

Registration for Connecting Families Weekend April 9-11, 2010 Please register by March 10, 2010.

Name(s) _____ Telephone _____
(as you would like to be listed on participant list and name tag) Cell _____

Address _____ Email _____

If you are sharing a room with someone not included on this registration, please give us their name so that we can honor your wishes. _____

Lodging Preference _____ Single _____ Double _____ Triple _____ Number and ages of children _____
Do you have a scholarship need? _____

Can you include a small donation for the Scholarship Fund? I am including \$_____ for the scholarship fund and \$_____ for registration. Total amount enclosed \$_____.

Please enclose \$40 per person (non-refundable). *Please pay in U.S. funds.*
Make checks payable to: Connecting Families; Mail to Rose Moyer, Treasurer, 713 Scenic Drive, Harleysville, PA 19438.

RETREAT RATES (same as 2009)
Per Person Single Occupancy \$265
Per Person Double Occup. \$215
Per Person Triple Occupancy \$200
Contact Mary Jane and Verna for child rates (under age 18 with parent) and groups of four or more.

PAYMENT PLANS
To register, send \$40 deposit per person (non-refundable) with the registration form.

The **BALANCE** (rate less deposit) is due **MARCH 10**. If you prefer, you may send full payment with registration.

Price includes: registration, lodging, Friday evening snack, three meals on Saturday, two meals on Sunday. Vegetarian and special diet provisions available. All rooms have two queen size beds and a private bath. Additional cot may be requested. Linens provided.

Make checks payable to **Connecting Families** (U.S. funds). Mail with registration form to: Rose Moyer, Treasurer, 713 Scenic Drive, Harleysville, PA 19438.

A more complete schedule and directions will be sent to you along with a confirmation of your registration.

LATE REGISTRATION (after March 10). Please call or email Mary Jane and Verna (717.838.6963 or maryjanefox@verizon.net) to check if space is available.

OTHER
You are encouraged to bring works of art, musical instruments, videos, and books to share (especially hymnals.)

This weekend has been planned by and for Connecting Families participants in cooperation with Brethren/Mennonite Council.

Since we rely mainly on word-of-mouth to reach new people, feel free to copy this form and use it to invite others.

Connecting Families Weekend

April 9-11, 2010
Pearlstone Conference and Retreat Center
Reisterstown, Maryland

*Peter and Cornelius:
a paradigm for inclusivity
in the church*

Resource Person: Vern Rempel



Connecting Families welcomes families, and supporters of and lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people. Connecting Families weekend is intended to be a safe, relaxing time to share our common thoughts regarding sexual minority issues as they affect our families, our friends, our churches, and ourselves.

We are a group of people, each on our own journey. Through listening and sharing our stories, we seek to provide support for families whose children are coming out to them and/or to their church. We are committed to maintaining confidentiality within the group, to providing a place to speak in safety or to remain silent, and to sharing in a non-judgmental atmosphere. As a group, we work to find ways to educate and engage our churches in dialogue and to help them understand and accept our families.

Connecting Families Weekend Schedule

Friday, April 9

Registration will begin at 4:00 PM. A light supper/snack will be available at 6:00 PM. The evening activities will begin at 7:00 PM with singing, introductions, and a family story.

Saturday, April 10

Following breakfast, we will begin with a time of singing followed by another family story. After a short break, Vern Rempel, our weekend resource person, will share with us.

After lunch we will gather for more singing and Vern will again share with us.

There will be time later in the afternoon for small group sessions or video presentations on topics helpful to GLBT people, their families, and supporters. There will also be some free time.

In the evening there will be various group reports, small group sharing, and free time to share interests and music.

Sunday, April 11

Sunday mornings at Connecting Families have proven to be very meaningful times of worship. It is a time to give thanks for our families and friends as well as a time of encouragement, renewal, and communion. Our weekend concludes with a noon meal together.

The Planning Committee

Mary Jane Fox & Verna Miller, Al & MaDonna Holsopple, Elaine Mercer, Forrest Moyer. For questions about the weekend, contact Mary Jane and Verna at 717.838.6963 or email maryjanefox@verizon.net.

Peter and Cornelius: a paradigm for inclusivity in the church

Vern Rempel has been a pastor for 23 years, first at Community Mennonite Church of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, and now at First Mennonite Church of Denver, Colorado. He recently completed a Doctor of Ministry in preaching at Iliff School of Theology. He has served on various church-wide committees, including the "Listening Committee for Homosexual Concerns" in the '90s, and most recently was worship leader and part of the planning group for the Constituency Leaders Council. He is married to Marilyn Rempel. They have two young-adult children: Jess and Diana. Vern is an amateur blues and jazz pianist and loves bicycling in Colorado.

Pearlstone Conference and Retreat Center

5425 Mt. Gilead Rd.

Reisterstown, MD 21136

410-429-4400 www.pearlstonecenter.org

We are so pleased to return to a very welcoming place. Pearlstone Conference and Retreat Center, a Jewish institution which hosts groups from all religions, races and persuasions, is located approx. 30 minutes northwest of Baltimore, Maryland. In addition to the comfortable housing and meeting facilities, there is an exercise room, lounge areas, hiking trails, organic farm, children's play and crafts areas. All of Pearlstone's public and common areas are accessible for individuals with physical disabilities.

Please include any dietary needs, housing needs, or special needs for children: _____

Transportation from Baltimore/Washington International Airport can be arranged. Let us know your travel plans: _____

Are there any special issues you would like to discuss in a small group? Please describe it and we will try to accommodate your concern. _____

Is this your first Connecting Families experience? _____

Suggestions for future meetings (speakers, stories, themes). _____

Would you like to: _____ tell your family story _____ serve on the Planning Committee _____ help with meeting logistics