THE ROLLING RIDGE STORE

Newly designed t-shirts and sweatshirts with the Rolling Ridge logo are now available. T-shirts are sand colored with the logo screenprinted on the left chest. Hooded sweatshirts are light grey with the logo also on the left chest.

- T-shirts are $15 each or 2 for $25
- Sweatshirts are $28 each or 2 for $50
- Save $3 and buy one of each for $40
- Fair Trade Coffee and Hot Cocoa mix from Equal Exchange are also available:
  - Regular $6.00 per pound
  - DeCaf $7.00 per pound
  - Cocoa $5.00 per 12 oz. tub

To purchase any of our Rolling Ridge or Equal Exchange items contact our office at 978-682-8815 or email us at thestaff@rollingridge.org.

SIGHTLINES—Views from the Director

God is breathing gently, God never hurries, is never anxious or pressing. God just waits, breathing gently upon us with great tenderness, until we look to God. And, knowingly, nod—Edwina Gateley, source: "I hear a seed Growing.”

I have been anxious lately, even pressing and hurrying. I have good reasons. Several long term staff members were leaving and I needed to have new persons soon. Plus, several trips reduced the number of hours I was seated at my computer, taking care of business. But anxious and worry don’t usually produce good results.

In the midst of "to do" lists, God invites a pace and acknowledgement that this moment is all that I have and reminds me of a great tenderness and wise guidance that is present and waiting for me. Just nod. Look toward God. And nod.

I think a retreat center is a place where we recover the time and the ability to listen and look for God. And nod. It is learning to trust the inner wisdom that comes from silence and contemplation. Nod to the One who calls us by name and loves with great tenderness.

When we take the time, when we honor the moment and look for God’s grace, our lives and decisions flow with greater harmony and extend God’s peace to the world.

Though poet Mary Oliver has not been to Rolling Ridge, (at least I don’t think so) she writes about trees and the value of taking a retreat in their midst. It is another way to nod to God who invites us to go easy and to shine.

“When I am among the trees” When I am among the trees, especially the willows and the honey locust, equally the beech, the oaks and the pines, they give off such hints of gladness. I would almost say that they save me, and daily.

I am so distant from the hope of myself, in which I have goodness and discernment, and never hurry through the world, but walk slowly, and bow often.

Around me the trees stir in their leaves and call out, "stay awhile". The light flows from their branches.

And they call again, “It’s simple”, they say, “and you too have come into the world to do this, to go easy, to be filled with light, and to shine”.

See you at the Ridge! Keep nodding, and Shine! Larry
UPCOMING ROLLING RIDGE PROGRAMS!
Spiritual, Renewing, and Uplifting. Call, Email, or visit us on the Web

MARCH
31 Sacred Circle Dance
   Leader: Dr. Steve Fisher

APRIL
1 Day Apart: Speech as Practice, Art and Communion
   Leader: Rev. Victoria Gaskell
12 Soul Friendship– Discovering the gifts of St. Brigit of Kildare
   And the Celtic Tradition of anam cara
   Leader: Rev. Paul Millin
14 Drumming for Joy
   Leader: Jane Gossard
15 Day Apart: Living Authentically: A workshop in Discernment
   Leader: Phillip Pettree
16 Day Apart: The Enneagram– Understanding and Expanding Your personality style
   and Improving your relationships. (rescheduled from 2/13)
   Leader: Herb Pearce

MAY
1 Intensive Ministry Reflection
   Leader: Alice Man
6 Day Apart: The Heart of Leadership: Leading with Spiritual Awareness
   Leaders Margaret Benefiel and Larry Peacock
13 Drumming for Joy
   Leader: Jane Gossard
12-15 OASIS– A Spiritual Spa

JUNE
3 Day Apart: Pilgrimage of Soul: Discovering the Gifts of St. Brendan the Navigator
   Leader: Rev. Paul Millin
16 Day Apart: Sacred Manuscript of Nature
   Leader: Rev. Karen Lewis Foley

New programs- Mark Your Calendars!!!

Watch for a summer Evening Labyrinth Walk w/ Labyrinth facilitator Paul Millin
   Look for an October Program with David Rynick of Rynick Coaching!

BOOK A RETREAT
Do you belong to a group looking for a place to hold a retreat or conference? Are you looking for a place to hold a staff lunch and planning meeting? Do you want to get away for some rest and renewal?

Come to Rolling Ridge! Call us for your meeting needs. We have a DLP projector available for your PowerPoint presentation; we have WIFI for your computer work; we have quiet space for you to relax. Our staff is trained to meet your needs.

