Having been warmed by summer and taking life at a more leisurely pace, we now turn to Fall, rested and ready to look deeper into the matters of faith, life, and justice. Weber Retreat and Conference Center offers guides on your journey. Kathleen Duffy, SSJ, shares a day on Teilhard de Chardin and Matthew Fox speaks of compassion. Join us as we read the book *Evicted* and meet for dinner and a discussion. And be sure to join us for our Lunch and Learn programs.

Please don’t let cost stop you from attending our programs as we do provide assistance.

And as the leaves turn lovely shades of yellow, orange, and red, take in the beauty by walking the labyrinth. While you’re here, be sure to take some quiet time at INAI Gallery or browse new offerings at the Weber Center Shop.

*Hope to see you at Weber or online,*

Janet Doyle, OP
Director of Weber Retreat and Conference Center
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*Please note: All programs are listed in Eastern Time.*
Bring your lunch (drinks and dessert are provided) or purchase lunch from Weber Center for $7 (your choice of egg salad, turkey salad, or chicken salad croissant sandwich with chips) by registering at least two days in advance of the event.

**WEAVERS & QUILTERS**
**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2023**
Marvel at the weavings of Nancyann Turner, OP, and quilts by Barbara Quincey, OP, as they share how they create art from thread and cloth.

**NOURISH JUICERY & KITCHEN**
**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2023**
Sarah Verlinde, owner of Nourish Juicery & Kitchen in Blissfield, explains how we can eat vegan, soy-free, gluten-free, plant-based whole food and love it!

**MORE HUMOR & LAUGHTER & LESS STRESS**
**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2023**
Hank Cetola, PhD, Adrian College Professor Emeritus, offers a brief overview of his research on the topic of humor and ways to apply it to our daily lives.

**MEXICAN FOOD COOK-OFF**
**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2023**
Following the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, we celebrate with Mexican food! Sign up to participate with your favorite recipe and bring enough for folks to sample along with a copy of your recipe. Non-cooks are invited to come and sample! Cooks may sign up by contacting Weber Center at 517-266-4000.
LETTING GO AND MAKING ROOM FOR THE NEW

In person and online
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2023
1:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M.

Autumn is nature’s reminder of how important letting go is as we move through our lives. Trees letting go of their leaves simply are making room for new leaves to thrive in the spring. Writing can support our letting go and encourage us to make space for the new in our lives. If you are feeling nudged to do some letting go, come join other writers in this exploration. This workshop is for beginning and experienced writers.

WINTER’S INVITATION

In person and online
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2023
1:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M.

As we round the corner of autumn and await the darker days of winter, we write into the mysterious and fertile days of this new season. As we know, much activity happens each day in the darkness under the topsoil. We will explore the wonders of life’s patterns of light and darkness together. Join other writers for an afternoon of writing and sharing our writing with each other. Beginning and experienced writers are welcome.

Cost: $35 per session
Registration required.

Sister Tarianne DeYonker, OP, MSW, is an Amherst Writers and Artists Affiliate.
Join our mindfulness community as we deepen our understanding of and commitment to daily meditation practice. Reflecting upon our relationships with honesty and courage, we amplify our capacity to be love within family, neighborhood, city, and world.

**SEPTEMBER 9, 2023**  
**LEAVE LIFE ALONE – LET IT BE**  
Have you ever noticed how easy it is to create a conflict with what is actually occurring externally in the moment and your inner thoughts and emotional response? When you become aware of an inner conflict or disease, let yourself be curious. Stay with the experience.

**OCTOBER 7, 2023**  
**WHY PRACTICE PATIENCE?**  
The ultimate perfection of patience comes from the absence of our habitual, automatic triggers and reactive hooks to the challenges of life. Mindfulness helps us see ourselves just as we are. We see our own suffering, rising from our desires, and our impatience born from a “hundred sorrows.” There is no better training ground for patience than mindfulness practice. Awareness of what has and continues to nourish seeds of impatience within us opens our heart-space to compassion and insight.

