

If you would like a registration form mailed to you, or be put on the list for future mailings, please complete the following and mail to:

**Laymen's Retreat
P. O. Box 431384
Pontiac, MI
48343-1384**

A registration form is available to print and mail in at

laymensretreat.org

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE (_____) _____

E-MAIL _____

Registration forms are mailed approximately May 15th

Tentative Dates

July 12 - 14, 2019

July 10 – 12, 2020

July 9 -11, 2021

July 8 -10, 2022

75th ANNIVERSARY

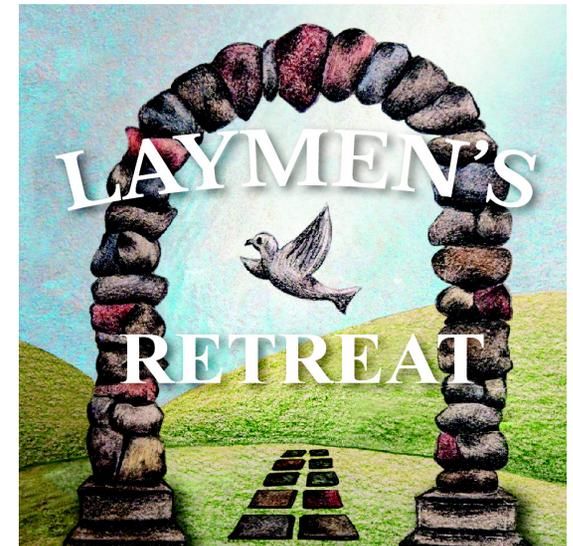
July 14 – 16, 2023

July 12 – 14, 2024

The Laymen's Retreat is not affiliated with Olivet College or Alcoholics Anonymous. Olivet College rents space in the summer for conferences and meetings, and does not endorse the groups using their facilities.

**The Laymen's Retreat
P.O. Box 431384
Pontiac MI 48343-1384
laymensretreat.org**

**ANNUAL
LAYMEN'S
RETREAT
at
Olivet College**



***Weekend
of Spirituality
& Fellowship for
Men of Alcoholics
Anonymous***



History of the Retreat

The first Laymen's Retreat was held in 1948 at the Michigan Education Association Camp on St. Mary's Lake near Battle Creek. The Retreat was sponsored by the Michigan Council of Churches. There were approximately 25 attendees at the first retreat. Most of those in attendance were from the Lansing and Pontiac area.

The Retreat was held at St. Mary's for a number of years. Other sites have included the Haven Hill Lodge in White Lake, MI, the Waldon Woods Resort in Hartland, MI. The Retreat moved to Olivet College in the early 1980's and remained there until 1990 and 1991, when it was held at Michigan State University.

The Retreat returned to Olivet in 1992, primarily due to the unique setting of the school and campus, in the very small and quiet town of Olivet, which is located approximately 30 miles south of Lansing, MI.

Purpose

The primary purpose of the Laymen's Retreat is for spiritual renewal and growth for members of Alcoholics Anonymous. Many of the attendees also complete a 4th step at the retreat and then do a 5th step with one of the counselors available, or with a sponsor who may be there. All are welcome as many men attend just for the fellowship, clergy and counselor talks.



Counselors

Generally, we have 6 to 8 talks given by clergy who are in recovery. Talks are related to the theme of that year's Retreat. We do occasionally have non-recovering clergy counselors, and also counselors who are not clergymen.

A major strength of the Retreat is the diversity of the clergymen. Speakers have included Catholic priests and Brothers, Rabbis, Buddhist Monks, Protestant Ministers, etc. Most all faiths and denominations have been represented at the Retreat over the years.

Fellowship

When retreat attendees are asked what is one of the best things about the Retreat, one of the overwhelming responses is the fellowship found at the retreat.

We currently have members that have been attending for over 40 years. Many others have been coming for as many as 10, 20 and 30 years. Attendees come primarily from the Midwest, but we have regular attendees from as far away as Florida and Texas. Many of us have developed relationships with each other, even though we may only see each other, one time a year.

There is plenty of time between sessions for other activities such as swimming, golf, volleyball, fishing etc. Many men just use this time to talk and share with others and do their 4th and 5th steps.

