



OUR LADY OF THE PINES RETREAT CENTER

Newsletter, Spring 2017

E-Mail: olprc@pinesretreat.org

Volume XXIV

419-332-6522

1250 Tiffin Street - Fremont - Ohio 43420

www.pinesretreat.org

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Dear Friends,

When I was in elementary school, my mother was a fairly avid sewer. I remember many trips to the fabric store to look at material for blouses, pants, dresses, Halloween costumes, school projects, house curtains, etc. I was always in awe of the wall of fabric bolts, all perfectly organized by color, kind and purpose. After having our primary selections measured, neatly cut and folded, each trip ended with a stop by the remnant table and I would wait impatiently with the neat and perfect fabric as my mother dug through mixed and matched selections of markdowns. More often than not she would find something to her liking in the pile and say "I can do something with this" and off we went to the check-out.

God says "I can do something with this" in scripture. The "something" is the imperfections, problems and difficulties that were not neat and organized in the plan of salvation. In Jeremiah's prophetic words, God tells His people there will be a joyous return of all those taken out of Jerusalem and sent into Babylonian exile (i.e. the remnant) and there will be much joy as they grow into the Jewish Nation from which Jesus, the Christ, will come.

For us in present day, as we prepare for the renewal of self this Lenten and spring season, God is digging through our remnants. These are the ragged, frayed and stained fabrics of our lives we wish to have made new. If we are willing to bring them to God, he will always "do something" with what we offer and create something beautiful for us.

You may notice in our "wish list" section a request for fabric remnants. We at the Pines have an initiative to make small prayer pillows that will be prayed over and available in our gift shop. When is there not an occasion to send someone a prayer wish?

I and the staff at the Retreat Center wish you many blessings this Spring and we hope you will visit us soon!

Sara McCoy
Executive Director

Our Lady of the Pines Retreat Center



General Information

Our Lady of the Pines Retreat Center provides the perfect setting among 68 acres of beautiful pine trees, walking paths and a peaceful atmosphere for your retreat and conference needs. The Pines provides state of the art conference rooms, a variety of meditation/reflection spaces, a large and small dining room and a recently renovated outdoor pool. Call us today at 419-332-6522 and let us help YOU plan for YOUR retreat.

Business Hours

Monday-Friday
8:00am-4:00pm



Our Lady of the Pines Retreat Center, sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy offers a space for all seeking a deeper relationship with God, self, others and all creation. The spirit of hospitality, a Mercy charism, pervades the place, welcoming all who come.



Relaxation Massage

Please call 419-332-6522 to book a massage as they are by appointment only.
...\$61 for 1 hr. ...\$42 for 30 min.

Hosted Groups and Personal Retreats

Our Lady of the Pines Retreat Center is happy to host group and personal retreats! To schedule or for pricing, please contact Marissa Mills, the Office and Programming Coordinator at (419) 332-6522 or email olprc@pinesretreat.org

Event Registration

If you wish to attend an event sponsored by Our Lady of the Pines we request that you pre-register by calling our main office at 419-332-6522. For further information or for any questions in regards to a specific event please call ext. 104 for our Retreat Coordinator, Sister Wanda Smith, RSM.

Please consider:

- Remembering Our Lady of the Pines Retreat Center in your will.
- Cash donations, pledges, stocks, or bequests in support of The Pines Ministry to those seeking a deeper relationship with God.
-A charitable planned gift during your lifetime or as an estate gift.

We thank our donors for their heartfelt generosity.

In consideration for your contribution, Our Lady of the Pines Retreat Center acknowledges that, as of receipt of this contribution, our organization is an IRC 501© (3) status with the Internal Revenue Service. Our Lady of the Pines Retreat Center affirms that you received no material benefits, goods or services for this contribution.

Spiritual Direction...

Please call 419-332-6522 to make an appointment with a Spiritual Director
...\$40 for a 1 hr. session

OUR LADY OF THE PINES RETREAT CENTER INVITES YOU TO

Keeping the Sabbath

A LENTEN LUNCHEON SERIES

Presented by Father Ted Miller and
inspired by Walter Brueggemann's book,

*“Sabbath as Resistance:
Saying No to the Culture of Now”*

Is keeping the Sabbath “an ancient tradition”?
A day of rest and relaxation can be a challenge to keep in
our instant culture. Learn how a diligent effort to honor a day of
rest in gratitude to the Lord holds an immense future promise.

12:00PM-2:00PM

*EVERY THURSDAY IN MARCH OF 2017

MARCH 2 MARCH 9 MARCH 16 MARCH 23 MARCH 30



Cost is \$15 per session

**Lunch is provided.*

& Don't worry if you can't make each session, registration is available throughout the series!