**NOVEMBER 11, 2023**  
**TOUCHING, WE ARE TOUCHED**  
David Abram, author of *The Spell of the Sensuous*, reminds us, “We are human only in contact, and conviviality with what is not human. We are tuned for relationship. The eyes, the skin, the tongue, ears, and nostrils – all are gates where our body receives the nourishment of otherness.” Daily we get lost in a separate “me” thinking, planning, while nature reminds us to be still, to be ourselves, to connect mindfully to the natural world.
LEONARD COHEN, in the song *Anthem*, wrote, “There is a crack, a crack in everything. That’s how the light gets in.” However, most of us prefer the “very nice and all went well” stories to tell. Yet, do we not yearn to truly live and inhabit the whole of our life? Mindfulness meditation especially offers a ground of courage to stay with those experiences that are unpleasant, hurtful, or even frightening – those cracks where the light gets in.

Esther Kennedy, OP, a Dominican Sister of Adrian, Michigan, is a retreat leader and spiritual director. She conducts a monthly Day of Mindfulness at Weber Center.

Cost: $35/session, includes lunch. Registration required. Each session is limited to 30 participants.

Autumn Equinox

CELEBRATION

3:30 – 4:30 P.M.
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2023
IN PERSON

The quiet whisper of autumn is upon us

We witness Mother Earth sending her energy back to her roots.

Bring a poem, a song, a reflection, or a treat to share.

Esther Kennedy, OP, a Dominican Sister of Adrian, Michigan, is a retreat leader and spiritual director. She conducts a monthly Day of Mindfulness at Weber Center.

Cost: Free, open to all; children are welcome. Registration not required.
EMBRACING STRUGGLE:
Walking with Teilhard de Chardin

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2023 | 9:30 AM – 3:30 P.M.

The call to embrace struggle is not an act of resignation, but a commitment to live life to the fullest. In the early 20th century, when Teilhard de Chardin suggested an approach to science and religion that would integrate the science of evolution with Church dogma, he was forbidden by his Jesuit Order to speak and publish on these topics. Instead of losing hope, he learned to deal with struggle in creative ways. During this retreat day, we will reflect on how Teilhard de Chardin’s approach to struggle might give us hope for the future and encourage us to continue to struggle for the kind of change needed in our Church and in our World.

Kathleen Duffy, SSJ, is Professor Emerita of Physics and Director of the Institute for Religion and Science at Chestnut Hill College, President of the American Teilhard Association, Editor of Teilhard Studies, and serves on the Board of Cosmos and Creation. She has published Teilhard’s Mysticism: Seeing the Inner Face of Evolution (Orbis 2014), Teilhard’s Struggle: Embracing the Work of Evolution (Orbis 2019), an edited volume of essays about Teilhard’s life and work titled Rediscovering Teilhard’s Fire (St. Joseph’s University 2010), as well as numerous book chapters and articles about Teilhard. Kathleen also guides evening, weekend, and week-long retreats on topics related to Teilhard’s life and work.

Cost: $45 (includes lunch)
Registration required.
LISTENING TO GOD, LISTENING TO EACH OTHER:
Finding Truth in Love

7:00 P.M. FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2023 – 11:30 A.M. SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2023

Using Marshall Rosenberg’s Nonviolent Communication (NVC) and Quaker eldering practices together creates the potential to make our faith more available to us, and to strengthen our sense of community. NVC is a spiritual practice masquerading as a communication tool that helps us speak our truth and hear another’s. Eldering is the practice of deepening the spiritual grounding of an individual or group by accompanying them in an intentional relationship with God. Integrating eldering and NVC can help us bring love and truth in equal measure to our relationships, our communities of faith, our world. Basing our work on real life issues, we will use individual and interactive exercises, including large and small group activities, dyads, triads, journaling, and role plays.