Call 978-682-8815 x11 or email thestaff@rollingridge.org to check availability.

RENOVATION PROJECTS

I. THE BEDROOM PROJECT
The six bedrooms in the main house have been repainted and we have purchased 16 new mattresses! To complete each room we need new color coordinated window blinds and curtain valances, as well as new bedding. Cost for each room: $1400. Call us to choose your room, or buy one new Hunter Douglas roller shade for $240.

II. THE FLOOR PROJECT
We want to bring the first floor and stairs back to their original stunning entrance welcome. We have the first gift of $1000 for new tile in the front entrance. Estimated cost for refinishing the stairs and new tile: $15,000. Or buy one or more tiles at $25 each.

III. THE ROAD PROJECT
This winter, with thawing, freezing, and much snow and rain, has wreaked havoc with our road. We have contracted with an engineer to design a new road. We don’t have total costs yet, but preparation work of drawings and mapping will total $17,000. Any size donations are welcome!

IV. THE CHAIR PROJECT
Fifty-six dining room chairs are creaking after years of service. We need 80 new chairs for our dining room. Here is your chance to “endow” a chair in your honor, or someone special to you. Estimated cost: $90 per chair.

CALL OR EMAIL ROLLING RIDGE, thestaff@rollingridge.org. Our Director, Larry J. Peacock will be happy to speak with you about our renovation projects and the vision for a restored Rolling Ridge.
OASIS – A SPIRITUAL SPA
MAY 12-15
A special retreat to refresh, renew, and re-energize your life!!

This is a unique Rolling Ridge program offering each participant a massage, yoga classes, spiritual direction, drumming, classes on wellness, stress reduction, meditation, poetry, and opportunity to walk the labyrinth, kayak on the lake, or explore the estate. Gourmet meals are served in the lakeside dining room. Healing touch and foot reflexology services are also available.

A gift for your well being. Four days of care and nurture. Cost is $475 for a private Room, $425 for a double room, or $300 for a commuter. Can only come for one day? Come for a taste of Oasis on Tuesday or Wednesday, 9:30am to 9pm for $95—includes yoga, meals, and classes.

GOODBYES AND BLESSINGS
We give thanks for all the CAROL RABS did for Rolling Ridge and wish her well in her new job in Cambridge. Carol held the office and guest services position for over 2 years, and organized our office procedures, greeted guests, and jumped in where needed.

TONY RUSSO, our facilities Manager will be leaving at the end of March for warmer climates. We are grateful for his computer savvy and technical know-how, which recorded and improved our care and management of the building and grounds.

CARRIE FLATHERY, our Chef Manager has taken a teaching job and is now cooking for us in the evenings and weekends. We are glad she is still serving up great food at Rolling Ridge!

NEW STAFF AT ROLLING RIDGE!

MEET ALISON GREEN WILL (guest services);
Before joining the staff at Rolling Ridge, Alison worked for the Unitarian Universalist congregations of; All Souls in New York City, Arlington Street Church in Boston, and First Parish in Lexington. Her career as a religious professional was primarily focused on hospitality and membership, as well as youth work. Alison is also a knitting teacher and a knitwear designer.

MEET DANNY SMITH (administrative assistant);
Danny comes to us with an extensive background in restaurant/hospitality and retail. An accomplished musician, director, and performer, Danny is the Minister of Music at the Main Street Congregational Church, UCC in Amesbury MA, and is the executive director of his own chorus, “Voices of Distinction”. In addition to working at the Rolling Ridge, he also teaches private Piano and Voice in his hometown of Kingston, NH.

MEET GORDON BREIDENBACH (chef manager);
A Veteran of various acclaimed restaurants over the Boston area for the last 27 years, Gordon brings his expertise to bring the Rolling Ridge a variety of fresh new looks, with the freshness of fruits and vegetables, and a desire to use local products and local farms, in addition to a renewed interest in organic products. Come to Rolling Ridge to experience the finest in Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner!! “Bon Appetit!”

GOING GREEN
We continue to make steps in being good stewards of our buildings and land. In 2007 and earlier this year we have:

1. Installed low-flow showerheads
2. Switched to T8 Fluorescent tubes which take less energy
3. Changed many lights to compact fluorescent bulbs
4. Unplugged appliances when not in use
5. Recycled our boxes in a special bin which has greatly reduced our trash pickups
6. Recycled office paper, plastic & bottles

P.S. We are so pleased with our low-flow showerheads that we now have them for sale at Rolling Ridge. Call us!

