Courage To Teach and Lead: A Seasonal Retreat Series For Personal and Professional Renewal
Mount Olivet Retreat Center
Farmington Minnesota

In these challenging times, we often face the question of how to stay true to our deeply held values amid the complexity of our roles and responsibilities. For those of us who teach, lead and serve our communities, it’s especially crucial that we make time to renew our spirits and reflect on the purpose and meaning that underlie our work so that we can sustain ourselves.

At this Courage & Renewal® retreat series you’ll discover a unique kind of professional and personal development—one that deepens your self-awareness and renews your energy to live and lead with authenticity, integrity and courage.

Join us for a unique opportunity to:

- **Renew** heart, mind and spirit as you explore the connection between what you do and who you are;
- **Reconnect** to your vocation by identifying and honoring your gifts and strengths, and also acknowledging limits;
- **Engage** with like-minded peers in a safe space for honest dialogue, careful listening and deep connection that honors diversity in person and profession;
- **Learn** to create trustworthy spaces for others that help communities learn and grow together;
- **Develop** healthy ways to hold the tensions inherent in a life of leadership, teaching or service;
- **Discover** self-reflective practices for leadership that help you gain clarity about deeper questions and become more intentional about your work.

**Our Approach:** Developed by Parker J. Palmer and the Center for Courage & Renewal, this retreat series explores issues of transition, vocation, life purpose, meaning, and renewal. Seasonal metaphors, poetry and prose, music and video, nature and movement, small and large group conversations, personal reflection and journaling are catalysts for considering generative questions, building community, developing greater alignment with our values and reconnecting who we are with what we do. All activities are invitational.

“Our deepest calling is to grow into our own authentic self-hood, whether or not it conforms to some image of who we ought to be. As we do so, we will…find our path of authentic service in the world.”

— Parker J. Palmer, *Let Your Life Speak*

Register or learn more at [www.couragerenewalmn.org](http://www.couragerenewalmn.org)
Retreat Leadership:

Ron Petrich retired from Augsburg College where he facilitated professional development, conducted vocation retreats, and taught in the Education Department. He has facilitated Courage & Renewal programs since 2001. He previously worked for thirty years in the Minneapolis Public Schools where he taught in the Social Sciences, wrote curriculum, developed and administered a mentorship program for new teachers, and served as a professional development coordinator.

Chris Commers currently serves teachers as the Chaska Education Association President for Eastern Carver County Schools. He has facilitated Courage & Renewal programs for several years and is implementing a Leading Together program in collaboration with the Center For Courage and Renewal. Chris served as an instructional coach at CMSW for two years and as a Social Studies teacher at CHS for 21 years.

Retreat Series Details:

DATES: Retreat Series at Mount Olivet Retreat Center, Farmington, Minnesota

- October 12,13, 2018 – Friday 9:00 AM – Saturday 12:00 PM
- February 8,9, 2019 - Friday 9:00 AM – Saturday 12:00 PM
- May 17,18, 2019 – Friday 9:00 AM – Saturday 12:00 PM
- August 9,10, 2019 - Friday 9:00 AM – Saturday 12:00 PM

Participants register for the entire series and commit to being present for each of the four seasonal retreats.

PROGRAM FEE: $1200.00 for the series of four retreats includes lodging, meals, materials and facilitation. Because of a grant from the McFarland Family Foundation, educators who aren’t able to secure funds through their district can attend the entire series of four retreats for $200.00.

PAYMENT: $200 is due September 10th.

GRADUATE CREDIT: Credit available from Hamline University for additional cost.

CANCELLATION POLICY: We understand that life challenges emerge and changes happen. If you must cancel, you can receive a full refund minus a non-refundable $100 deposit when you notify us at least two weeks before the program begins.

Register Online: http://www.couragerenewalmn.org

People at C&R retreats say:

“Wonderfully inspiring! I came tired, feeling the responsibilities of work weighing me down… I left feeling renewed, rested and clear in my beginning steps to move forward.”

“The facilitation was lovely… caring, gracious and purposeful.”

“This gave me the courage and renewal I need to continue doing the work that my soul and the world are asking me to do. I’m deeply grateful for the gift of that experience, and for all the ways it continues to resonate in my daily life.”

For more information contact
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