



Lutheridge + Lutherock Ministries

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Greetings from Lutheridge!

I look forward to welcoming you to **CREATE IN ME!** at Lutheridge April 12-15, 2012. Our theme is **WORKING MIRACLES!** We'll study New Testament miracles of Jesus and explore the ways Jesus continues to work miracles in and through us today.

Please check your confirmation letter to make sure that all information is correct. Feel free to call our Registrar, at the registration number above (9 AM-5 PM Monday-Friday) She'll be glad to help you with any questions about lodging, meals, or payment. Please encourage others to join us ~ more participants means more wonder and wisdom shared! If you discover that you cannot come for some reason, please call as soon as possible to allow a partial reimbursement of your registration fee.

You are welcome to check into your lodging anytime after 3:00 PM on Thursday, April 12. Come to the **Faith Center** to pick up your packet. Your room key will be inside. At 7:30 PM we'll be moving up to Mission Hall for our first gathering of the retreat. If you will not arrive before that, please call our guest services staff on that day (**828-606-5684**) so that we can let you know where to find your packet/key when you arrive. Our time together on Thursday will be important for introductions and information, so please try to make it by 7:30 if at all possible.

If this is your first time at the **Create in Me** retreat, you will be surprised and delighted by the atmosphere of HOLY PLAY that surrounds you. Come prepared to try new things and make unique discoveries about yourself and the Creative God we worship. Each participant is encouraged to bring something that is "miraculous" for our gallery (something you or someone else has created or something God created - your choice). We'll be in touch a few weeks before the retreat with information about other things to bring/expect as plans take shape. All the workshops and creation stations won't be SET until closer to the retreat time. When they are, we'll post them online so you can get excited about them! Keep checking the website www.llmi.net looking at Adult Programs ~ Create in Me. At the gallery opening on Thursday night, we will sign up for Morning Workshops - first time participants (and other workshop leaders) will get a head start.

Friday and Saturday will include Bible Study (**Bring your bible!**) worship and full days of stimulating, ideas and discussion, as well as the chance to "make stuff" in playful settings, but very meaningful ways. Because of time limitations, everyone won't be able to do everything...but we'll all do a lot! The value of the retreat is always more in process than product, and in the relationships formed and creative adventures experienced rather than in the amount of stuff we take home. Friday evening includes "arts worship" with communion at nearby Nativity Lutheran church. Saturday evening will conclude with a delightful and informal sharing and celebration of what we've created ~ offering gifts to one another (a poem, a skit, a song...) **Please bring any instrument you play or whatever you might need to spend a short time in**

the spotlight, if you choose to do so. On Sunday morning we will seek to discover "what happens next", both in what we take home from the gathering, and in the shape of future retreats together. Our program concludes with a sending service including Holy Communion in the Lutheridge labyrinth or another unique camp setting.

After that, you can be on your way if you're traveling some distance, or stay and enjoy the mountains for the day. We'll ask that you be out of your room by 11:00 AM on Sunday, but you are welcome to enjoy the trails and other areas on camp. If you'd like to stay and explore the many shops, galleries, and studios in the area, we'd be happy for you to be our guest. Just call our office to make arrangements for extended lodging. All linens and one set of towels are provided, but there are no alarm clocks in the rooms, so bring one or just sleep late! You might also want to bring a flashlight, an umbrella or raingear, comfortable walking shoes and a jacket or sweater. Do bring clothes that paint or clay won't ruin! And you may want clothes for early morning movement or for our fitness room. We are hoping for beautiful warm days and cool, clear mountain nights, but we'll rejoice in whatever weather we get.

The focus of our time together will not be on gaining "expertise" in a specific field of creative expression, but rather in trying new things and helping each other find and use the gifts that we've been given. How exciting to talk with others about the ways that God is at work in them as they work in their gardens or studios or kitchens. How wonderful to share common sources of inspiration and the great joy of co-creating with the one who created us! Please pray that God will be present with tender power granting fresh vision and common purpose among us. If you have questions about what we'll be doing during our time together, or if I can be helpful in any way, you are welcome to call me or email me. (See info in Letterhead)
God's Peace,

Lutheridge Program Director