



The Retreat House offers workshops and trainings that can be customized specifically for your community or parish. These programs include:

- The Way of Love
- God's Abundance: A Stewardship Workshop
- Vestry 101, 201, 301
- Spiritual Direction
- Reconciliation
- Sacred Ground

To bring a program to your community or parish, please contact us at (410) 364-7069 or by email to info@retreathousehillsboro.org.

THE WAY OF LOVE

Our Presiding Bishop, Michael Curry, has shared to the wider church a practice to grow more grounded in the Way of Jesus. ***The Way of Love*** is an invitation into daily prayer practices that help center us in the Love of God for living in the world as Jesus' hands and feet. This day-long retreat (or 4 or 7 week series) helps unpack each of the invitations behind each of the practices: Turn; Learn; Pray; Worship; Bless; Go; Rest. The format is flexible. Let's talk about what will work best for your community. We will come and help lead your group through an unpacking of each practice that is grounded in experiences of the prayer and in storytelling.

GOD'S ABUNDANCE: A STEWARDSHIP WORKSHOP

What if your community were able to live from a sense of abundance instead of scarcity? How would *everything* be different? What can it look like to be a good steward and *at the same time* trust God in things financial? These are some of the larger questions we begin with in this half-day or full-day retreat. We then move to more specified brainstorming and planning around stewardship in your community. Through conversations with rector and wardens, we will make a plan for a time of retreat that will address the wonderings and concerns of your particular situation at this particular time. Experiences we frequently include are guided meditations, lectio divina with scripture and possibly articles from the Episcopal Church Foundation. Let's talk about what is needed at this time and make a plan for a day of encouragement and expansive thinking and being.

VESTRY 101, VESTRY 201, VESTRY 301

This is a day-long program that we have offered for several years. We tailor the day to the needs of your vestry. Lots of new vestry members? Let's refresh: 101. Needing a reminder of the big picture of roles and responsibilities? Let's go 'big picture:' 201. Unique new situation unfolding? (transitions; financial shift; changes in community?) Let's hold prayerful space to unpack what is invited: 301.

Through conversations with rector and wardens, we will work together to form a retreat time that meets the situation that is. Aspects regularly included are: guided meditation, lectio divina with scripture and pertinent articles from the Episcopal Church Foundation. Let's talk and make a plan

to build up the team and to encourage, train and deepen your vestry's walk with God and with your church community.

SPIRITUAL DIRECTION, SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE

Part of our human condition is living with a desire to be known: to be heard, to be listened to without judgement, to be accepted for who we are. In our current culture, it is not always easy to find such listening hearts. This is what a spiritual direction relationship is about. It is a time for an individual to sit with a spiritual director/guide who listens with a heart open to the Holy Spirit and helps to notice where God is present, what God may be inviting, how unconditionally God loves.

Are there individuals in your community who desire such a listening friend? Would they rather not drive to Hillsboro Maryland but would be happy to drive to the church for a visit once a month? Working with a rector or pastoral care leader, the Retreat House will prayerfully put together a small team of spiritual director/guides who will come to your church once a month for a day of sharing time with those who would like to be in a spiritual guidance relationship. Let's talk about the possibilities.

ROAD TO RECONCILIATION 101, 102

The Baptismal Covenant invites us into a vocation of Love. Respecting the dignity of every human being is an intention we all hold; we also have been conditioned into various biases whether we are aware of them or not. Starting conversations around race, bias and unearned privilege is not always easy and yet such conversations are desperately needed in this day and culture. The Retreat House will come to your setting to help get these conversations started.

The Road to Reconciliation 101 is a three part offering that can happen in one full day or over three weeks, whichever suits your community. It invites learning how to listen deeply, along with opportunities to tell one's own story in a safe and non-judgmental setting, and short readings and/or video clips to prompt conversation.

The Road to Reconciliation 102 uses materials from the Episcopal Church's program *Sacred Ground*. Working with the rector, education leader and/or any others who are interested and drawn to help initiate, we will work up a program that fits your community using the materials from this very compelling 10-part video and written word series. *Sacred Ground* was created "to help white people talk to white people about racism." This is not to exclude people of color, who are welcome, but the reality is that a majority of white people rarely think or speak of race issues while our sisters and brothers of color rarely don't. Many white people have some catching up to do in the department of digging deeply into these realities, and we can lean on each other around what is difficult. This is grounded in how your family history intersects with larger forces in American history with sensitivity to race and class issues.

The Retreat House will work with your community to create a program that fits wherever you are on this Road. Let's talk. Call us at (410) 364-7069 or send an email to info@retreathousehillsboro.org.