

113<sup>th</sup> Annual Women's Retreat  
October 17-19, 2014  
Camp Allen



## WORKSHOPS

### LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE

*In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.  
Matthew 5:16.*

**HELLO, IS THAT YOU GOD?** Is God speaking to you, but you can't hear him through the day-to-day hectic pace of life? Come as you are and learn how to discern God's calling in YOUR life.

**Presenter: Debby Schmidt** is the Founder/Director of River of Life Women's Life Skills Training Center in Livingston, with additional offices in Woodville and Cleveland, Texas. These centers help women become established in spiritual, emotional and personal strength. Debby holds a degree in Biblical counseling and also works in her community as a unifying liaison between the churches. She teaches and speaks the word of God with authority and purpose. She believes that a life of intimacy with our Lord is the very foundation for a strong Christian walk in today's chaotic world. **Session I**, Room G1

**WON'T YOU... COME, TAKE, LEARN, FIND, REST?** Receiving, cultivating, and maintaining Jesus' gift of "peace that passes understanding," is foundational to Christian discipleship. Learning a Christian contemplative prayer practice, and maintaining it, facilitates our ability to receive this "gift." For those interested in cultivating inner silence, peace, and intimacy with Jesus Christ this workshop may be of profound interest. Please join Rev. Sandra in learning how to enter the "Best Kept Secret," your spiritual heart center, and prepare to receive the purification, forgiveness, healing, and gifts of the Holy Spirit Jesus wishes to bestow.

**Presenter: The Rev. Sandra Casey-Martus** is the Rector of Saint Stephen's Episcopal Church in Wimberley, Texas. In addition to full time parish ministry in Wyoming, Texas, and California, she founded a retreat center and led contemplative prayer retreats throughout the country. She taught for many years as an adjunct faculty member of the Seminary of the Southwest in Austin, and was the recipient of the Hal Brook Perry Award for Outstanding Alumni service. Sandy is a published author and Co-Founder of Contemplative Invitation Teaching. She holds a Bachelor of Science and Masters of Education from Springfield College in Massachusetts, a Masters of Theological Study from Oblate School of Theology in San Antonio, Texas, and a Certificate of Independent Theological Study from the Seminary of Southwest in Austin, Texas. **Sessions II, III, IV**, Room G6

**KEEPING YOUR LIGHT SHINING AMIDST THE DARKNESS** Explore the purpose of the darkness, identify the fear that hinders your light from shining at full strength & explore ways to respond when someone or something is trying to snuff out your light.

**Presenter: Leah Gonzales** felt God nudging her as she left behind the work she knew well in Corporate America to open a transitional living facility aiding pregnant teens, young single moms and women and children rescued from human trafficking taking them from surviving to thriving. Leah has recently received her bachelor's degree in Biblical Counseling. While pursuing her degree, Lisa blogged words of affirmation and encouragement to assist those dealing with everyday hardships of life. Moved by God's presence Leah has published two daily devotional books. She continues to serve as an instrument in God's grand scheme to bring healing and stability to young single women and children. **Sessions II, III, IV**, Room G5

**FOCUS ON NURTURING YOUR WOMEN'S MINISTRIES (ECW)** Share with this exciting panel what your group is up to in your community. Don't have a group? Learn more about what the ECW groups are doing today, how they differ from groups of the past and how through outreach, fellowship and spiritual growth you can support others with making a difference inside and outside your church. The purpose of the Women of the Episcopal Church of the Diocese of Texas is to empower each other to live the life for which Christ called us by sharing His love through outreach, fellowship and spiritual growth. And how do we do this? Through awarding scholarships and empowering the youth of the Church, hosting lunches, sponsoring garage sales, organizing and attending retreats, supporting one another through life's challenges, and numerous other activities.

**Presenters: Anya McInnis, Lisa Martin, Kerry Hancock, Anne Hart Rea. Moderator: Lisa-Diane Etheredge.**  
**Session IV, Room G4**

**JUBILATE JOURNEY: A MOVING MEDITATION THROUGH THE 100TH PSALM** You are invited to come and listen to a series of meditations and have experiential prayer time on the verses of the Psalm 100. A time for sharing will conclude the session.

