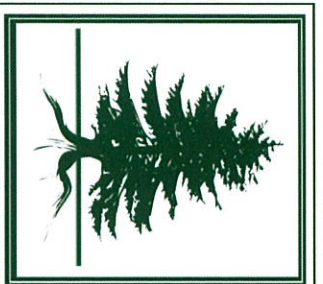




OUR LADY OF THE
PINES
RETREAT + CENTER
1250 Tiffin Street, Fremont, OH 43420

Volume X Spring 2013

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OUR LADY OF THE
PINES
RETREAT + CENTER

Newsletter, Spring 2013

Volume X

1250 Tiffin Street, Fremont, Ohio 43420

419-332-6522

www.pinesretreat.org

**Directed Retreat
July 7-13, 2013**

With the assistance of a spiritual director, the retreatants are aided in noticing God's presence in their life.

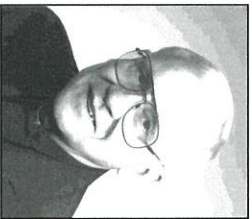
Spiritual Directors
Peggy Duffy, OSU
Breta Gorman, RSM
Stephanie Helfrich, OSU
Marianne Longo, RSM
Pat Meyer, OSF

See the registration form on our website or call our office at 419-332-6522.

**Mark Your
Calendar**

**Conference Retreat
July 21-26, 2013**

**Sustaining the Graces
Of Vatican II**



Presenter: Howard Gray, S.J.
Father Gray has been the Assistant to the President of Georgetown since 2007. Space is limited, so reserve your spot today!

Visit page 4 for calendar details or our website a www.pinesretreat.org

**Retreat Center
Administrative Staff**

- St. Christine Pratt, OSU
Executive Director
- St. Margaret Mairszali, HM
Retreat Coordinator
- Judy Zavala
Finance & HR Specialist
- Brenda Havens
Administrative Assistant
- Retreat Center
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- Judge Michael Burkett

Dear Friends of The Pines,
The Holy Season of Easter and its promise of New Life and expressions of joy are echoed in God's gift of nature as we await the buds turning to flowers and trees to green giving all of us new energy and expectations of the blessings of sunny and warmer days. We open the windows to let it all in-into our hearts and into our homes.

Since our last newsletter we have had many experiences of joy and blessings here at The Pines. We held our Third Annual Evergreen Elegance event that once again brought good people, good food and great fun together in support of the ministry of The Pines. (Pgs. 2-3). In addition, and most especially for our ministry, the last of the renovation process was completed on March 22, 2013 when Bishop Leonard Blair, Bishop of Toledo joined the Sisters of Mercy, their Associates, The Board of Trustees, Donors, Contractors and Staff in the blessing of the chapel. (Pg. 6). After months of planning and preparation we have made a space that has incorporated some of the past into the new.

And as change is as inevitable as the seasons, another change is taking place at The Pines. I will be leaving The Pines after almost four years of service as its Executive Director. Since arriving in July, 2009 we have built the public awareness of and programs of The Pines. In these four years we created a new logo, recreated the website and newsletter, introduced technology and Wifi to the building. In addition, we brought the fundraiser dinner back into the building and have increased usage of the building by an ever growing number of hosted, sponsored and co-sponsored groups. This has been possible through the tireless and creative work of the staff and the Board of Trustees. Our mission statement is lived out everyday.

I will be returning to Cincinnati after 30 years of ministry in Northwest Ohio and will be working with our Ursulines of Brown County sponsored college. Chatfield College empowers students who will best succeed within its small, supportive environment. This small college has two campuses-one in rural Brown County on the Appalachian fringe at the Ursuline Center and a second campus in inner city Cincinnati.

I leave with many blessed memories of my time in Northwest Ohio and I go looking forward to the many unexpected challenges and blessings in this next part of my life-journey. May God continue to bless all of you and the new Executive Director (yet to be named) and the staff and Board as they continue the good work of The Pines.

In the Spirit of Mercy,
St. Christine Pratt, OSU



Around The Center

Evergreen Elegance Dinner, 2013, an evening to benefit The Pines, welcomed guests on two cold evenings this past January. Despite the low temperatures those attending enjoyed an evening of soft lights, beautiful table settings and a delicious gourmet meal prepared by Chef Keith Mosser. Music was provided by Guitarist Keith Barber on Friday evening and Michael Shirtz on Keyboard on Saturday evening for the guests.



