

What to Bring:

- Snacks to share
- Table games, puzzles, etc.
- *Hymnal A Worship Book*
- Stories about life-giving practices that have sustained your life and ministry

SCHEDULE

Sunday, April 10

- 6:30 pm Arrive/Settle into rooms
- 7:00 Welcome/Get Acquainted
- 8:00 Gathering/Worship
Snacks Following

Monday, April 11

- 7:30 am Breakfast
- 9:00 Worship
- 10:30 Session One
- 12:15 Lunch
- Afternoon Free-time/Informal Discussions
- 4:00 Session Two
- 6:00 Supper
- 7:30 Worship
Snacks Following

Tuesday, April 12

- 7:30 am Breakfast
- 9:00 Session Three
- 11:00 Closing Worship
- 12:15 Lunch

Pastors' & Spouses' Gathering 2011



CENTRAL PLAINS
MENNONITE
CONFERENCE



Life-Giving Spiritual Practices
that have

- Saved our Lives,
- Built our Faith and
- Energized our Ministries

April 10-12, 2011
St. Benedict Center, Schuyler, NE

Presented by the Pastoral Leadership Committee
of Central Plains Mennonite Conference

Registration Form

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State/ZIP _____

Email _____

Phone (_____) _____ - _____

Special Needs _____

Cost of **\$125**/person (double occupancy)

Includes: 2 night's lodging & 5 meals

{**\$140**/person single occupancy}

{**\$30** - day fee—no overnight}

Number of persons registering

_____ x \$ _____ = \$ _____

Please make checks payable to:

Central Plains Mennonite Conference

and write **P/S Gathering** in the Memo line.

Send this form and payment to:

Central Plains Mennonite Conference

PO Box 101

Freeman, SD 57029-0101

Registration deadline: **March 23, 2011**

Life-Giving Spiritual Practices



Theme Description:

“Life-Giving Spiritual Practices that have Saved our Lives, Built our Faith and Energized our Ministries” The Exodus story of slavery, deliverance, wilderness and Promise Land describes well our journey of life. As pastors and spouses we experience times when life is “hard.” Then there are those times when we experience God’s hand of

“deliverance” and we sing our songs of praise. Sometimes our journey feels like “wilderness,” when the way ahead is long and difficult. Other times we experience “Promise Land” when we find ourselves in a good place and life and ministry are going well.

This pastor/spouse gathering will explore all of these aspects of the journey and the practices that can help us along the way. We will explore these through personal stories shared by pastors and spouses from within our conference. We will reflect on these themes together, in small group settings, and in times of worshipping our God who is present with us in all of our life’s journey. With our conference focus on building relationships, this pastor/spouse gathering is an excellent opportunity for pastors and spouses to learn to know each other, hear each other’s stories, fellowship and worship together in a retreat setting.

Session One: Slavery/Deliverance: Exodus 2:23-3:17 – “God heard the Israelite’s groaning”; “God saw and God understood...” (I have seen the affliction, I have heard their cry, I know their sorrows). In the midst of your struggle, what spiritual life-giving practices helped you know God’s presence and loving care?

Session Two: Wilderness: Exodus 15:22–16:35 – The wilderness journey represents the prolonged journey through difficult times and environments. The wilderness journey challenges our faith and trust in God’s **ongoing** presence and care. What spiritual life-giving practices enabled you to understand and to trust in God’s ongoing love and presence as you journeyed through the wilderness?

Session Three: Promised Land: Joshua 3:9–17; 4:1-7; Deuteronomy 6:10-15; 34:1-5 – Life in the Promised Land can be just as challenging as the wilderness journey but in different ways. In these ordinary times when life is going well, what spiritual life-giving practices keep your faith and walk with Christ strong? Since Moses did not reach the Promised Land, what spiritual life-giving practices enable you to trust in God’s call when you are not able to fulfill your dreams for a given congregation?

Retreat Center Information:

If you will arrive after 9:00 pm on Sunday, please note this on your registration form or let Tim know, so that someone can be at the door to let you in.

Bed & bath linens, soap, shampoo and lotion are provided. Toothbrushes and toothpaste, Tylenol & Advil and candy are available for purchase. All rooms have private baths.

Address & phone # of St. Benedict Center:

1126 Rd I, PO Box 528

Schuyler, NE 68661-0528

Phone: (402) 352-8819

Directions to the site: Schuyler is 60 miles west of Omaha at the junction of US Hwy 30 and Nebraska 15. St. Benedict Center and the monastery are located 4 miles north of town from the intersection of Highways 15 and 30

Questions? Call Tim Detweiler (319) 458-0224 or email timdetweiler@centralplainsmc.org