



PACEM IN TERRIS

HERMITAGE RETREAT CENTER

Pacem's Road to Emmaus



It is the unknown that is striking in The Road to Emmaus story. The disciples who are walking with Christ do not recognize him in his risen state. They cannot predict how the story will end. Even when the Risen Lord uses Scripture to reveal himself to them, it alone is not sufficient for them to recognize Christ. It is not until they have reached their destination, and Christ “breaks bread” with them, that they come to fully know Him.

As each of us travels the “road” of our lives, there is much that we do not know.

Thirty years ago, God led Shirley Wanchena to found Pacem in Terris, an “environment where my people can come and be alone with me.” She did not know precisely where that “road” would lead, yet she was faithful to the call. We continue to respond to that original call. As many as 1,200 hermit guests travel the gravel road to their individual hermitage stay annually. Many tell us how they leave restored, refreshed, and renewed. They speak of spiritual insights gained, of direction, and of relationships restored. Pacem is more necessary than ever for one to hear that “still small voice” in our hectic, fast-paced, technological, performance-driven world.

The “road,” whether it’s a mossy path, a hiking trail, or a boardwalk, is not the final destination. Those familiar with Pacem, recognize that many of the paths lead to the rough-hewn Cross that was planted in the prairie at Pacem’s very beginning. It stands, in the center, as a testament that all roads lead ultimately to the Cross, and to the salvation that is found only there.

Celebrate our 30th Anniversary

In celebration of our foundation and 30th anniversary, Pacem will be giving away a two-night hermitage stay to one fortunate hermit guest. If you make a stay between May 1, 2018 and May 1, 2019, you will be entered into a drawing. On May 2, 2019, we will draw from the hermit guests who have stayed with us during our 30th Anniversary Year. One blessed hermit-guest will receive a gift certificate good for a two-night hermitage stay that they can either use themselves or share with someone else. There's still plenty of space available, so reserve your 2018 hermitage stay today!

Volunteer Opportunities

- Volunteer Organizer
- Light housekeeping Our Lady of Pacem bldg
- Kitchen Clean-up M-F, as needed 4-8 PM

On Call...

Basket preparation for large groups 9 AM-Noon.

Contact Tim Drake at 763-444-6408 or

tim.drake@paceminterris.org

*“Music needs the hollowness of the flute;
Letters, the blankness of the page;
Light, the void called a window;
Holiness, the absence of the self.”*

Anthony De Mello, Taking Flight:
A book of Story Meditations

Pacem's "Road to Emmaus" ... A Timeline of Pacem's History



1979

Shirly Wanchena accepts God's invitation to "Create an environment where my people can come and be alone with me."



1982

80 acres of forest and prairie are purchased north of St. Francis. A cross is placed in the prairie on Pentecost Sunday and the land is blessed by Fr. Timothy Nolan.



1983-84

Pacem in Terris is established as a Catholic hermitage retreat center in the Franciscan tradition, inviting people of all faiths to come.

In 1984, Pacem is granted tax-exempt status and incorporated as a 501 (c)(3).



PACEM IN TERRIS

HERMITAGE RETREAT CENTER

You may have noticed our new logo. Our former logo included a cross and the words *Pacem in Terris*, with the words “Peace on Earth” beneath our name. Our change came as a result of trying to better identify who we are and what we do. We removed “Peace on Earth” as it was redundant and didn’t tell people what we are. The graphic of a hermitage, and the words Hermitage Retreat Center have been added to more clearly communicate that. Each hermit guest who arrives at Pacem, comes to spend time in the desert solitude of the hermitage with God. Therefore, the new logo emphasizes the hermitage. The cross has been incorporated into the letter “T” in Terris. Keeping with Pacem’s foundation as a center of Franciscan spirituality, the T is a variation of the Franciscan Tau cross. Looking more closely at the T, it ultimately represents Jesus Christ’s sacrifice on the Cross for each one of us, signifying *Pacem in Terris* as a Catholic-Christian hermitage retreat center.



1988

The first three hermitages (St. Peter, St. Paul, and St. Anthony) are completed and the first hermit guests are welcomed on May 1. A Mass of Dedication is held in the prairie, officiated by Bishop Hanus and Bishop George Speltz from the Diocese of St. Cloud.



1992

Shirley and her son, Jeffrey Wanchena travel to Rome and receive a papal blessing from Pope John Paul II for Pacem in Terris.

Four additional hermitages are completed (St. Michael, St. Mary Magdalene, St. Therese of Lisieux, and St. Kateri Tekakwitha.)