To register: Call 419-332-6522 or go online to
www.pinesretreat.org/programs

**COPIES OF WALTER BRUEGGEMANN'S BOOK
ARE AVAILABLE IN THE PINES GIFT SHOP FOR \$10.**



Sponsored Re- treats at



To register please call 419-332-6522 or visit www.pinesretreat.org/programs

Keeping the Sabbath, a Lenten Luncheon Series

***Every Thursday in March of 2017 12:00-2:00pm**

Led by Fr. Ted Miller and inspired by Walter Brueggeman's book, *"Sabbath as Resistance: Saying No to the Culture of Now"*

Do we keep the Sabbath or does the Sabbath keep us?

Join us at OLPRC as we explore our use of the GIFT of the Sabbath. Is keeping the Sabbath 'an ancient tradition'? A day of rest and relaxation can be a challenge to keep in our instant culture. Learn how a diligent effort to honor a day of rest in gratitude to the Lord holds an immense future promise.

Cost is \$15 per session or \$70 for the series.

*Lunch is provided.

& Don't worry if you can't make each session, registration is available throughout the series!

Amazing Grace, a Lunch & Learn Retreat

Wednesday, April 26, 2017 12:00-2:00

Led by Sister Patricia Schnapp, RSM

Many women—and men—dread growing old. And the elder years are, in some ways, a challenge. But in many more, they are a graced time. ~~Join Sr. Pat in looking at how aging enriches our spiritual life—and can also be a fun and very satisfying time.~~

Cost is \$15.00 for the day

*Lunch is provided.

Lunch and Learn

with Fr. Charles Ritter

May 24, 2017 12:00-2:00pm

As the Easter season comes to an end and we prepare for the feast of Pentecost join Fr. Ritter for lunch and reflection on Micah 6:8 "To act justly...to love tenderly...to walk humbly with your God..." This reflection may help you on your spiritual journey of becoming more "available" to God, more open to the working of the Spirit and more eager to walk in the footsteps of Jesus.

Have you ever considered a Private Retreat just for you and God ?

Our Lady of the Pines offers space for you to spend time away from the outside world, be it through a day retreat with time for yourself, or an overnight retreat enjoying the solitude of a hermitage nestled in our little Pine forest. You choose a day and while on retreat utilize our many reflection spaces, the Chapel, our outdoor pool (weather permitting) and explore the grounds. You can do everything from adult coloring to curling up on a couch or sitting in a rocker to read or meditate.

If you are not familiar with a personal retreat day and need some guidance, a spiritual direction session with

Check it Out!

Our Lady of the Pines is giving our Gift Shop a makeover!



Stop out to The Pines Gift Shop on Saturday, March 18th from 9:00am-3:00pm to see our new look!

Along with our new look we are revamping our stock and will now have more of a selection for you to choose from!

***We have also recently partnered with the Sisters of St. Francis, Sylvania, OH to carry some of their items crafted by the Sisters in The Pines Gift Shop.*

The gift shop is located just inside the main entryway of the Retreat Center.

We hope to see you March 18th!

....Did you know?

....that there was a third floor to the Retreat Center that burned in 1943? Recently a thermostat was moved on the first floor and while new wires were being run in the crawl space above the first floor ceiling, a charred plank was discovered. An unexpected memento of the history of the building. It will be preserved and used as a display piece in our Mercy Conference Room.



Wish List

Fabric remnants at least 1 yard in length

For the hermitages, which need just a little refreshing this Spring, (1) hotplate, (2) dishware sets of 4 plates and 4 coffee cups, (2) twin sheet sets and comforters/bedspreads (lighter weight is fine) and extra pillow cases for a standard pillow in white or cream color.

Everyday I learn something new about the facility aspect of our beautiful buildings. In January, one of our through-the-wall heating/AC units gave out in a hermitage. It lived a good life, 15 years. Our maintenance team did their due diligence and found a perfect retrofit at a competitive price. However, we know the unit in the second hermitage is likely to expire soon and bought another wall unit to replace it. Our budget does plan for the "unexpected" but any general donations the Pines receives from March through May will be directed toward these wall unit replacements (\$1,500 total cost). Or, if you would like to earmark a donation toward offsetting this particular purchase to help us keep our budget on track, we would be grateful!

~Sara McCoy

Thank you to all of our generous donors for their contributions this past quarter.

For a list of names please see our website: www.pinesretreat.org

Check Out Our Sum-

Begins Friday, June 2, 2017 at 7:00pm

Ends Sunday, June 4, 2017 at 1:00pm

Spiritual traditions have long honored various virtues of holy ones who have added insight and shared wisdom for our spiritual journeys. This weekend SoulCollage® retreat is a chance to explore the grace in your own life through focusing on virtues such as strength, courage, imagination and beauty, and then experiencing ways of using your cards in prayer.

This retreat will be led by Dr. Jane Steinhauser, licensed counselor and certified spiritual director

Cost: \$200

(price includes a standard private room, all meals and materials)

mer Retreats!!

Our Lady of the
The Soul's
A SoulCollage® Card



Our Lady of the The Confer-



Begins on Sunday, June 25, 2016 at 7:00pm
Concludes on Friday, June 30, 2016 at 11:00am

What does it mean for us that Jesus is the Christ? Can we proclaim like Martha, "Yes Lord, I believe that you are the Christ, the one who is come into the world"?

