

Presbytery of NY&NE
28th Annual
OPC Women's Retreat



Traveling Mercies

Featuring: Margaret Falk

“Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water”. Hebrews 10:22

April 14-15, 2023

(April 13- pre-retreat fellowship day)

Hume New England ~ Monterey, MA

MAIN SESSIONS

“Traveling mercies,” is often made as a casual remark to a friend setting off on a trip. As believers in Jesus Christ, we are already on the most important journey of our life – our walk of faith from this life to our heavenly home. Where are you now? Where would you like to be? What cares or sins are impeding your progress?

We are not left to find the path on our own. God provides many “traveling mercies” to encourage us to keep pressing on. We can recount God’s help to us in the past; we can give and gain encouragement from our fellow travelers; we have the presence of the Holy Spirit to strengthen us. What do we really know about God that will help us when doubt and pain make us ready to give up?

Come join us as we consider Hebrews 10:19-25. We all need to draw near to God; we all need to hold fast to our hope; and we all need to encourage one another to do it. After all, we are fellow pilgrims on this journey.

Session One: “Let Us Draw Near”

We are told to do what once seemed unimaginable – draw near to God. And Scripture tells us to approach with confidence. But how? What is holding us back? Is there a right way or a wrong way of approaching God?

Session Two: “Let Us Hold Fast”

We all want to engage in a close, rich relationship with our Savior, but sometimes, that is not our experience. We feel crushed by our circumstances. How do we hold on to our faith when the way is very dark?

Session Three: “Let Us Stir Up One Another”

Our Christian life cannot be lived in isolation or separation. Our journey through this life is made to be traveled with others. We give and we receive; we encourage and are encouraged. One of the great “traveling mercies” from the Lord is the presence of fellow believers. How can we best help each other?

MARGARET FALK ~ MAIN SPEAKER

I was born in California, but spent my growing-up years near Denver, Colorado. I grew up in a secular home, without any church or religious teaching from my parents. In 9th grade, the Holy Spirit opened my heart after I heard the gospel for the first time. I have been on the “journey of faith” since that night.

I met my husband, Jonathan, at Westmont College in Santa Barbara, CA. After seminary training, he served as a pastor in Wisconsin and Maine. Then we served as foreign missionaries in Uganda, Eritrea, and Uruguay before returning to Wisconsin to help care for aging parents.

The Lord has blessed us with three children and seven grandchildren, spread from coast to coast.

WORKSHOPS

Workshop I- Friday afternoon

“God, Our Confidence”

In this workshop, we will be exploring some of the attributes of our God. In doing so, we will come to see that it is because of who He is – and therefore what He does and how He relates to us– that we can and should have confidence as we walk the road to glory. He alone is our foundation, our rock, our confidence in this life and the next.

Workshop Leader: Laurie Tricarico

Laurie was born and raised outside of Philadelphia. There she was converted through a para-church ministry during high school. After studying foreign languages in college, she attended Westminster Theological Seminary in preparation for service in foreign missions. Laurie also spent the summer of 1984 at the Boardwalk Chapel, an evangelistic ministry of the Presbytery of NJ [OPC]. There she met Al Tricarico, who was also working at the chapel for the summer. They were married the next year, in the summer of 1985, after her graduation from Westminster. They went on to serve OPC churches in Hackettstown, NJ, and Vienna, VA, before moving their family of seven to Uganda, where they served with the Committee on Foreign Missions of the OPC for 11 years. In December of 2015, they moved back to the States. Al now serves as the Associate General Secretary for the OPC Committee on Home Missions and Church Extension. Laurie is a member of Calvary OPC in Glenside, PA. Al and Laurie have five children and seven grandchildren.

Workshop II- Saturday morning

“Laying Aside Every Weight”

In our discussion, we will explore the weights in our lives which burden us on our journey to the celestial city. We will examine what Scripture tells us and how we can lighten the load in preparation to meet Him one day in heavenly glory!

Workshop Leader: Robin Dzuiba

Robin has been a member of Grace Community Baptist Church for almost 40 years and one of the Founders of Rhode Island School of the Bible and a Director for The Five Solas Foundation. In addition to being a Trustee for a Health Care non-profit and Chair of their Investment Committee, she has enjoyed a 31-year career with a Financial Services firm.