Dorothy Henderson is a member of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers). A grandmother of nine, she lives with her husband, Doug, in the Sierra Nevada foothills of California. Dorothy has taught and practiced Marshall Rosenberg’s Nonviolent Communication in workshops, retreats, and classes for the past 20 years. More recently, she has been teaching eldering workshops to Quaker meetings and communities. She finds the intersection of Quaker eldering and NVC revelatory and she is delighted to share these practices with anyone who wants to find their way through the thickets of communication to a place of deep communion.

Cost (includes meals):
Double occupancy: $175 | Single occupancy: $225 | Commuter: $55
Registration required.
Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City is a 2016 non-fiction book by American author Matthew Desmond. Set in the poorest areas of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, the book follows eight families struggling to pay rent during the financial crisis of 2007-2008. Winner of the Pulitzer Prize and a New York Times Bestseller, this book not only opens our eyes to the plight of those struggling to keep a roof over their heads, but offers some possible solutions to this crisis.

Cost: $15, includes book and dinner
Registration required.
NEW AT INAI GALLERY:

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2023 - SUNDAY, JANUARY 28, 2024
ARTISTS RECEPTION: 2:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M. SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2023

Works include a wide array of media and approaches to art making from the Adrian Center for the Arts creative community. The exhibit is a partnership of INAI and Adrian Center for the Arts (ACA). As a member of ACA, INAI participates in and supports its mission as a “warm and welcoming environment for all.” By offering artist residency, gallery space, classes, and professional development opportunities, ACA aims to help visual arts flourish and be celebrated regionally.

Artwork above: A portion of Evening Warmth, oil by Kris Schmidt
Compassion seems to constitute the center of spiritual traditions around the world. If properly understood, it holds the power to bring all world religions together. For instance: St. Thomas Aquinas said, “Compassion is the fire that Jesus came to set on the earth.” The Dalai Lama said, “We can do away with all religion but we can’t do away with compassion. Compassion is my religion.” Jesus said, “Be you compassionate as your Father in heaven is compassionate.” In the Jewish tradition, compassion is the “secret name for God.” Meister Eckhart said, “Compassion means justice” and, “Compassion is where peace and justice kiss.” During this event, we explore compassion’s many dimensions, including how today’s physics gives us a basis for true compassion.

Rev. Matthew Fox, PhD, author, theologian, and activist priest, has been calling people of spirit and conscience into the Creation Spirituality lineage for more than 50 years. His 40 books, as well as lectures, retreats, and innovative education models have ignited an international movement to awaken people to be mystics and prophets, contemplative activists who honor and defend the earth and work for justice. Seeking to establish a new pedagogy for learning spirituality, Rev. Fox founded the University of Creation Spirituality. His recent projects include Julian of Norwich: Wisdom in at Time of Pandemic — and Beyond; and The Tao of Thomas Aquinas: Fierce Wisdom for Hard Times.

Cost: $20
Registration required to receive live stream link.
What do the Scriptures say about how we are to relate to people who are most in need of compassion? Begin by examining selected texts from the Hebrew Scriptures, particularly the books of Exodus, Deuteronomy, and several prophetic works before turning to New Testament writings and select Church teachings.

_Maribeth Howell, OP, PhD, STD_, is a Dominican Sister of Adrian, a member of the Congregation’s Vocations Team, and a spiritual director. She taught at Aquinas Institute of Theology and Kenrick Seminary in St. Louis and St. Mary Seminary in Wickliffe, Ohio. She earned her Licentiate of Sacred Theology degree from St. Paul University, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, and completed her doctoral studies (PhD and Doctor of Sacred Theology) in Hebrew Scriptures at the Catholic University of Leuven, Belgium.

