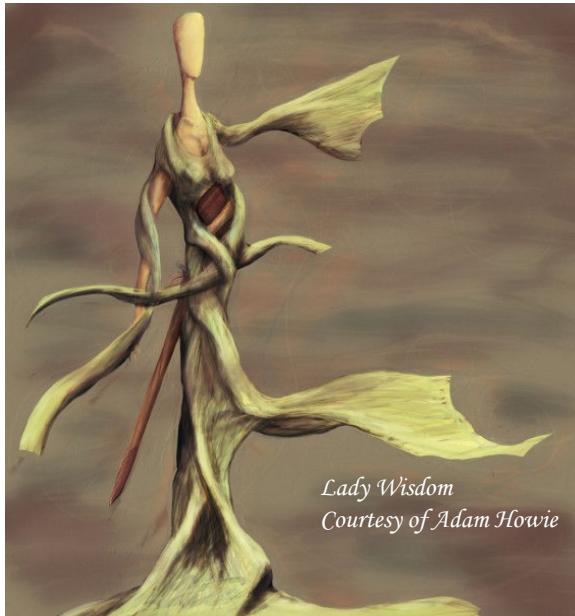


Women's Silent Retreat
2009



Finding Wisdom
Through Silence

with The Reverend Janice Mount Lowell



Lady Wisdom
Courtesy of Adam Howie

Women... be wise...
listen for the "still small voice within";
Come apart for a time of silence and solitude,
cherished time to be still and open... to listen, wait, respond
and rest in human / divine relationship.

Our Retreat Facilitator...

We are pleased to have the Reverend Janice Mount Lowell with us this year. Janice is currently completing her curacy at St. Andrew's Anglican Church in Langley and Holy Trinity, White Rock. She has a special interest in the women mystics who, in silence, discovered God's call for their lives. Over this special weekend Janice will creatively lead us to create the space that allows God's voice to be heard. Janice brings her creativity, enthusiasm, joy and faith to her leadership of this year's retreat.

The women of St. John the Evangelist, North Vancouver, invite you to attend a weekend of silent retreat, in the company of other women who are seeking to deepen their relationship with God. The theme for this year's retreat is "Finding Wisdom Through Silence."

We live in a noisy and busy world. This weekend is an opportunity to recover ourselves as human beings rather than human "doings." In silence, we can be still and experience God with us. As Carl Jung wrote, "Bidden or not bidden, God is present." The "noise" of our lives often stops us from being aware of God's presence. During the silence of this weekend we create the silence and space to let the voice of God break through. We can intimately connect with God, and in that connection, God's will for our voice in the world may be revealed.

Christianity has a rich history of women who spent time in silence. Because of their encounters with the Divine, these women were able to make significant differences in the spiritual lives of themselves and others.

As contemporary women of God, we, too, are called to be God's voice. But what is it that God wants us to say? God has a unique purpose for each of us. Let us claim the feminine voice of Lady Wisdom so we can proclaim God's love in the world. It is amazing what God can do with a gathering of silent women! We hope you will choose to join us on this restorative and transformative journey.

Peace and blessings,

The Reverend Janice Mount Lowell



Cost per person:
\$270.00 (after June 30th)

Includes:

- private accommodation for 2 nights
- breakfast, lunch and dinner on Saturday
- breakfast and lunch on Sunday
- refreshments between meals
- spiritual leadership

PLUS!

For only \$15 extra, dinner will be available Friday night, 5:30 PM, at the Retreat Centre.

Early Birds!

Register with payment by June 30th, and receive \$25 off your fee!

That's only \$245.00!
(plus Friday dinner cost, if applicable)

Applies to Payment-in-Full or Easy-Pay!

Please send payment (Visa, MasterCard or personal cheques) along with the completed registration form to:

Women's Silent Retreat
c/o St. John's Anglican Church
220 West 8th Street
North Vancouver, BC, V7M 1N1

Cheques should be made payable to "St. John's Church", noting **Women's Retreat** on the bottom.

Early Arrival Options...

