

SHEPHERD'S CANYON RETREAT

Informed Consent

Please read this statement over, sign it and email it back to SCR Counseling Care Director, Phil Lee, LMFT, at plee4433@gmail.com

Shepherd's Canyon Retreat offers seven carefully designed days of individual, couple, and group Christian counseling for no more than four to six couples (singles are welcome). Our emphasis is upon Christian professional church workers including, but not limited to, pastors, missionaries, rostered teachers, Directors of Christian Education, deaconesses, and their spouses.

Two Christian therapists – a male and a female – will offer their counseling services at each Shepherd's Canyon Retreat session. These therapists may include Clinical Psychologists, Licensed Professional Counselors, Pastoral Counselors, Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists, and Social Workers. There will also be a chaplain at each retreat to offer pastoral care. The therapists and chaplain are held to professional ethics and laws, which state that our work will be held confidential. All volunteer staff who will be serving and taking care of the group have also signed Confidentiality statements.

There are some situations in which the therapist is legally obligated to take action, which the therapist believes are necessary to protect others (or self) from harm and may have to reveal some information about a participant. Information shared with the therapists and chaplain will be kept confidential except for 1) matters related to endangering the health and safety of yourself or others, and 2) information concerning child, elder or dependent adult abuse, or 3) any matter you may choose to address legally. Confidentiality in group therapy is a special situation. In group therapy, the other members of the group are not therapists. They are not bound by the same ethics and laws that we are. We cannot guarantee that they will always keep what you say in the group confidential, but we ask that all participants hold to the same high level of confidentiality.

The therapists and chaplain are not contracted by any church body or synod. Thus, they are not required to report anything to such bodies, and will not do so. Neither will they report to any person or body who might have provided financial assistance for participants to attend a Shepherd's Canyon Retreat. If a participant wishes the therapists to share any information with any person in authority, or any other person, it would only be done with written permission by the participant.

Though the retreat is only seven days, the time spent may involve working through difficult personal issues that can result in some emotional or psychological pain for the participants. Personal work at the retreat may result in decisions about changing behaviors, employment, substance use, schooling, housing, relationships, or virtually any other aspect of your life. Sometimes a decision that is positive for one family member is viewed quite negatively by another family member.

Change will sometimes be easy and swift, but more often it will be slow and often frustrating and will not be completed in the seven days spent at the retreat. There is no guarantee that your time at Shepherd's Canyon will yield positive or intended results, however, be assured that you will receive a high standard of care.

DUE TO CONFIDENTIALITY, THERAPISTS DO NOT MAINTAIN CLINICAL NOTES

I have read the above considerations, have discussed any concerns with the therapists and agree to proceed in the work of the retreat.

Signature _____

Print Name _____ Date _____

Please be advised that at this time construction is going on at the Standing Stones retreat grounds. You will be able to walk out to the prayer garden and a pathway will be well marked for you. Please do not walk around the construction unless you are escorted by an authorized person; i.e. counselor, chaplain, Site Manager or someone appointed by the Site Manager.

Standing Stones/ Shepherds Canyon Retreats accepts no responsibility for injuries sustained during construction.