

*Feeling called to a day of spacious grace and peace,  
to open more fully to the mystery of God's love?  
You might want to consider...*

# **The 2026 Anchorage "Desert Days"**

**Fridays, Feb. 6, with Donna Scott**

**April 10, with Rebecca Hines**

**June 5, with Mike Smith**

**9:30 am - 2:30 pm**

*Come away* for spacious silence within a gentle rhythm of music and reflection with God in solitude, allowing the Holy Spirit to open our hearts more deeply to our true source of inner peace and healing.

**The theme for the year is "Behold God Beholding You in Love"** and is a beautiful comfort to recall that it is true – all the time! It was used by my spiritual director during my 30-day Spiritual Exercises back in 2001 as a way of entering the quiet reflection time with the assigned Scripture passages. The main point of the day is to spend time in quiet with our holy and loving God. A probable schedule will be:

- 9:30 Light a candle to honor God's presence – then an introduction to the space and to each other
- 10:00 Opening Prayer, comments on theme, with handout for reflection
- 10:30 Find space to be with God – sit quietly, walk
- 11:30 Over lunch, we will ask this question for the group to share, "What has God been teaching you lately?"
- 12:30 Regather in quiet, with comments on theme, handout for reflection
- 1:00 Find space to be with God
- 2:00 Closing prayer
- 2:30 Adjourn

*Within the unhurried rhythm of the day, find a place that nurtures your soul, maybe outside, with as few distractions as possible, and just "be." Sense God within you; respond with your heart. It seems God also delights in having uninterrupted time with each person, to have our faces turned toward this One who loves.*

## **Leadership:**

**Donna Scott** has been a spiritual director for over 20 years. She enjoys creating space for people to slow down and connect deeply to the Spirit within. She recently started a spirituality in nature group to facilitate connection with the Holy in natural settings. Donna recently retired from her work as a psychotherapist, where she integrated spiritual and psychological practices in the healing process.

**Mike Smith** is an electrical engineer semi-retired from the utility industry where he specializes in sustainability and efficiency. His spiritual awakening happened 20 years ago when he and a friend read and discussed the bible in its entirety over 52 weeks. That seminal year was the beginning of his contemplative journey which includes silent retreats and the many offerings of The Anchorage. Mike is currently enrolled in Mepkin Abbey's Institute for Contemplative Leadership 2-year course.

**Rebecca Hines** serves as a Spiritual Director, Contemplative practice leader, Bio-Spiritual Focusing companion & Labyrinth facilitator. She also enjoys Enneagram/Myers-Briggs Personality Type coaching and is passionate about creating welcoming & safe spaces for people to explore their spiritual journeys. She is a mother of 2 and a small business owner with her husband Tobin. She enjoys serving our upstate community in various roles such as a 3-year term as a Servant Leader with The Anchorage.

**Location:** Feb. - Gower Estates, Greenville, SC. Apr.– TBD probably Gower Estates or nearby.

**Fee: \$45 (includes lunch)** (\$30 if BYO Lunch) **(\$10 deposit due 2 weeks ahead)**

**Registration Form** ..... Please detach here and mail .....

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Desert Day Date(s): \_\_\_\_\_ \$10 Dep\_\_\_\_\_

For more information call: (864) 232-LOVE (5683)

or email: [catherineskinnerpowell@gmail.com](mailto:catherineskinnerpowell@gmail.com)

## **The Anchorage**

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*Please know that all are welcome, regardless of ability to contribute financially.  
Contributions above and beyond the suggested fee are also gratefully received.*