

**Embracing Golden Pond: the 9th Stage**  
*A Lenten Zoom Discussion on the Spirituality of Aging*  
Thursdays, March 9, 16, 23 at 10:30 am to Noon

Many people are familiar with the concept of the stages of human development. We just have to go back to Jaques soliloquy from Shakespeare's "As You Like It" which begins with "*All the world's a stage, And all the men and women merely players; ... His acts being seven ages. At first, the infant, Mewling and puking in the nurse's arms.* And ends with, "*Last scene of all, ... Is second childishness and mere oblivion, ...*"

A more sympathetic and scientific approach was the eight stages of psychosocial development by Erik Erikson, German-American psychologist. His 8th stage included 65 years +. However, in his later years (80's and 90's) he and his wife Joan realized there was more to say about the last decades of life. They termed it the 9<sup>th</sup> stage.

Nick Piediscalzi, a bona fide nonagenarian, and septuagenarian Matt Broadbent, would like to invite you to a discussion and reflection on "Golden Pond:" a look at the emotional and spiritual work of aging.

For more information email Matt Broadbent at [revmattbroadbent@gmail.com](mailto:revmattbroadbent@gmail.com). Those who register ahead of time will receive informational material by email. A zoom link will be available in the weekly Peace E-news.

### **Outline**

Session 1: Circling Golden Pond: A look at the original 8 stages of life as developed by Erik Erikson with an introduction of the 9th Stage.

Session 2: Diving into Golden Pond: A deep dive into the 9th stage and the meaning of Gero-Transcendence.

Session 3: Reflections of Golden Pond: Responding to the questions that have emerged from the previous two sessions

### **Who Is This Study For**

- All who have entered into their 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> decade;
- All who are planning to enter their 8<sup>th</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup> decade;
- All who are in the sandwich generation caught between launching their children and caring for their parents;
- All who are young at heart and would like to know what they are in for.