Event Sponsors

Diamond Sponsors - \$1,500
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Wonderly-Horvath-Hanes Funeral Home
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Knight-Baldwin Charitable Fund

Sapphire Sponsor - \$200
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Kevin & Eileen Kerner



Catherine's Corner...

"Catherine's Corner" offers a space to reflect on quotes from Venerable Catherine McAuley, foundress of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas who sponsor Our Lady of the Pines Retreat Center. Catherine offers both practical and profound words that teach us how to be prayerful people who respond to the Gospel and action in the everyday events of our lives. Catherine McAuley's practice of hospitality, offering a "cup of tea," reflects the spirit of welcome that we offer at Our Lady of the Pines.



One of our goals in programming at Our Lady of the Pines Center is to work in collaboration with other organizations to bring more quality retreats that can draw new populations to The Pines. This goal is in harmony with the Sisters' of Mercy Direction Statement which impels the Sisters to act in harmony and interdependence with all creation. Catherine McAuley also called her followers to the challenging rhythm of contemplation and action. This summer we are pleased to help sponsor two retreats at Our Lady of the Pines that are in line with both of these directives.

Contemplative Outreach Northeast Ohio is a spiritual network of individuals and small faith communities committed to living the contemplative dimension of the Gospel, particularly through the practice of Centering Prayer. This organization will offer a contemplative retreat, at The Pines, Thursday, June 6 to Sunday, June 9, 2013. The retreat is entitled: **"Be Still and Know" (PS 46:10): Centering Prayer Wisdom with Fr. William Fickel.** The heart of this retreat is to follow the four simple steps of centering prayer and experience deep silence in community. Cost of the retreat is \$260 if registered by May 1st; \$270 after May 1st. This includes overnight accommodations and meals. The retreat starts at 4:00pm (before dinner) on Thursday and ends at 1:00pm (after lunch) on Sunday. Send \$50 registration deposit made out to CONEO to Andrea Kneier, 531 Covington Lane, Chagrin Falls, OH 44023 or call Andrea at (440) 591-5103. Visit CONEO web site at www.coneo.org or download an application form on The Pines website at www.pinesretreat.org on the sidebar.

Our Lady of the Pines is also hosting a **Silent Six Day Directed Retreat** sponsored by **Weilstreams**, an

Ecumenical Training Program in Spiritual Formation and Development Saturday, August 17 to Friday, August 23. The Wellsprings Program is part of the Spirituality Network, Inc. in Columbus, OH. Directors for this retreat

are trained spiritual directors who have three or more years experience in the contemplative approach to spiritual direction. With the assistance of a spiritual director, the retreatants are aided in noticing God's presence in their life. Scripture, nature, and other prayer resources allow retreatants to listen to God's activity in every day events. An environment of silence is an important part of this retreat. The retreat begins at 4:30pm on Saturday and ends at 4:30pm on Friday. The fee is \$480 which includes room, meals, and daily spiritual direction. To enroll, complete the registration form on the side bar on The Pines website at www.pinesretreat.org and return it, along with a non-refundable deposit of \$100 to the Spirituality Network, no later than June 15, 2013 or you may register online at www.weilstreamscolumbus.org. The balance will be due on or before August 2, 2013. For more information please contact Sr. Carol Ann Spenser, OP: 614-228-8867 or email: carol.spencer1@junco.com

In this collaborative spirit, we hope that one or both of these retreats can meet a need to deepen your relationship with God and others. As a result of the Centering Prayer retreat that we hosted last summer, we are offering Centering Prayer one evening a month. See our website for times and dates. We also have spiritual direction available at The Pines. Contact Sr. Margaret Marszal, HM at 419-332-6522 for information.

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About the author: Sister Margaret Marszal, HM, is a Sister of the Humility of Mary, and is the Retreat Coordinator at Our Lady of the Pines. She has a BSE in Education from St. John's College of Cleveland, an MA in Art Education from Miami University of Ohio, and an MA in Christian Spirituality from Creighton University, Omaha, Nebraska.

PLEASE NOTIFY US OF ANY CHANGE IN YOUR ADDRESS OR IF YOU'D LIKE TO RECEIVE THIS NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL.

