

Spiritual Formation in Alberta Christian Organizations

King's Fold Retreat & Renewal Centre

<http://www.kingsfoldretreat.com/>

Mission Statement

2005-05-06

King's Fold is a retreat centre dedicated to nurturing the spiritual life of all searching individuals, and to the fostering of spiritual formation among God's people. Our mission is to provide spiritual hospitality, rooted in a Christian Community by offering a safe and inviting place for rest, healing and renewal for all who seek truth and wholeness.



To fulfill this mission King's Fold has established a resident community dedicated to creating a centre of hospitality where spiritual formation and direction can be experienced by individuals and groups in a retreat setting.

King's Fold offers internships and mentoring to College and Seminary students to fulfill its mission to raise up trained leaders of spiritual stature.

Website Promotes:

Henri Nouwen, Thomas Merton, Richard Foster

Labyrinth

2005-05-06

The Labyrinth is an age-old sacred circle, leading one on a single path to its center. From that center - which typifies our centeredness in the Divine - one returns on a gentle pathway leading to the outer gateway and reentry into life.



The Labyrinth - another sacred space at King's Fold - will become for some, a tool for soul ministry, spiritual discovery, meditative prayer, and an opportunity to enhance their own spiritual formation - And a Reason to Return to King's Fold.

Living From the Heart

2009-10-23 - 2009-10-29

October 23-29, 2009

This new, one year course on contemplative living serves as prerequisite for the new 18 month **Art of Spiritual Direction** course, offered by SoulStream (see www.soulsteam.org). We are excited about it and the continuation of Spiritual Direction training at King's Fold. There is still some room left in the program.

Gull Lake Bible Camp

TheSPIN- Leadership Training Program

<http://www.thespin.ca/>

TheSPIN has emerged out of a response to the shifting needs and re-imagining of the emerging culture that calls for a transformation of leadership to discipleship and programs to experience

The Encountering God Framework (EGF) was made by a group of leaders who sensed that camps needed a resource to help with discipling high school students to follow Christ. The leaders were sorting through programs at camps all across Western Canada that have been providing students with great experiences, equipping them in leadership, global justice, camp programming, spiritual formation and more.

Some of the Topics Studied

- The student will discover the role, action, and importance of spiritual disciplines in connecting with God.
- The Mystics
- Celebration of Disciplines: Practical Faith
- Students will become servants of Christ, and live that faith journey through volunteerism, active missionality, active pursuit of Global Justice, and practical environmentalism.
- The Church Worldwide: Catholic, Evolving, Challenged

Some of the Resources Used

- The Return of the Prodigal-*Henri Nouwen*
- A New Kind of Christian-*Brian McLaren*
- Celebration of Disciplines-*Richard Foster*

- Spirit of the Disciplines- *Dallas Willard*
- Practicing the Presence of God-*Brother Lawrence*
- Soul Shaper-*Tony Jones*
- Abba's Child-*Brennan Manning*
- Becoming Human-*Jean Vanier*
- A Generous Orthodoxy-*Brian McLaren*
- In The Name of Jesus-*Henri Nouwen*
- Rich Christians in an Age of Hunger-*Ronald Sider*
- More Ready Than You Realize-*Brian McLaren*
- No Greater Love-*Mother Teresa*
- Finding Faith-*Brian McLaren*
- Nooma Videos-*Rob Bell*

Movies with an eye to youth culture, cultural perspectives on faith and consciousness, or figuring out the world in which we live...

- Napoleon Dynamite (2004)
- Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind (2003)
- The Matrix Trilogy
- The Passion of the Christ (2003)
- Saved! (2004)
- Dead Poets Society (1989)
- Monty Python's 'Life Of Brian' (1979)
- Monty Python's 'The Meaning of Life' (1983)
- Jesus of Montreal (1989)
- Adaptation (2003)
- Bruce Almighty (2003)
- Godspell (1973)
- Jesus Christ, Superstar (1973)
- 2001: A Space Odyssey (1968)
- Constantine (2005)
- The Lord of the Rings Trilogy
- Sling Blade (1997)
- Say Anything (1989)
 - Vanilla Sky (2001)

Thoughts

- The power of story.
- Create experiential learning.
- Look to be surprised by the non-traditional voices
- Ecumenical and divergent.
- Interact with the broadest network of faiths
- To look to culture to discover what's being said of Christ.

Beside Passion, TheSPIN is about:

- CHRIST'S STORY. We desire to live out the call to "come follow me".
- EXPERIENCE. We help people understand that learning is experiential—through the heart as well as the head.
- COMMUNITY, COLLABORATION. We want people to take initiative, connect, create community, learn and grow. So we empower and trust others to be part of TheSPIN, and to own any part of it with their passion.
- GRASS ROOTS. TheSPIN began as a grass roots organization, so our success will hinge on the ability to communicate that passion in the most raw and authentic ways.
- **AUTHENTICITY, HONESTY. This is a gathering of the uncertain to engage the Unknown so we affirm the dangerous questions to be asked with all honesty and ensure that it remains safe for true discovery.**

Website Promotes:

Henri Nouwen, Thomas Merton, Rob Bell, Brian McLaren

Program:

Day 1 - Goals and Objectives: Using story, activity and discussion students will come to see the Creation narrative as a theological story- not a scientific one.

