

## Growth Group Questions

Week of April 28

1. Have you ever been the recipient of an intentional act of service? Please consider sharing the story with your Growth Group. How did you feel upon receiving that kindness? Did the experience affect your relationship with the person who served you?
2. Did anything about this week's sermon surprise or challenge you? What was your take-away from the sermon?
3. What was your reaction when you heard that Aldersgate UMC suspends its regularly scheduled worship services every year on the Sunday after Easter? How do you plan to hand out your "care kit" for people who are struggling with homelessness? What will it look like to notice those whom our culture seems to forget?
4. Read John 21:15-19. What did Jesus mean, when he told Peter to "feed my lambs" and "take care of my sheep?" What does that look like in the life of a follower of Jesus today? How does it connect with Aldersgate Alive?
5. Read Philippians 2:5-7 and 1 Peter 4:1-11. What does it mean to have "the same mindset of Jesus" in relation to service? What is the nature of a servant? What gifts have God given you to serve others?
6. As a Growth Group, whom might you serve during your next service project? Begin planning your next time of service together. (The summer is a great time to serve, so you may spend some time together while Growth Groups are not meeting regularly.) Consider putting a date on the calendar and appointing someone to coordinate your efforts.

## **Lectio Divina for Growth Groups**

### **John 21: 15-19**

#### **First Reading**

Step 1: Everyone takes a deep breath to prepare for reading of the sermon text.

Step 2: One group member reads the passage out loud while all group members listen for a word or phrase that jumps out in their minds. Tip: Simply acknowledge the word or phrase without judgment or analysis.

Step 3: A moment of silence is observed as people take note of that word or phrase.

#### **Second Reading**

Step 1: Everyone takes a deep breath to prepare for reading of the sermon text.

Step 2: A second group member reads the passage out loud while all group members listen for why that original word or phrase might have jumped out in their minds. Tip: Ask, "What is going on with me right now that this word or phrase might have significance in my life?"

Step 3: A moment of silence is observed as people take note of what they have discerned.

#### **Third Reading**

Step 1: Everyone takes a deep breath to prepare for reading of the sermon text.

Step 2: A third group member reads the passage out loud while all group members listen for what God might be calling them to do with the information they've learned in the first two readings. Tip: Ask, "How is God inviting me to respond to what've I learned tonight? What action might I take?"

Step 3: A moment of silence is observed as people take note of what they have discerned.

#### **Group Discussion**