Are you on our weekly e-mail list?
We send a gentle reminder of our programs along with an inspiring quote. A Weekly bright spot for You from Us. If you’re not currently on our email list but would like to receive this weekly message, please email us at thestaff@rollingridge.org

A WISH LIST

♦ Regular or roll-top chafing dishes
♦ CD/Tape Boombox
♦ 3 new computers and server
♦ Twin-size blankets
♦ ATV for the grounds
♦ A Linskys wireless router

To make a donation or get more information about our wish list, please contact us at 978-682-8815 or by email at thestaff@rollingridge.org

NEW GROUPS AT ROLLING RIDGE
We are happy to have welcomed or be welcoming the following new groups to the Ridge.

Conference of Baptist Ministers
Christ United Methodist– Lawrence
North Andover Rotary Club
Bodyworks Retreat
UCC Clergy women’s retreat
Northeast Center for healthy communities
Dhahi Yoga
Several Private Retreats and Writing Retreats

We still have many weekday openings for day meetings or overnight retreats. Contact us to schedule a date for your group.
A DAY APART FOR BUSY PEOPLE

Come and join us for a day away from the "busyness" of life. "DAY APART" retreats focus on a variety of topics and offer opportunities for spiritual and personal growth.

March 31  Sacred Circle Dance    Leader: Dr. Steve Fisher
Sacred Circle Dances are simple, graceful, contemplative dances that help us slow down, come to center and participate in the Great Mystery. They help us tap into our gratitude for, and connection with inner peace, with one another, with the earth and the natural cycles of life. They call us from busyness into refreshment and help nurture our journeys toward wholeness and union. The tradition of such dances is an ancient one with deep spiritual underpinnings. Our fare this evening will include folk dances from different cultures as well as contemporary pieces.

7-8:30pm

April 1  Speech as Practice, Art, and Communion    Leader: Rev. Victoria Gaskell
The quality and integrity of our speech determines the quality and integrity of our relationships: with God, with ourselves, and with one another. Come away to explore the power of speech to transform our lives, our relationships, and our communities. Through the teaching of the New Testament and through games, discussion, and individual reflection, in a safe and supportive environment, we will consider different kinds of speech, how and what we really communicate through our speech practices, how we can change our speech to accomplish more of what we want, and how we can better address conflict. Please wear comfortable clothes and bring a Bible and writing materials. Aside from designated periods of presentation, discussion, and lunch, this is a silent retreat, as speech begins with and emerges from silence.

9:30-3pm

April 12  Soul Friendship-Discovering the Gifts of St. Brigit of Kildare and the Celtic tradition of anam cara    Leader: Rev. Paul Millin
Brigit was an abbess of a double community (men and women) and may have been consecrated as a bishop. Both men and women received her guidance and leadership. Her life was lived with a profound sense of Christ’s friendship with us. Bridgit’s spiritual discernment and compassion continued the Celtic tradition of having an anam cara (soul friend). Remembering some soul friends and their gifts provide a time for tending the fire of Christ’s friendship. A Saturday morning retreat, 9:15-11:45

April 15  Living Authentically: A Workshop in Discernment    Leader: Phillip Petree
Through the use of practical exercises, Phillip Petree, a retreat facilitator, will help us examine our values, desires of the heart, and personal strengths, which will lead us to greater self knowledge and, therefore, help us make key decisions in our lives. This is for anyone seeking to find greater meaning in life.

9:30-3pm

SUMMER PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH
"Handle with Care" Our program theme for 2008 invites the participants to deepen their understanding of what it means to live in a loving relationship with God, each other, and Creation. Come to Rolling Ridge for swimming, fun, worship, games, and connecting with Friends and God.

Elementary Weekend Retreat July 11–13, for children who have completed grades 3-5, Directed by Lori & Jason Bergman

Junior High Camp July 13–17, Directed by Rev. Jeff Hunt

Senior High Camp August 3–7, Directed by Patti Coffill

REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS JUNE 1ST!!

Call for a registration form or visit on line. Rolling Ridge Summer Programs are open to all, regardless of Religious Affiliation. Don’t miss out on the fun! Call today to register: 978-682-8815 or email thestaff@rollingridge.org.

ROLLING RIDGE IS TURNING 60!!

A special Alumni Banquet on Friday night, with Rolling Ridge Speakers, including Rev. Jim Todd, Dave Hollenbeck, (invited) and others who lift up the life changing memories and experiences of Rolling Ridge.