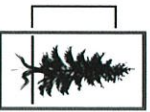
Visit our website at www.pinesretreat.org

The following individuals volunteered to help with the annual fund-raising event: **Committee Members:** Mary Shaffer, Chairperson, Sr. Christine Pratt, Executive Director, Brenda Havens, Joan Schmidt, Debbie Brenneman, John Havens, Sue Berryman, Kellye Stierwalt, Joanne Darr-Wagner, Eileen Kerner, Jeanne Heintschel, Board Representative. **Event Volunteers:** Deb & Steve Billow, Dr. Ron Curl, Seth Curl, Jerry Eakin, Sr. Cheryl Erb, Tami Drown, Ed & Mary Garber, Ron Goehring, Steven & Anna Havens, Judy Hoffman, Karla & Monte Huss, Bill Keating, Jim & Micki King, Debbie Koebel, Kathy McCabe, Linda Mierke, Janet & Jim Morley, Gary & Marie Perkins, Joe Podach, Paul Schmidt, Josie Smith, Donna Steinbauer, Tom & Linda Thorbahn, Joan & Paul Wasserman, Zach Zavala, Derek Zavala. **Pines Staff Members:** Terry Drown, Robbyn Eakin, Angie Smith, Ruth Ann Stultz, Judy Zavala, and Sr. Margaret Marszal.

Wish List

- NSF approved Food Processor
- Dyson Sweeper
- Monetary donations for art room supplies
- Canvas covered boards for wedding clay
- Portable White Board
- Vinyl White Round Table Clothes
- Glass Water Pitchers
- 100 or 30 Cup Coffee Makers
- Large Ice Buckets
- Glass Water Carafes

"We are formed by God for Himself alone, to be united with him here, by love and fidelity; and here after by enjoyment and beatitude." Quote from Venerable Catherine McAuley



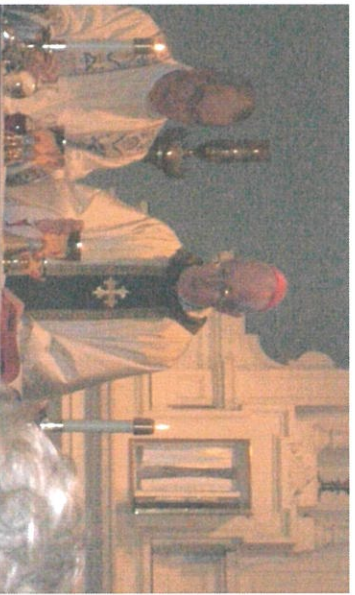
Mercy Alive...

CHAPEL RENOVATION 2013

In the Fall of 2012, we began the renovation of The Pines Chapel. Attempts were made to incorporate the past into our new space.



Below Bishop Leonard Blair, Bishop of Toledo, celebrates Mass following the Blessing and Incensing of the Altar and the entire chapel. Participating in the liturgy was Sisters of Mercy, Mercy Associates, Donors, Contractors Board of Trustees and Staff.



The Chapel Renovation Committee established three purposes that led and fed the process: Catholic Identity, Mercy Charism and Contemplative Space. Our Lady of the Pines devotional space below provides such a place for prayer and contemplation.



Around The Center . . .



Thanks to the following Donors for the many gifts we received for our Silent Auction Packages and Hat Box Packages.

A Variety of Shades, Applebee's, Atby's of Fremont, Baker Diversified Auto Repair, Bailville E-Z Shop, Billy's Restaurant, Bishop Hoffman Catholic Schools, Angela Bliss, Independent Consultant for The Pampered Chef, BLOOM, Mrs. Jill Gray, Bob Evans Restaurant, Michael & Brenda Burkett, Chipotle, John & Claudia Coe, Cold Stone Creamery, Mrs. Vicki Collins, LMT, Color Haven Paint & Supply, Communities of the Arts, Deb Conley, Independent Consultant for Scentsy, Dr. Ronald Curl, Mrs. Paula Daniels, Dairy Queen-West, Mrs. Martha Darr, LMT, Das Dutchman Essenhaus, DaVinci's Gallery, Domino's Pizza, Eagle Isle Retreat Center, East of Chicago Pizza, Fr. Ray Ensmann, Sr. Cheryl Erb, RSM, Erie Shore Propane, Mrs. Brenda Fey, Fremont Athletic Supply, Fremont Comfort Inn & Suites, Fremont Community Theatre, Fremont Cycle & Fitness, Fremont Ross High School-Athletic Department, Sr. Noel Frey, RSM, Fricker's Restaurant, Ed & Mary Garber, Gift Baskets & Bouquets, Golden Dragon Restaurant, Jeff Good, Great Eastern Theaters-Paramount Cinema, Dr. Mark & Tina Hablitzel, Harvey Oaks Jewelers, Mr. Kim Haubert, Mrs. Jeanne Heintschel, Mr. Mike Herbert, Tom & Pegi Hoffman, Jimmy G's BBQ, Bill Keating & Deb Koebel, Kroger Food Stores, LesCheveux Salon, Monsignor William Kubacki,

