

Mennonite Men Retreat

March 31–April 2, 2017



Speaking of Faith: *Sharing our stories of spiritual and religious connection*

“As a tree torn from the soil, as a river separated from its source, the human soul wanes when detached from what is greater than itself. Without the holy, the good turns chaotic; without the good beauty becomes accidental.” Abraham Joshua Heschel

CMCLer Dean Clemmer will lead us in a conversation as we reflect on where we find ourselves in our faith and spiritual practice and experience. Here are some questions to get you started:

- What moments/stories embody your experience of faith and spirituality?
- How has your faith changed over your lifetime?
- Are there particular issues or questions of faith that you struggle with?
- How do you think about or understand God; how/where do you sense God's presence?
- Is there an activity/practice that is central to your spirituality?
- What part does CMCL play in your experience of faith?

There will be the opportunity to share in small group as well as with the whole group. You might bring along an article, a poem, a book that you have found especially meaningful for others to browse. We will gather as usual for Saturday and Sunday morning sessions. The emphasis in this time together will be on attuned conversation rather than presenter input.

Saturday afternoon is totally laid back. There are great cued biking routes (bring your own bike), canoeing or kayaking in the bay (boats provided), or time to catch up on reading or sleeping. We'll work together preparing wonderful food culminating in a Saturday evening feast and the "Passing of the Port." Our own vintner Ken Kulp will make sure there is plenty more to pass as well.

Some things you need to know

- Retreat is at Charter Hall Retreat Center. Pop 499 Charter Hall Road, Perryville, MD in your GPS and you'll be there in a little over an hour from Lancaster. Or ask for directions when registering.
- Bring your own bedroll or sleeping bag. Accommodations are rustic, but adequate.
- Retreat sort of starts around 7:30 p.m. but most arrive around 6 for an optional early bird special meal (additional cost due Friday evening).
- Cost generally comes out somewhere around \$75. We add the total costs, divide by number of attendees and collect Sunday morning before leaving.
- Budget tight? No problem. Pay what you can, but let us know ahead of time.
- Register online by going to the CMCL website. You'll find a link to the registration page on the newsfeed in the lower right hand corner of the home page. (communitymennonite.org)
- You'll have an option when registering to bring food along to supplement our meals. Not required, but if you do prepare food, your costs will be deducted from your weekend fee.
- ***Get your registrations in no later than Monday, March 20.***