_Cost: $45 (includes lunch for in-person participants)_

_Registration required._
Weber Shop
AT WEBER RETREAT & CONFERENCE CENTER

Christmas Open House

WEDNESDAY - SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1-4, 2023
9:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

• Unique Gifts  • Beautiful Nativities  • Specials
• Christmas Cards  • One-of-a-kind Art Pieces  • Original Ornaments

OPEN HOUSE KICK-OFF AND PREVIEW LUNCH & LEARN
Wednesday, November 1, 2023  |  Noon - 1:00 p.m.
Bring your lunch; refreshments will be served.
Special Raffles and Door Prizes
Managing Relationships with
EMOTIONAL INTelliGENCE

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2023 | 1:30 P.M. - 3:00 P.M.

An informative session that addresses our reactions — personally, professionally, socially, and relationally — to interactions with others. What might we want to “change, moderate, or alter” in connecting with others?

Pat McDonald, OP, is an Adrian Dominican Sister. She has worked in the mental health field and higher education. Her background includes consulting, educating, preaching, public speaking, and teaching. She has authored three books.

Cost: $15, Registration required.

REGISTER AT
www.webercenter.org (click on Programs)
webercenter@adriandominicans.org or 517-266-4000
THE POTTER & THE CLAY:  
An Advent Retreat

6:30 P.M. SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2023 -  
11:00 A.M. THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2023

During this first week of Advent, we prepare for the coming of Christ into our lives and our communities, which will involve conversion and transformation for all of us. The Scripture readings for these days are quite rich: allowing ourselves to be formed by the Potter, daring to beat our swords into plowshares, being lambs lying down among wolves, nourishing whole crowds with a few loaves and fishes, building our house on solid rock. All of this entails trusting in the Lord.

Father Vic Clore attended Sacred Heart Seminary high school and college, with two subsequent graduate degrees: theology from the Gregorian University in Rome and developmental psychology from Wayne State University. He has been a parish priest in Detroit since 1966, always serving in racially-integrated city parishes. His pastoral specialty is blending Holy Scripture and human psychology. He is now on “senior status” and lives in Waterloo Township, Jackson, County, Michigan. He has also served as a member of the staff at the Dominican Center: Spirituality for Mission.

Cost (includes meals):  
Commuter: $160 | Double occupancy: $325 | Single occupancy: $425  
Registration required.
Winter Solstice Ritual

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2023 | 3:30 - 4:30 P.M.

Life stirs silently on this night.
Light rises up from within the caress of the deep darkness.

Gather with us in song and dance.
Bring a story, a poem, a prayer, a treat to share.

Esther Kennedy, OP, a Dominican Sister of Adrian, Michigan, is a retreat leader and spiritual director. She conducts a monthly Day of Mindfulness at Weber Center.

Cost: Free, open to all; children are welcome. Registration not required.
Weber Center is thrilled to be hosting the following private group events:

**AUGUST**
- Regina Dominican High School Freshman Retreat
- Michigan Interfaith Power and Light Retreat

**SEPTEMBER**
- Lake Erie Yearly Meeting, Religious Society of Friends

**OCTOBER**
- Lenawee Lifelong Learning Classes
- Birmingham Unitarian Church Retreat
- Maumee Presbyterian Church Retreat
- LCWR Region VII Meeting
- Insight Meditation Ann Arbor Silent Retreat
- Associate Life Sojourner Group Retreat
- Mary Mother of Faith Crowd Retreat
- St. Thomas Aquinas Crowd 60th Reunion

**NOVEMBER**
- ACTS Men’s Retreat, Toledo Little Flower Catholic Church

*Weber Center spaces are available for rent to all non-profit organizations who align with the values of the Adrian Dominican Sisters and who have liability insurance. Whether you have five people or 130 people to accommodate, we have meeting rooms to fit your needs.*

*For more information, contact Beverly Woodbury at bwoodbury@adriandominicans.org, 517-266-4005, or visit www.webercenter.org.*
Come in and see what's new at Weber Shop
AT WEBER RETREAT & CONFERENCE CENTER

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday:
9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Saturday:
9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
(closed for lunch 12:00-12:45 p.m.)

Artwork made by Sisters
Gifts
Cards
Books and so much more!

Place your order by calling 517-266-4035 or emailing webershop@adriandominicans.org.