On Saturday, gather for morning prayers and afternoon vespers at Point of Pines. Enjoy a "wellness expo" all day long, and join in a Celebration Lunch, and Launch into the Future with speakers Cynthia Good and Larry J. Peacock. Saturday evening, stay for an international buffet and a circle of song.

We’ll also be recognizing persons who went into the ministry after youth camps and conferences, and celebrating couples who met at Rolling Ridge. Call us to tell us how your life is different because of Rolling Ridge. Nearly a Half Million young people have been blessed by Rolling Ridge!!!

Watch for more Details.
THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS!!

We are grateful for your support in 2007! Your generosity benefits the many who find Rolling Ridge to be a place of rest and renewal, harmony, and healing.

Point of Pines Society ($1000 and above)
- Phil & Jane Bellomy
- Cynthia Good & Alan Pratt
- Frederick M. Swed Jr.
- Margaret Benefiel
- Larry Peacock & Anne Broyles
- Kerry & John Hamilton

Rejuvenation Society ($500-$999)
- Robert Good
- Judy & Ken Proctor
- Steve Swafford & Timothy Cline
- John Peacock
- John Mogabgab & Marjorie Thompson
- John Serdensky

Renewal Society ($250-$499)
- Robert & Lucia Bucklin
- Al & Cora Coleman
- Robert Jonas
- Paul Millin
- Walter & Leah Sauter
- Judith DeGrenier

Friends (under $100)
- Dan & Jan Rosemeyer
- Greg Keperle & Jean Blomquist
- Alice & William Wimer
- Brian Shultz & Joyce Descantis
- Ruth Oduor, Herbert Schumm, Allen & Sara Ewing Mefritz
- Mark & Rachel Fisher
- David Hollenbeck
- Allen & Sarah Ewing-Merrill
- Diane Malecha, and Robert Ernst.

In Kind Donations
- John & Amanda Lewis
- Rich Peacock
- Tony Russo
- Carrie Flaherty
- Claire Childress
- Ron DelBene
- Carol Rabs
- To everyone who helped make our Christmas fair such a success!!

The Enneagram—Understanding and Expanding Your Personality Style, and Improving your relationships
Leader: Herb Pearce
The Enneagram is a system of knowledge that explains 9 different personality types and how each type experiences their world in their own unique way. You’ll understand yourself and how to relate to others in ways that are much more effective, taking into account the validity of your world and theirs. 9:30-3pm

The Heart of Leadership: Leading with Spiritual Awareness
Leaders: Margaret Benefiel and Larry Peacock
In twenty-first century America, leaders are rewarded for their drive, decisiveness, productivity, and long work hours. What would it mean for a leader to cultivate the inner life, to step off the treadmill, to take time apart for personal reflection? What would leadership arising from a core of spiritual groundedness and compassion look like? Join us for a day apart to explore an alternative view of leadership. During this retreat, you will have an opportunity for personal reflection along with small group discussion and spiritual exercises that draw from the fields of spirituality, management, and leadership studies. Participants are invited to bring their own leadership experiences into the discussion, and imagine whether there is such a thing as humility in strong leaders. 9:30-3pm

Discovering the Gifts of St. Brendan the Navigator
Leader: Rev. Paul Millin
Brendan was deeply affected with the Celtic spirit of adventure. He left what was known and well-loved to discover what lay beyond the horizon. He sensed the unfurling of the Wild Goose, the Celtic symbol of the Holy Spirit. The metaphor of journey is often used for the spiritual life. Learning to trust and hope in God’s providential care and guidance also marks our spiritual pilgrimage. 9:30-3pm

Sacred Manuscript of Nature
Leader: Rev. Karen Lewis Foley
How does the Great Mystery at the Heart of Life—whether you name it God or something else—reach you through the natural world? Is it always benign—glorious sunsets and gentle rain? What about natural disasters? Is God in the whirlwind? Come explore where and how you have experienced—or may yet discover—the sacred in the natural world. We will use text, imaging, meditation and prayer to get in touch with our lives in nature. If weather and your spirit permit, you may want to walk the labyrinth outdoors during a break after lunch! 9:30am-3:00pm All “Day Apart” retreats have a registration fee of $45 at the door. Advance registrations received 2 weeks prior to each event are $40, you save $5. Your registration fee includes a gourmet lunch, snack and all day beverage service. Events run from 9:30 a.m.—3:00 p.m. You can register and pay online using your credit card at www.rollingridge.org. Downloadable registration forms and brochures about each program are also available on our website. For more information, call our office at 978-682-8815 x 11 or email us at thestaff@rollingridge.org.

