

Cross of Hope Making Faith Connections Small Group Ministry

March 18, 2024

Why Church? Holy Spirit's Guidance

- 15 Minutes **Gathering, Hospitality, Check-in with Each Other...**
- Opening Prayer O God, with steadfast love you draw us to yourself, and in mercy you receive our prayers. Strengthen us to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit, that through life and death we may live in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen. (ELW p29)
- 45 Minutes **Discussion Questions:**
Read again John 14: 25-31
What did you notice/caught your attention/raised a question as you encountered this story?
What are the gifts Jesus gives in this reading?
According to Jesus here, what roll does the Holy Spirit play in our faith journey?
How have you seen/experienced the Holy Spirit working in the way Jesus said?
How does the Holy Spirit help you live differently?
Why is the life of faith a life of discernment?
Share a time when you/Cross of Hope have discerned (listened) for the Holy Spirit calling in the past.
What would it look like for you/Cross of Hope to discern now for where the Holy Spirit is calling?
Share about a time when something didn't work as expected in your life/the life of COH. What did you/learned?
How did the Spirit guide you into seeing something new?
What allows you to trust or take risks?
Where does the Holy Spirit seem particularly active at COH/in your life?
How does Cross of Hope pray together for God's guidance? How do you?
How does study of scripture shape our congregational mission?
Read again the founding mission verse of COH, Romans 15:13.
How does the Holy Spirit speak through this verse?
Read again Jeremiah 31:31-34
What do you notice about this passage as you read/hear it this time?
Without it being named, where do you see the Holy Spirit present in this reading?
Read again Psalm 51:1-12
What do you notice about this psalm as you read/hear it this time?
Without it being named, where do you see the Holy Spirit present in this psalm?
- 20 Minutes **Prayer Requests and Prayer**
- 10 Minutes **Wrap Up and Get Ready to Leave Session:** Conversation about details for the next session...place, day, time, and volunteer Host. Remember...bring a Bible, watch the Sunday worship and sermon in preparation for the group session.

Maximum amount of time...90 minutes. Time used for each component is flexible depending on the agreed upon needs of the group for that session.