

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What happened to the early bird special?

Prior to this year, 2018, the Friday evening meal was optional and the cost was separated from the cost of the weekend. Since the popularity of the Friday meal has grown over the years it is now included as part of the weekend package.

2. OK. So I'm paying for this meal which used to be optional, but I can't arrive before 9 pm. Will dinner be waiting for me?

If we know you are coming Friday evening, your meal will be waiting for you no matter what time you arrive.

3. How are rooms assigned at Charter Hall?

For first timers to retreat: You'll find Charter Hall to be rustic but accommodating. Sleeping arrangements are a group experience. You are not assigned to a specific room or bed. You simply scout out the options, choose your bed, mark it by either peeing on it or putting your sleeping bag on it—the sleeping bag option is preferred. No linens or bedding are supplied. Be sure to bring your own towel.

4. How much does it cost to attend retreat?

Cost is indicated on the online registration form. Starting 2018, costs are a set rate. Payment will be collected Sunday morning at the end of the weekend activities.

5. I'm a little low on cash right now. Any special rates?

No problem. Pay what you can, and if that is \$0, that's fine also. Just let us know on ahead what you plan to pay or that you are planning to accept our offer of no payment. Indicate this on the online registration form.

6. What is the weekend schedule?

A check in time Friday evening, input Saturday morning (see flyer) open time in afternoon with options for a long bike ride down to Elk Neck State Park or a shorter ride, canoeing or kayaking in the bay, walks, sleeping, reading, whatever. Saturday evening feast, bonfire and sunset, dessert, followed by movie. Sunday morning program wrap up.

7. What do we eat?

Our weekend eating centers around a Saturday evening feast. Volunteers bring some food as indicated on the registration form. This IS voluntary. You do not have to bring food. The food committee purchases food to accompany what you bring to come up with very tasty, attractive meals. Persons who volunteer to bring food are reimbursed for their expenses.

8. Who prepares the meals?

Each person is assigned to a food work group. Your group is given instructions of what to prepare and how to prepare it for your meal. You'll find the group experience of working together in the kitchen is a highlight of the weekend.

9. What about snacks?

You're welcome to bring a pack of snack food. However, you will NOT be reimbursed for snacks that you provide.

10. What is the alcohol policy?

Charter Hall bills itself as alcohol free but somehow or other, Jesus (or is it Ken Kulp) always shows up at our retreat and turns some of our water into wine. We follow the spirit of the law, and only have wine with our evening meals. No other alcoholic beverages are consumed.