COME EARLY...STAY LATE
Consider making one of our DAY APART events into a retreat stay. Come the night before or stay the night after or consider a DAY APART as part of a multi-day directed or self-directed retreat. You can even add spiritual direction or a massage to your retreat experience. Call Guest Services at 978-682-8815 X10 to check availability.

In Kind Donations
- John & Amanda Lewis
- Rich Peacock
- Tony Russo
- Carrie Flaherty
- Claire Childress
- Ron DelBene
- Carol Rabs
- To everyone who helped make our Christmas fair such a success!!
**SUMMER RENEWAL DAYS**

9:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

A self-directed day of renewal

Use our labyrinths and walking trails

Go kayaking or canoeing

Spend reflection time in our library, common rooms or outdoor worship space.

Enjoy a leisurely swim (after 3:45 p.m.)

Free wireless internet access is available

Gourmet Lunch is included

Fee: $40 per person

For an additional fee of $60 for a 1 hr. service we can arrange Body Therapy Services including therapeutic massage or CranioSacral Therapy

Private Spiritual Direction is also available for a fee for $40.

Please register in advance.  Body therapies and spiritual direction are based on availability.

**RENEWAL DAYS ARE AVAILABLE**

Mondays:  6/23, 6/30, 7/7, 8/11 & 8/25

Tuesdays:  6/17, 6/24, 7/1, 7/8, 8/12 & 8/26

Wednesdays: 6/18, 6/25, 7/2, 7/9, 8/13 & 8/27

Thursdays:  6/19, 6/29, 7/3, 8/14, & 8/28

Fridays:  6/20, 6/27, 7/18, 8/8, 8/15, and 8/29

---

**SUMMER PICNICS**

There are still openings for church groups, business groups, families and individuals to host picnics at Rolling Ridge this summer. We can host picnics from 15 to 300 and our pool can accommodate up to 75 swimmers at a time. Grills are available for your use, or let us cater your barbecue for a reasonable cost.

**EVENINGS AT THE RIDGE**

Drumming—Once a month, join Jane Gossard for our drumming circle from 7 pm to 8:30 pm, with refreshments following. No previous drumming experience is necessary. Bring a drum if you have one, or use one of Jane’s.

**Monday Nights:**

March 10
April 14
Tuesday, May 13

**SACRED CIRCLE DANCE**

Gentle, simple, graceful, contemplative dances that help us slow down and open up to God’s love and Gratitude.

March 31 7-9pm, including refreshments

All evening programs are $15 advance registration/ $20 at the door

---

**SCHOLARSHIPS-UNDERWRITING**

Over ninety-five percent of our income comes from fees guests pay. Some would-be guests cannot afford to come to this sacred place.

Will you help us grow our scholarship? Will you help us underwrite a program? We want people to experience this special and holy place.

Call Larry J. Peacock, Director at 978-682-8815 to make a donation for scholarships or to underwrite one of our retreats.

---

**ANOTHER TRANSITION—A NEW FUTURE**

Between 1948 and 1955, Rolling Ridge made a transition from a private mansion to a social mission—a center for the young to grow in faith. It required adding a large dining room, converting the garage to meeting rooms, and putting in beds for 80 people.

It is time for a new transition, from a youth oriented “camp” to an adult oriented, youth friendly retreat center with first rate accommodations and service. The Rolling Ridge Board of Directors has hired Demont & Associates to conduct a study, as once again it will take vision and funds to make the transition. A new retreat lodge, expanded dining room and meeting rooms, a chapel, and making the building accessible and “green” are part of the vision for the future.

Call us if you’d like to know more and read our statement of need. Demont will be conducting interviews this spring. We invite your thoughts, ideas, and prayers.

---

**SLEEPY’S DELIVERS!!**

We want to thank SLEEPY’S of Salem, NH for giving Rolling Ridge a great deal on 24 Sets of Mattresses and Box Springs! A special thank you to Chris who gave many hours without commission to provide us with the best mattresses at the lowest price.
THANK YOU!

