
Register now

... and by Easter (April 5) to receive Mary Luti's book Do This / with on-line form: <https://forms.gle/mGinDby4Gcrj22tk9>

or contact Jared Greer, Reservations Manager, at Blowing Rock Conference Center @ jared@brccenter.org or call him at (828) 295-7813.

- Lodging: \$75 for the first night, and \$35 for each additional night
- Meals:
 - Breakfasts: \$10.25 / person
 - Lunches: \$12.25 / person
 - Dinners: \$15.00 / person
- Conference Facility Fee / \$10.00

When registering, communicate with the Google form or Jared Greer about the following:

- Day of arrival, departure, and approximate time of arrival.
- Are you arriving on Sunday and interested in an evening meal at the Conference Center?
- Do you require a ground floor room or do you have a room preference?
- Do you have any dietary requirements?
- A copy of Mary Luti's book "Do This" is included in registration for each family unit. Indicate in "Comments" or to Jared if you already have the book.
- Register by April 27 to be included in meal count. Registration by April 4 will help assure an accurate book count.

Driving Directions

To Blowing Rock Conference Center

Blowing Rock Conference Center is located in the town of Blowing Rock. At the stoplight at the corner of NC Highway 321 Bypass and Possum Hollow Road, (GPS search: Shoppes on the Parkway, Blowing Rock, NC), turn on to Possum Hollow Road. When you have turned onto Possum Hollow Road:

- Follow Possum Hollow 0.7 miles to a stop sign.
- Turn LEFT onto Sunset Drive. Continue 0.2 miles to the stop sign
- Turn LEFT onto Goforth Road and continue for approximately .6 miles; you will see the entrance to BRCC just ahead on your right.
- Turn RIGHT and follow the road to the main parking lot.



Accessibility

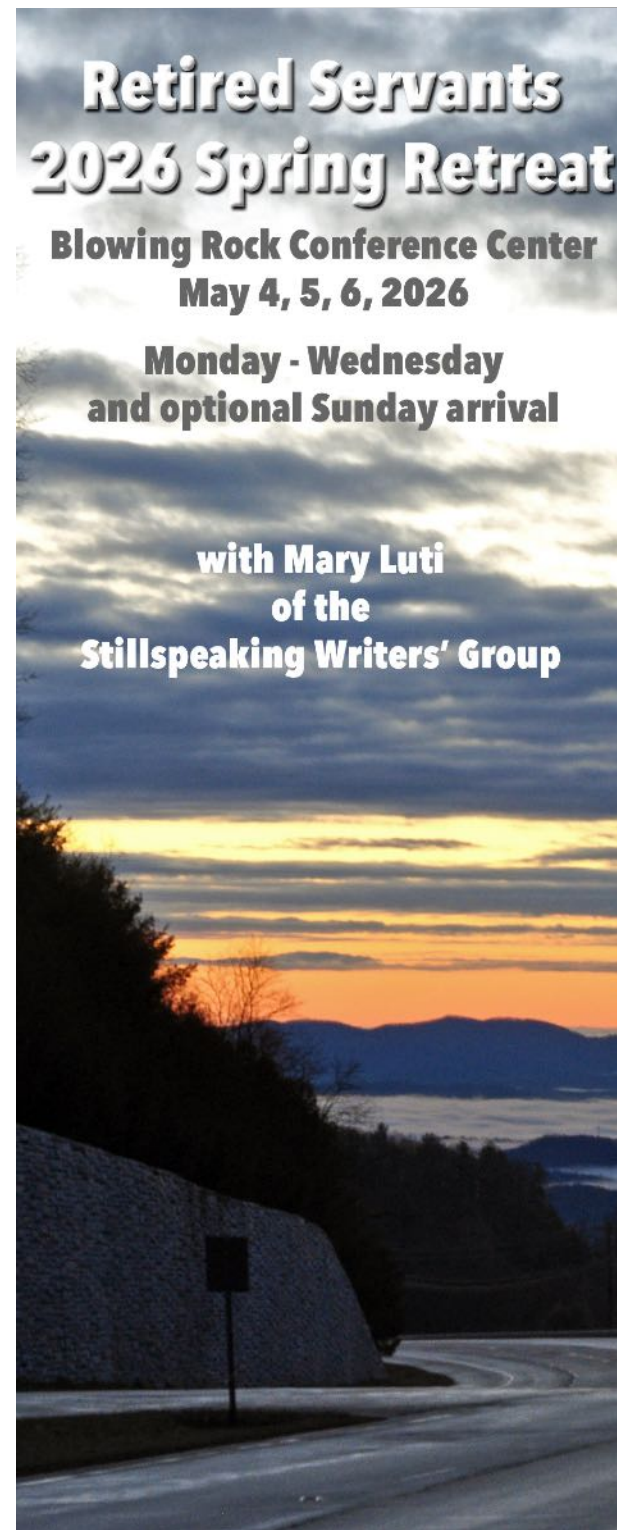
So the peaks and valleys that draw us to the mountains remain "a wonder to behold" and not a barrier, a shuttle is available between Corriher Lodge (lodging and dining) and Upper Shuford (programming).

