



September 2014

Volume 8, Number 6

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Please consider a donation to SPE



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

Contacts/Email Links

Email tfeuka@stfrancis.ws

Registration for Events

Website Links

- ◆ **SPE website**

www.spe-stfrancis.org

- ◆ **St Francis Retreat Center website**

Sabbath Time Retreats

The Last Sabbath Retreat for 2014

Traditional - \$70

Includes: 2 nights at St. Francis Retreat Center – 4 meals
Welcome bag & packet – Facilitator

November 4-6 (Pat Zandstra– facilitator)

(The actual cost of this retreat, per person, is \$112. If you could give more than the reduced price, then more in ministry can experience Sabbath time.)

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

Brochure

Boundary Training

***November 3, 2014 (1st Congregational Church UCC – Gaylord)**

Especially designed for pastors, lay staff and volunteer leaders, this one-day workshop reviews essential information and strategies for creating and maintaining a safe environment for vital ministry in today's changing world.

This training satisfies the denominational boundary training requirements for: American Baptist Churches of MI; Christian Reformed church in NA; Evangelical Lutheran Church of America, North/West Lower MI and South East MI Synods; MI Conference of the United Church of Christ; Presbyterian Church (USA), Presbytery of Lake Michigan, Presbytery of Lake Huron and Presbytery of Detroit.

Upcoming Dates

***March 12, 2015 (Church of the Master – Troy)**

April 30, 2015

September 10, 2015

**Please note that the November 3 and the March 12 sessions will not be at St. Francis Retreat Center.*

9:15 am – 3:30 pm

Cost: \$75 (includes materials and lunch)

[Brochure with registration form](#)

Peter Steinke

Adaptive Challenges and Church Systems

September 25, 2014

9:30 – 3:30 (with lunch)

\$100

Registration Deadline: September 15, 2014

To stay overnight, please make arrangements with St. Francis Retreat Center

Peter Steinke – author, speaker, pastor

Peter will present new material from his study of Bowen theory, biblical themes and contemporary challenges for the church.

The program will be in two parts:

Part 1 : Ancient Israel as an Emotional System & Societal Emotional Process and the Rise of Christianity

Part 2: Change, Anxiety and Adaptive Challenges & Adaptive Confidence.

Peter Steinke is the author of *Healthy Congregations; Congregational*

Leadership in Anxious Times and A Door Set Open.

Group Discount: 8 or more people register at the same time from the same church or organization gets \$15 off each registration.

Brochure
Online Registration

FaithWalking
Deep Change or Slow Death
Practices that Fuel the Transformational Journey

November 5-7, 2014

The journey of deep change begins with the personal transformation of leaders. Jim Herrington and Trisha Taylor will introduce you to this transformational process.

Faithwalking is a ministry developed over a 15-year period of time in Houston, Texas by a learning community of pastors, congregational leaders, and denominational executives. It began from two fundamental beliefs about the context for Western Christianity:

- *In order to respond effectively to the emerging post-Christian context, congregational transformation is essential.*
- *In order for congregations to be transformed, the congregation will need leaders who are being transformed.*

Faithwalking is a comprehensive ministry that guides pastors and congregational leaders through a personal and congregational transformation journey. This upcoming retreat offers you the opportunity to experience an introduction to this work.

During the retreat you will:

- *Hear several presentations about being fully human and fully alive*
- *Be challenged to explore roadblocks in the personal transformation journey*
- *Spend time in solitude reflecting on what you are hearing*
- *Share your experience in a small group setting*

There will be a no-pressure opportunity to join with other pastors from the area in doing additional work with the Faithwalking community that will be offered at the end of the retreat.

For more information, go to www.faithwalking.us

Cosponsored by

*Sustaining Pastoral Excellence and the
Midland Neighboring Initiative.*

With generous support by the Gerstacker Foundation, First Baptist

**Register Online for
Events**

Contact Us

tfeuka@stfrancis.ws

www.spe-stfrancis.ws

Church Midland, Midland Area Community Foundation, Memorial Presbyterian Church and the Midland Reformed Church.

Cost: \$180 by Sept. 22
\$195 after Sept. 22
Registration Deadline: Oct. 22

Brochure
Online Registration



Prayer Series

Prayer Series

October 9, 2014
9am to 4pm (with lunch)

Join us as we explore different prayer forms in our new Prayer Series. Your day will start with *Praying in Nature* with Sharon McAuley.

After lunch you will continue by experiencing *Drumming* with Diane Christopherson.

The day will include information about each prayer form and time to practice each.

\$60
Registration deadline is October 1

Click [here](#) to register online.
Click [here](#) for brochure with registration form.
This is open to all who would like to learn different prayer forms.

Labyrinth Walk

with Trudy McSorley

October 2, 2014
10am to 3pm (lunch included)



Join us as we spend time learning about the history of the labyrinth and walking this experience.

Cost: \$45
Registration deadline: September 25

Click [here](#) to register online.
Click [here](#) for brochure with registration form.
This is open to all who would like to experience the labyrinth.

Peace in the Valley

Walking with People Through Loss and Suffering

With Rev. Phil Apol (McLaren Greater Lansing)

November 13

9:30am to 12:15 pm

The aim of this workshop is to give expression in words, images, and rite, to the pastoral experience of accompanying people through suffering, and sometimes death; what we learn from these relationships, and how we grow from them.

Scripture, exercises and instruments will help assess one's own personal awareness, memories, anxiety and attitudes about death and grief.

There will be group discussion of what it means to companion others through loss and grief.

The morning will conclude with a SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE & THANKSGIVING, in which participants are offered the opportunity, through liturgy and a rite of remembrance, to give thanks for those we have loved and lost, for how they have taught and blessed us, and to release them.

Cost: **\$45** if you register by October 15

\$50 if you register after October 15

Registration deadline is November 4

Sponsored by SPE at St. Francis Retreat Center and McLaren Greater Lansing

Brochure

Register online

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

Terry posts articles, events, thoughts on the SPE page weekly. Take a moment and "friend" us.



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.

Please consider making a monetary donation to the Resource Center. We love donations of books, but there are many newly published items that would make a valuable addition to our collection.



Discard Shelf

Our Discard is still alive and well! Visit the back of the Resource Center and see all that we have. We only ask that you empty your pockets of change to add to our Donation Jar. This is our means to acquiring new items for the collection. Anything you can do is appreciated.

Library Trek

SPE Resource Center is now available on your **iPhone, iPod and Android!** 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.**



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