

Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.
Matthew 11:28-29

Time for JOY
A ministry for and with women 40 and under
April 25-27, 2008
At Camp Mitchell on Petit Jean Mountain

Time for Joy is a weekend retreat designed for young women living stressful lives, be they single, married, divorced, working in the home or outside the home. The purpose of the retreat is to provide experiences which affirm and encourage young women on their spiritual journey. Through the introduction of simple soul-tending skills, the retreatant is reconnected with her spirituality.

This retreat is a gift to a young woman from her home parish, church, or mission. The church sponsor finds the young woman and encourages her to attend, while the church financially provides her way. The church does all in its power to help the woman's family be secure in her going away for a weekend, offering baby-sitting, meals and other needed support, all facilitated by the sponsor's coordination. The key to success of the ministry is the continuing support of the local church community in the woman's life. Time for JOY may be a separate ministry within a congregation or may fit with an existing ministry of the congregation. Either way, the intention is that the young woman's spiritual experience does not stop after the retreat is over but continues inside the local church family; the sponsor assures this will happen. Each young woman is eligible to attend only one time.

The retreat is sponsored and staffed by the Episcopal Church Women of the Diocese of Arkansas (ECW). The staff of volunteers provide the workshops, the music, the speaker, the gifts, the fellowship, and many spiritual opportunities for the young women, to help them connect with their own spiritual paths. A priest provides individual spiritual direction and presides at Holy Eucharist.

Our fourth Time for JOY in the Diocese of Arkansas will be held April 25-27, 2008 at Camp Mitchell. The cost for the weekend retreat is \$135.00.

What's Needed

- Young adult women, age 19-40 or so, interested in attending a Time for JOY retreat.
- Church Coordinators and Sponsors who will work in their local churches with the young women and their families. The Sponsor *finds* the young women, encourages their attendance, encourages their parish families in this ministry before AND after the retreat, and helps find funding in the church so that the retreat is a gift to the women.
- Individuals who desire to serve as Team Members of a Time for JOY weekend retreat.
Interested persons may respond to Shellie Bailey at: 1209 Eugene Street, Harrison, Arkansas 72601 or shellieb2@cox.net
Please include your name, interest, address, telephone number, home church and e-mail address.
- Financial contributions to provide supplies for the weekend retreat, and to provide financial assistance when needed to congregations sponsoring a retreatant. ***Please make checks payable to ECW, note Time for JOY and mail to: Mary Ann Arnold, 7321 South Q Street, Fort Smith 72903.***

REGISTRATION FORM

Retreatant's Name: _____

Telephone: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Email Address: _____

Special Needs (e.g. extra rest, allergic to ..., vegetarian): _____

Church Parish: _____

Sponsor's Name: _____

Sponsor's Telephone: _____

Sponsor's Email: _____

The registration fee is \$135.00. ***Please make checks payable to ECW, with "Time for JOY" in the memo, and mail to: Jordan Ziegler, 2000 Broadway, Little Rock AR 72206.***

A Prayer

Gracious God, prepare the hearts of the young women of our diocese so they may yearn for a retreat which gives them time to relax and be nurtured along a spiritual path, drawing them closer to You and Your love. Gently speak their name so they might hear your call. Through Jesus Christ Our Lord and Savior. Amen.

An Outreach Initiative of the Episcopal Church Women

The focus of the Time for JOY retreat is to enable young women to find their path to the Holy and to enrich their lives.

Strengthening the spiritual lives of women and providing them with learning opportunities is a large part of the mission of the Episcopal Church Women of the Diocese of Arkansas. As in the larger church, the ECW continues to seek ways in which to be relevant to younger generations in a chaotic world.

Time for JOY is a response that combines our organization's mission with the ministry needs of young women.