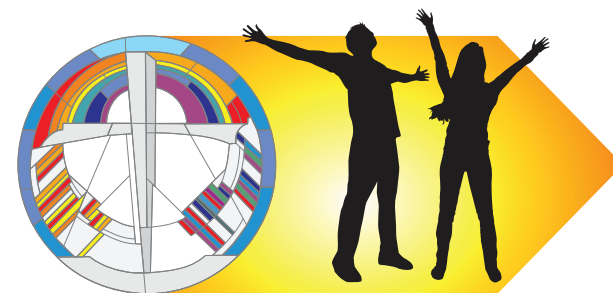


*Then, without realizing  
it, you try to improve  
yourself at the start of  
each new day; of course,  
you achieve quite a lot in the  
course of time.*

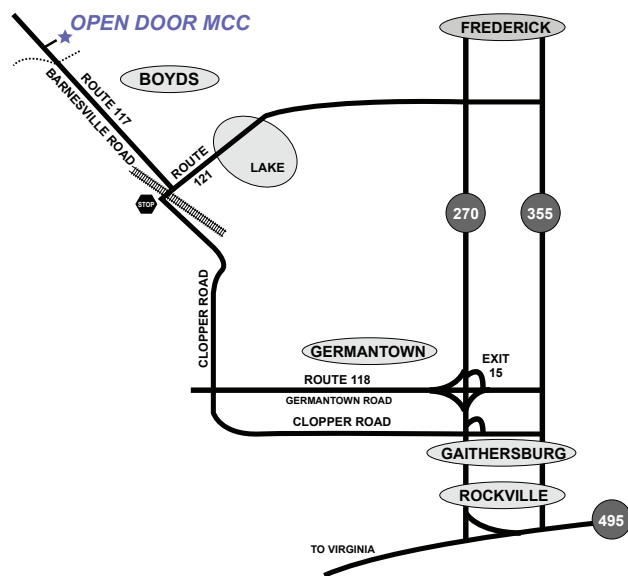
*Anyone can do this,  
it costs nothing and is  
certainly very helpful.  
Whoever doesn't know it  
must learn and find by  
experience that a quiet  
conscience makes one strong.*

Anne Frank



## Open Door Center for Spirituality

As an independent outreach program of Open Door Metropolitan Community Church, our mission for the Center for Spirituality is to provide opportunities for spiritual inquiry and growth through dialogue, experience, and education. Recognizing that spiritual growth is both personal and continual—and yet lived out in relationship with others—the Center for Spirituality exists to provide a safe atmosphere where all people, regardless of theological difference or sexual identity, may come together to find guidance and strength for the spiritual journey—both corporate and individual.



Open Door MCC  
15817 Barnesville Road, P.O. Box 127  
Boyd's, MD 20841-0127

Email: [odmcc@earthlink.net](mailto:odmcc@earthlink.net)  
Website: [www.opendoormcc.com](http://www.opendoormcc.com)

Phone: 301.916.5777  
Fax: 301.916.0618

Rev. Dr. Rob Apgar-Taylor, Pastor

The Open Door Center for Spirituality will provide quality retreat programming (both day and weekend programs) to foster spiritual growth and understanding among persons of various theological and liturgical traditions. While the Center is grounded within the tradition of the Metropolitan Community Church, its goal is to reach all people—both in and beyond the Christian Tradition.

## Event Registration

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Event \_\_\_\_\_

Special Needs? \_\_\_\_\_

**Send this form, with your payment made payable to Open Door MCC, to:  
Open Door MCC  
15817 Barnesville Road, P.O. Box 127  
Boyd, MD 20841-0127**

We have made arrangements with the Holiday Inn Gaithersburg, 2 Montgomery Village Avenue, Gaithersburg, MD 20879. Tel: 301.948.8900. Web site: [www.higaithersburg.com](http://www.higaithersburg.com).

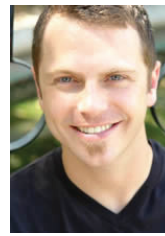
The hotel has an indoor pool, exercise room, and jacuzzi. They provide a shuttle to the Shady Grove Metro Station (Washington DC's subway system) until 9:00 pm. Our block of rooms will be held until two weeks before the retreat. For weekend retreats (Friday through Sunday, the August and October events) the rate is \$79.00 a night, plus 12% tax. For the January retreat (Sunday through Tuesday), the rate will be \$89.00 a night, plus 12% tax.