- To the donor who matched gifts to the floor project. We have refinished the floors in seven bedrooms, one hallway, & the oval room. One more donation will enable us to refinish the library. The floors are stunning in their natural beauty.
- To all who contributed to our spring appeal.
- To our summer program counselors, directors, nurses, and volunteers!!
- To Dick Banks for organizing the Ralph York Chair Memorial.
- To our summer lifeguards: Caroline Pristash, head Lifeguard! Gavin Lynch, Nicole Estrada, Sara Heros, Whitney Adrian, Katchyn O'Brien, Erica Potts, Jacob Peters, and Giovanna Ventola.
- To Iric Rex, architect, for initiating an article about Rolling Ridge and efforts to go green. Two local newspapers wrote news stories.
- From Habitat for Humanity. “Thanks for providing accommodations for the Cambridge group from New York as they spent a week building new homes in Lawrence”.

NEW GROUPS AT ROLLING RIDGE
Gloucester UMC, Unitarian Universalist Ministers, All Saints Church, 2nd Congregational Church, First Parish Sudbury, Sacred Heart School, Erin Murphy Writing Retreat, Family Life Fellowship, New England Library Association, Merrimack Valley Chamber of Comerce.

A VIEW FROM THE RIDGE

Every major religious faith has the tradition of a pilgrimage. Whether it is to Jerusalem, Mecca or the Ganges River, travelers have sought to visit holy places. There is a three fold structure to a pilgrimage: separation from ordinary life, journey to a special place often in the company of others in hopes of an experience of the extraordinary and lastly a return home as a changed or enlightened person.

This brief description of a pilgrimage can also apply to a retreat center as a pilgrimage destination. All kinds of people are seeking out Rolling Ridge, a place quite different from the fast pace, bright lights and loud noise that most people deal with every day. As the quote on our entrance wall says “come away to a quiet place and rest awhile.” People feel the need to disconnect from blackberries and cell phones and reconnect to something deeper.

So come on pilgrimage to Rolling Ridge. We are a lot more economical that going to Europe. We have some great programs scheduled for this fall and winter. We have rooms set aside for making a private retreat. We have space for groups to come mid week and on some weekends. Call us for your pilgrimage experience at Rolling Ridge.

Our 60th Year!!
Join us on September 20th from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. as we celebrate 60 years of Rolling Ridge Ministry. Tour the Historic Mansion and the grounds, see recent improvements, meet friends, renew acquaintances, enjoy some jazz.

Excitement is growing about our first Wellness Expo. It will be an opportunity to meet some of our retreat leaders and experience what services we offer. Anniversary attendees will get to see Yogs, chanting and meditation at Point of Pines, walk the labyrinth, color mandalas and other art projects, receive a massage (chairs, feet, or hands), get their blood pressure checked. We hope to also offer opportunities for drumming, tai chi, and more. A nature hike will lead tours of the grounds and tours of the mansion will feature the new refinished floors & paint in the main house.

A gourmet luncheon will be served under the tent ($15) as we celebrate a glorious past & a bold future. Speakers will include Reverends Cynthia Good, Larry Peacock, and Jim Todd. Please RSVP for the luncheon to 978-682-8815, or email us at thestaff@rollingridge.org.

Our 60th Year!! CELEBRATING OUR 60TH ANNIVERSARY! SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20TH FROM 10AM-3PM. JOIN US!!
PROGRAM CALENDAR
(for details, see our Program Offerings insert, or visit www.rollingridge.org)

SEPTEMBER
Sept 4  Intensive Ministry Reflection w/ Alice Mann!  9:30am-3pm
Sept 20 Rolling Ridge’s 60th Anniversary Celebration 10am-3pm  Music.  Food.  Friends. A Wellness Expo!
Sept 27 Drawing Near to God  8:45am-3pm
Sept 29 Companions on a journey: William Sloane Coffin  9:30am-3pm
Sept 30 Writing: Deeply Contemplative, Wildly Creative  9:30am-3pm

OCTOBER
Oct 1 The Enneagram: Advanced Workshop   9:30am-3pm
Oct 4 Going Deeper  9:00am-4pm
Oct 7 Aliveness: Aligning Actions and Faith  9:30am-3pm
Oct 20 Mindfulness & Christian Contemplative Practices  9:30am-3pm
Oct 25 Drawing Near to God  8:45-11:45am

NOVEMBER
Nov 6 Intensive Ministry Reflection w/ Alice Mann.  9:30am-3pm
Nov 8 De-Stress II  9:30am-3pm
Nov 13 Call to Simplicity  9:30am-3pm
Nov 18 Discover your Divine Flame: Remember-Renew-Rejoice  9:30am-3pm
Nov 22 Drawing Near to God  8:45-11:45am

DECEMBER
Dec 2 On the Way to Bethlehem  9:30am-3pm
Dec 6 Going Deeper  9:00am-3pm
Dec 9-11 Advent Retreat  3 Days

SUMMER & YOUTH

Thirteen elementary children, some for their first nights away from home, enjoyed an Elementary weekend retreat at Rolling Ridge. Under the leadership of Lori Bergman, son Jason, and assistance from Jonathan Stadig, Robin Ellsworth, and Dan Wilson, the children considered the theme “Handle with Care”. Campfire, smores, swimming, making “eyes of God” and other crafts proved popular. Thanks to Janet Pickles who served as nurse for the weekend.

Nineteen Middle School youth bounded upon Rolling Ridge in July met by energetic leaders: Reverends Jeff Hunt, Director, Allen Ewing-Merrill, Herb Taylor, and Leigh Dry, and dedicated counselors Kim Wright & Erica Tobey. Care for the earth, capture the flag, devotions at Point of Pines, swimming and the dance filled their days & nights. Thanks to Jeff Hunt who also served as camp nurse.

Twenty-six Senior High will be arriving after this newsletter is printed. Patti Coffil, Jenny Casella, John Disney, Dee Spinelli, and Jim Blackchord will lead the group.

THE BEDROOM PROJECT— The six bedrooms in the main house have been repainted and we have purchased 24 new mattresses! To complete each room we need new color coordinated window blinds and curtain valances, as well as new bedding. Cost for each room: $1400. Call us to choose your room, or buy one new Hunter Douglas roller shade for $240.

THE FLOOR PROJECT— Thank you for your contributions! We have refinished the grand stairway and seven bedroom floors, the oval room floor, and one hallway. The wood floors in all those rooms gleam. We like them so much, we want to refinish the library oak floor and then the front entrance with new tiles. Library cost: $300. Entrance and hallway: $12,000. You can purchase a tile for $30 each.

RENOVATION PROJECTS

Do you belong to a group looking for a place to hold a retreat or conference? Are you looking for a place to hold a staff lunch and planning meeting? Do you want to get away for some rest and renewal? Come to Rolling Ridge! Call us for your meeting needs. We have a DLP projector available for your PowerPoint presentation; we have WIFI for your computer work; we have quiet space for you to relax. Our staff is trained to meet your needs. Call 978-682-8815 X11 or email AGW@rollingridge.org to check for availability.

BOOK A RETREAT!
THE CHAIR PROJECT

In honor of Rev. Dr. Ralph York, one of the founders of Rolling Ridge, we are seeking to replace our dining room chairs. Beautiful new wood chairs will replace the current creaking ones. For $60 you may “endow” a chair in memory of the pastor who had the vision of Rolling Ridge becoming a conference center. Dedication of the chairs & honoring of Rev. York will happen at the 60th Anniversary. Thank You for your donation.

UNDERWRITE A PROGRAM—FUND A SCHOLARSHIP

Your support keeps our programs affordable and available to those who need a time of rest & renewal. Take a look at our exciting fall lineup and make a donation to support these programs. Call Director, Larry J. Peacock at 978-682-8815 to make a donation for scholarship or to underwrite one of our retreats.

RIDGE ON THE ROAD

Director, Larry Peacock will be leading retreats for several churches this fall. Call Rolling Ridge if you are interested in a speaker, preacher, or retreat at your church or organization.

NEW FACES AT THE RIDGE

Introducing:

- GARY HALL - new Facilities Manager at Rolling Ridge. Gary has a landscape and construction background, and is active locally as a sports coach and landscaper.
- MARCELLE DOTSON is a United Methodist Minister spending her sabbatical looking at issues of poverty and spirituality while making Rolling Ridge her home base. She will be helping with hosting, promotion, and worship duties while living at the Ridge.
- Say “hi” to our new Kitchen Manager, Mike McDermott and new kitchen aids Martha Rullo & Madison Eckles.

UNDERWRITE A PROGRAM—FUND A SCHOLARSHIP

Your support keeps our programs affordable and available to those who need a time of rest & renewal. Take a look at our exciting fall lineup and make a donation to support these programs. Call Director, Larry J. Peacock at 978-682-8815 to make a donation for scholarship or to underwrite one of our retreats.
Fall Renewal Days

9:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

A self directed day of renewal. Use our labyrinths and walking trails; go kayaking or canoeing; spend reflection time in our library, common rooms or outdoor worship space.

Free wireless internet access is available. Gourmet lunch is included. $40 per person

Add on therapeutic massage, reiki, or craniosacral therapy for an additional $60 fee.

