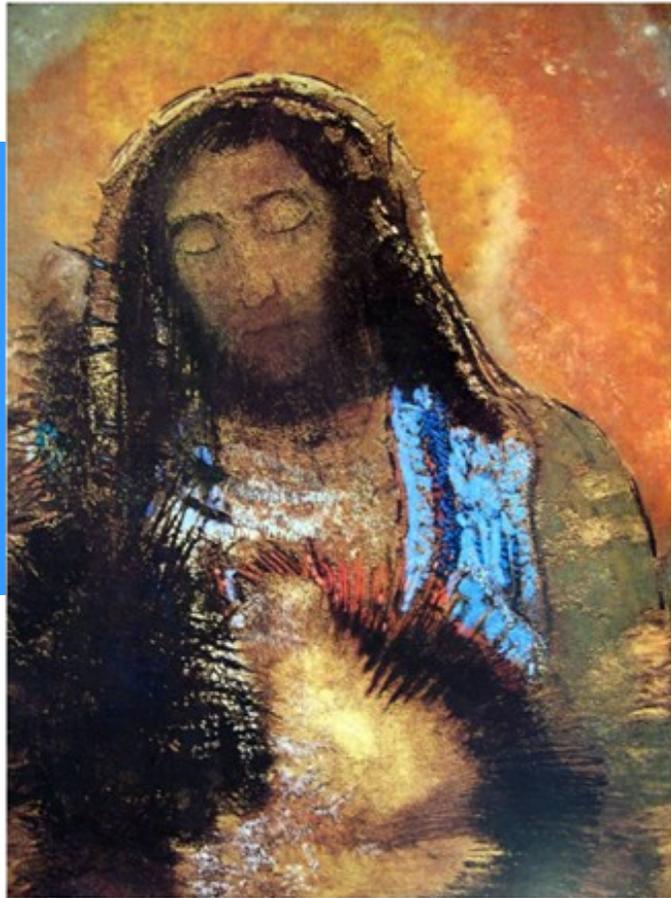


# THE BIG SILENCE

A 4-Day Mostly Silent Retreat

January 25-28, 2015

**STUMBLING**  
into the Heart  
of **CHRIST**



Sacred Heart - Odilon Redon, 1910

*Centenary*  
UNITED METHODIST  
WINSTON-SALEM

DAVIDSON  
UNITED  
METHODIST  
CHURCH

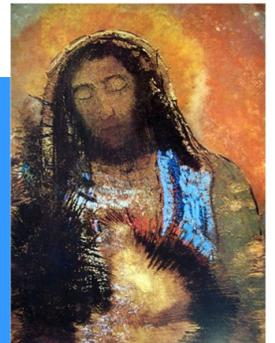
Ministries of Spiritual Formation  
Rev. Jonathan Brake · Rev. Dianne Lawhorn

# Welcome to The Big Silence!

You are invited to experience big spaces of solitude and silence in community for the purpose of tending the inner fire of your soul. Inspired by the documentary *The Big Silence* with Abbot Christopher Jamison (please view on YouTube), and encouraged by several *Clergy School of the Spirit* students, this 4-day mostly silent retreat will be grounded in the modern classic *The Way of the Heart* by Henri Nouwen. Since it was first published more than twenty years ago, *The Way of the Heart* has helped millions of men and women cast off the anger and greed that trouble the world—and find love, compassion and peace in the heart of God.

Through Nouwen's guidance, this retreat clears before us a spiritual path consisting of three steppingstones: *Solitude* (learning not to be alone but to be alone with God); *Silence* (the discipline by which the inner fire of God is tended and kept alive); and *Prayer* (standing in the presence of God with the mind in the heart). We will . . .

- Experience community and conversation on Sunday as we prepare our hearts and minds to enter into The Big Silence.
- Nurture trust as we seek to move/stumble/fumble our way into the heart of Christ.
- Deepen our contemplative grounding through brief daily teachings/readings to help break through obstacles and illuminate The Way of the Heart.
- Expand our capacity to listen to God through prayer, wisdom, and silence.
- Explore optional opportunities to connect with God in the spaciousness of silence: walking the labyrinth; soaking in the beauty of nature; the sacred art of mandalas; one-on-one and/or small group processing; iconic images; and praying the Divine Hours in community—Morning, Midday, Vespers (evening), and Compline (before bed).
- Receive rich and empowering resources for your continued journey into the heart of Christ.



## Retreat Details

**Place:** *St. Francis Springs Prayer Center*, Stoneville, NC ([www.stfrancissprings.com](http://www.stfrancissprings.com))

**When:** Arrival Sunday, January 25 between 3:00 and 3:30 p.m.  
Retreat begins at 4:00 p.m. and concludes Wednesday, January 28 at 2:30 p.m.

**Leaders:** Rev. Jonathan Brake and Rev. Dianne Lawhorn, Directors of Spiritual Formation

**Cost:** \$445 by December 15, 2014  
\$495 after December 15, 2014  
(*Cost includes tuition, private room, and meals. Sixteen single rooms available.*)

**Registration Deadline:** Friday, January 9, 2015. Early registration is HIGHLY suggested.  
This retreat is often sold out a month prior to the deadline.

**To register:** Registration form follows on next page. Questions? Contact Program Registrar,  
Judy Jones at [jjones@centenary-ws.org](mailto:jjones@centenary-ws.org) or 336-397-1361.

Directions and details will follow your registration via e-mail.

IN PREPARATION, please READ *The Way of the Heart* and/or *Out of Solitude*  
and WATCH "The Big Silence" on YouTube.



# THE BIG SILENCE

registration form

*Please send this form to Centenary United Methodist Church. One form per person.*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work/OR Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_ Your Faith Tradition: \_\_\_\_\_

Payment Enclosed:

\_\_\_ Full payment \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ A tax-deductible contribution of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is also enclosed to support the ministry of spiritual transformation through retreat.

\_\_\_ Check Enclosed (payable to "Centenary UMC" - with "The Big Silence" on memo line).

\_\_\_ Credit Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_  
(VISA, Mastercard, and Discover accepted)

*Return this completed form to the address below.*

*You will receive a registration confirmation with any further information necessary for the program.*

**Centenary United Methodist Church**  
**Attn: The Big Silence Registrar, Judy Jones**  
**PO Box 658 / Winston-Salem, NC 27102**  
**Phone 336-397-1361 / Fax 336-723-5840**  
**[www.CentenaryOnline.com/SF](http://www.CentenaryOnline.com/SF)**

*Thank you!*

**CANCELLATION POLICY:** With your registration a room will be reserved for you at the Center. You are responsible for your entire cost of the retreat unless your space can be filled, in which case your money will be refunded (less a \$25 processing fee).