



## Entering the Narrow Gate –

### Year-long Spiritual Formation Program

Hosted by: **St. Luke's Lutheran Church, Grand Rapids, MI**

3215 4 Mile Rd NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49525 (616) 363-2381

Staff coordinator: Sharon Ross: [cross@stlk.org](mailto:cross@stlk.org)

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 deeper life in Spirit and more intentional living of the Christian life in Christ. The rich and inspiring teaching is centered on the saints, mystics and spiritual teachers of the Christian centuries, personal contemplative prayer practice and the writing and living of a personal Rule of Life.

- **September 2017 to June 2018, Ten Fridays, 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.**
- **(please bring your lunch, coffee provided)**
- Ten sessions, 9:30 am-4:30 pm; one Friday per month (except March)
- Tuition: \$500 (Payment in full or 50% due with registration and 50% due in January or 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.
- **Recommended:** Richard Rohr: *Things Hidden: Scripture as Spirituality*  
*Joan of Arc* by Mark Twain – with trial proceedings included
- Each program day consists of two three-hour sessions, each focusing on a separate topic.
- Each session has required readings (short background and/or readings from the original writings of each spiritual teacher) and journal questions
- Participation in a four-day silent directed retreat during the year is encouraged - scheduled at St. Francis Retreat Center in DeWitt in March or April of 2018.
  - Participants are encouraged to have a spiritual director
  - Those completing this first year may apply for a two-year Formation Program & Practicum for on-going discernment of a call to the ministry of spiritual direction. The Practicum for becoming a spiritual direction begins every two years...next program begins Sept., 2018.

#### Program Schedule for 2017-2018:

**9/15/2017**

Gospel according to John

Paschal Mystery and Spiritual Journey

**10/6**

Desert Mothers as Midwives of Wisdom

Contemplative Prayer & Approaches to God

**10/27**

St. Benedict and St. Scholastica

St. Hildegard of Bingen

**12/1**

St. Francis & St. Clare

St. Anthony of Padua

**1/26/2018**

Beguine Women's Movement of the 13<sup>th</sup> c

Julian of Norwich

**2/23**

St. Catherine of Siena

Meister Eckhart

**3/23**

St. Ignatius of Loyola

Joan of Arc

**4/27**

St. Teresa of Avila

St. John of the Cross

**5/25**

St. Teresa of Calcutta

Henri Nouwen

**6/8**

Dorothy Day

Thomas Merton



**Christian Spirituality: Entering the Narrow Gate**

**Spiritual Formation Year-Long Program**

**Hosted by**

**St. Luke's Lutheran Church, Grand Rapids, MI**

**Registration – 2017-2018**

**Tuition:** \$500 (50% due with registration and 50% due in January or February-  
unless another payment plan has been arranged)

**Make checks payable to St. Luke's Lutheran Church**  
(please print Narrow Gate on memo line of check)

*Mail completed registration form with payment to:*  
**St. Luke's Lutheran Church,**  
3215 4 Mile Rd NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49525

**Facilitator,** Sister Nancy Brousseau, OP and guest presenters  
Email: [nbrousseau@aol.com](mailto:nbrousseau@aol.com) Cell: 616-560-4580  
**Staff Coordinator:** Sharon Ross [sross@stlk.org](mailto:sross@stlk.org); (616) 363-2381

- Ten Fridays, 9:30am-4:30pm; one Friday per month, September 2017- June 2018
- Dates: 9/15, **2017**; 10/6; 10/27; 12/1; 1/26, **2018**; 2/23; 3/23, 3/27; 4/25; 6/8
- Coffee available; please bring your lunch/beverage and a snack to share if you wish.
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Please mail this bottom portion with your check** \_\_\_\_\_

**Registration: Entering the Narrow Gate                      St. Luke's                      2017-2018**

Name : \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone : \_\_\_\_\_

Email : \_\_\_\_\_

Amount enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_