

# Pathways Retreat

June 2016

*Let yourself be drawn by the stronger pull of that which you truly love.*

Rumi

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## New Co-Director Commissioned

On Trinity Sunday, May 22, twenty-five people gathered at Pathways to witness and celebrate the commissioning of [Evan J. Miller](#) as co-director. He joins co-directors Julie Stegelmann and Linda Lehman Thomas to form a trinity of directors.

Dividing his time between his business and the ministry of Pathways Retreat, Evan shares about his experience of bi-vocating in the second half of life on our [blog](#). There he also reflects on the wise words offered to him by teacher and mentor, Jim Finley: "What's in the way, is the way."

In addition to the co-director function of listening for the heartbeat of God at Pathways, Evan gives leadership to the group that creates and maintains Pathways' facilities and outdoor space.



## "Enchanted"

[Sylvie Gudin Koehn](#) - artist, spiritual director, and Pathways Associate - created and gifted Pathways Retreat with a mixed medium painting titled "Enchanted Woods of Pathways." Thank you, Sylvie!

A selection of Sylvie's paintings are available as greeting cards and may be purchased for \$3 each at the Retreat House.



## Join us in June!

Click on each of the links or visit the Pathways [website](#) to learn more.

### Contemplative Sit

Tuesdays, 7:30 - 8:00am

### Centering Prayer

Thursdays, 7:30 - 8:00am

### A Day Away

Friday, June 24

9:00am - 3:00pm

*By registration*

### Contemplative Photography

Saturday, June 11 (rain date: June 18)

9:00am - 3:00pm

*By registration*



## Renewing Creation

What's happening to the property east of the Walnut Grove Labyrinth? Is somebody building a house back there?

This question has popped up more than once in recent months. Long time visitors to Pathways will remember that the land east of the wildflower meadow, meditation nooks, and the Walnut Grove Labyrinth was once an over-grown thicket of invasive brush. Last year it suddenly opened up and a visitor can see all the way from the meditation nooks to the hedgerow marking the golf course. Depending on when you visit, you might see logs stacked for hauling or little landscaping flags marking... marking something. It looks like a construction site. So we're not surprised people wonder what is going on.

Two years ago this property came under Pathways' management. Steve Thomas has folded it into the certified forest which includes a long-term plan for ridding the lot of invasive plants. He is working with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Water, Soil Conservation District to establish a prairie and other plantings to support biodiversity at Pathways Retreat. In future newsletters, we'll share more of our plans and guiding philosophy and theology.

Like many aspects of our lives, transformation doesn't come easy, and the way is marked by messy conditions. Things can look pretty ugly. With Pathways' long-range vision (and a lot of hard work), we'll see this property transformed in the coming years.

If you'd like to help, let us know. We have lots of opportunities for volunteers to get their hands dirty and work up a sweat making this little corner of the world a better place. -Evan J Miller

Bless the Beloved,  
Heart of our hearts;  
let the sound  
of our praises be heard.  
You keep us attuned to life  
and guide our feet  
on solid ground.

-from Psalm 66,  
*Psalms for Praying*,  
Nan C. Merrill

Pathways Retreat is a contemplative spiritual retreat center in the city limits of Goshen, Indiana, offering rest, reflection and renewal with God.

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[www.pathwaysretreat.org](http://www.pathwaysretreat.org)

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