Retired Servants 2026 Spring Retreat

Blowing Rock Conference Center
May 4, 5, 6, 2026

Monday - Wednesday
and optional Sunday arrival

with Mary Luti
of the
Stillspeaking Writers' Group



Retired Servants Retreat 2026

Southern Conference UCC

Southeast Conference UCC

For further information, contact:

Larry Bolick: lawrencebolick07@gmail.com

Jill Edens: jillredens@gmail.com

C. L. "Curly" Stumb: stumb@boone.net



Biography of presenter:

Rev. Mary Luti (Ph.D.) is a retired minister and professor. For twenty-two years before her retirement, Luti taught the history of Christianity, Christian worship, and preaching at the former Andover Newton Theological School (now Andover Newton Seminary at Yale). Ordained in the United Church of Christ, she also served First Church in Cambridge, Congregational, in Cambridge, Massachusetts, as its sixteenth minister since 1633 and the first woman to occupy that historic pulpit. Her most recent publication is *Do This: Communion for Just and Courageous Living*, from Pilgrim Press (Stillspeaking Writers' Group).

Bread

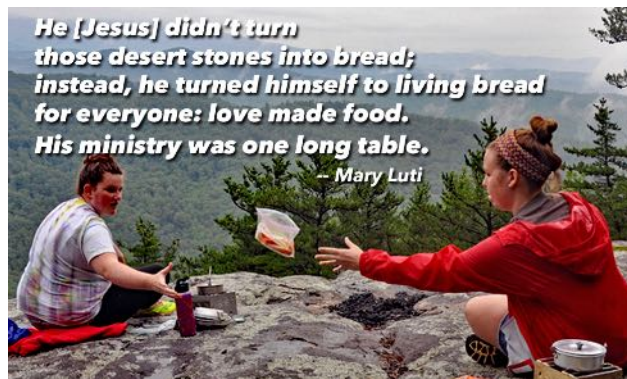
Not all the nourishment we need for life is chewable. But that doesn't mean Jesus thought we should forego food. (p. 83)

— *Do This*, Mary Luti

Shared Meal

... it wasn't his fasting that amazed his contemporaries. It was his indiscriminate eating with anyone who invited him (p. 83)

— *Do This*, Mary Luti



Holy Communion

In a world constructed to starve many so that a few can overeat, ... Communion is a political manifesto. (p. 112)

— *Do This*, Mary Luti

Human Communion

To eat the Meal but offer no communal response to hunger nullifies Holy Communion. And human communion. (P. 112)

— *Do This*, Mary Luti



Retreat Theme:

Holy Communion is the beloved ritual by which Christ is made known to us in the breaking of bread. It's the meal we eat in remembrance of him, the source of our unity with him and each other. It's life-giving nourishment, reconciliation, belonging, and peace. But from the earliest days of the church, Communion has also functioned as a witness against injustice, a counter-liturgy to the obscene liturgy of empires, a refusal to let the powers define reality, and a source of defiant, resilient joy. In our time together, we'll explore these often-ignored dimensions of the

beloved sacrament and gain a deeper appreciation for its power to shape a just and courageous Christian community.

Retreat Sessions:

1. He gave thanks: the Great Thanksgiving vs. thankless regimes
2. Take, eat: meals, feeding, earth and labor justice
3. All of you: hospitality, inclusion, hosting and guesting
4. In remembrance of me: memory, "real presence," and the visibility of victims