

BIBLIOGRAPHY: LEADING CONTEMPLATIVE GATHERINGS
Spiritual Direction Colorado and Oasis Ministries

Note: Naturally we urge you to support your local bookstore, which may order these books for you. Perhaps you have a Cokesbury Bookstore in area. Or order online and get them slightly used and inexpensively. (Also, I will make all books I've authored available at the retreat – see www.kentiragroff.com.) We encourage you to begin reading, especially required ones.

Core Reading (five basic books)

Jane E. Vennard, *Be Still: Designing and Leading Contemplative Retreats* (Bethesda, Maryland: The Alban Institute, 2000).

Heather Webb, *Small Group Leadership as Spiritual Direction: Practical Ways to Blend an Ancient Art into Your Contemporary Community* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2005). Forward by Eugene H. Peterson

Parker J. Palmer, *A Hidden Wholeness: The Journey toward an Undivided Life* (San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 2004). Welcoming the Soul and Weaving Community in a Wounded World.

Gerrie L. Grimsley and Jane J. Young, *Contemplative by Design: Creating Quiet Spaces for Retreats, Workshops, Churches, and Personal Settings* (Nashville: Upper Room Books, 2008).

John Heider, *The Tao of Leadership: Lao Tzu's Tao Te Ching Adapted for a New Age* (Lake Worth, Florida: Humanics Publishing Group, 1986) – best if you can get it.

or any version such as:

Stephen Mitchell, *Tao Te Ching: A New English Version* (New York: HarperPerennial, 1991).

Optional

Exercises for use in contemplative gatherings:

Anthony de Mello, *Sadhana: A Way to God: Christian Exercises in Eastern Form* (New York: Image Books, 1984 and updates).

Kent Ira Groff, *What Would I Believe If I Didn't Believe Anything?: A Handbook for Spiritual Orphans: A Spiritual Compass to Point You Home* (San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 2004). The book is listed here for personal growth and for the 50 Reflection Exercises adaptable to groups, and it will be available at the opening retreat.

Jacqueline Syrup Bergan & Marie Schwan, *Taste and See: Prayer Services for Gatherings of Faith* (Winona, Minnesota: Saint Mary's Press, 1996).

Other related: Enriching church life with spiritual practices:

Kent Ira Groff, *The Soul of Tomorrow's Church: Weaving Spiritual Practices in Community Together* (Nashville: Upper Room Books, 2000).

Kent Ira Groff, *Spirituality Matters for Committee Meetings* (Decatur, Ga.: 1996): booklet available only from Oasis Ministries: www.oasismin.org or from Kent at the opening retreat (only \$3).