

# The Retreat Center

Creighton  
UNIVERSITY



February 2016

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

## Is God Calling You?

By Amy Hoover

As we prepare to begin another Lenten Season, I have been reflecting on Jesus' journey into the desert and how that is a model for us for retreats.

He was led there by the Spirit, filled with the Spirit. The desert is certainly a place of quiet, ideal for prayer and reflection. Jesus didn't eat while he was in the desert. I see this symbolically as an emptying.

When we retreat, we are invited to empty ourselves of our egos and life noise so that we can be filled with the Spirit and hear how God is revealing Godself to us. I feel so fortunate to live in this quiet, beautiful space, but I also feel the need to disconnect, to go to the desert to be renewed.

How is God calling you this Lenten Season to be renewed? Could God be calling you to the desert? Could God be calling you to retreat? Whether it is for an hour, a day, a weekend, eight days or maybe 30 or 40, listen for God's call to the quiet and then I encourage you to say "yes."



## Valentine's Retreat

Frs. Larry Gillick, S.J., (*near right*) and Greg Carlson, S.J., from the Deglman Center for Ignatian Spirituality at Creighton University, will offer a Valentine's Day weekend retreat at the Creighton Retreat Center, Feb. 12-14. The weekend will begin at 6 p.m. on Feb. 12 and conclude Feb. 14 after lunch. Come and spend the weekend together in the beauty of God's creation. Cost for this retreat is \$375 per couple and includes a room and six delicious homemade meals. Come celebrate Valentine's Day with your spouse! **Only a few openings remain.**



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## Remembering Doc Hall

Louis Hall, or simply "Doc" to our retreat center family, died on Jan. 28, at the age of 88. Doc was a military veteran who served in Korea and then in private practice in Denver until his retirement in the mid-1980s. After moving to Griswold, Iowa, to be nearer to family, Doc began attending daily Mass at the retreat center and came to be a valued member of our family. He served as our Chapel Sacristan for many years and looked after things with great care, whether bringing in fresh flowers from his garden or shaving the altar candles to keep them burning.

Over these last months, it became more difficult for Doc to get out and he was not able to join us at the chapel. We regularly went to his home to bring Communion, and occasionally we would celebrate Mass at his home around the dining room table. Doc's spirit and faith remained steadfast and strong even as his physical health declined. We will all miss him even as we celebrate his life and the gift he has been to all of us. Doc Hall, pray for us!

[Read his obituary](#)



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## 8-Day Retreats

Two eight-day silent directed Ignatian retreats are scheduled for June 2-11 and July 21-30. The first retreat will be directed by third-year Christian Spirituality graduate students from Catholic and varying Protestant denominations trained in the evocative-contemplative approach of spiritual direction. The second retreat will be directed by Amy Hoover and Fr. Bob Dufford, S.J.

[Learn more and register](#)



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## Prayer Meditation Deck

One of our dreams at the Creighton Retreat Center is to put a three-season "prayer meditation deck" in the woods. This space would be just past Mary's Garden overlooking the ravine. It will be screened in and also have sliding windows. The cost for purchase and installation is estimated at between \$15,000 and \$20,000. We are two-thirds of the way to our \$20,000 goal for construction. We hope to fund this project through donations and to have the prayer space in place before the summer of 2016. Can you help? Contact Amy Hoover, 712-778-2466 or [amyhoover@creighton.edu](mailto:amyhoover@creighton.edu), if you would like to contribute to the prayer meditation deck fund.



## Gift Shop

Our Gift Shop has been moved to the new space in Loyola Dining Hall. We love the lighting and space that houses our books, rosaries, sculptures and other special treasures. Be sure to stop by during your next visit.



## Thank You

Once again, thank you to those who volunteer their time at the retreat center. Peg, Julie, Ceal and Joe, your help the past months is greatly appreciated. We would also like to thank those who have contributed to our fund for the prayer meditation deck. Your generosity and love for the retreat center is cherished.

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](#). *(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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