



Homecoming

Bethany Retreat House

Volume 18, Number 3

December 2014

BRH Bookshelf



Consider these “best picks” from Bethany’s bookstore for your own reading and for special people on your Christmas list:

- *Eager to Love: The Alternative Way of Francis of Assisi*, Richard Rohr. 2014, Franciscan Media, cloth, 294 pages, \$21.99
- *Fruitful Embraces: Sexuality, Love, and Justice*, Evelyn Eaton Whitehead and James D. Whitehead. 2014, True Directions, paper, 214 pages, \$18.95
- *The Invention of Wings*, Sue Monk Kidd. 2014, Penguin Group, cloth, 359 pages, \$27.95
- *Jesus: A Pilgrimage*, James Martin. 1989, HarperCollins, cloth, 526 pages, \$27.99
- *Pope Francis: Life and Revolution: A Biography of Jorge Bergoglio*. Francis Elisabetta Piqué. 2013, Loyola Press, paper, 313 pages, \$16.95
- *Our Holy Yearnings*, Joan Chittister. 2014, Twenty Third Publications, cloth, 104 pages, \$12.95
- *Prayer: Our Deepest Longing*, Ronald Rolheiser. 2014, Franciscan Media, paper, 70 pages, \$8.99
- *Proof of Heaven: A Neurosurgeon’s Journey into the After-life*, Eben Alexander. 2012, Simon & Schuster Paperbacks, paper, 196 pages, \$15.99
- *Sacred Fire: A Vision For a Deeper Human and Christian Maturity*, Ronald Rolheiser. 2014, Crown Publishing Group, cloth, 337 pages, \$25.00

Bethany Offerings

Transformative Power of Dreams, Part II March 21, 2015, led by Mel Ryley, SCMM. This follow-up workshop to Mel’s 2013 offering at Bethany is open to participants of that workshop. Details will follow in January.

Day retreat. Stop the busy world for a day of quiet attentiveness to God and to your deepest longings. Bethany offers quiet space to nurture your inner life.

Ongoing monthly dream groups. If you are interested in exploring your night dreams in community, consider joining a dream group at Bethany. See www.bethanyretreathouse.org to access our dream flyer for more information. Sr. Joyce can match you to an existing group or inform you when a new group forms.

Ongoing spiritual direction. If you long for something deeper, desire help learning to pray, want assistance sifting through the pros and cons of an important life decision, genuinely want to deepen your spiritual life and want help to do so, or find yourself hungry for more than the Ten Commandments and the rules of the Church can provide for your life as a person of faith, spiritual direction may be what you are seeking. Call Sr. Joyce to set up a session.

Annual One-day Christmas Sale! Bethany Retreat House Bookstore

Friday, December 12, 2014, 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.
(No need to call ahead on sale day!)

All enneagram & grief books 50% off

All dream & Jungian books 20% off

All journal books & blank journals 20% off

All children’s books 20% off

All music CDs 20% off

All greeting cards 20% off

Drastically reduced bargain basket books – \$3 & \$5

And more!

**– along with our usual array of
spiritually nourishing books, quilted sweatshirts,
and environment-friendly gift-wrap bags and totes.**

Markdowns off original price on in-stock items only.

**Christmas sale guests are eligible to win a
\$25 gift certificate raffle.**

From the Director's Chair

by Joyce Diltz, PHJC



The "wheel of the year" turns and turns, through seasons, through life events, through feasts and celebrations. How have we arrived already at the end of another calendar year? And how many major events and transitions have each of us experienced as the seasons turn and turn? I think of loved ones who have been very ill, friends lost or reclaimed, births, deaths, markers of loss and growth. And always God's loving presence pervading it all.

A larger segment of time than usual has gone by since my last note to you, in large part because any desk time I might have had for putting out newsletters and otherwise keeping on top of paper and administrative details has been given from April through November to also managing the bookstore at Lindenwood, our PHJC motherhouse retreat and conference center. I did this in the transition from one director's retirement there through a new director coming on board and eventually assuming respon-

Homecoming

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congregation of women religious.



Bethany Retreat House
paying attention to the inner life

**Our bookstore is a rich resource
for spiritual reading.
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for people on your gift list.**

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sibility for the bookstore.

I was aware during this Lindenwood involvement of how much I have learned over the years here at Bethany about books and authors and those hungry for spiritual reading. You, Bethany's readers and seekers, have been part of that learning! It has been good to share these gifts to provide resources for the many groups who meet at Lindenwood. And it is good now to be able to give my attention again more fully to things Bethany.

For this Homecoming issue, in place of a single book review, we offer a list of excellent titles worthy of Christmas giving and of your own avid reading. Please note our one-day Bethany bookstore sale on December 12.

In March Bethany will offer a follow-up to Mel Ryley's dream workshop of 2013. We also welcome your ideas and requests for other day workshops and retreats which can be more frequent now that we do not have overnight guests.

We do hope you can join us for one of these events as well as for a

In Memory of

**Ronald Gaisor
Peter Petrunich
Catherine Gasior
Catherine Werner
Fred Gasparovic**

by Bernard and Nancy Baltrushaitis

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day of prayer, ongoing spiritual direction, or membership in one of Bethany's dream groups.

Blessed Advent to each of you as we watch and long for the coming of Christ in our day. May our lives be part of helping to establish his reign in fullness.