

WELCOME TO CEDARS OF PEACE!

- By the time you read this, you will already be aware of the changes at Cedars due to COVID-19. A laminated copy of the Guidelines for Retreatants will be in your cabin.
- The peaceful atmosphere at Cedars has been enriched by the experiences of all those who have come here over the years. We invite you to share journal entries with the hope that your annotations, thoughts, words of gratitude, pictures, poems, experiences in nature, etc., will encourage others in their search for Life. If you would like to share something about your retreat at Cedars, please email your entry to me, Susan, at cedarsofpeace@lorettomotherhouse.org. We are working with a few ideas for posting entries online so please know that your entries will be public and sign your name, or not, accordingly.
- If you have been here before, you will notice some changes. Signs mark some of the new trails and maps are in your cabin. A new picnic shelter is being built at Mary's Lake.
- As always, we are grateful for any cleaning you can do to prepare your cabin for the next person. It is especially important given the increased cleaning protocols needed due to the pandemic.

It has been four years since we raised the fee and we held out as long as we could. This year, however, we were forced to respond to rising costs by increasing the fee to \$50/night and \$550/month. We remain committed to providing space for all, regardless of financial status so please see Susan if you need to make special arrangements.

CEDARS OF PEACE was founded in the mid-1970's by Jane Marie Richardson, SL. Our mission is to provide space for short or long term solitude - a place where we can receive strength and energy from the Spirit of Life which surrounds us in nature.

During your time here, we invite you to:

- Move slowly and gently in this space.
- Listen to the Spirit in the quiet and maintain silence so that others can do the same.
- Be attentive to the life present within and around us.

Please take special care to drive slowly so that your car doesn't interfere with the quiet. We suggest 8-10 mph. If you don't need your car while you are here, you are welcome to park it in the back Motherhouse parking lot close to the barn. Ask Susan for a parking permit if you choose to do that.

CONTACTING US

If you need anything, feel free to look for Susan or Amy. If it isn't urgent you can leave a note on the clipboard outside the office door. The office is located at the entrance to Cedars beside the vegetable garden. You will recognize it by its door which is barn red! Susan lives in the cabin beside the office.

If it's urgent, you can call Susan's cell phone.

Susan – 502-727-0291

If it's an **EMERGENCY** and you can't get Susan, call the Motherhouse reception desk.

Reception desk – 270-865-5811

Please do not approach Motherhouse employees, including nurses or maintenance staff, if you need assistance unless it is an emergency.

MOTHERHOUSE LITURGY AND PRAYER – Not available during the pandemic.

THE HERITAGE CENTER - closed

CEDARS OF PEACE CHAPEL/PRAYER ROOM – closed except for long term retreatants who have self-quarantined.

LABYRINTH

A labyrinth is located next to the Cedars chapel. A short walking path called The Peace Path begins and ends close to the labyrinth. The path to the Nature Preserve Cemetery begins at the bottom of the Peace Path.

UTILITY ROOM/COMMON AREA – closed. Please leave a note for Susan if you need supplies.

FOOD

There is a Foodland grocery in the town of Loretto, about 2 miles away. Turn right out of the Motherhouse drive and go straight at the stop sign. In about a mile you will get to a blinking light and will see the grocery store straight ahead.

COMPOST

The series of fenced-in bins across from the office is for compost. Food scraps (except meat or dairy products), coffee grounds, tea bags, eggshells, etc. are all welcome! Place your scraps in the bin labeled “compost.”

GARBAGE AND RECYCLING

Dispose of garbage in the dumpsters near the barn. The dumpsters are surrounded by a woven fence. Open the gate by lifting the pole up. Please take your recycling home during the pandemic.

SWIMMING POOL - closed

JOURNAL – removed from the cabins. See notes at the beginning for online journal entries.

SAFETY

Weather

EACH CABIN HAS AN EMERGENCY WEATHER BOX IN THE CLOSET. The box contains a weather radio, flashlight, batteries, candle, matches, etc. **Please familiarize yourself with the contents upon arrival.**

If the area is under a severe thunderstorm or tornado warning, you might hear a prolonged siren from the town of Loretto. ***The safest place in your cabin is on your bathroom floor away from windows. The safest place on the property is the basement of the Motherhouse Novitiate Building.***

It is your responsibility to listen to the weather radio and decide whether to stay in your cabin or go to the basement. Radio alerts for Marion County are also found at 100.90 FM on your alarm clock radio.

If there are high winds or an ice storm, falling branches could damage your car. **IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO DECIDE WHETHER TO PARK IN THE MOTHERHOUSE PARKING LOT OR LEAVE YOUR CAR AT CEDARS.**

A security guard drives through the grounds during the night, so don't be alarmed if you hear a truck.

Woodstove

PLEASE READ THE SAFETY INFORMATION BEFORE USING THE WOODSTOVE. Make sure you do not leave a lit candle unattended.

IN CASE OF A FIRE

- A fire extinguisher is provided in your cabin for a small fire.
- If the fire is serious and you have a cell phone that works, call 911 and explain that you are located at:

**Cedars of Peace on the grounds
of the Loretto Motherhouse, 515
Nerinx, Rd, Nerinx, KY.**

- Then immediately call the Motherhouse receptionist desk **(270-865-5811)** and ask them to notify Susan, the Motherhouse coordinator, and maintenance department.
- Voices carry in the woods, so shout for help!
- If you don't have a cell phone that works, go to the closest cabin and ask for help. There is a phone in "Praise" at the far end of Cedars or the utility room at the entrance.

MAINTENANCE

Long term residents are asked to assist with maintaining the area around your cabin as much as you are able. This would include weeding the path, caring for flower beds, raking leaves in the fall, etc. Check with Susan about what needs to be done. Tools are found in the shed along the road.

Please let Susan know if your cabin has any maintenance issues that need attention.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Cost is \$550.00 per month or \$50.00 per night. We can only take cash or checks. We are doing our best to keep fees as low as possible. If you are able to pay more, your donation will help support those with special financial needs.

Payment can be left in your cabin. If paying by check, make it out to "Cedars of Peace."

If you are staying more than 8 nights, please see Susan or Amy about the charge for your stay.

Cedars of Peace is committed to providing quiet, sacred space for all, regardless of ability to pay. If this new fee places a significant financial burden on you, please talk to Susan about alternative arrangements.

UPON DEPARTURE

You can help keep costs down by leaving your cabin as clean as possible for the next person.

- Place all linens in the cloth bag which you will find in your closet including sheets, blanket/bedspread, top mattress cover, pillow protector, and towels, and put the bag outside your front door.
- Do not remake your bed.
- Clean the cabin to the best of your ability using the disinfectants provided.
- Turn *off* the air conditioner but leave the ceiling fan and floor fan *on* since ventilation decreases surface transmission.
- Empty your trash in the dumpster by the barn.

Please let us know if there is anything we can do to help you enter into this time of solitude and prayer.