

# The Retreat Center

Creighton  
UNIVERSITY

April 2015



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

## The Light of Christ

*By Amy Hoover*

One of the gifts for me of the Easter Season is the opportunity to **reflect on the Acts of the Apostles**. For me, entering into the stories of the first Christians, their struggles with community and experiences of discipleship, offers an invitation to reflect on how I am in relationship with community and God, and how I am a disciple of Christ. A line from the daily readings recently captured my attention: "For so the Lord has commanded us, I have made you a light to the Gentiles, that you may be an instrument of salvation to the ends of the earth." (Acts 13:47) I smiled to myself as I read because I knew what I wanted to share today. I really like it when the Spirit works overtime.

This year, I was asked to be a liturgical assistant for Triduum liturgies at my parish. This ministry has many parts and pieces, but for me the highlight was at the Easter Vigil. I was tasked with carrying the Easter candle. Many of you, I am sure, are familiar with the liturgy. It starts in darkness. We light a new fire, which is then blessed. From the new fire, we light the Easter candle, the Light of Christ. As we were doing this, I was reflecting on the darkness, the quiet of Lent and personally how I have been in a place of darkness recently. I wondered if it was significant that I was going to carry the Light of Christ this night. Was I coming out of the darkness and back into the light? **What struck me more, though, as I walked up the aisle and the Light of Christ was spreading throughout the church, was that it wasn't about me coming out of darkness so much as it was/is about me being a light to others in spite of any darkness I may be in.** It was very powerful, and I knew it was important for those gathered to witness me carrying the Light of Christ. It was important for my son to see, my husband, those to be baptized, the young and the old, farmers and business professionals, ordained and lay persons. Not only was it important for those gathered this night to see, but it is important that we all claim the Light of Christ that dwells within us and carry it into our world. The Lord was not just talking to Paul and Barnabas and the other first century Christians. The Lord is speaking to us today. He is reminding us that he has made us a



light to the Gentiles (to all people), that we may be an instrument of salvation (grace) to the ends of the earth.

There are an infinite number of ways this can be done. For instance: volunteer at a local shelter, wish the person who tallies your grocery bill a good day, pray for the construction crew you pass on your way to work, go on a mission trip, reach out to a neighbor in need, participate fully at liturgy, be a holy listener to someone who is searching. As we go through our day today, **I invite reflection and prayer around how we are called to carry the Light of Christ to the ends of the earth.** It is our call. When we are the light, we, like the first disciples, are filled with joy and the Holy Spirit.

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## 8-Day Silent Ignatian Retreat

Our eight-day silent, directed retreat, set for May 28 through June 6, is a time of being (rather than doing), a time of entering more deeply into one's relationship with God. Directors will be third-year Christian Spirituality graduate students from Catholic and varying Protestant denominations trained in the evocative-contemplative approach of spiritual direction.

[Learn More](#)



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## Another 8-Day Retreat

**Mark your calendars for Aug. 13-22:** Here is another opportunity for quiet reflection and deepening of your relationship with God. Directors for this retreat will be Amy Hoover and the Rev. Bob Dufford, S.J. Fr. Dufford is best known for his work in composing contemporary liturgical music as a member of the St. Louis Jesuits (*Sing to the Mountains, All the Ends of the Earth, Like a Shepherd, Love One Another, Be Not Afraid*). He has given around 400 workshops in liturgy and liturgical music around the U.S., Canada and Australia.



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## Dining Hall Expansion

Spring has sprung and construction has begun. The long-awaited **Loyola Dining Hall expansion** has begun. By year's end, we will have an additional 75 seats in our dining hall, a private (silent) dining room and new office and gift shop. It has been a long journey and it isn't over yet. Please excuse our dust and noise while we are engaged in this project, and pray for the safety of those working.



## Summer Projects

This summer, we will also be giving **Jogues Lodge** a much needed facelift. Projects include new windows, siding and insulation. We will also be enlarging the kitchen and painting the walls to brighten the interior. It is our hope to be able to install air conditioning soon to encourage groups to take advantage of the space in the warmer months. We are also doing some work in **Lower Montserrat** and hope to remodel the kitchen in **Brebeuf**.



## A Recipe from the Kitchen

**Small Year-Round Cobbler:** 4 c. fruit fresh or frozen, put into 9x13 pan; 1½ c. sugar; 6 T. margarine or butter; 1 c. milk; 2 c. flour; 2 T. baking powder; ½ t. salt. Cream the sugar and butter. Mix flour, baking powder and salt. Add milk alternately with flour mixture into creamed mixture. Pour over fruit. 1½ c. sugar; 2 T. cornstarch; ½ t. salt. Combine and sprinkle over batter. Pour ¾ c. boiling water over all. Bake at 350 degrees for 45 minutes to 1 hour, until done. We use peaches, strawberry rhubarb, cherries and mixed berries, and, yes, Amy loves the blueberry cobbler. Use whatever kind of fruit you like.



## Thank You

Thank you for your continued, generous support of the retreat center. We enjoy meeting newcomers and connecting with those who return year after year.

A special thanks this Easter Season to all those who visit us and "round up" their payment. We are seeing more and more of this and every little bit helps support our ministry.

If you or your group would like to help with maintenance or trail work, please don't hesitate to contact Director Amy Hoover at 712.778.2466 or [amyhoover@creighton.edu](mailto:amyhoover@creighton.edu). Thank you to all who are helping to bring our dreams of renovation to fruition. You can contribute online [here](#). (Under "Designations," select "Give to the Area(s) of Your Choice," click "Other" in the pop-up box and then type in Creighton Retreat Center in the box provided.)



### 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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