

## Cross of Hope Making Faith Connections Small Group Ministry Schedule

April 7, 2024

### Searching For...Peace

- 15 Minutes      **Gathering, Hospitality, Check-in with Each Other...**  
How did you celebrate Easter throughout this week?  
Describe a time you searched for peace.
- Opening Prayer      Almighty God, with joy we celebrate the day of our Lord's resurrection. By the grace of Christ among us, enable us to show the power of the resurrection in all that we say and do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen. (ELW p32)
- 45 Minutes      **Discussion Questions:**  
Read again John 20: 19-31  
What do you notice about this story as you read/hear it this time?  
How was Thomas searching for peace?  
Explore the role of faith in this story.  
    Where does it appear strong? Weak?  
    Why is faith important?  
What is the role of the Holy Spirit in this story?  
    In a life of faith?  
    With the gift of peace?  
When have you experienced the Holy Spirit?  
How have you experienced peace?  
How do you help people see Jesus?  
Where and why does the world search for peace?  
How does faith inform our search for peace?
- Read again Acts 4: 32-35  
What do you notice about this story as you read/hear it this time?  
What gives power to the testimony of the resurrection?  
How does the one heart and soul, mutually shared community evoke peace?
- Read again 1 John 1:1-2:2  
What do you notice about this story as you read/hear it this time?  
Who's testimony brought you into the fellowship of the church/fait?  
What does this sermon claim walking in God's light look like?
- 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.