TEEN WORKSHOPS:

Session 1: Humility & Its Opposite

Session 2: Humility & Its Opposite: A Look at Some Wisdom Issues, Gray Areas, & Nuances
Teen Group Leaders: Jenny Migotsky (teacher) & Beth Marshall (game & activities coordinator)

Jennifer lives in Wilton, NH with her pet dwarf hamster, Stacy, and her roommate Hannah. In 2019, she graduated from Wheaton College (MA), where she studied Creative Writing and Literature. Currently, she works as a youth librarian, while working on finishing her Masters in Library and Information Science through Wayne State University. A bibliophile at heart, she enjoys reading and researching all kinds of knowledge. Having grown up in the OPC as the daughter of a pastor, she has a deep love of Reformed theology, church history, and the Presbyterian tradition. In her spare time, she enjoys journaling, writing fiction, knitting, cooking, watching movies, listening to music, playing the piano, contra dancing, and playing board games. Jenny is a member of Jaffrey OPC.

FURTHER INFORMATION...PLEASE READ CAREFULLY!

WHAT TO PACK

Refillable water bottle, Bible, pillow, sleeping bag/bedding, towel, toiletries, flashlight, notebook and comfortable, warm clothing and shoes.

*****Hume is not responsible to provide WiFi access for all attendees. Please take this retreat as an opportunity to unwind and unplug from devices.**

PRE-RETREAT FELLOWSHIP DAY

Consider coming on Thursday to make your retreat experience more refreshing and less rushed! **We plan to have some optional activities including a bonfire (weather permitting) Thursday evening and a hike, hymn sing & personal preparatory devotional Friday morning.**

Resources: A representative from P & R Publishing will provide a book table.

Scholarships: Please see your church's retreat contact person or session about available scholarships.

About three weeks prior to the retreat, you will receive an email from Hume asking to agree to their terms and conditions. Please reply to that promptly so we can get all registration materials completed prior to the retreat weekend!

Because of the unpredictability of internet service at Hume, we have decided to not live-stream the retreat. We are planning to do video recordings of the main sessions and two workshops and will have those available following the retreat. Email Julia Eiten (eitenartists@gwi.net) for more information. If you would like to take advantage of that option, we will not be charging a specific fee but ask you to consider making a donation to the on-going work of future retreats.

Hume New England

The Lord, in His providence, has led us to a venue in the Berkshires of Western Massachusetts! It is a beautiful setting with a large chapel, nice lodges, and dining room. There are walking paths requiring sturdy shoes, and all rooms are equipped with bunk beds. There are ample restrooms in all the various buildings. The first meal being provided with the regular conference fee rate is Friday evening dinner. Snacks will be available in the chapel when you arrive, but if you are not taking advantage of the pre-retreat fellowship day, you should plan to get lunch before you arrive. We eagerly anticipate the opportunity to meet together to study God's word and fellowship. **Please let the committee know if you have any concerns regarding your time at the retreat.**

CONFERENCE LOCATION

Hume New England

73 Chestnut Hill Rd., Monterey, MA 02145

www.hume.org

RETREAT PLANNING COMMITTEE INFORMATION

Second Parish OPC

Retreat Co-Chairs:

Doreen Theriault (ddtheriault@gmail.com)

Lois Willis (Lwillis2@maine.rr.com)

Registrar:

Julia Eiten (eitenartists@gwi.net)

SCHEDULE

Pre-retreat Fellowship Time

Thursday, April 13~ For additional fee (+ \$65)

4:00 p.m. Registration

5:30 p.m. Dinner (not available for late arrivals)

7:30 p.m. Bonfire or games/puzzles- opt.

Friday, April 14~

8:00 a.m. Breakfast

9:30 a.m. Hike- opt.

11:00 a.m. Hymn sing in the chapel- opt.

12:00 p.m. Lunch

Regular Retreat Time

Friday, April 14~ Included in regular price

12:00 p.m. Registration

1:00-2:30 p.m. Session I

Let us Draw Near

2:30 p.m. Break

3:00-4:15 p.m. Workshop I

4:15 p.m. Break- *Opt. Choir Rehearsal*

5:30 p.m. Dinner

6:45-8:15 p.m. Session II

Let Us Hold Fast

8:30 p.m. Snacks in Dining Room

Fellowship, games

Saturday, April 15~

8:00 a.m. Breakfast and photos

9:15-10:15 a.m. Workshop II

Must be moved out of rooms by 11:00 a.m.

10:30-12:00 p.m. Session III

Let Us Stir Up One Another

12:00 p.m. Lunch