Marco Pizze, Jamie & Aaron Meade, Memorial Hospital Foundation & Physical Medicine Department, Max & Erna's Larry Michaels, Krista Michaels, Ginny Miller, Cassie Molyet, Fr. Frank Murd, Notre Dame University Men's & Women's Basketball Programs, Olive Garden, Our Lady of the Pines Retreat Center, Jill Otermat, Scott & Kathy Otermat, Sr. Rose Oliveri, RSM, Otto & Urban Flowers, Papa Murphy Pizza, Pinnacle Capital Management, Perrysburg Holiday Inn-French Quarter, Mrs. Lori Price, LMT, Quality Cleaners-Rettig Cleaners, Randolph TV & Appliance, Mrs. Lori Ristler, River Cliff Golf Course, Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Center, Sam's Club, Sandusky County YMCA, Paul & Joan Schmidt, Mrs. Mary Shaffer, Mr. Michael Shirtz, Toni Smith, Dr. Jim & Kellye Stenwalt, Steinle Auto-Clyde, OH, Taco Bell, The Cheesecake Factory, The Depot Pizza, The Perfect Ten, Thingamajigs, The Ritz Theatre, Threads of Tiffin, Sr. Dorothy Thum, RSM, Thyme to Cater—Chef Keith and Mindy Mosser, Dan & Sue Tignor, Toledo Funny Bone Club, Toledo Symphony, Voh & Son Furniture Store, Walt Disney World, Mrs. Jeanne Walker, George & Deb Wenger, Mrs. Joyce Wise, Post Net





Program Calendar 2013

April

April 6: Presentation: *What is Spiritual Direction?* 9:30am to 11:30am. Cost: Free will offering (Registration is required.) Presenter: Sr. Ardath Blake, HM ministers at Villa Maria Education and Spirituality Center at Villa Maria, PA as spiritual director and program associate for adult programs. See page 5 for more information.

April 8: Centering Prayer--7:00pm. Cost: Free will offering. Centering Prayer is a method of silent prayer that prepares us to receive the gift of contemplative prayer, prayer in which we experience God's presence within us. It is not meant to replace other kinds of prayer but rather add a depth of meaning to all prayer forms. The focus of Centering Prayer is the deepening of our relationship with Jesus. Facilitator: Fran Benlein is a liturgist, musician, spiritual director, and presenter in the Diocese of Toledo.

April 10: Refresh Your Spirit Day: *Aging is Just Us Grown Ripe*--9:00am to 3:00pm. Cost: \$25 (Registration is required.) The title for this day flows from one of many wisdom statements in Joan Chittister's book, *The Gift of Years. Growing Older Gracefully*. We are given this day to pray, reflect and internalize the blessings and opportunities of this new stage in life as we "develop a maturity, a mellowness, of personality and character that makes us not only acceptable but even necessary to those around us." (*Gift of Years*, p. 15) Presenter: Sr. Pat Meyer, OSF is a Franciscan Sister of Our Lady of Perpetual Help. St. Louis, Missouri. Most of Sr. Pat's ministry has been in education, retreat, and parish work.

April 16: Evening Presentation: *Nurturing Children of Divorce*--7:00pm to 8:30pm. Cost: \$7 (Registration is required.) This presentation will help parents understand the needs of their children and how they can help them navigate the emotions and difficulties that children experience when parents' divorce. Presenter: Cathy Giedeman is a Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor and a Certified Rehabilitation Counselor. See page 5 for more information.

April 22: Evening Prayer: *Mother Earth Day*--7:00pm. Cost: Free will offering. Come to an evening of prayer and praise Psalms, and songs reverencing Our God, Creator of Mother Earth and the Universe. Refreshments will follow. Presenter: Sr. Noel Frey, RSM is a retired chaplain from St. Rita's hospital in Lima, OH. Jay Edwards is President of the Lima Astronomical Society.

