

# The Retreat Center

Creighton  
UNIVERSITY

August 2017



HERE IS THE LATEST NEWS AND INFORMATION FROM THE CREIGHTON UNIVERSITY RETREAT CENTER.

## Basking in the Glow

By Amy Hoover

At Mass this past little while, we have been hearing the story of the Israelites wandering through the desert and of Moses' encounters with God on the mountain. I want to share a reflection I wrote recently for Creighton's website.

*"As I was reflecting on the readings for today, I got caught up in the story of Moses and his people. I imagined him coming down the mountain, sort of light and bouncy, carrying those tablets and glowing with the Glory of God. He was in a "good place" and couldn't understand why his friends were afraid and possibly intimidated. I spent a lot of time considering why he would cover his face. Why did Moses feel like he needed to hide the effect of God's presence with him? I spent so much time here, I finally realized that God was asking me the same question. Why/where am I hiding God's presence within me from the world? For me, this translates into asking why/where am I holding on to unforgiveness, guilt and pain, but mostly where am I living from a place of fear rather than love? I know when I can be forgiving and confident, when I can live from a place of love and my True Self, God's loving presence shines through me. People notice. Some are afraid and would wish me to replace my mask, my veil. Others desire to be where I am, to have what I have. I then have an opportunity to share about my prayer, my relationship with God, much as Moses did. Unlike Moses, however, I feel called to intentionally not veil my face. To be who God created me to be. To live from a place of love and not fear.*

*I hear in today's readings an invitation for every day, not just today, to ask 'How are we glowing with the Glory of God?' and 'How/where are we veiling or masking who we are?' It strikes me that these questions can be individual but they can also be communal. Whether it is a family community, church community, civic community or world community, we can ask 'How are we glowing with the Glory of God?' and 'How are we masking or hiding who God created us to be?'"*



I continue to encounter myself, the idea and/or word “glow.” As I was sitting in the sunroom at the retreat center today, I was captured by the glow of the sun through the trees and began reflecting on the extraordinary summer we have had here. We have welcomed approximately 750 guests from a variety of places across the country and around the world. Creighton groups who have spent time with us include: Christian Spirituality Program, Magis Catholic Teacher Corps and Masters of Arts in Ministry. We also welcomed our largest group ever – about 150 people with the Ignatian Associates. In the midst of all this, we suffered some extraordinary tree damage/loss from a storm. The retreat center team, with help from a local company, spent hours cleaning up in preparation for an arriving group.

I am filled with gratitude for all those that visit, for the staff of the retreat center, the local community that support us and for the opportunity to minister here. My heart is glowing. Fr. Bob and I talk occasionally about how those that retreat here leave a piece of themselves when they go, some of their energy. We are different because they have been here. It is my prayer that the glow of the Creighton University Retreat Center can be seen and felt far and wide because those that visit take a piece of us with them when they leave.

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## Rest with the Lord!

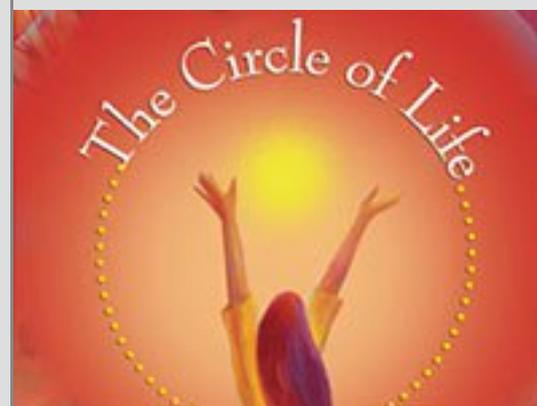
This eight-day silent directed retreat will be held Sept. 28-Oct. 7, and will be directed by Amy Hoover, the Rev. Bob Dufford, SJ, and possibly other area spiritual directors. The retreat includes room, board and a spiritual direction stipend. The cost is \$730, with a nonrefundable deposit of \$50. Registration is now open. Contact [Terri Lou](#), 712-778-2466, to register or for more information.



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## Circle of Life Retreat

Just a note to let you know this **retreat is full** and **registration is closed**. Thank you to those who have signed up for this Oct. 27-29 retreat.



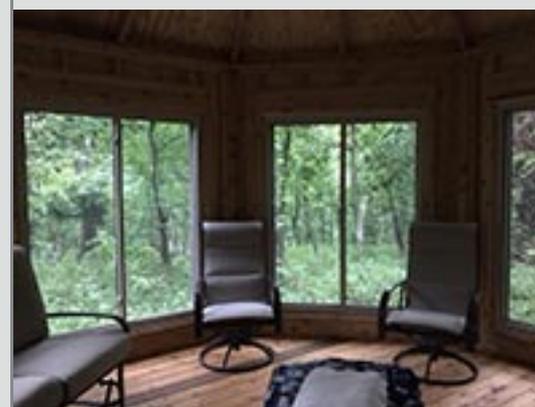
# Coming in 2018

It is not too early to plan for next year! The Christian Spirituality Program at Creighton will offer three, eight-day silent directed retreats. These retreats are directed by intern directors, supervised by Creighton faculty. Next year's dates are: March 2-11, May 31-June 9 and Aug. 5-14. Contact [Colleen Hastings](#) at 402-280-2303 for registration or more information.



## Prayer Meditation Deck

We wanted to share updated pictures of our Prayer Meditation Deck. We are so grateful to Paul Martin and his group of Boy Scouts who came out in July to create the entrance patio and drainage area. We also wish to thank Dowling Catholic High School students who came in July and worked on the walkway, as well as other projects around the center. Both of these groups have really helped to make this prayer space beautiful and accessible. Thank you to all who had a part in this project.



## From the Kitchen

Peanut Butter Bars are one of the favorite desserts at the retreat center. So many have requested the recipe. So, from Tracy and Donna – enjoy!

- 1 c. butter
- 1 c. white sugar
- 1 c. brown sugar
- 2 eggs
- 2/3 c. peanut butter
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- 2 c. flour
- 2 c. oatmeal
- 1 tsp. soda
- 1 tsp. baking power
- 2 c. chocolate chips

Cream together butter, white and brown sugar. Add the eggs, peanut butter and vanilla. Mix dry ingredients: flour, soda, oatmeal and baking powder. Then combine the mixtures well. Put in a greased jellyroll pan. Bake at 350 degrees for 20 minutes. Sprinkle chocolate chips over hot bars. When melted, spread and cool.

**Peanut butter frosting:** Blend 3 cups of powdered sugar, 1/2 cup of peanut butter and 1/3 cup of water. Slowly add some milk as needed to make mixture spreadable. Top the bars.



# Thank You!

We continue to update cabins, trails and signage. We often have the need for help staining the decking or groundskeeping. If you or your group would like to help, please don't hesitate to contact Director Amy Hoover at 712.778.2466 or [amyhoover@creighton.edu](mailto:amyhoover@creighton.edu). You can contribute online [here](#). (Fill out your information, then scroll down to Gift Designation. In the "Other Designation - Specify Here," type in Creighton Retreat Center.)



## About the Retreat Center

The Creighton Retreat Center is located at 16493 Conrail Ave., Griswold, Iowa, 51535. The center offers eight- and 30-day Ignatian retreats upon request. Accommodations can be made based on your individual schedules. Please contact [Terri Lou](#) for more information.

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## Questions?

Contact Director Amy Hoover  
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