

Called, Together
How Small Groups Support Call in the World

By Doug Wysockey-Johnson

Available at http://www.lumunos.org/Online_Store.htm

This short booklet offers much powerful help for those who lead small faith-based groups. Indeed, it is written specifically for facilitators of such groups.

The “Call” as used by the Lumunos organization relates very closely to what others might call the “vocation of the laity.” It “is about listening for God in everyday living.”

The book has two parts, handouts, and two appendices. The first part deals with understanding the Call and the role small groups can/should play in supporting an individual’s call. Discernment, support, and accountability are dealt with.

The second part, offers a variety of exercises that facilitators could use to bring their groups to the highest functioning levels. There are a set of discernment exercises and a set of support and accountability exercises. They are not presented as a series of exercises that must be followed but as a variety from which to choose that most appropriate for a group at any given time.

Handouts related to some of the exercises are provided in one or two page formats.

The first appendix should be required reading for all group facilitators. It deals with facilitating the group so as to bring the members into full participation and self- disclosure in the group. The author calls it an evocative small group process.

One of the author’s strong suggestions is that all church groups ought to schedule such evocative sharing time—discernment, support, and accountability time—in their meetings. Appendix two is a defense of this recommendation.

All in all, this is an excellent booklet—long enough to be valuable to all facilitators, short enough to be read quickly, remembered and applied with confidence.