



March 2013

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Contacts/Email Links

Email
tfeuka@stfrancis.ws

Registration for Events

Website Links

- ◆ **SPE website**
www.spe-stfrancis.org
- ◆ **St Francis Retreat Center website**
www.stfrancis.ws
- ◆ **SPE Resource Center**
www.spe-stfrancis.org

Spiritual Deepening

Sabbath Time Retreats

- ◆ **June 12-14 Traditional Retreat (2 overnights), facilitated.**
Cost: \$70
- ◆ **September 16-17 Mini Retreat (one overnight), facilitated.**
Cost: \$30
- ◆ **November 20-22 Traditional Retreat (2 overnights), facilitated.**
Cost: \$70

Please go to our website www.spe-stfrancis.org to register or call 866-669-8321.

Creative Expression

- ◆ **May 16- September 12 Annual Spring SPE Group Art Exhibition** Join us for a themed exhibit: "*For everything there is a season*"
- ◆ **June 2 4:00pm Artist Reception "*For everything there is a season*"**
- ◆ **September 23-27 Icon Writing Workshop and Exhibit with Diane Hamel** A week long workshop of icon writing with an exhibition of student work as well as the work of other iconographers
Cost:
 - ◆ **\$550 (Resident- 4 nights)**
 - ◆ **\$430 (Commuter)**Please go to our website www.spe-stfrancis.org to register or call 866-669-8321.
- ◆ **October 20 4:00pm- Icon Artists' Reception**

Personal/Relational Transformation

2013 Applying Bowen Natural Systems Theory to Life

Course Offerings

- **April 4** – Issues of Aging
- **May 2** – Systems – Making the Connections – Body, Mind & Spirit

Classes will include instructor presentation, group discussion, family of origin work and case studies. Some background in Bowen Systems Theory is expected.

Cost: \$50 at least 1 week prior to class for each.

Please register through the Retreat Center or [here](#).

Basic Bowen Systems Theory

September 5- December 5, 2013

with Rev. Jannel Glennie

- **September 5-** The Big Picture and Self-Differentiation
- **October 3-** The Family Emotional Process, Triangles, Cut-offs, Sibling Position
- **November 7-** Family Projection Process, Multi-generational Transmission
- **December 5-** Societal Regression, Supernatural (Spirituality)

Registration: \$300 for 4 full-day sessions before deadline of August 29; **\$350** after August 29.

Class requires a minimum of 8 students. Fee includes lunch.

For more information contact Jannel Glennie at jgrev47@yahoo.com.

Other Upcoming Events



Unless otherwise noted, all registration is through the office at St. Francis Retreat Center.

Email: information@stfrancis.ws

Phone: 866-669-8321

Mail: St. Francis Retreat Center
703 E. Main Street
DeWitt, MI 48820

Register Online for Events

Contact Us

tfeuka@stfrancis.ws

www.spe-stfrancis.ws



Icon Writing Retreat- September 23-27, 2013

Instructor: Diane Hamel

9:00-5:00 daily with Taize Prayer 3 times daily

Cost: Resident (4 nights) **\$550**; Commuter **\$430**

Located at St. Francis Retreat Center, DeWitt, MI

Icon writing (painting) is an ancient form of prayer which follows traditional guidelines and contains symbolism in many forms. Yet, each icon is unique to its iconographer. A person need not be an artist in the usual sense of the term, but one who is open to the Spirit working through them in color and form. The structure of icon-writing makes it manageable for beginners and also challenging for experienced iconographers. Everyone in the class will write the same icon, *Christ, Man of Sorrows*. All supplies are provided.

About the instructor: Diane Hamel studied fine art at Michigan State University, then received a Bachelors of Arts degree in theology from Aquinas College. Diane's love of faith, art history, and art converged at an icon workshop given by Peter Pearson. She has been writing icons since. She has studied with Ksenia Povrosky from Russia, George Drobot from Paris, France, and Peter Pearson from New Hope, PA.

Diane's passion for icons is contagious! She has given lectures, workshops, icon retreats and college courses on the history and process of creating icons, teaching people of all ages about this form of art. Her icons have been exhibited around the country, and she has written many icons for the churches, private collections, and other institutions. A small icon of St. Francis of Assisi written by Diane belongs to Bishop James Harvey, the Prefect for the Papal Household in Rome, Italy.

[Click here to register.](#)

For more information, contact Diane by writing to:
Diane Hamel, 14300 McPherson St. N.E., Lowell, MI 49331 or email her at hamelde@hotmail.com.

Icon exhibit: September 13- November 14 Icons of many styles and subjects will be displayed at the SPE Resource Center at St. Francis. In addition, icons of those who have participated in the retreat may also be included in the exhibit.

Artists' Reception & Meet the Artists – October 20 at 4pm.

Money and Ministry: Balance the Books While Keeping Your Balance

April 15, 2013 9:00am- 2:30pm

9:00am- Registration

9:30am- Welcome & Introductions

9:45am- 11:45am- Presentation

11:45am- 1:00pm- Purchase of books

12:00pm- 1:00pm- Lunch

1:00pm- 2:00pm- Presentation

2:00pm- 2:30pm- Book signing

Cost: \$75 before April 1, \$95 April 1- 8

Limited space available



Breaking News: a generous donor has given money for small scholarships. Please call Terry Feuka for further information 866-669-8321 x22

Is your church facing a budget crisis? Is your salary stagnant? Does your church fight about money and/or keep secrets about it? This presentation will help you learn a way to understand what's really going on (in us and in others) when money becomes an issue in congregational life, and how to lead with lowered anxiety and more clarity. *What you will take away with you:* A new way to approach the money challenges we all face at church.