For over a decade we have been presenting these silent retreats for women, and the most consistent response we receive is: "It wasn't long enough!" Taking this comment to heart, last year the Retreat Committee arranged for an optional Friday Dinner for those who wanted to arrive earlier in the day. The dinner was a huge success! We were all able to meet and mingle before joining together in silence. This year we have once again secured the opportunity for participants to arrive at Bethlehem Retreat Centre anytime on Friday August 21. Take yourself out to lunch in Nanaimo. Prepay with your registration for Friday night dinner at the Retreat Centre.

Still not enough time? Bethlehem Retreat Centre invites you to contact them directly to arrange your own extended stay.

The Bethlehem Retreat Centre is run by Benedictine Sisters of The House of Bread Monastery, who took over the operations of this beautiful oasis in 1987. The Sisters are a Roman Catholic order who welcome all peoples of faith, and strive to enhance your silent spiritual journey with simple, comfortable accommodations and a quiet, natural environment

Easy-Pay

Take it easy on your pocketbook,
by paying in 3 installments.

Pay \$100.00 by June 30
plus 2 post-dated cheques:
\$100 dated July 31, \$45 dated Aug 15

Transportation...

Retreat centre guests enjoy a special rate for taxi travel in Nanaimo to and from the ferry terminal or the Harbour Air terminal. Information provided at registration.

St John's Anglican Church, North Vancouver,
presents the annual

Women's Silent Retreat

Finding Wisdom Through Silence

with Reverend Janice Mount Lowell

August 21 - 23, 2009

Bethlehem Retreat Centre, Nanaimo, B.C.

Be one with Nature...

Located on 7 peaceful acres of forested land beside Westwood Lake, the Bethlehem Retreat Centre is the perfect setting for renewal and connecting deeply to the inner Self through nature. Walk the trails, or sit peacefully at the water's edge.



Be one with God...

Walk with God along the outdoor labyrinth. Enhance your spiritual journey with morning and evening

prayer, and inspirational addresses from our facilitator. Or follow your own path of spiritual discovery, set out by God.

Peace and Quiet

Be still... Be quiet... Be with God.

All Inquiries: contact Retreat Committee via email at stjohnnv@telus.net, or contact the St. John's church office at 604-986-1151

*"Wisdom is radiant and unfading,
she is easily discerned by
those who love her,
and is found by those who seek her.
To fix one's thoughts on her
is perfect understanding...
she hastens to make herself
known to those who desire her...
she graciously appears to them
in their paths
and meets them in every thought."*

Wisdom of Solomon, 6:12-16

Our Accommodations...

For the 2009 Women's Silent Retreat, we are excited to be returning to a favourite location. Bethlehem Retreat Centre is situated on the quiet Westwood Lake (no motorboats allowed, no houses across the lake) in beautiful Nanaimo, B.C. Bedrooms are private, washrooms are communal, and there are many areas to find comfortable peace. As always, we will attempt to match your accommodation to your personal or physical requirements – just make sure you note any special needs on your registration form.

Spiritual New Year...

Past participants have referred to the silent retreat as their Spiritual New Year. Women find comfort and rejuvenation in the silent companionship of others who are taking time out from their lives to be in the presence of God.

Retreat 2009 Registration Form PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY Payment must accompany registration

Name: _____ Telephone #: _____

Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Early Bird Payment \$245.00**** Payment in Full \$270.00**** Easy-Pay*** 3 cheques (\$100 deposit dated today,
(after June 30th 2009) \$100 cheque dated July 31, \$45 cheque dated Aug 15)

VISA/MASTERCARD payment# _____ Expiry: _____ Signature: _____

*** Yes, I would like to pay \$15 more (applied to credit card above or Included in cheque amount) for Friday dinner

Cheques or money orders should be made out to "St. John's Church" clearly noting "Women's Retreat".

EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS JUNE 30th 2009 - ONLY APPLIES FOR FULL PAYMENT OR EASY-PAY
DON'T DELAY - Space is limited. Registration deadline August 1st 2009.

PLEASE SEE PAGE 2

Special Instructions:

Special Diet Restrictions: _____

Out of concern for our environment, we will no longer be providing bottled water - tap water is delicious and plentiful.

Other Special Requirements: _____

Transportation: Participants are responsible for arranging their own transportation and costs.