

WRITING AS A SPIRITUAL PRACTICE

EMILY SAVIN
MARCH 8-10, 2019



*Program cost of \$225
includes program, meals
and accommodation.
Sliding scale and
scholarships available.*

WOOLMAN HILL
Quaker Retreat Center

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Through a series of guided writing exercises, we will learn from the seed in ourselves and bear witness to that in others. We will hold a worshipful space that is supportive and safe for writers at all levels of confidence.

Writing as a spiritual practice is an individual act that can open us up to unexpected wisdom from within. Like silent worship, it takes on beautiful new dimensions in community. We will write together, each of us in communion with our own inner guide; those who would like to may share their writing with the group. Witnessing each other's writing allows us to glimpse the that-of-God in one another and in ourselves, an experience that can be inspiring, moving, funny, and surprising. We might call it Meeting for Writing for Worship.

This workshop will be conducted in the Amherst Writers and Artists method as described by Pat Schneider in *Writing Alone and With Others* (Oxford, 2003). The method fosters a safe, confidential, nonhierarchical environment in which writers at all levels of experience can grow and learn from one another.

If you are a confident writer looking for an opportunity to spend time with your writing in a worshipful space, this is for you; if you are an anxious writer looking for a place to explore without fear of red pen, this is for you; if you have a story that is fighting to come out, this is for you; if you don't know what to do with a blank page, this is for you.

Emily Savin is a writer, writing workshop leader, and political organizer. A former associate director of Amherst Writers & Artists, she leads writing workshops that build community, confidence, and craft for writers at all levels of experience. She holds a degree in creative writing from the University of Pennsylvania and has worked at Pendle Hill and at the Friends Committee on National Legislation. She currently serves as Program Manager for Beacon Hill Friends House.

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COST & REGISTRATION

The standard rate for this retreat is \$225 with a sliding scale of \$165-330. The fee includes program, lodging and food from Friday dinner through Sunday lunch. Commuter rate is \$165. Please pay what fits in your personal budget, encourage your faith community to support your participation if that is appropriate, and please ask if you need additional scholarship funds. A non-refundable deposit of \$50 is required to hold a space for the program. If you need to cancel, the deposit can be applied to a future workshop.

ARRIVAL & DEPARTURE

Plan to arrive after 4:30pm Friday evening, in time for dinner at 6:30. The workshop will end by 2pm on Sunday. We are centrally located in western Massachusetts, close to both I-91 and Route 2. For those arriving by car, we will send directions after you register. Please let us know if you'd be interested in car-pooling. The nearest Amtrak train station is in Greenfield (MA). Vermont Transit and Peter Pan bus lines also stop in Greenfield. Please contact us in advance to see if we can arrange a ride from these stations.

ROOM & BOARD

Our 19th-century farmhouse has hand-hewn beams and wide pine floors, with simple dorm-style lodging. The meetinghouse and the first floor of the main building are wheelchair accessible. Our cabins have electricity, woodstoves and outhouses. We serve nourishing, primarily vegetarian, home-cooked meals and always offer a vegetarian option. Please let us know if you have any dietary restrictions. Part of the community building at each retreat includes the joyful sharing of meal chores and final clean-up.

WHAT TO BRING

Please bring your own toiletries, towels, and bedding (sleeping bag or sheets and blankets or comforter). Pillows are provided. Be sure to bring seasonally appropriate clothes and comfortable indoor and outdoor footwear. You might also like to bring a flashlight, journal, musical instrument... Please do NOT bring pets or candles. We have limited internet access and cell phone reception. We encourage guests to consider how cell phone or computer use may detract from their experience of being fully present, here and now.

TO REGISTER ON-LINE for this program, or for more details, please visit our website (www.woolmanhill.org) OR fill out the information below and send it to the address above with a \$50 deposit made payable to Woolman Hill. The balance is due at the beginning of the workshop.

Writing as a Spiritual Practice, March 8-10, 2019		
NAME:		MONTHLY MEETING (if applicable):
E-MAIL:	PHONE:	Circle: home / work / mobile
STREET ADDRESS: CITY, STATE, ZIP:		
Check if you wish: <input type="checkbox"/> NOT to share your contact info with other participants. <input type="checkbox"/> NOT to be on our mailing list.		
ENCLOSED is \$ _____. We plan to pay a TOTAL of \$ _____ on the sliding scale. (See "Cost & Registration" above for fees.)		
DIETARY NEEDS Please check any that apply: <input type="checkbox"/> Vegetarian <input type="checkbox"/> Vegan <input type="checkbox"/> Gluten-free <input type="checkbox"/> No-dairy Other:	HOUSING Please check any that apply: <input type="checkbox"/> Commuting <input type="checkbox"/> Prefer main building <input type="checkbox"/> Prefer cabin <input type="checkbox"/> Light sleeper <input type="checkbox"/> Trouble with stairs <input type="checkbox"/> I snore <input type="checkbox"/> Need to be near bathroom Other:	TRANSPORT Please check any that apply: <input type="checkbox"/> Willing to offer ride(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Need ride <input type="checkbox"/> Willing to drive or ride <input type="checkbox"/> Willing to have my contact info shared <input type="checkbox"/> Would like public transport info Other: