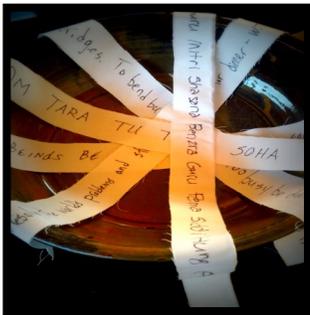




# November 2015 Newsletter

*Five Oaks Education and Retreat Centre  
Inspiring Spirituality*

## A New Day is Upon Us Highlights of the Month



The process of transformation can sometimes be very daunting, frightening and exhausting; however, it can also be very liberating, empowering and rewarding.

It is evolution at its finest.

Five Oaks represents a microcosm of the church today, mirroring the same uncertainties and the same financial challenges. We know it is time to transform.

We are so blessed to have just received an anonymous donation for \$128,000 which will keep our doors open through 2016. We are so very grateful! But what comes beyond that is where we are being called to focus and with great discernment, we see a new pathway emerging.

We believe God is calling us to inspire, to teach and to heal; to inspire connection to Spirit, to Self, to Humanity and to the Earth. We believe we are being called to help shape the church of tomorrow for all those yearning for a deeper connection to their soul, their inner being, to their higher power, to others and to Creation.

Five Oaks is preparing to respond to the cry of the Earth, of all Creation during this pivotal time in our Universe. All our practices and buildings will reflect an honouring of the Earth and the Spirit.

Some things will change, some things will remain.

Buildings at Five Oaks will change; there will be fewer, they will be off-grid. Earth-centric teachings, including learnings from our Native elders will be offered. Christian Education, taught through the Oaten Institute, a ministry of Five Oaks, will be accessible across the country.

We invite you to reflect on the new concept for Five Oaks by clicking [here](#) and reviewing a presentation that has been circulated among some of our stakeholders. Melissa, our Executive Director and the Five Oaks Board welcome any feedback and encourage you to email Melissa at [director@fiveoaks.on.ca](mailto:director@fiveoaks.on.ca) should you wish to share your thoughts.

We believe, we are all in this together and are all being called to transform for a better tomorrow.

## Upcoming Programs...

To find out more about these programs, or other programs and events please visit [www.fiveoaks.on.ca](http://www.fiveoaks.on.ca) or call 519-442-3212

### [Intercultural Worship: Living Faithfully into God's Call](#)

Nov. 20-21, 2015. Fri.  
5:30pm - Sat. 4pm. Program  
starts with dinner on Fri.  
Plus three conference calls  
following the program from  
7-8:30pm on Feb. 3, Apr. 6 &  
June 1, 2016.

Join us for a life-giving  
program that will involve  
worshipping and learning  
together. During this program  
we will explore how to honour  
all of our God-given  
differences in the planning  
and leading of worship. We  
will explore how to build  
authentic worshipping  
communities that honour and  
respect our diversity.

**Cost: \$160**



### [Winter Yoga Retreat](#)

Jan. 22-24, 2016. Fri. 7pm -  
Sun. 12:30pm ending with  
lunch.

There is a hushed magic in the  
darkest time of the year. Time  
spent moving more deeply  
inward is a gift we can  
receive from the long dark  
period of winter.



Yoga in the  
winter can  
be more  
internal  
and subtle  
in order for  
us to  
recognize

the regeneration of our core  
energy. Meditation and  
reflection will be used during  
this winter retreat to replenish  
our energy.

During this retreat we will offer  
daily yoga and meditation  
sessions suitable for all levels,  
take time for rest, reflection and  
being in nature, walk the  
labyrinth together and take part  
in other group activities.

**Cost: \$380**

### [Male Spirituality Circle](#)

Feb. 8-11, 2016. Mon.  
12:30pm - Thurs. 12:30pm &  
Feb. 16-19, 2016. Tue.  
12:30pm - Fri. 12:30pm.

Offered twice in February  
every year, this judgment free,  
life-affirming event is for  
courageous men of spirit to  
explore relationships, spiritual  
issues and ultimately  
themselves.

Spend time singing, sharing  
stories and poetry in a sacred  
trusted circle, enjoy lots of free  
time for naps, personal  
reflection, hikes, reading and  
each other's company.

**Cost: \$365**



### [Christmas at Five Oaks](#)



Nestled in amongst the forest, Five Oaks is a beautiful space to host  
your 2015 Christmas party.

Connect with those who are near and dear to you while sipping hot  
cocoa by the fire. Let the peaceful setting warm your hearts and the  
delicious cuisine nourish your Soul.

For more information about any of these group offerings, please  
contact Jen Nichols at [info@fiveoaks.on.ca](mailto:info@fiveoaks.on.ca) or  
519-442-3212 x26.