



MAKING ALL THINGS NEW

Community Group Covenant | Fall 2019

As we begin this fall group experience, we do so with the desire to not only grow in our understanding of Scripture but to deepen our life with God, one another, and our neighbor.

VALUES

We hold the following values as essential to our life together this season:

CURIOSITY | TRY IT ON

We agree to be open to engaging others' perspectives. We will practice considering ideas from a posture of curiosity before critiquing, defending, etc. Our goal is not to walk away with one "right" answer but to learn with and from each other.

PARTICIPATION | STEP UP, STEP BACK

We agree to be mutual stewards of the life of our group, prioritizing our weekly gatherings and inviting every group members' participation, as they feel comfortable. We will be aware of group participation dynamics. If I am someone who tends to be a listener in group settings, I will consider stepping up to share my perspectives or questions. If I am someone who tends to talk a lot, I will consider stepping back to create space for others. (Think "three, then me.")

RESPECT | HOLD GOOD BOUNDARIES

We agree to practice respectful listening by not interrupting or talking over others. We agree to practice respectful sharing by speaking from our own experience ("I" statements) and refrain from giving advice, unless it is requested.

CARE | "OOPS" AND "OUCH"

We agree to assume positive intent in others while also acknowledging potentially negative impact. Anyone can say "ouch" if hurt or offended to stop the process from continuing and explore what's happening and why. Anyone can say "oops" to acknowledge their assumptions and/or to respond to another's "ouch."

CONFIDENTIALITY | SHARE ABOUT IDEAS, NOT PEOPLE

We want to process and discuss our learnings with others. However, we agree all sharing should be about concepts and experiences in the group, not specifics about what others have shared.

NORMS

MEETINGS

We agree to meet on _____ (day of week) from _____ (am/pm) to _____ (am/pm) for eight weeks, beginning September/October ____ and concluding November ____ .

SERVICE

We agree to discuss how our group will serve together this fall through participation in:

First Pres Street Meal Ministries | Care Packages

Help prepare bags of toiletries and other supplies for those cared for by our Street Meal Ministry. The Street Meal team will collect the packages and then distribute them during their twice monthly dinners.

- Each Caring Package should contain these essentials: socks, soap, travel-size shampoo and lotion, toothbrush, toothpaste. Optional items: T-shirt (L or XL), granola bar, gloves, note of encouragement.
- Place all these in a Ziplock bag and deliver to the Reception Desk in the First Pres Lobby.
- For questions, contact Marie Corwin at corwinmarie@gmail.com

House of Hope | Clothing Donations, Gardening, or Meal Prep Education

- Donate gently used women's clothing and, especially, new bras and underwear in a variety of sizes.
- Assist in ongoing garden cleanup or gardening education with women residents.
- Assist in meal prep education with women residents (two people needed per day.)
- For questions, contact Beth Thomsen at betht@fpcberkeley.org

COVENANT

We agree to revisit our group covenant mid-way through our eight weeks together to assess how we are doing.

We agree to revisit our group covenant toward the end of our eight weeks together to determine if we would like to conclude our covenant or continue on in intentional community together.