



# The Academy for spiritual formation<sup>®</sup>

*Spiritual Growth Through Disciplined Community*

## Academy Council of South Texas Fall 2019

### Updates from Your Academy Council

At the quarterly meeting on March 7, 2019, the Council amended its *Guidelines* and formally established an Executive Committee to facilitate the work of the Council. In addition to the Donna Strieb as Chair, we now have Nancy Carter serving as Vice-Chair, Nancy McDougall as Secretary, and Cheri Heldstab as publicity chair. The Council also created policies in regards to registration fee payments and cancellations. At a previous meeting, a *Procedural Guide for Academies in South Texas* was approved as an additional resource for team planning. The next meeting of the Council is set for May 9.

### The Academy Council

*Offering Spiritual Formation Opportunities for the  
Rio Texas Conference & South Texas Area  
Coordinator: Rev. Donna Strieb*

The Academy Council seeks to serve as a resource to support and enhance spiritual formation for both laity and clergy in our Rio Texas Conference and South Texas area through Academy Events. A list of Council Members is on page 4.

The Council meets four times a year, and sponsors *Five Day Academies*, shorter events known as *A Taste of the Academy*, and partners with the Upper Room in support of *Two Year Academies*. All events are ecumenical. Interested in serving? Contact Donna at [dstrieb@ahumc.org](mailto:dstrieb@ahumc.org).

### Your Academy Council Members

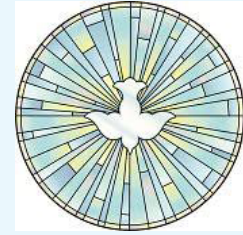
*Donna Strieb, Chair  
Nancy Sherman-Carter, Vice-Chair  
Judy Baumann  
Taylor Boone  
Dave Collett  
Sandra Cranford  
Mary Faithful, 2020 Retreat Leader  
Paul Harris  
Cheri Heldstab, Publicity  
David Hensley  
Patricia Jentsch  
Paula Long  
Nancy McDougall, Secretary  
Yolanda Rivera  
Fritzi Simon  
Carolyn Stapleton  
Janet Weatherston*

**The Two Year Academy begins  
August, 2020  
Oblate Renewal Center,  
San Antonio**

For Information, go to  
[academy.upperroom.org](http://academy.upperroom.org)

Check out our **FACEBOOK** page...  
*The Academy for Spiritual Formation*

# Led by the Spirit: Finding Courage to Engage in Difficult Times Five-Day Academy February 3-8, 2020



## Ray Buckley

Director of Connectional Ministries and Native Discipleship for the Alaska Missionary Conference of the UMC, Ray Buckley is the interim director for the Center of Native

Spirituality and Christian Study. He has served the United Methodist Church on the conference and national levels and is a well known author/illustrator of story books, the author of missional studies on Native peoples, and the Holy Living Series: Prayer. His stories, poetry, and art have appeared in numerous journals, periodicals, and books.

## Marjorie Thompson

Ordained in the Presbyterian Church (USA), Marjorie brings to her ministry over thirty years of experience in retreat work, teaching, and writing in Christian spiritual formation. As the author of

several books, including *Soul Feast: An Invitation to the Christian Spiritual Life*, she considers writing a central dimension of her vocation. For twelve years Marjorie served as director of Pathways in Congregational Spirituality with the Upper Room Ministries, and was chief architect of *Companions in Christ*, an innovative series for adult spiritual formation.



*Being an engaged Christian has never been easy. Today's culture expects and rewards expedience, material achievements, position and power over Christian values of humility, patience, kindness, and vulnerability. Divisive discourse surrounds us. What does it mean to be led by the Spirit in a time of doubt and anxiety? Come, step away for a time apart, to discern how the roots and relevance of Christian spirituality guide us in fearful times. Use this time to find ways to equip yourself to be an engaged and steadfast follower of Christ for the world today.*

**Join us at Oblate Renewal Center, San Antonio!**

## Registration Dates & Costs

**Early Registration** ends October 3, 2019  
Single Room \$595.00 Double Room \$475.00  
**Regular Registration** ends December 3, 2019  
Single Room \$625.00 Double Room \$500  
**Late Registration** ends January 20, 2020  
Single Room \$650.00 Double Room \$525.00  
*Limited Double Rooms Available*

## Your Team

**Mary Faithfull**, Retreat Leader  
maryfaithfull@gmail.com  
**Nancy Carter**, Worship Leader  
**Susan Shaw-Meadow**, Covenant Leader  
**Fritzi Simon**, Registrar  
**Patti Herndon**, Hospitality  
**Russell Miller**, Music Leader

**Brochures Available at [www.riotexas.org](http://www.riotexas.org) under Ministries/Spiritual Formation  
or Contact Fritzi Simon, Registrar at [fritzi.simon@yahoo.com](mailto:fritzi.simon@yahoo.com) or 512-947-2166**