1995

Three hermitages are constructed (St. Cloud, St. John the Beloved, and St. Margaret Mary).

Franciscan Simplicity

As a Franciscan Center of Spirituality, Pacem in Terris embodies the Franciscan characteristic of simplicity. Simplicity, like one finds in the desert. Jesus went to the desert to pray. He would often go off to a lonely place to be alone in prayer. The simplicity of the desert enables one to easily enter into silence and solitude.

The Pacem hermitage provides such a desert-like experience. They are simple, uncluttered, genuine and down to earth, free from so many of the usual distractions that otherwise fill our lives. The natural light from the large window and the beauty of nature create in us a longing. When you reflect on it the hermitage is just what you are looking for, a place without schedules where you can be alone with God.

With a desire for God one chooses to depart from all the usual comforts, familiar surroundings, and distractions of life to come to a desert place to commune with the Lord in simplicity, silence and solitude.

Let us not forget to once in a while get up long before dawn to leave the house and go to a lonely place.

“In the morning, long before dawn, He got up and left the house, and went off to a lonely place and prayed there.” Mark 1:31



1998

Groundbreaking takes place for Our Lady of Pacem retreat center.



2000

Our Lady of Pacem opens, offering space for hermit guests to pray in the chapel, shower, dine, and exercise.

Six new hermitages open (St. Teresa of Avila, St. John of the Cross, St. Catherine of Sienna, St. Dominic, St. Clare, and St. Francis.)



2002

The Prayer Partners Ministry is established and hundreds of hermit guests promise to pray for Pacem in their daily prayers.

Pacem in Terris

Board of Directors

Chairman

Fr. Timothy Nolan

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Hank French

Secretary/Treasurer

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Julie Bruns

Barbara Koch

George Sjogren

Kelly Wahlquist

Aimee Bates

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Phyllis Olson

Executive Director

Tim Drake

Pacem's Begging Box

St. Francis provided for his needs and those of his religious brothers by begging. We at Pacem rely exclusively on our hermits, donors, and benefactors to provide for Pacem's current needs, which are:

- New Entrance Sign (\$2,500)
- Dependable vehicle for hermit transportation
- Clutch for dump truck (\$1,000)
- Picture window for St. Peter Hermitage (\$1,400)
- Single axle mesh trailer (\$319.00)

Prayerfully consider whether you might be able to assist Pacem in meeting these needs.

"And now, just as you accepted Christ Jesus as your Lord, you must continue to follow him. Let your roots grow down into him, and let your lives be built on him. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught, and you will overflow with thankfulness." Colossians 2:6-7



2010

The Pacem Board of Directors establishes the Legacy Fund, an endowment to secure the future of Pacem.



2014

Founder, Shirley Wanchena joins the heavenly board.



2018

Pacem celebrates Founder's Day and 30th Anniversary.

WAYS YOU CAN SUPPORT PACEM

There are many ways you can support the ministry of Pacem in Terris. If you haven't contributed recently, please prayerfully consider how you might partner with us in keeping Pacem secure for the future.

Prayer...The most important gift you can give to Pacem is prayer for the continuance of the ministry. You can do this by becoming a Prayer Partner, or simply by including Pacem and its intentions in your daily prayer.

Financial Gifts...Whether you contribute a one-time, monthly, or annual donation to Pacem, your gifts help continue Pacem's timeline long into the future.

Planned Giving...If you include Pacem in your estate planning, it ensures that Pacem is provided for. Feel free to contact us about how to include Pacem in your estate.

Legacy Fund...Pacem's Legacy Fund is an endowment that secures Pacem in Terris' future. Gifts can be designated for the Legacy Fund.

Online...Currently, you can use GiveMN.org to make an online donation to Pacem. You can set up recurring gifts and designate how you would like your donation to be used.

Gift Certificates...Giving a gift certificate to a friend or family member is a way of spreading the word and sharing your experience of Pacem with others. This "win-win" supports Pacem by ensuring that we continue to receive hermit guests, and your recipient receives the gift of peace, silence and solitude offered at Pacem.

Gift of Stock or IRA Gift Rollover...This is a way of supporting Pacem through investments that you may already have.

Matching Gifts...Many corporations and workplaces have matching gift programs. If your corporation offers matching gifts, please consider obtaining a matching gift form and donating in this way.

AmazonSmiles...This is an easy way to give through something you're already doing - shopping. Visit smile.amazon.com, select Pacem in Terris, and start shopping! Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your purchase to Pacem in Terris.

They asked each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while He talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us." Luke 24:32