



Fall Book Retreat

reading as community

with Debra Donnelly-Barton

Three Sunday Afternoons
September 26, October 17, and
November 7

1:00 – 4:00 p.m.
In person and via Zoom

"She read books as one would breathe air, to fill up and live."
Annie Dillard

Read with us this summer as we explore three sets of titles that explore in fiction and non-fiction some ways to get closer to issues of deep importance to all of us - thoughts on race, feminism, and indigenous justice. Each book is available through our on-line Bookshop. Let's spend the summer reading in advance and meet up in the fall for conversation!

Reading has always been a way to savor; to take your time with a story. Both fiction and non-fiction allow us to enter spaces of all kinds. To sojourn with characters and people we would not meet in any other way. And as we read, we are changed. Our understanding of the whole human enterprise expands. We may even become more ourselves—more compassionate, more empathetic, more human. Reading is not simply sitting quietly, book in hand, perhaps drinking a beverage. It is not strictly passive because if we are paying attention we will notice that our reading informs our actions in the world. Reading is conversion.

This series is offered as a fundraiser and all proceeds help us build our Sacristy Bookshop collection and create a place of welcome for in-person exploration and conversation. The suggested donation is \$150. Please [register here](#) or by email at info@retreathousehillsboro.org Our book list with links to our bookshop is [here](#).

DEBRA DONNELLY-BARTON is a graduate of the Stillpoint School for Spiritual Direction and the General Seminary in New York. She has an MA in theology from St. Mary's Seminary and University. Debra has studied the Ignatian spiritual exercises as well as engaged in an intensive training in centering prayer with Thomas Keating.

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