's?

The Small Group Management Team consists of the ministers, a small group co-ordinator (currently Janice Gillespie) and our communications team (Nicole Metcalf-Santos and Paul Santos).

What types of SGM's are there at Eden?

Groups can be categorized into four group types according to their purpose for being:

1. Working Together (Task Oriented Groups)
2. Caring Together (Needs Oriented Groups)
3. Learning Together (Content Oriented Groups)
4. 4. Being Together (Relationship Building Groups)
- 5.

How do I know what SGM's are currently operating at Eden?

A list is available at the church office or can be sent out electronically by contacting Janice Gillespie at

smallgroups@edenunitedchurch.com

Are there other potential groups nearly ready to get underway?

Yes there are! A list of these SGM's is also available as above. We are currently seeking a facilitator/contact person/leader from within these groups to arrange an introductory session to get these groups underway. If you are interested in getting involved, please contact Janice Gillespie.

How would I find out more information about a group, or see about joining one?

The name of the current leader and their contact information is available at the church office (or on line through our website, or can be emailed to you by contacting Janice Gillespie at

smallgroups@edenunitedchurch.com

What do I do if I have an idea for starting a Small Group Ministry at Eden?

Your interest is welcomed! Please contact one of the ministers at Eden or Janice Gillespie.

If I join a group, how long do I have to commit to being a member?

The length of covenanting time depends on the activity of the group. This time is established in agreement with the members. Most would be for a year, Sept-June, but some only have short-term involvement (ie World AIDS Day community worship service)

What are some of the current groups at Eden?

1. Working Together:

- UCW
- Communion Servers
- Fundraising

2. Caring Together:

- Health and Wellness
- Prayer Shawls
- Christmas Baskets

3. Learning Together:

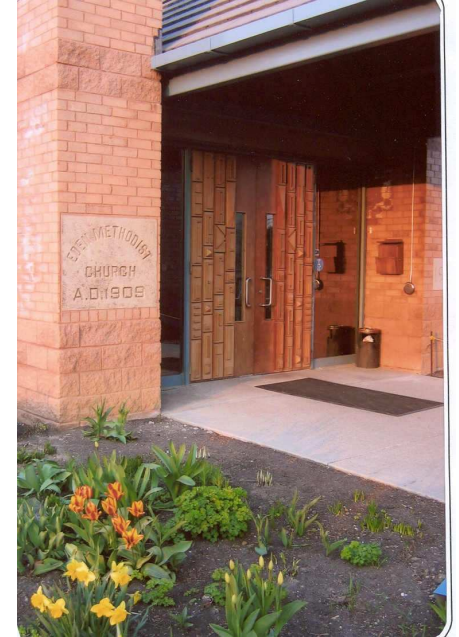
- Bible Study
- Church School
- Choirs

4. Being Together:

- Dining Out
- Musical Events
- Bookclubs

What's involved in being the leader of a SGM?

A Small Group Leader is a person who helps the members of a group interact in such a way that their joint gifts, talents and energies are focused upon the agreed upon goals and purposes. Some established groups just need a contact person to provide annual info to the co-ordinator. They will complete a provided covenanting form that states the name, purpose, meeting date details, commitment period and names of members. Leaders will help set ground rules, provide focus, facilitate discussion, help build relationships and plans for the future of the group as well as reporting informally to the SGM Co-ordinator each June as to the progress of the group. Leadership training is available to those who are interested in helping a group get started.



Note from SGM Co-ordinator:

This is YOUR church, YOUR community, YOUR opportunity to get involved in the church life and/or the community life of Eden United Church. Let me know how I can help you act on your passions and interests within a caring community that shares the same values.