

The Retreat Center

Creighton
UNIVERSITY

November 2014



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

The Falling Leaves

By Amy Hoover

I have been struck this autumn by the beautiful weather and colors of the trees. But more so than that, I have been reflecting with the falling leaves.

Surrounded by trees at the retreat center, I get to experience the times of gentle floating leaves, times when the leaves are falling like rain. And this year, I looked out to see nuts falling and bouncing off cars like hailstones.

Last week, I went into the woods and was amazed at how far I could see and how light it was compared to just the week before due to the absence of leaves.

Then this morning I read a reflection from Mark Nepo's book *The Book of Awakening* that called to a place deep in my soul. He wrote of the idea that "winter can be freeing" as the light is free to come into the woods, not blocked by the overgrowth of leaves.

This led me to ask: What has so filled my mind and heart that the Light can't get in? What do I need to let fall to the earth to be free?

Fall and winter are often thought of as times of dying and preparing for new life, new growth. How might the falling leaves be calling us to that, and also to make room for the Light and freedom winter has to offer?



Welcome, Dr. Burke-Sullivan

Welcome to Eileen Burke-Sullivan, S.T.D. Eileen began her new job as vice provost for University Mission and Ministry at Creighton this summer. This includes responsibility for the Creighton University Retreat Center. The Division of Mission and Ministry had a wonderful retreat with her in September. We look forward to working and ministering with her.

[Read More](#)



Give the Gift of a Retreat

Are you looking for a unique Christmas gift? Please consider a gift certificate for some retreat time. Gift certificates can be made in any amount and can work around just about any schedule. Call Terri Lou at the Retreat Center, 712.778.2466, to purchase one.



Around the Grounds

Construction on the **Loyola Dining Hall** expansion officially began in October. When completed, we will be able to seat more than 140 comfortably and offer a side dining room for small groups and/or silent retreat guests. The main office and gift shop will also be located in the new space. Please pray for a safe and speedy construction.

We have also been busy with the **installation of the fiber-optic cable** at the retreat center. In general, we hope to offer a faster Internet service to the conference rooms and certain locations. We hope to have this project completed by the first of the year.

Plans continue to be discussed for the **Jogues Lodge** remodeling, which would include installing new windows, insulation and siding.



Thank You

Thank you to one of our returning groups and their contribution to keep a **new American flag waving**. They have been coming for more than 25 years! What a blessing.

We would like to extend a thank you to the **Griswold Cooperative Telephone Co.** for all the extra efforts in planning and conversing with various partner companies on the fiber-optic project that is underway.

And a special thank you goes to those of you who have made donations of time or dollars; Ginny and the many anonymous guests! Thank you also to **Linda and Bill Ebbinga** for their donation of exterior lights. It is our hope to offer a place of rest and comfort.



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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