Day 2 - Goals and Objectives: This second day of sessions, teaching, activities and discussion is meant to facilitate thinking around sin and the fall. However, we have sought to reorient students' thinking away from guilt and shame and an "I suck" cycle of thinking, towards a hope and wonder at how God (through creation or *tohu vabohu*) has met the challenge of sin and how that same victory over chaos in their lives and world is at their grasp also.

Rocky Mountain College

<http://www.rockymountaincollege.ca/>

Joyce Peasgood - holds a Doctorate (DTh) in Christian Spirituality from the University of South Africa. She is associate professor of Christian Spirituality at Rocky Mountain College (RMC) and is a spiritual director, retreat director and lecturer. She is currently the Director of the Centre for Christian Spirituality located at RMC.

The ***Centre for Christian Spirituality*** invites you to:

- » Recognize the movements of God within the soul for spiritual formation.
- » Hear the voice of God in Word, life and community.
- » Accept inner brokenness and the transforming process that accompanies seasons of life.
- » Incorporate devotional practices for spiritual development.
- » Embrace the mystery of God in life.
- » Cultivate an intentional contemplative life of integrity.
- » Live responsibly as a global citizen.
- » Accept responsibility for personal spiritual development which is experienced and reflected within community.
- » See that "my story" blends with and is part of God's Story.
- » How "my story" is rooted in the heart of God's Story.

Christian Spirituality Courses

CSP130 — Introduction to Spiritual Formation (3)

An examination of the process of spiritual formation in the life of the believer, as the process relates to the integration of faith and action. Attention is given to personal spiritual disciplines and the inner work of the Holy Spirit in the believer's life.

CSP230 — Theological Foundations in Christian Spirituality (3)

The study of specific issues relating to the experience of Christian spirituality. Special attention will be given to conversion, faith development, divine guidance, discernment — relating to the work of the Holy Spirit with the believer. Prerequisite: CSP130.

CSP231 — Practice of Prayer (3)

A study of historical theology and practice of Christian prayer as it pertains to understanding the role of prayer within the spiritual life. Attention will be given to difficulties encountered in prayer, differing experiences of prayer and spiritual disciplines. Prerequisite: CSP130.

CSP330 — Directed Prayer Retreat (3)

A gentle prayer retreat experience incorporating reflection, silence and solitude, group interaction and guided instruction. Prerequisite: CSP130 or by permission of the professor.

CSP331 — Christian Mystics (3)

An in–depth biographical study of Christian mystics and their contribution to Christian spirituality. In addition, students explore the connection between the devotional classics written by the spiritual authors and postmodern Christian experience. Prerequisite: CSP130.

CSP332 — Specialized Studies in Christian Spirituality (3)

Specialized studies are usually led by visiting professors in areas of their expertise. Specific course titles vary with each offering as the nature of the studies indicates.

CSP333 — Journeys of Women in Christian Tradition (3)

The study of women in Christian tradition as mystics, motivators, maidens and mothers. Though this course is open to all students, the intent is to celebrate the lives of women who have contributed significantly to the mission of the church. Prerequisite: CSP130.

CSP335 — Celtic Spirituality (3)

Celtic Spirituality claims to be threefold: ascetic, mystical and visionary. Currently an awakened interest in the Ancient Celts, their history and influence in Europe beckons the postmodern Christian to plumb the depths of the threefold aspects. The intent of this course is to delve into the history of the Celts, the Celtic church tradition and Celtic prayers for the purpose of understanding and appreciating the message of Celtic Spirituality as it relates to the church today.

CSP336 — Introduction to Spiritual Direction (3)

An exploration into the practice of spiritual direction as experienced in the tradition of the Christian church, and its implications for the postmodern church. Course format will include lectures, supervised peer spiritual friendship exercise and reflective exercises. Prerequisites: CSP130, CSP330 or by permission of the instructor.

CSP337 to 339 — Guided Studies in Christian Spirituality (1 – 3)

A study of significant Christian writers from various traditions and time periods who have addressed the nature, nurture, and effects of the spiritual life. Available only to senior students.

CSP430 — Movements in Christian Spirituality (3)

A study of the religious, cultural and political factors that have given shape to spiritual practices and disciplines within the Christian church. Attention will be given to the development of spiritual disciplines within the tradition of the church, and individuals and communities of faith contributing to the process. Prerequisites: CSP230, CSP231 & CSP331 or by permission of the professor.

CSP431 — Contemporary Spirituality (3)

In recent years ‘spirituality’ has been on the increase, but people are less inclined to be religious and often claim that religion is the natural enemy of true spirituality. This course will explore the various contemporary options that have become popular inside and outside the Christian church. Each student will have an opportunity to explore one of the variations that they find to be of most interest to them. Prerequisite: CSP230.

CSP438 — Christian Spirituality Thesis (2)

For Christian spirituality majors who have completed 18 credits of study in the discipline. Christian Spirituality students may select a topic relating to this discipline for further research and discovery. Project will be required to meet academic standards as established by faculty regulations.

CSP439 — Soul Care Field Practicum (2)

A practicum under the supervision of the professor of Christian Spirituality involving ‘soul care’ experience within a local church setting, or within a suitable setting facilitating spiritual direction. Participants will be required to report to the professor on a regular basis, and be willing to participate in peer group soul care discussion. Prerequisite: CSP431.

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