



## Faith and Sharing Retreat

August 11 – 16th 2019

### *The Community of the Beloved*



Bethlehem Centre, Nanaimo, B.C.

### What is Faith and Sharing?



Faith and Sharing is a Christian ecumenical and transforming retreat experience. It is an opportunity to encounter the Body of Christ. Participants come from **all walks of life** with many stories to tell. Faith and Sharing is an invitation to reflect on the gospel, pray, share and celebrate our lives together. The experience is only the beginning to a new way of life. At Faith and Sharing you will find a community to support you as you strive to live a richer life.

*For more information, about the retreat, contact Terri at  
250 465 2080*

### Animator

We are excited to welcome Michael Hryniuk as our animator for the retreat.

We first met him in 2009 when he animated our retreat and introduced us to Henri Nouwen's concept of knowing we are God's Beloved. Michael has worked as a retreat leader, university professor, spiritual director, psychotherapist and director of a number of organizations including The Henri Nouwen Society and L'Arche Winnipeg. He will bring his unique gifts and life experience to lead us in our retreat. Michael lives in Toronto.



The retreat will include 5 days of :

- Inspiring talks
- Daily liturgy and prayer
- Sharing faith in small groups
- Silence and reflection times
- Being with friends old and new
- Inclusive acceptance
- Joy and laughter

### Come as you are and be welcomed for who you are



Faith and Sharing retreats welcome many participants with limited means.

Bethlehem Centre partners with us, giving us a subsidized rate and we are seeking additional sponsorship so that we can keep our registration fee affordable.

If you would like to support our mission by making a donation, contact Claire at 250 898 8322

Or [gofundme.com/faith-and-sharing-retreat-2019](https://gofundme.com/faith-and-sharing-retreat-2019)

### The Facility

Bethlehem Centre in Nanaimo, B.C. provides a peaceful and restful environment with grassy areas, woodlands, a labyrinth and a chapel overlooking Westwood Lake. There are walking trails and a public swimming area at the lake, close to the property. Simple accommodation, nourishing food and a warm welcome awaits you.



Registration cost for 5 days of accommodation, meals and the full daily program will be \$250.

### History of Faith and Sharing

In 1968, Jean Vanier, a former philosophy teacher at a university in Toronto, was invited by the Bishop to give a retreat for priests. At that time, Jean Vanier was living in France where he founded the L'Arche Community. He agreed to give the retreat, but insisted that it not be a retreat solely for priests. He asked it be open to all people from many walks of life, including the disabled and those most vulnerable in our society. From this Faith and Sharing was born. With Jean's support, this retreat style flourished. He invited people to come together, to form community and to share from their hearts.

In 1974, Bishop Remi De Roo attended a Faith and Sharing Retreat in Vancouver. He returned to Vancouver Island and encouraged a group to start Faith and Sharing here. A five day retreat was held in Duncan in October 1974. Retreats and days of renewal have been organized every year since.