## Living Positively

August 3–5, 2007

Leader: **Joshua Love**

Program Director for Metropolitan  
Community Churches



Join us for a retreat for those living with HIV/AIDS and their partners and/or caregivers. Explore with each other what it means to live positively and develop a spirituality that gives witness God's power in the face of HIV. Join the Open Door MCC community on August 5th for Worship and a presentation of how the Church can be in ministry to those living with HIV/AIDS.

Cost: \$75 in advance (by 7/15), \$90 (after 7/15)

*Joshua Love, is a passionate advocate for LGBT health, HIV/AIDS education, and drug use and addictions awareness. He travels to communities around the world to share a message of hope and spiritual renewal. He is a survivor of crystal meth addiction and HIV who brings his personal experiences to the development of community dialogues. He completed his Bachelor of Science in Human Services at Skidmore College, is currently working on his Master of Divinity at Episcopal Divinity School, and has served at the local, regional, and global level with Metropolitan Community Churches. He has participated and worked in LGBT community development and wellness for more than 16 years. Joshua's combination of personal narrative and community dialogue bring light to a set of challenging social and spiritual topics.*

## Walking Toward Holiness and Wellness

October 12–14, 2007

Leaders: **The Rev. Reg Richburg and the Rev. Marian Humphrey**

Join us for a weekend retreat for all who seek the path to healing and wholeness with God, with others, or with oneself. There will be time for personal reflection and group interaction. Presentations on using sacred objects for personal prayer, praying with the sacred path of the Labyrinth, and letting go of old wounds for God's healing touch will be offered.

The retreat will begin Friday evening after dinner, and continue all day Saturday. A Labyrinth will be available for prayerful walking and meditation, and for teaching purposes. Retreatants are invited to remain for the Sunday worship service at Open Door MCC at 10:00 am on Sunday morning, and for additional training and Labyrinth work on Sunday afternoon.

Cost: \$75 in advance (by 9/15), \$95 (after 9/15)

*The Rev. Marian Humphrey was ordained in the Metropolitan Community Churches in 2003. Most of her career has been in the human services field as a Licensed Clinical Social Worker in Virginia. Marian has had a deep abiding interest in spirituality work from every day to Celtic Spirituality, having designed and facilitated retreats for both adults and youth for over 20 years. The Rev. Humphrey is a May 2007 graduate of Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, DC, having earned Master's degrees in Social Work and Pastoral Ministry. She is a graduate of the Shalem Institute Group Leader's Retreat Training Program and has taken courses in Spiritual Direction at Washington Theological Union in Takoma Park, MD.*

*The Rev. Reg C. Richburg, LMSW, began his involvement with MCC in 1991. Reg was ordained at MCC New York in 2000 after completing training through the denomination's SIR program. He has become a specialist in Spiritual Companionship (Guild for Spiritual Guidance), Contemplative Prayer (Shalem Institute), and is a labyrinth facilitator (Veriditas Worldwide Labyrinth Project). Currently, Reg serves full time as the Director of the Wellness Center of MCC of Washington, DC.*

## Preaching and Worshipping Through Lent

January 14–15, 2008

Leader: **Rev. Dr. Mark Wesley Stamm**  
Professor of Preaching and Worship  
Perkins School of Theology



A two day retreat focused on planning and preparation for pastors and worship leaders as they prepare for the Lenten season.

Cost: \$150 (before 12/15), \$175 after 12/15

*Mark W. Stamm is the Associate Professor of Christian Worship at Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas. With his Th.D from Boston University, Dr. Stamm specializes in Christian worship and Rites of Christian Initiation. He is the author of several books including: Sacraments and Discipleship, Understanding Baptism and the Lord's Supper in a United Methodist Context; How We Seek God Together, Exploring Worship Style; The Daily Lectionary, A Guide for Using the Scriptures within the Daily Office. Mark also serves as the Abbott of the Order of St. Luke.*

