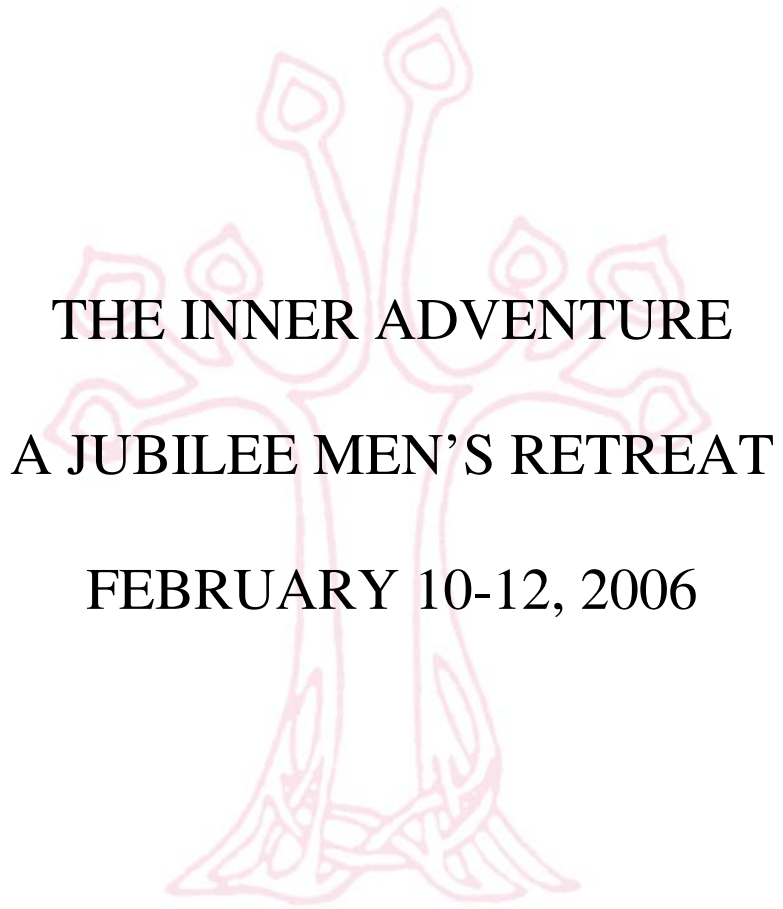


This is your invitation to join other men who have taken the Jubilee Program on ...



**THE INNER ADVENTURE**  
**A JUBILEE MEN'S RETREAT**  
**FEBRUARY 10-12, 2006**

Edenvale Conference and Retreat Centre  
Abbotsford, BC, Canada

# **THE INNER ADVENTURE: A JUBILEE MEN'S RETREAT**

February 10-12, 2006

Edenvale Conference and Retreat Centre  
4330 Bradner Road, Abbotsford, BC, Canada V4X 1S8  
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For many years, we in the Jubilee Community—the community of Jubilee participants and staff--have talked about having a men's event, a men's retreat. Now the time has come. This invitation comes to you because you have been part of the work of Jubilee over the years. You'll recall that men have always been in the minority in the residencies; and perhaps you will also recall moments of tension between us as men and our sisters in the program, as well as a sense of your place as a man in the realm of God being affirmed.

And so we invite you to join us for a weekend of male companionship, of mentoring each other as we meet together in the Spirit. It will be an opportunity to go deeper into the spirit of Jubilee as sketched out in Leviticus 25--all slaves are freed, all debts forgiven, the land has sacred rest, and everybody gets to go home.

Many signs in our time point to the profound need, personal and social, of men doing serious spiritual work: grieving, rejoicing, journeying, finding mentors, relating to women, relating to other men, to their fathers and sons, and acting on their concern for what is happening to young men in our time and in our culture. Here, for example, is a very sobering recent news item.

## **Where the boys are**

Visitors to U.S. college campuses can't help but ask: Where are the Boys? reports *USA Today*. Currently, 135 women receive bachelor's

degrees for every 100 men and that imbalance will widen in coming years, according to a report by the [U.S.] federal Department of Education. Nearly as many American men are behind bars or on probation and parole (5 million) as are in college (7.3 million).

*Globe and Mail, 10.10.05*

So in coming together for a weekend, we are doing something for others as well as for each other and ourselves. Part of our meeting will be times of “sitting,” silent meditation, for which instruction will be offered. We acknowledge the difficulty of this, and will approach it as a way of undertaking the journey of the hero. We also plan to make music, under David Robertson’s leadership, and to enjoy the sound of other men’s voices and our own. We see the weekend as a multifaith event, with at least Christian and Buddhist elements. And here are the three main themes we’ll be working on.