April 24: Evening Art Presentation: *Thy Will be Done*--7:00pm. Cost: \$5 (Registration is required.) Come to hear Sculptor Dan Chudzinski recount the inspiration, adventures, and creative processes behind two of his monumental, religious-themed works: "The Fall of the Archangel Lucifer" and "Pieta." Presenter: Dan Chudzinski teaches Studio Art and Art History classes at Terra State Community College while working as a professional artist. (See page 5 for more information).

May

May 1: Lunch and Lecture: *A Spirituality of Welcome*--Noon to 2:00pm. Cost: \$10 (Registration is required.) Come to a lunch and lecture to hear Sr. Marilyn's experiences with refugees and migrants and her work with Mercy Beyond Borders. This event will be followed by a book signing. Presenter: Sr. Marilyn Lacey, RSM, a Sister of Mercy, is founder and Executive Director of *Mercy Beyond Borders*, a nonprofit partnering with displaced women and girls in South Sudan and in Haiti to alleviate their extreme poverty. (See page 5 for more information).

May 6: Centering Prayer--7:00pm. Cost: Free will offering. See April 8th for description. Facilitator: Fran Benlein



Time, Talent, Treasure...

As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. ~1Peter 4:10

Pines Partners

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Patrick and Judy Scherger
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Kathleen Seward

St. Mary Catholic Church,
Millersville

Harriet Eberly

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Memory of John Pratt

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Sr. Marianne Longo, RSM

Sr. Mary Ann Brady, RSM

In Memory of Richard Hoffman

Conceta Hoffman Family

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Joan Marie Warnement, RSM

Under \$100

James Frey

Tree of Hope Donations

John and Brenda Havens

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Rev. Patricia J. Lull

Patricia Macey

Looking Ahead

New Speakers Coming to The Pines

This Spring we are excited to bring four new speakers to The Pines.

On **Saturday, April 6**, from 9:30am to 11:30am, **Sr. Ardath Blake, HM** will offer a presentation entitled "**What is Spiritual Direction?**" Currently Sr. Ardath ministers at Villa Maria Education and Spirituality Center at Villa Maria, PA as spiritual director and program associate for adult programs. **Cost:** Free will offering. (Registration is required.)

Cathy Giedeman will offer "**Nurturing Children of Divorce**" to help parents understand the needs of their children and how they can help them navigate the emotions and difficulties that children experience when parents divorce. This is scheduled for **Tuesday evening, April 16** from 7:00pm to 8:30pm. Cathy Giedeman is a Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor and a Certified Rehabilitation Counselor. She has over 15 years of experience. **Cost:** \$7 (Registration is required.)

Come to hear Sculptor, **Dan Chudzinski** recount the inspiration, adventure, and creative processes behind two of his monumental, religious-themed works: "The Fall of the Archangel Lucifer" and "Pieta" on **Wednesday, April 24** at 7:00pm. Dan has a B.F.A. in Sculpture and a B.A. in European History from Miami University as well as a Masters of Fine Art from BGSU. Dan teaches Studio Art and Art History classes at Terra State Community College while working as a professional artist. **Cost:** \$5 (Registration is required.)

We are pleased to have **Sr. Marilyn Lacey, RSM** share her experiences with refugees and migrants and her work with *Mercy Beyond Borders* **Wednesday, May 1** at Noon to 2:00pm. This event will be followed by a book signing. Her memoir is entitled: **THIS FLOWING TOWARD ME: A Story of God Arriving in Strangers**. Sr. Marilyn is founder and Executive Director of *Mercy Beyond Borders*, a nonprofit partnering with the displaced women and girls in South Sudan and in Haiti to alleviate their extreme poverty. **Cost:** \$10 (This includes lunch and the lecture. Registration is required.)



Time, Talent, Treasure...

As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. ~1Peter 4:10

Pines Partners

Joan Niese
Sisters of Mercy, Fremont, OH
Joan Schmidt
Kathleen Waite
Sr. M. Catherine Wise, RSM
Judy Zavala

Chapel Renovations -- 2013 General Donations

Crown Battery-Hal Hawk

John Sheeran

H.D. Sheeran

Terry Drown

Specific Donations

Diocese of Toledo-Mensa and

Stations of the Cross, originally

located in the Holy Rosary

Parish in Toledo.

Sr. Mary Jane Fisher-

Keyboard & Processional

Cross, given in loving

Memory of Parents, Bernard

and Marian.

