

# *The Center for Spiritual Formation*

We believe that the future of the Church of Jesus Christ has been entrusted to those who are at home with solitude and who intentionally live in the Spirit.

We advocate and demonstrate the spiritual disciplines of prayer, study and social engagement in a year-round program of topical retreats, consultations, continuing education, a two-year training program for spiritual directors and a Lay Seminary. From time to time we offer pilgrimage trips to holy sites at home and abroad.

We are an entirely self-sustaining and self-supporting not-for-profit corporation, registered with the IRS and the State of Pennsylvania.

## *Contact Us*

The Center For Spiritual Formation, Inc.  
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# The Center For Spiritual Formation, Inc.

We were established in 1994 by United Methodist laity and clergy in central Pennsylvania, because we believe that all searching and seeking has to do with the spiritual life, and ultimately, it is God we seek.

We also believe that the Church of Jesus Christ has been entrusted to leaders who are at home with solitude and intentionally live in the Spirit.



We provide a year-round program of topical retreats, continuing education events, days apart and ongoing programs.

## *The Ministry of Spiritual Direction*

This two-year program, is designed for persons who perceive that God is calling them to become spiritual Directors. This program enables participants to:

- Test their calling.
- Sharpen their listening skills.
- Clarify their graces.
- Claim the disciplines required for the work of caring for souls in love.



This program consists of 22 overnight retreats [Friday evenings and Saturdays] over the course of two years. Since 1996, thirty-nine persons from five States have completed this program.

## *Lay Seminary*

This two-year program, which began in 2003, presents an overview of most of the subjects taught in theological seminaries and includes: Systematic Theology; Church History; Christian Social Ethics; The Spiritual Disciplines; Bible; Proclamation [Preaching]; and Faith and Order. Students:

- Further their understanding of the Christian faith.
- Deepen their personal relationship with Jesus Christ.
- Become better equipped to witness to the congregation and society.



The program has graduated nineteen persons, all of whom continue to serve Christ in a more intentional way.

## *Days Apart*

These events provide clergy and laity with a time of fellowship and dialogue with authors who have made a difference in the area of spiritual formation. Featured speakers have included Brian McLaren, Doug Pagitt, Gordon Smith, Ann Weems and Richard Foster.



## *Topical Retreats*

Retreat Topics have included: Healing & Wholeness; Grief, Anger & Loss; Dealing with Antagonists in the Local Church; The Christian In Marriage; Centering Prayer; Desert Spirituality; The Problem of Suffering, and many more. We also offer a yearly pilgrimage to a monastic site in the Northeast United States (usually the week after Easter).



## *Orchard Hill*

Some time in 2008, our long awaited adult retreat facility, Orchard Hill, will be home to many of our ministries. This facility is located near Millerstown, PA and will include private and semi-private rooms; a labyrinth; hiking trails; and a panoramic view of the mountains and valleys of Central Pennsylvania.



Retreat Facility at Orchard Hill