### *First session*

## GRIEF TO JOY, TRIUMPH TO TRAGEDY: A MAN’S JOURNEY TO COMPLETION

In the journey from boy to man to mentor, there comes a time when, after having sufficiently undergone the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune, a man may choose to abandon our contemporary culture’s prescribed path of development, choosing instead a more authentic path. Experience teaches that his story will most often **not** be a recitation of accomplishments but rather a soulful rendition of losses (“Every Day I Have The Blues,” B.B. King, 1964.). This implies a major shift in attitude, namely, abandonment of the youthful ideal of triumph and adoption of the tragic vision of life characteristic of a seasoned elder.

Paradoxically, the latter also implies a joyful contentment with “things as they are,” in contrast to the lost ideals of youthful inexperience. Together we will address the reality of this shift in the scriptures, in history, in the present moment, in community and family, and in our own hearts.

Facilitator: Patrick Clark, Stanwood, WA

### *Second session*

## MEN, MENTORING AND SPIRITUAL DIRECTION

As males grow from boyhood through guyhood to manhood, they need mentors at every stage. In a healthy family, active and present fathers will mentor their sons. Of course, this ideal is not always realized--hence much of the grief considered in

our first session. And in any case, the boy on his way to individuation (cf. Luke 2.52 and Ephesians 4.13) needs to connect with mentors outside the family. Arguably, our society is suffering from a lack of mentoring for young and indeed not-so-young men. What then is healthy mentoring? How did I/do I find a mentor? How does mentoring work at times of transition, even up to retirement and beyond? And what is the relationship between mentoring and spiritual direction? What does it mean for us as men to have male directees and/or be directees of male directors? These issues and others we will explore in our second session.

Facilitator: Don Grayston, Vancouver, BC

### *Third session*

## MEN, SACRED FIRE AND THE PATH WITH WOMEN

As we men journey Home, we come across many images of God in our relationships with women. From birth to death, from the profound sculpturing of the mother-son relationship to the women that will nurse us at death and in between, we encounter intimate relationships with wives, lovers, erotic friends, sisters, spiritual mothers, and she-devils. How is it we die, wait and come alive in new life through these junctures with women? Why is the investment in our spiritual growth fuel to the sacred fire? Do we trust the juiciness of our sexuality? What is the meaning of our compelling sex drive? As male spiritual directors with female directees, what are the boons and snares we encounter? What issues of justice/injustice are related to women, and why does guilt so often seem inescapable? What are the deep roots of loneliness in our relationship to women? How is it we find our place and purpose in life, or, find ourselves diverted from it, with women? What individuation in relation to women is necessary if we as men are to respond to the call of God? These are some of the questions that need to be considered by all of us, gay or straight, during the third session.

Facilitator: Grainger Brown, Helena, MT

And to prepare us to tackle these topics, we'll start Friday evening with a **keynote session** with Larry Green:

### **The 21<sup>st</sup> Century Male** "You're the Man!"

The pop culture salutation, "you're the man" is interesting in what it tells us about our times. The use of the definite article indicates that there can only be one true

man...although that title is bestowed ironically and frequently. Does it imply that all the rest are boys...Peter Pans? Furthermore, we used to know what a man was – he was an old-country patriarch with a beard and a larger-than -life personality. But now? Now, the word seems more like an empty signifier. This keynote address will begin to situate us in the process of our metamorphosis.

## **PRESENTER BIOGRAPHIES**

**Grainger Brown** is a private practice psychotherapist/spiritual director in Helena, Montana, a graduate of the Pacific Jubilee Program at Vancouver School of Theology, and a Jubilee staff member since 1999. He is interested in how psychotherapy and spiritual direction can be integrated, especially for the mental health practitioner. He believes that both psychotherapy and spiritual direction often fail the men who participate in them, and he seeks ways to address that concern with male directees/clients. Grainger is married to Pam, has five grandchildren and a dog, Sky, who runs the household.

**Patrick Clark**, a native of the Pacific Northwest of the United States, is the son of first generation immigrants from Canada and Scotland. Married with three children, he works as a psychotherapist/spiritual director and family physician in the rural town of Stanwood, Washington. Studies include medicine at the University of Iowa, psychology at Antioch University-Seattle and spiritual direction at the Pacific Jubilee Program, VST. An adherent to the school of Christian Pragmatism, Doctor Clark has seen too much to believe in magic, and yet holds to the spacious vessel of Jesus' gospel.

**Don Grayston**, spiritual director and theologian, has been the director of the Pacific Jubilee Program since 1988. In 2006, he will be on sabbatical from the program (except for this event), with Murray Groom being acting director for the year. Don retired from Simon Fraser University in 2004, and from his Anglican parish, St Oswald's, Port Kells, BC, in 2005. After this event, he will undertake a six-month pilgrimage/hike in the UK (March-September) before returning to Vancouver.

