

**"Building and Sustaining a Strong Small Group Ministry Program"**

Saturday, March 14, 2009 9:30 am - 4:30 pm (Snow Date: Saturday April 4, 2009)

Registration and coffee from 9:00 – 9:30 a.m.

All Souls Church UU, 29 South Street, Brattleboro, VT 05303

Workshop Purpose: Many Unitarian Universalist societies are trying Small Group Ministry (or Covenant Groups) as a way to strengthen their congregations. This workshop will provide inspiration and information for lay and professional leaders who are 1) beginning a Small Group Ministry Program or 2) who are in an existing program in need of revitalization and/or 3) who are seeking inspiration and ideas on how to expand and grow an existing program. The workshop is especially helpful for facilitators and aspiring facilitators. The following topics will be covered: the power and purpose of Small Group Ministry; the essential components of a strong Small Group Ministry program; addressing common challenges in an SGM program; developing shared leadership within a small group; handling group difficulties; and two hands-on experiences in actual small groups. At lunch there will be table topics so that participants who want can have a deeper conversation about a topic that is most pressing for them.

Workshop Leader: The workshop leader is The Rev. Dr. M'ellen Kennedy, a UU community minister and community psychologist. She is co-founder of the U.U. Small Group Ministry Network. Rev. Kennedy has been working with lay led small groups for over 20 years and has offered facilitator training to hundreds of lay and professionals leaders. Her workshops get excellent reviews. She also serves as consulting minister for the Universalist Society in Strafford, VT and Washington, VT.

Workshop Cost: The cost of the workshop is \$40 for one member of a church to attend and \$35 for each additional person from the same church. Lunch is included. If you have questions, contact Rev. M'ellen Kennedy at [mellenken@aol.com](mailto:mellenken@aol.com) or 802-453-5469.

Comments from attendees at this workshop at the UU Church in Concord, NH, Fall 2007  
"The workshop was utterly amazing -- informative, helpful, and inspiring! I am so grateful to you for offering the workshop, and look forward to spreading the word and the concepts. SGM has such great potential to strengthen, and deepen, the relationships and spirituality in our congregation. Thank you, thank you, many times over."

DIRECTIONS To All Souls Church UU, West Brattleboro, VT.  
Take I-91 to exit 2. Turn right (west on U.S. Route 9). Go 1.1 miles to flashing light (South Street) in West Brattleboro. Turn Left. Note church sign ahead. Driveway goes up steep hill.

REGISTRATION FORM: SMALL GROUP MINISTRY WORKSHOP  
MARCH 14, 2009 (SNOW DATE April 4) 9:30 to 4:30 PM

Please send this completed form and your check by March 11 to Rev. M'ellen Kennedy, 3764 Quaker St. Bristol, VT 05443 or call 802-453-5469.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE (IN CASE WE NEED TO CONTACT YOU FOR SCHEDULE CHANGES DUE TO WEATHER)

CONGREGATION/CITY, STATE \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE NOTE MY SPECIAL NEEDS:  Vegetarian  Vegan  Allergies Other: \_\_\_\_\_

FEES: I enclose a check to "M'ellen Kennedy" with "SGM Workshop" in the memo line for this amount:

\_\_\_\_\_ \$40 one member \_\_\_\_\_ \$35 each add'l. Member TOTAL enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_