

Blaze Mini-Retreat



Opening Prayer

Welcome and Introductions | 30 minutes

- Have participants introduce themselves and briefly tell the story of a time they were at a crossroads or fork in the path and were unsure of which way to go. How did they decide what to do? What sources of guidance did they turn to? What do they think about how that went?

"Blaze" Short Film | 10 minutes

Discussion | 30 minutes

- Go around the room and have everyone lift up one word that describes how the short film made them feel.
- What blazes have the ancestors left to show the way in a general sense? Writings, practices, beliefs, systems, and organizations are some possibilities.
- What particular blazes have you used to guide you?
- Have you ever had an experience like Pascal or Hildegard? What happened next? How did you figure out what to do?
- Is "discernment" language that you've used before? How do you think it might be different or the same as "decision-making"?
- Have you ever had to find the way to a new place? What blazes did you leave behind?

Silent Journaling | 30 minutes

These questions are for you to reflect and journal on alone. No one will ask you to share your answers!

- What am I good at?
- What do I love doing (even if I'm not "good" at it)?
- What's a thing I did/loved/was criticized for as a child that *might* just turn out to have an important key to my future?
- What's an issue or need in the world that I find particularly compelling or moving?

Closing Discussion and Final Thoughts | 30 minutes

- How did the above exercise make you feel?
- Did you notice or realize anything new as you were writing?

Closing Prayer

