

Bishop's Spiritual Retreat for Rostered Leaders

"The Midnight Guide to the Bible"

Spiritual Direction: Rev. Dr. Matthew Anderson

Mount Carmel Spiritual Centre

Niagara Falls

February 5-8, 2023

Nov. 2022

Dear friends,

Grace be yours and peace.

This letter is written to invite rostered leaders of the Eastern Synod, ELCIC, and rostered leaders of the Diocese of Niagara, Anglican Church of Canada, to the Bishop's Spiritual Retreat for Rostered Leaders.

Our theme this time will be ***"The Midnight Guide to the Bible. Not your usual Bible Study: examining the scriptures through murder, sex, money, mistakes, #MeToo, and real estate!"***

Our retreat presenter will be Rev. Dr. Matthew Anderson. Matthew Anderson teaches part-time at St. FX University, Antigonish Nova Scotia/Mi'kma'ki and Concordia University, Montreal.Tio'tia':ke. He is also the part-time Director of Camino Nova Scotia at Atlantic School of Theology, Halifax. (Matthew feels that keeping a number of part-time jobs on the go results in an impressive collection of email addresses.)Matthew was born to settlers on Treaty 4 territory. He was ordained in 1985 and has served decades in the Eastern Synod. His PhD in Biblical Studies is from McGill University.



Matthew is the recent author of *Our Home and Treaty Land* (with Dr. Ray Aldred, 2022); *Prophets of Love: The Unlikely Kinship of Leonard Cohen and the Apostle Paul* (McGill-Queens University Press, forthcoming 2023); and *Pairings: The Bible and Booze* (Novalis, 2021; in French as *Apocalypse et gin tonic*). Matthew's academic publications are currently in Pauline

studies, pilgrimage studies, gender/masculinity studies, and (an approach he coined for the Journal of Interdisciplinary Biblical Studies) "aware-settler" biblical studies. Matthew has instituted historic trail pilgrimages in Western Canada and the Montreal urban area and has walked and led walks for thousands of kilometres on pilgrimage paths in Europe and North America.

Matthew especially loves to translate academic research into fun and user friendly media outputs. He has a pilgrimage podcast called "Pilgrimage Stories from Up and Down the Staircase," Biblical Studies channels on YouTube and Soundcloud, and has written, shot and produced two full length documentaries about pilgrimage. These can be found on his websites,

<https://SomethingGrand.ca> and <https://UnsettledWords.com>

Retreat Director:	The Rev. Wendell Caron Grahlman
Director of Music:	The Rev. Mark Ehlebracht
Chaplains:	The Revs. Adam Snook & Laura Sauder
Registrar:	The Rev. Colin Cameron

To register, visit: <https://form.jotform.com/223285427625257>

The registration fee is \$380. Payment can be made through the on-line registration form via PayPal, or by sending a cheque to the registrar, The Rev. Colin Cameron, 2402 Hereford Cres, Burlington, ON L7P 1X3

Please make cheques payable to "The Eastern Synod". Your registration will not be complete until payment has been received.

Please note that the registration deadline is January 15th, 2023.

ACCOMODATIONS:

- We will be housed in the Main Building.
- There are a total of **45 guestrooms** available
- Retreatants should arrive Sunday between 6:30 and 7:30 pm. The program begins at 7:30pm.
- Please bring your alb as retreatants will be invited to wear their albs for worship. We will follow a daily regimen of worship including daily Eucharists; an opening Affirmation of Baptism, closing Affirmation of Vows, and a Healing Service.
- Silence will be part of our retreat experience.
- There will also be the opportunity for social times, so you may wish to bring refreshments to share.
- The retreat will end following lunch on Wednesday February 8th.
- Questions? E-mail the registrar, The Rev. Colin Cameron at: pastorcolin@holycrossburlington.ca

***IMPORTANT* ALTHOUGH MASKS ARE NOT MANDATORY, THEY ARE RECOMMENDED**

Looking forward to seeing you in February!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "+ Michael". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped 'M'.

Bishop Michael Pryse