



Still Small Voice

Leader: Jeff Ritchie

Who's Invited: Anyone

Meeting: 1st & 3rd Thursdays 7 pm

Focus: Hearing the voice of God in our daily lives. This is a relationship centered book group. They will be reading and discussing "Everybody Always" by Bob Goff.

Contact: 540-383-4370/jaritchie@comcast.net

Through the Bible with Les Feldick

Leader: Lois Huffer

Who's Invited: Anyone

Meeting: 2nd & 4th Wednesdays 10 am

Focus: A group Bible study ... currently studying Revelations.

Contact: lois.huffer@gmail.com

Note: All Small Groups meet at Bethany unless otherwise stated.

Bethany United Methodist Church

3700 Lee Highway

Weyers Cave, VA 24486

540.234.8880

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Rev. Susan Reaves, Pastor

757-653-7830

reaves.susan.m@gmail.com

Maggie Rhodes, Small Group Coordinator

540.383.4752

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Small
Groups
at
Bethany
Fall 2019



Small Group Gardening

7 Steps for Successful Growing

1. *Get an idea.*

Is this going to be a vegetable garden? An herb garden? A flower garden? What kind of Small Group are you looking for? A Bible Study? A Men's Group? Or maybe you're looking to go deeper?

2. *Clean the ground.*

Get rid of the sod covering the area you plan to plant. We all have stuff that has a tendency to take over our lives. Joining a Small Group may seem impossible with your busy schedule, but you'll be surprised how easy it is to make a Small Group part of your routine once you've made some space for it!

3. *Improve the soil.*

Invariably, soil needs a boost. The solution is simple: organic matter. Add a layer of compost, decayed leaves, dry grass clippings, or old manure. Don't be afraid that "you're not perfect enough" to join a Small Group. We all have histories, we've all made mistakes, and we've all been hurt. If we choose, we can learn and grow from these less than desirable things instead of hide from them.

4. *Pick your plants.*

Some people pore over catalogs for months; some head to the garden center and buy what wows them. What do you want to grow in your life? Love? Forgiveness? Understanding? Relationships?

5. *Water.*

Plants are begging for water when they wilt slightly in the heat of the day. Water slowly and deeply, so the water soaks in, instead of running off into the street. Take time to absorb what you are discussing in your Small Group. Give it time to settle in. Don't rush it!



6. *Mulch.*

To help keep weeds out and water in, cover the soil with a couple of inches of mulch. All sorts of mulch are available, from pine needles to cocoa hulls to bark chips. The support you get from your Small Group will go a long way in your growth in Christ. Small Groups lend support and encouragement when you need it most. A Small Group also helps by holding you accountable and motivating you to keep digging and to keep planting!

7. *Keep it up!*

Your garden is on its way. Keep watering when needed, and pull weeds before they get big. Fertilize. And remember to stop and smell the ... well, whatever you grow.

-Maggie Rhodes

Couples Small Group

Leaders: Mark & Jackie Dunsmore

Who's Invited: All Couples

Meeting: Monthly social or service events and also meet during the Sunday Connections hour periodically.

Contact: jdunsmore@rockingham.k12.va.us

Holy Yoga?

Leader: Susan Reaves

Who's Invited: Anyone

Meeting: Thursdays 6:30 pm

Focus: Growing stronger in body and faith.

Contact: resaves.susan.m@gmail.com

L.O.A.F.E.R.S.

Leader: Susan Meadows

Who's Invited: Women

Meeting: 1st & 3rd Wednesdays 7 pm

Focus: Growing deeper in faith.

Contact: smeadowsdlc@rockingham.k12.va.us

Soaking up the Word of God

Leader: Susan Reaves

Who's Invited: Anyone

Meeting: 1st & 3rd Wednesdays at 7 pm

Focus: Discovering God's desire for the church through the book of Acts.

Contact: reaves.susan.m@gmail.com

Small Groups lend support and encouragement when you need it the most.