**Presenter: Spiritual Director Kathleen Phillips** is the director of FIND (Formation IN Direction), an ecumenical school for spiritual formation operated by the Diocese. In addition she conducts workshops, quiet days and retreats on a variety of topics for people on their journey with Christ. Kathleen honed her ability to listen to the souls of others in her career as a journalist first with a daily newspaper and now as a manager of a statewide news team for Texas A&M AgriLife, based in College Station. Kathleen is a lifelong Episcopalian and a member of St. Andrew's, Bryan.  
**Sessions III, IV, Room G3**

**SISTERS IN SERVICE: ANSWERING GOD'S CALL THROUGH OUTREACH** As we are called by Jesus to serve "the least", the ladies of ECW are in a unique position to be a powerful force in service to our communities. Where is God leading us to serve? What talents and resources do our ECW ladies have that can be used in service? How do we ascertain the needs of women and children in our communities? We will discuss the Biblical references about service, examine how to choose projects and share ideas about what we are already doing. Let us go forth to serve the Lord!

**Presenter: Debbie Johnson** served as the Outreach Coordinator for St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church from 2008 – 2012. This included working with homeless families, the homeless on the streets of Houston, serving wounded veterans, building and transporting a medical clinic to the Lakota Reservation, South Dakota, leading food and clothing drives, and planning/attending mission trips. Additionally, Debbie has taught Youth Sunday School for 32 years as well as teaching adult Bible Study. Currently, she is a regular volunteer at Lord of the Streets, Houston and serves as the current ECW Outreach Chair. **Session III, Room G4**

**WALKING WITH RUTH AND NAOMI** This workshop will share general information about walking the labyrinth while offering specific practices using Scripture, hymns, prayers, and icons. We will focus on the biblical story of Ruth and how Ruth and Naomi's stories illumine our own stories as we seek to walk through life with faith, courage, hope, and strength. Each participant will have the opportunity to prayerfully design her own labyrinth prayer experience using these ancient stories of loss, change, aging, respect, insight, empowerment, and more.

**Presenter: The Rev. Janne Osborne** is a priest, mother, grandmother (Bedstemor), friend to dogs, baker of bread, and designer/knitter of hats and sweaters. Janne graduated from Virginia Theological Seminary in 1994 and has served congregations in the Dioceses of Virginia, West Texas, and Texas, currently as associate rector at St. Michael's, Austin. The story of Ruth resonates with her life as women, immigrant, sojourner, and person of biblical faith. Celtic prayers and practices, walking the labyrinth, praying with Anglican prayer beads, and sitting with icons are all part of Janne's spiritual life. **Session II, Room G3**

## **BE THE LIGHT YOU'RE LOOKING FOR IN THE WORLD, a special presentation by The Rev. Canon John Newton**

A lifelong Episcopalian, The Rev. Canon John Wharton Newton, IV was baptized and confirmed at St. Mark's in Beaumont, TX. After graduating in 2004 from the University of Texas with a bachelor's degree in business studies (BBA), John worked for eighteen months as the program coordinator for the Episcopal college ministry on the UT campus. In 2008 John graduated from Virginia Theological Seminary and was ordained to the priesthood at All Saints' Episcopal Church in January of 2009, where he served for almost three years as the University of Texas Campus Missioner. In February of 2011 John began working as Bishop Andy Doyle's Canon for Lifelong Christian Formation in the Diocese of Texas. His desire to introduce people to the saving love of Jesus Christ and his call to form uniquely Episcopalian disciples of Jesus is what makes him most passionate about his work. In 2012 John married his best friend Emily and the two of them reside in Houston with their golden retriever Scout. In 2014 John published a book entitled *New Clothes: Putting on Christ and Finding Ourselves*. **Session V**, Room G1

**LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE WHILE LIVING LIFE IN THE THIN PLACES** There are many words to describe the movement of our lives – thick & thin, suffering and healing, beloved and belittled, breaking apart and gluing together, being alone or living in community. We will spend a few moments exploring the movements of our lives. On our brief journey, we will consult some spiritual companions like Barbara Brown Taylor, Henri Nouwen, Joyce Rupp and some our spiritual friends.

**Presenter: Roger Temme** is a Detroit native who has lived in Texas & Louisiana since 1963. Before beginning work at The Care Communities in Austin in March of 1999, he was a Catholic priest for nearly 25 years. Over the years he has served as Pastor, Retreat House Director, Campus Minister, Vocation Director, Fire & Police Chaplain, & Shrine radio show host. At The Care Communities besides recruiting volunteers for Care Teams, he has worked closely with the Black Church Outreach Project since its inception and presented at both the National Catholic AIDS Network Conference in Chicago and the Texas HIV/AIDS Conference in Austin. He also helped found the annual PRIDE Interfaith Service and founding committee of the annual HIV/AIDS and Aging Symposium. Roger joined the Episcopal Church three years ago and is a grateful member of St. David's Episcopal Church in Austin and will be doing a journey group there in the Advent Season on "Watching & Waiting". **Session II**, Room G4