Entering the Narrow Gate 2020-2021

School of Spiritual Formation -- Year-long Program

Hosted by Trinity Lutheran Church

2700 Fulton St E Grand Rapids, MI 49506
Staff Contact: kris.baker@tlcgr.org 616.949.2510, x 110
Program Facilitator: Sister Nancy Brousseau, OP: (616) 560-4580 or nbrousseau@aol.com

Open to anyone who would like to explore the classic elements of monastic, spiritual & contemplative life to discover how this ancient wisdom, learning and spiritual practice might be understood and lived in new settings & life today. The program offers a reflective personal & transformative process for all who desire a deeper life in Spirit and more intentional living of the Christian life. The rich and inspiring teaching is centered on the saints, mystics and spiritual teachers of the Christian centuries, personal contemplative prayer practice, lively conversations, and living of a personal Rule of Life.

September 2020 to June 2021, Ten Thursdays, 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

- **(please bring your lunch, coffee/hot water provided)**

Ten sessions, 9:30 am-4:30 pm; one Thursday per month (separate registration form available)
Tuition: $600 (Payment in full or 50% due with registration and 50% due in February)
Required books (may be purchased on Amazon.com at reduced cost) Required editions: ***The Wisdom Jesus*** by Cynthia Bourgeault; ***The Rule of Benedict***. Ed., Timothy Fry Liturgical Press, 1982; ***The Holy Longing: The Search for a Christian Spirituality*** by Ronald Rolheiser., ***The Cloud of Unknowing*** translated by Carmen Acevedo Butcher, 2009; ***The Spiritual Life*** by Evelyn Underhill; ***Joan of Arc*** by Mark Twain – with trial proceedings included; Publisher: Ignatius Press; 1st edition (September 1, 1989)

Recommended:

The Deeper Journey *by M. Robert Mulholland, jr*
The Universal Christ *by Richard Rohr*

Course Requirements:

- Attendance at all sessions
- Preparation for each session, required readings (short background and/or readings from the original writings of each spiritual teacher) and journal questions emailed to participants prior to each session. Participation in class discussion is expected.
- Participation in a four-day silent directed retreat during the year is encouraged – Dates TBD
- Participants are encouraged to have a spiritual director during the year
- Those completing this first year may apply for an 18-month Formation Program & Practicum for becoming a Spiritual Director. Program begins Sept. 2021 at Christ United Church, DeWitt, MI.

Program Schedule for 2020-2021:

9/10/2020 Gospel according to John
Paschal Mystery and Spiritual Journey
10/8 Mothers & Fathers of the Desert
Contemplative Prayer & Approaches to God
11/12 St. Benedict and St. Scholastica
St. Hildegard of Bingen
12/10 St. Francis & St. Clare
Meister Eckhart
1/14/2021 Beguine Women's Movement
St. Catherine of Siena
2/11 Julian of Norwich
Cloud of Unknowing
3/11 St. Teresa of Avila
St. John of the Cross
4/15 St. Ignatius of Loyola
St. Oscar Romero
5/13 St. Joan of Arc
Evelyn Underhill
6/10 Dorothy Day
Thomas Merton

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Trinity Lutheran Church, Grand Rapids, MI

Registration – 2020-2021

Tuition: $600 (50% due with registration and 50% due in February)

Make checks payable to Dominican Sisters

(please print **Narrow Gate** on memo line of check**)**

Mail completed registration form with payment to:

Trinity Lutheran Church,

2700 Fulton St E Grand Rapids, MI 49506

Staff Contact: kris.baker@tlcgr.org 616.949.2510, x 110

Facilitator, Sister Nancy Brousseau, OP

Email: nbrousseau@aol.com Cell: 616-560-4580

Program Facilitator: Sister Nancy Brousseau, OP, DMin is a Dominican Sister of Grand Rapids, MI. Nancy served as the Director of the Dominican Center at Marywood in Grand Rapids for five years and was Director of Spirituality Programs there for six years. Prior to those years, she was Director of St. Joseph Educational Center in Des Moines, Iowa. Sr. Nancy has an MA in Religious Education, a M.Div. from St. John's (now Sacred Heart) Seminary in Detroit and a D.Min. in Spiritual Direction from the Graduate Theological Foundation and the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, MN. She offers retreats, spiritual direction, workshops and programs in prayer, spirituality and spiritual formation.

- Ten Thursdays, 9:30am-4:30pm; one Thursday per month, September-June
- Dates: 9/10, **2020**; 10/8; 11/12; 12/10; 1/14, **2021**; 2/11; 3/11, 4/15; 5/13, 6/10
- Coffee available; please bring your lunch/beverage; snack to share if you wish

_____Please mail this bottom portion with your check_____

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Registration: Entering the Narrow Gate Trinity Lutheran 2020-2021

Name:_____

Address:_____

City/State/Zip:_____

Phone:_____

Email:_____

Amount enclosed:_____