St. Casimir Foundation-Votive

Lights and Stand

Roger and Sandra Wise

Family-Chalice

Monsignor William J. Kubacki-

Vestments and Missal

St. Bernardine Home-Framed

Picture of Catherine McAuley

Other Donations Received

Jeanne Walter-Water Pitcher

Judy Zavala-Coffee Maker

Zack Zavala

Volunteers

Laurie Brown

John Havens

Marcia Reardon

Barb Ronski-Quaintance

Sr. Dorothy Dalton, RSM

Sr. Rose Olivieri, RSM

May 7: Reflection with a Cup of Tea: *Taking a Personal Look at the Mysteries of the Rosary* -- 9:00am to 10:30am. Cost: \$7 (Registration is required.) Many of us have prayed the rosary and have had difficulty with reflecting on each of the mysteries. During this morning reflection, we will look at different ways to connect with the events in Christ's life. Presenter: Sr. Margaret Marszal, HM

May 20: Evening Prayer: *A Reflection on Beauty*--7:00pm. Cost: Free will offering. We each experience Beauty in different ways. Beauty is a gift and a mystery. Spring is filled with endless moments of the mystery of Beauty. Our prayer at this time invites us to explore and share what shapes beauty in your life. Facilitator: Sr. Marianne Longo, RSM, former Director of Our Lady of the Pines Retreat Center for over twenty years, is now involved full time in the ministry of spiritual direction.

May 23: Just for Men: *Barbecue Spirituality: Spirituality of Vatican II*--6:00pm to 8:00pm. Cost: \$15 (Registration is required.) Fr. John Blaser will focus on how the spirit of Vatican II touches our Church and spiritual life today after 50 years. Come for an evening of input, fellowship, and a barbecue dinner. Presenter: Fr. John Blaser is a retired priest of the Toledo Diocese. He has served in various parishes, as Director of Continuing Education for Priests and Office of Religious Education.

June

June 3: Centering Prayer--7:00pm. Cost: Free will offering. See April 8th for description. Facilitator: Fran Benlein.

June 6 to Sunday, June 9: Silent Contemplative Retreat Weekend: "*Be Still and Know*" Ps 46:10: Centering Prayer Wisdom--begins at 4:00pm and ends on Sunday at 1:00pm. Presenter: Fr. William Fickel. This program is sponsored by Contemplative Outreach Northeast Ohio. To register: Contact Andrea Kneier at (440)591-5103 or www.coneo.org. Cost: \$260 if registered by May 1st/\$270 after May 1st. See our website sidebar for a registration form.

June 10-14: Summer Private Retreat Days. During these days, you are welcome to stay overnight at the Pines for prayer and reflection. Meals will be provided. Contact Brenda at 419-332-6522 for pricing. If rooms are available, private retreats can be scheduled during the Art Retreat Weekend, the July Directed Retreat and the July Conference Retreat.

June 17: Evening Prayer: *Walking the Labyrinth While Praying the Psalms*--7:00pm. Cost: Free will offering. We will meet by the outside labyrinth and use some favorite Psalms for our walking meditation.

June 19: Refresh Your Spirit Day: *How Does Your Faith and Spirituality Influence Your Life?*--9:00am to 3:00pm. Cost: \$25 (Registration is required.) We will reflect on how our faith and spirituality can help us live life more intentionally and bring us hope, peace, and joy. Lunch and a light morning snack is included. Presenter: Sr. Margaret Marszal, HM

June 21 to Sunday, June 23: Summer Art Retreat Weekend: *Card Creations Inspired by Prayer and Journal Writing*--begins Friday with supper at 5:30pm and ends at 1:00pm on Sunday. Cost: \$195 Overnight/ \$105 Commuter--\$25 Non-refundable Deposit (Registration is required). During this weekend, you will have an opportunity to create your own cards based on prayer experiences that you will have throughout the weekend. We will be using college, stamps, and watercolor. Materials will be provided. No art background is necessary. Come to play and pray. Presenter: Sr. Margaret Marszal, HM

June 26: Summer Book Discussion Evening--7:00pm. Free will offering. (Registration is required.) This evening we will be discussing *Cross Roads* by William Paul Young. This is a story of a man who has the opportunity to transform his life after a serious health problem. William Paul Young is the author of *The Shack*. Facilitator: Sr. Margaret Marszal, HM