

Michiana Spiritual Directors' Network

Join us at Lindenwood



Spring Program on April 18, 2024

Register via the following link by April 4!

<https://forms.gle/CrzqRx8q4jDSZdGC8>

The greatest illusion is the illusion of familiarity... What if G.K. Chesterton was right? Could it be that recapturing wonder and imagination are key to spiritual growth and transformation?

Assuming we, as Spiritual Directors/Companions are affected by this same proneness to the “illusion of familiarity”, our April MSDN Program will offer an opportunity for us to explore creating experiences for which we have no specified or expected outcome, and by which we, and those with whom we walk and work, have opportunity to see (again) what is present within and without.



During our April 18 gathering, Debra (Deb) Fehsenfeld, a Marriage & Family Therapist and Certified Spiritual Director will guide us in examining and experientially interacting with three questions about the way we see -- 1) What might be there that we are missing? 2) How might we begin to see (again)? and 3) Why does it matter?

In her work, Deb strives to help and accompany people on their journey to becoming more fully alive. We look forward to Deb navigating us on a journey to help us recognize a larger spectrum of what is being revealed.

Join us for this informative and interactive program at **Lindenwood Retreat and Conference Center on Thursday, April 18 from 9:30AM-3:30PM**. Doors open at 8:45AM to sign in. The program fee is \$35 for dues paying MSDN members and \$65 for guests. There is an additional \$8 fee for lunch. We are sensitive to individual budgeting needs; if you find being a member and/or attending a program is of value to you but unaffordable at this time, please email Bess at michianasdn@gmail.com to explore options. To access the registration form, click the following while holding the “control” key: <https://forms.gle/CrzqRx8q4jDSZdGC8> and follow instructions to remit payment via check to Michiana Spiritual Directors Network (mail to: 344 N 175 E, Warsaw, IN 46582) or choose to receive a payment request via PayPal or Zelle.

Look forward to seeing you there!

News from the Team:

Michiana Spiritual Directors Mission: connect in community so we can grow and deepen in our ministry of spiritual direction. To this end, we assist one another to become effective Spiritual Directors as we tend the Holy. We do this by gathering twice a year for prayer, professional development through programs, support, and sharing resources.

The Coordinating Team has officially completed the process of establishing MSDN as a 501(c)(3) organization. We have an EIN and opened a MSDN bank account. You may recall, our goal was to become a legal entity that reflects how we operate and supports our best practices. This initiative allows us to operate in more a fiscally responsible manner as it relates to collecting dues, paying invoices, etc. Additional information will be shared in April gathering.

The current MSDN Coordinating Team volunteers include:

- Bess Farrell**, Coordinator
- Jennifer Weinert**, Registrar
- Teresa Cecil**, Communications
- Mary Schmierer**, Co-Communications
- Brenda Welling**, Volunteer Assistant
- Jennie Peyton**, Volunteer Assistant

Please consider volunteering to be part of the Coordinating Team. We need a minimum of 2 additional volunteers to serve from October 2024 to September 2027. For more information or to volunteer/suggest a speaker or topic of interest, please reach out to the Coordinating team through email: michianasdn@gmail.com

Annual Dues: To maintain operational solvency, annual dues per year have been reinstated at \$45.00 beginning in Spring 2024. We did not collect dues last year because we were in the process of filing for our 501(c)(3), did not have a bank account, and were able to meet our financial commitments due to funds not utilized during the pandemic. To continue your membership support, please click the following link while holding the “control” key (<https://forms.gle/7PCvGdJgr3Stp7zt5>) then complete the form and choose how you would like to submit your dues.

Survey Info: We will have a summary of survey results available at our April gathering. If you have not yet submitted your survey, please consider sharing your input by using the following link: <https://forms.gle/CdjNPStEvQhmMSed9>. **THANK YOU to all who complete the survey!**

MSDN Financial RECAP: The MSDN starting balance after the Spring Program was \$2125.94. Our 2023 Autumn Speaker fee and travel reimbursement was \$900. Program expenses, which included payment for room rental, lunch, snacks, AV equipment use, and Speaker’s overnight stay was \$847.38. Operation expenses from May to December 2023 were \$8.00. In November 2023, the Coordinating Team paid a lawyer \$175 to advise regarding filing as a 501(c)(3) entity. In January 2024, the Coordinating Team filed as a 501(c)(3) and paid a filing fee of \$275. MSDN received \$679 in program fees for the 2023 Autumn Program.* The current MSDN balance is \$599.56.

*NOTE: There were 10 cancellations for the 2023 Autumn Program resulting in \$350 in unrealized income. Additionally, \$70 had to be paid for unused meals.

Please remember to bring any materials or information you want to share with the group about what you are doing, peer groups, programs, etc. to our April gathering.