Join us for our Conference Retreat as we explore more deeply what it means to us as Christians to know the Historical Jesus and the Christ of Faith.

Led by Fr. John Quigley, OFM

Cost: \$500.00

(price includes a standard private room, all meals and materials)

Begins on Saturday, July 22, 2016 at 7:00pm
Concludes on Saturday, July 29, 2016 at 10:30am

Come into God's presence and enter the silence of your own heart as you pray, listen and reflect. This personally Directed Retreat is designed to meet the spiritual and personal need of the individual. Meet daily with a Spiritual Director to help you listen well and grow in your relationship with God.

Directors for this retreat are:

Sr. Roberta Doneth, OSF~ Sr. Stephanie Helfrich, OSU

Sr. Breta Gorman, RSM~ Fr. John Lehner, OSFS

Sr. Wanda Smith, RSM

Cost: \$500.00

(price includes a standard private room, all meals and materials)

Our Lady of the The Directed



Getting to know the Sisters of Mercy

My name is Sister Judith (Judy) Mouch. I was born in Toledo, Ohio. My family lived in St. Catherine of Siena Parish, which was staffed by the Sisters of Mercy. It was there that I first heard of Catherine McAuley and her work among the poor in Dublin, Ireland.

I attended Notre Dame Academy for high school and participated in many extracurricular activities there as well as in my parish. Some of the best experiences were those that I participated in as a member of the McAuley Circle at St. Catherine. During the summers while in high school I worked first as a "Candy Stripper" and then as a nurse aide at Mercy Hospital Toledo. I loved working with the patients and learning from the nurses and doctors there. That's when I realized that I wanted to be a nurse. The experiences with the Sisters at St. Catherine's and my work at the hospital were the sparks that ignited my desire to enter the Sisters of Mercy.

In September, 1965 I entered the Sisters of Mercy in Cincinnati, Ohio with 36 other young women. I attended Edgecliff College for several years before transferring to the University of Cincinnati to begin working toward a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. Little did I know that my nursing degree would open so many doors to ministry over the years. I worked at St. Charles Hospital in Toledo and St. Mary's Medical Center in Knoxville and the New Orleans Department of Health. In 1979 I began studies for a Masters in Community/Public Health Nursing at Wayne State University in Detroit, Michigan. Upon completion of that degree I worked in an inner city clinic and in home care in Toledo until another door was opened when I was asked by the Sisters of Mercy in Detroit to establish an agency for Migrant Health in Michigan. One of the accomplishments from that ministry was the development of a program to educate migrant farm worker women as peer educators in the camps in Ohio, Michigan and several other Midwestern states.

That ministry door opened another for me, which was as Faith Community Nurse an inner city parish in Detroit, Michigan. And, that door opened the next door which was as Nurse Educator in Community Health nursing at Mercy College of Detroit and then at the University of Detroit Mercy where I have been for the last 28 years.

My early days at St. Catherine of Siena grade school were the foundation for my life as a Sister of Mercy. My ministry has been focused on those who were most vulnerable: the poor, women and children, and the elderly. As a nurse educator I have drawn on my varied experiences in Community Health nursing to teach my student nurses about the community in which patients spend most of their time and for whom they must advocate. Catherine McAuley continues to inspire me in my choice of ministry. And, nursing continues to open new doors to ministry.

Profile:
Sister Judith Mouch, RSM



Sister Judith Mouch, RSM

Fun Fact!

....Six of the Sisters of Mercy in residence at St. Bernardine Convent were Aspirants when the Retreat Center was an Aspirancy School for girls? An Aspirant is one who is preparing to someday become a fully vowed religious. These Sisters are: Sr. Patricia Connolly, Sr. Dorothy Dalton, Sr. Virginia Harris, Sr. Natalie Hass, Sr. Mary Jane Magers and Sr. Esther Raitz. The next newsletter will share some of their memories!



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The history of the Pines is rich and extensive. Since my arrival I have heard many stories of people's experiences here. Everything from those who took music lessons taught by the Sisters of Mercy to a family who found the journal of a great grandmother in which she described her room in the original house when she worked in it as a nanny. Do you have a story, pictures or documents related to the Retreat House? We would enjoy it if you can share a copy of these items with us. ~Sara McCoy

Information can be sent to:
Our Lady of the Pines Retreat Center,
1250 Tiffin St., Fremont, OH 43420.
Or emailed to olprc@pinesretreat.org.



The Pines was happy to welcome a number of groups to the Retreat Center this past November and December. The Sacred Heart Youth Choir assisted us in "giving thanks" in song in November. The annual Tree of Hope Prayer Service and Tree Lighting on December 13th was a beautiful and reflective evening accented by the St. Ann and St. Joseph combined Youth Choir. And once again, the Pines hosted the residents of Liberty Center of Sandusky County for Christmas dinner and a visit from Santa, all organized by St. Ann's Social Concerns Committee. For additional details on these events, please check out our website, www.pinesretreat.org.