**Larry Green** is a psychotherapist with 33 years experience. He has been a member of an ongoing men's group for the past 12 years. Larry is also an artist and writer. Buddhism and meditation have been his spiritual practice for the past 15 years.

**David Robertson** is an alum of the Pacific Jubilee Program, a spiritual director and an ordained minister in the United Church of Canada. Part of his current work includes the ministry of music at the United Church in High River, Alberta, with

responsibility for its music programming and 30-voice adult choir. Music is part of David's spiritual practice and a source of great joy. He shares his life with his partner, Susan, and two sons, Micah and Noah.

## **INFORMATION ABOUT EDENVALE**

Edenvale Conference and Retreat Centre is in Abbotsford, in the Fraser Valley, just east of Vancouver. WestJet comes into the Abbotsford airport, and there is an easy shuttle connection from Vancouver airport (details on registration). Our contact at Edenvale is Michele. Call her at 604/856-3388 with any question you may have about the facilities of the Centre, or, in the case of US participants, to give her your credit card number. More information about Edenvale, which is owned by a spiritual community, the Emissaries of Divine Light, is available through its website and links: [www.edenvaleretreat.ca](http://www.edenvaleretreat.ca)

## **NUMBERS**

We have booked space at Edenvale for 24, the three facilitators and 21 participants. We are hoping for at least 14 participants from among the Jubilee alumni; **and in co-operation with Spiritual Directors International, we have also reserved seven spaces for male spiritual directors from other backgrounds and programs.** Please register early to help us know what our situation will be. If either allotment (Jubilee or Spiritual Directors International) does not fill up by **January 15**, and there is a waiting list, any spaces remaining can be filled from the other grouping.

## **WRITERS' INSTITUTE**

Following this event, Spiritual Directors International will be sponsoring a one-day (Feb 12-13) Writers' Institute, also at Edenvale, and facilitated by Jubilee grad Doug Hodgkinson, for men interested in writing for *Presence*, the Spiritual Directors International journal, and for a possible book on the subject of men and spiritual direction. If you are interested in being part of this special event, communicate your interest to Liz Ellmann, executive director of Spiritual Directors International, at [liz@sdiworld.org](mailto:liz@sdiworld.org)

## TIMETABLE

Friday, February 10

Arrive after supper

7.30 pm, opening gathering – keynote speaker: Larry Green, psychologist and philosopher, Fort Langley, BC: *The 21<sup>st</sup>-Century Male: “You’re the man!”*

Saturday, February 11

7.00 am Coffee available  
7.15 am Walk and sit  
8.00 am Breakfast, self-serve  
9.00 am First session, beginning with singing: *Men and grief*  
11.30 am Sit  
12.00 noon Lunch and down time  
2.00 pm Sit  
2.30 pm Second session: *Men and mentoring*  
5.00 pm Sit  
5.30 pm Cash bar  
6.00 pm Supper  
7.30 pm Third session: *Men and women*

Sunday, February 12

7.00 am Coffee available  
7.15 am Walk and sit  
8.00 am Breakfast, self-serve  
9.00 am Wrap-up session / brainstorming: *where to from here?*  
11.00 am Closing worship  
12.00 noon Lunch and departure

## COSTS

Room and board: \$190 Canadian; program fee, \$75; total, \$265.

**Canadian participants:** send a cheque for the full amount, \$265, to Don Grayston, with a cheque made payable to him, at 1215 East 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Vancouver, BC V5T 2S7

**US participants:** call Edenvale and pay by credit card, thus avoiding problems with exchange or bank charges for money orders. See registration form below.

**REGISTRATION FORM**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ POSTAL CODE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

DAYTIME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EVENING PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

DID THE JUBILEE PROGRAM IN (YEARS) \_\_\_\_\_

FOR Spiritual Directors International PARTICIPANTS: indicate the program through which you were formed as a spiritual director, and the years in which you undertook this

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

PRESENT OCCUPATION \_\_\_\_\_

**PAYMENT:**

(1) CANADIANS: ENCLOSE A CHEQUE OR MONEY ORDER FOR \$265.00 IN CANADIAN FUNDS \_\_\_\_\_

(2) AMERICANS: PLEASE DEBIT MY CREDIT CARD AS FOLLOWS:

Visa \_\_\_\_\_ MasterCard \_\_\_\_\_

Card number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Canadians: mail to Don Grayston, 1215 East 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Vancouver, BC V5T 2S7 (his phone number: 604/709-0883)

Americans: call Michele at 604/856-3388 to pay; then mail your registration form to Don Grayston as above, indicating that you have done so.