

## **CONTEMPLATIVE LIVING COMMUNITY**

**Purpose:** To support those who have a desire to be transformed in Christ and live the Contemplative dimension of the gospel in everyday life.

### **Guidelines for Membership:**

- An established practice of two 20-30 minute periods of Centering Prayer daily for three years.
- Completion of the Nine Month Course: The Practice of Contemplative Living, or an understanding of the Contemplative Outreach Prayer Practices of Centering Prayer, Lectio Divina, the Welcoming Prayer, the Active Prayer, the Forgiveness Prayer, and a willingness to integrate these practices into daily life as needed.
- A commitment to living a contemplative lifestyle as expressed in our own unique Contemplative Lifestyle Statement.
- A commitment to supporting the community members by participating in the monthly meetings and sharing responsibility for facilitating.
- Participation in an annual Contemplative Living Community (CLC) retreat.

### **Candidacy:**

- Candidate expresses interest to an existing community member.
- The member takes this request to the next CLC meeting for the community's consideration.
- If the Contemplative Living Community is open to the new candidate, one member will take the responsibility to give the candidate all materials regarding membership, and help the person develop a contemplative lifestyle statement prior to attending the first meeting.

If the CLC is closed, the candidate is referred to the CLC Coordinator\* for other CLC contacts.

- The candidate makes a commitment to attend five (5) consecutive monthly meetings, and to follow the Guidelines. (If unable to attend five consecutive meetings, the candidate begins again).
- The candidate and the Contemplative Living Community then discern membership.
- When membership is confirmed, a commitment is made to the Contemplative Living Community.

### **Mentoring:**

- It is agreed that newly formed Contemplative Living Communities will be mentored by the Coordinator\* or a person delegated by the Coordinator.

### **Annual Meeting:**

- It is recommended that the Contemplative Living Communities (or a representative(s) from each Community) gather together for an Annual Meeting to be facilitated by the Coordinator. Topics for discussion will come from the Contemplative Living Communities.

\*Cathy McCarthy, P. O. Box 208, Cornwall, NY 12518-0208

E-mail – [cmccarthy001@hvc.rr.com](mailto:cmccarthy001@hvc.rr.com)

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