This workshop helps pastors and churches maintain better boundaries around money by asking them to reflect on what they are responsible for and what they are not responsible for in church finance. It particularly focuses on church and family patterns, and how leaders can develop more choices in relation to money rather than simply anxiously reacting (a prime driver of boundary problems).

Rev. Margaret Marcuson works with churches who want to create a ministry that lasts and clergy who want to have more impact on the people they serve best. She speaks and writes on leadership and works with church leaders in the U.S. and Canada as a consultant and coach. Margaret is the author of : *111 Tips to Survive the Pastoral Ministry, Leaders Who Last: Sustaining Yourself and Your Ministry* (Seabury) and *Money and Your Ministry: Balance the Books While Keeping Your Balance* (forthcoming). Marcuson has taught in the Leadership in Ministry workshop, a family systems training program

for clergy, since 1999. An American Baptist minister, Margaret was the pastor of the First Baptist Church of Gardner, Massachusetts, for 13 years (average worship, 80). She lives in Portland, Oregon with her husband of 32 years.

[Click here to register.](#)



Comments from a Board Member

The Rev. Dr. Jennifer Browne
- Lead Pastor, University United Methodist Church-

How did you first hear about SPE?

I honestly don't remember how I first heard about SPE. I started attending Sabbath Retreats when I was appointed to Grand Rapids First UMC in 2006. I have attended various lectures and workshops for several years now, so one of those might also have been my first connection to SPE.

What do you feel is the most exciting facet of the program?

I'm excited by SPE's ecumenical structure and commitment. I'm convinced that the future of Christianity in America depends on strong ecumenical connections such as SPE exemplifies. Each of our traditions can grow and become stronger by learning from the others, and together we can do more in the areas of education and outreach than any of us can do alone.

What talent(s) do you feel that you bring to this Board?

I have a fair amount of ecumenical experience in my background: I've served churches in the United Church of Christ, the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America and the United Methodist Church. I've worked for the Presbytery of Lake Michigan and the Episcopal Campus Ministry at the University of Chicago. I was born in the Unitarian Church and my husband is currently transferring his ministerial credentials to the Unitarian Universalist Church. Although it might be unusual for a clergyperson to have this many connections with other denominations, I don't think it's that unusual for laypeople to have traveled between denominations over the course of their lives. Our church hierarchies may be isolated from one another, but our people aren't!

Be sure to friend Sustaining Pastoral Excellence at St. Francis Retreat Center on Facebook!



Website access

Our SPE website is now fully updated and **Google Chrome-friendly**, so please remember to update your bookmarks! Please visit our new and completely functional site at www.spe-stfrancis.org. Email me or give me a call if you have any questions. Thanks for your patience during this process!

--- Terry



The SPE Resource Center

We are accepting any and all donations of books, DVDs and CD's. If your items cannot be added to the collection they will be put on the DISCARD shelf where they will be available for anyone who would like them.

*If you would like to write a **review** of any of our materials please contact Terry (517-669-8321 x22 or tfeuka@stfrancis.ws)*

As always, there is one-on-one reference assistance. Terry is more than happy to answer your question or get material for you from one of the many cooperative libraries through WorldCat.

If you have any difficulties in accessing the catalog, ATLAS or in reserving materials, please contact Terry.

Some items of interest in the Resource Center

- ***St. Francis***, A film by Michele Soavi (DVD)
- ***The St. Francis Prayer Book: A Guide to Deepen Your Spiritual Life*** by Jon M. Sweeney

- ***Praying with St. Francis of Assisi*** by Joseph M. Stoutzenberger and John D. Bohrer
- ***Francis: The Journey and the Dream*** by Murray Bodo
- ***Reluctant Saint: The Life of Francis of Assisi*** by Donald Spoto

Library Trek

SPE Resource Center is now available on your **iPhone** and **iPod**! Use the FREE Surpass Library Trek App to:



- Check availability
- Check your account
- Reserve a book to be mailed to you
- Scan UPC barcodes from any item to see if the Resource Center has the same title for check-out
- Browse reading lists and new titles



Just go to the App Store on your iPhone or iPod and search for ***Library Trek.***

DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

*---from Rhonda Coon, Director of Development at SPE
 We are now three months into the calendar year and we continue to make strides in our fundraising efforts. We are very pleased that our denominational partners have shown their support for SPE by making contributions from the judicatory funds to our Sustaining Pastoral Excellence programs. And we have received contributions from participants through our annual fund and Christmas gift appeal as well*

as from a special appeal to help with new book acquisition. However, there is still much to be done to meet our fundraising goals for this year.

We have set a goal of raising \$130,000 during the 2013 calendar year to support the Sustaining Pastoral Excellence programs. To help us reach that goal, we must raise at least \$15,000 from individuals as well as \$20,000 from local churches and church organizations.

Perhaps your church or one of your affiliate organizations would be able to make a gift of support to SPE so that we can continue to provide this wonderful program for pastors and lay leaders from throughout the state. Please contact Rhonda Coon at: rcoon@stfrancis.ws or call her at 517-699-8321 Ext. 28 to visit with Rhonda about how you can help us reach our goals. Or if you would like to make your own personal gift, you can do so through our on-line [SPE Donation web page](#). Thank you.



**St. Francis
Retreat Center
DeWitt, MI**

SPE is located on the beautiful 95 acre campus of St. Francis Retreat Center. Comfortable accommodations, delicious meals, excellent service and year-round retreats all available in DeWitt, Michigan. Visit our website for more information www.stfrancis.ws