

PLEASE JOIN US FOR
AN EXCITING 6-WEEK ADVENTURE!

Leadership Team

Coordinator: Dan Schwartz

Asst. Coordinator: Mark Miller

Small Groups Coordinator: Becky Warren

Asst. Small Group Coordinator: Patsy Spraw

Prayer Coordinator: Linda Laux

Prayer Team: Carolyn Bearden, Connie Johnson, Marti Kreps, Linda Laux,
Sondra Lunn, Janet Schwartz, Nancy Whitacre

Music: Bev Roby

Children: Kris Tisdale

Youth: Debra Pees

Pastors: Larry Kreps and Debbie Kaylor



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is *Unbinding Your Heart*? Martha Grace Reece wrote *Unbinding Your Heart*, funded by a grant from the Lily Foundation. Her team interviewed 1,200 church members, new Christians, pastors and did a statistical study of the 150 churches that were best at reaching those with no church background. The book is designed around their best practices of loving God, loving each other as a church family, and caring about others who do not live with this faith.

Why is St. Andrew's a good fit for using *Unbinding Your Heart*? We love a loving God. We love each other (okay, we have a few lapses). Yet we seem allergic to sharing our faith with others beyond our church family. Like most long established mainline congregations, we have declined over the years. Surprisingly, Martha Reece found that the average age of vital congregations was 89 years of existence. She states, "A congregation may be too stuck in their ways to do evangelism, but it's not too old."

Is the book about evangelism? Not in ways of browbeating, scaring folks with fire and brimstone, or theories on when Jesus will return. It is about stoking our love for God, for each other, and finding natural ways to share our faith and invite people to church.

If I join a group, what should I expect? You will have a facilitator who has already been in a small group using the book. For each of the six weeks, you will read a chapter and do a corresponding prayer journal that contains your reflections on a scripture and prayer experiments. The small groups will meet for 1 ½ to 2 hours.

When do the groups start? Most groups will begin the week of Feb. 19 and conclude by April 1. At least one group will begin in March to accommodate those returning from warmer climates.

Do I need to attend every session? You and those in your group will have the best experience if each person comes to each session. If you need to miss a session, grace prevails!

How many groups are offered, and when and where will they meet? 15-20 groups are available and will meet in homes, church and at Birchaven. Day and evening slots are available.

Why go to a small group? I can read on my own! You certainly may, but the best experience is to be part of a small group and come on Sundays where the weekly themes will be part of worship.

Who is invited to be part of the small groups? You! 60 people have already been in our pilot groups and the goal is 300 more. Our youth and children have already started the adventure!

Is that a feasible goal? Only the Lord knows. Plans began a year ago. Facilitators trained. Our Prayer Team prays for all of us daily.

Is this a continuation of *Living Stones*? Yes! Yes! Yes! St. Andrew's is much more than a building. We are the living body of Christ. *Unbinding Your Heart* will free us to love Christ and love others and life changing ways.

How do I sign up? On Sundays you may sign up in Fellowship Hall, Place the insert tear-off in the offering plate, or contact Dan Schwartz (419-423-8433, USTAFun@hotmail.com) or Mark Miller (419-423-4450, millermrm37@gmail.com).