Private Spiritual Direction is also available for a fee of $40

Call 978-682-8815 to register in advance. Body therapies and spiritual direction based on availability. Renewal days available Monday-Friday, September thru December.

On the Horizon

• The Program Committee is exploring a bi-weekly worship service that will be available as a podcast.

• Director Larry Peacock met with a communications professor from Rhode Island about a DVD on Rolling Ridge.

• Watch for an article on Rolling Ridge in an upcoming issue of Merrimack Valley Magazine.

• Several Eagle Scout projects are in the planning stage.

• Conversations have begun with local doctors and hospital administrators about developing Rolling Ridge as a center for programs linking body, mind and spirit. Pre-surgery preparation, mindfulness meditation, and retreats for cancer patients & families have been discussed.

• Emmaus comes to Rolling Ridge this Fall.

Youth Events this Fall

ANNUAL LEAF RAKING!!

November 9, 2008 from 1 p.m.-7 p.m.

Come and join us for an afternoon of fun and fellowship as we clear the grounds of Rolling Ridge to prepare for winter. Help us by raking the leaves and we’ll provide a pizza supper and dance afterwards. Bring a rake, your friends, and $5 for the scholarship fund. Please let us know you’re coming by contacting us at thestaff@rollingridge.org or call us at 978-682-8815.

Come One, Come ALL!

2nd Annual Rolling Ridge Christmas Craft Fair

Once again, Rolling Ridge is hosting this popular event! The Fair will be held on Saturday, December 6th from 9am-3pm. Crafters from throughout the community are invited to participate. Do you know a crafter who might be interested in joining us? Interested craft vendors can receive details on our website at www.rollingridge.org, or contact the office at 978-682-8815, or email ellen@rollingridge.org. Rolling Ridge will have a tasty luncheon, a bake sale and a silent auction. Do you have a contribution for the silent auction? If you have a service or an item to donate, please contact us. If you are willing to solicit local businesses to get donations, we’d love the help. All proceeds will support the mission and ministry of Rolling Ridge. We hope that you will help us in promoting this event. Looking forward to seeing you there!!

On the Horizon

HARVARD & ROLLING RIDGE

In January 2009, Rolling Ridge will become the living studio for a class of landscape architects at the Harvard Landscape Institute. The class will study the Fletcher Steele designs and develop a new plan for restoration of the grounds, fountain, and flowers. Margaret Coffin Brown of the Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation of the National Park Service will be the instructor. On site visits by the students as well as research in the Steele archives will be part of the class. Executive Director, Larry Peacock and Board members will be invited to view the student projects & plans for restoration of Rolling Ridge grounds. This is an important step leading to the funding of the restoration. Heather Heinmack is the director of the Harvard Landscape Institute.

60th Anniversary Celebration!! Food. Music. Activities. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. September 20th

OUR SPIRITUAL ADVISORY BOARD

Thanks to a group of wonderful individuals from around the country who serve as the Rolling Ridge Spiritual Advisory Board. They pray for Rolling Ridge, consult and advise the director, and help with promotion and fund raising. Our thanks to these wise and knowledgeable leaders who under gird our efforts with prayer and support:

• Ron DeBene, The Hermitage, Memphis, TN

• Elise Eslinger, Musician, teacher, Dayton, OH

• Jerry Haas, Upper Room Ministries, Nashville, TN

• E. Glenn Hinson, Baptist Seminary of KY, Louisville

• Theodore W. Loder, Author, Retired United Methodist Clergy, Philadelphia, PA

• John Mogabgab, Editor, Weavings, Nashville, TN

• Margorie Thompson, Upper Room Ministries, Nashville, TN

• James Todd, Former Rolling Ridge Director, Lawrence, MA

• Barbara Troxell, Spiritual Director, Claremont, CA

• Peter Weaver, Bishop, NEUMC, Lawrence, MA

• Wendy Wright, Author, Omaha, NE

• Flora Slosson Wuehler, Author, Fair Oaks, CA

Rolling Ridge Wish List

• 4 new computers for our office

• A New Computer Server

• A new Television/DVD combo

• New dressers for the bedrooms

• ATV for the grounds

• Regular or roll-top Chafering dishes

• Stand fans for our guest rooms

• A Kayak

• Chef Coats and Kitchen Aprons

• Area Rugs

• Rocking Chairs

• Large shade Umbrellas

To make a donation or get more information about our wish list, please contact us at 978-682-8815 or by email at thestaff@rollingridge.org, or use the enclosed envelope.