

**Golden Valley Quilt Guild
2018 Mercy Retreat Application
Thursday, June 6 - Sunday, June 9, 2019**

Check-in begins at 4:00pm Thursday. Cost includes 24-hour use of the sewing room, a single-occupancy room, seven meals (Thursday dinner not included, Sunday breakfast is the last meal) & endless coffee. Massages are available at an additional cost.

Fee: \$304 for members \$324 for non-members

REGISTRATION

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____ Cell # _____

Emergency
Contact: _____ Phone: _____ Cell # _____

Do you have any dietary restrictions? Yes (please list in Notes below) No

Do you need a first-floor room (there is no elevator to the 2nd floor)? Yes No

Are you a nurse, or familiar with first aid? Yes No

Submission of this signed application with your **deposit of \$76 (\$96 for non-members)** indicates that you agree to and will abide by the terms as stated herein. An application does not guarantee a space in the retreat. Spaces will be filled on a first come, first served basis starting in August 2018 for members, and September 2018 for non-members. Your payment will not be deposited unless you are accepted. The remaining payments are due by the following meeting dates:

Nov. 15, 2018 – \$76 Jan. 24, 2019 – \$76 March 28, 2019 – \$76 or
(not the LAST Th.) any remaining balance

CANCELLATION & REFUND POLICY: You agree to make full payment for the retreat unless a replacement can be found. If we can fill your vacancy, any payments you have made will be refunded when we receive payment from the replacement.

Signature of Applicant (Required) _____ Date _____

Notes (people you want to sit with, etc.):

What Am I Getting Myself Into?

Most people have strong feelings about where they live, where they worship & where they buy their quilting fabric. Quilt retreats are no different – you want one that makes you feel at home & that will be different for each of us. If you're thinking of joining us at Mercy, here are a few things participants thought you'd like to know:

Facilities

Your Room	<p>You will have a small, single-occupancy room with bed, desk, closet, chair & sink. The mattresses are firm; some people bring foam mattress toppers. Linens are provided, but you must make your bed when you get there & strip it when you leave (we help each other as needed).</p> <p>There are no room keys, but the building are always locked with code access (you can lock your room from the inside & a master key is available in case of lock-outs).</p>
Our Room	<p>Our large quilting room is the storm in the middle of the calm! It is our place to enjoy & have fun and we are a lively, eclectic group. Expect some noise since there is no ban on music, TV or cell phones (we have some well-stocked movie buffs, or bring a favorite CD/DVD to share). We try to keep the volume at a reasonable level for all, but if you need quiet to concentrate, this retreat may not be a good fit.</p> <p>The room is available for use 24/7 (last one to bed locks up & first one up unlocks). The kitchenette includes an industrial refrigerator, microwave and sink. There's also a beverage center which Mercy keeps stocked with coffee, tea, water & whatever you need to put in the cup (not to mention the yummy cookies). There's also a huge table we use for communal snacks (bring a favorite to share).</p> <p>Everyone gets their own sewing station & we set up shared stations for cutting & pressing. The tables are nice and heavy so your machine doesn't bounce if you speed. The chairs are straight-backed (not folding), sturdy and padded; they are not adjustable task-chairs, so consider bringing a cushion if you need it. Mercy rules are no outside chairs – we've been asked to adhere.</p> <p>The quilting room is in a separate building across the courtyard and slightly uphill (like a split-level house). You can drive up to unload before parking in the lot & there are two handicapped parking spots next to it.</p> <p>As with any facility, room temperature can be an issue. When it's comfortable in one corner, another group may be freezing. Dress in layers!</p> <p>The room has good "general" lighting, but no task lighting; consider bringing an OTT light if you don't have an LED strip on your machine.</p>
Everyone's Space	<p>The conference building (dining room, bedrooms & other meeting rooms) and grounds are a quiet zone to respect the needs of all. Voices are kept down and cell phone usage is prohibited. You are welcome to enjoy beautiful grounds in a respectful, contemplative manner.</p> <p>Shared bathrooms/showers are centrally located. The facility is shared with other groups, and that includes men. While the genders have separate facilities, you might want to bring a robe.</p>
Their Space	<p>The retreat center is co-located with the active convent and infirmary. Those building, section of grounds and the swimming pool are reserved for the Sisters of Mercy and are off limits to retreat groups. Arrangements can be made to attend mass on Sunday.</p>
Food	<p>Since arrival times vary (and meal times do not) we've opted out of Thursday dinner; you can bring something, go out, or eat before you come. The rest of the time Mercy serves food that is healthy, tasty & plentiful with lots of choices. YUM!</p>

Activities

In addition to working on whatever projects you bring, we plan some activities for the group (participation is optional, but most do):

Hostess Gifts	Out of the goodness of our stash, the hostesses prepare a little welcome gift for everyone. Other participants may also make/bring gifts (kindergarten rules, if you're handing it out at the retreat please do for all or none).
Community Service	We provide fabric to make quilt tops that will be finished & donated back to Mercy the following year. You're encouraged to make one block, many, or a whole top.
Door Prizes	We have a pile of goodies to give away. You may get one for being the last one up at night or the last one in line for dinner, buying the most fabric during retreat or going to the store & not buying anything, etc. You never know what the prize-fairy might do.
Games	We play a game called left-center-right every year. Buy-in is 3 fat quarters & winner takes all! We often dream up other contests/games too!
Demos	These really aren't planned – they just come up spontaneously when someone's working on something neat, has a cool tool, or needs help with a technique.

Pre-Planning

The basics are in place well in advance, but some things aren't known until the last minute. Be ready to go-with-the-flow.

Arrival Time	Per our contract, the retreat starts at 4:00 PM. Mercy generously lets us into the facility early at no extra cost <u>if the room is available</u> . We only get a few days' notice. Think of it as flying stand-by on an earlier flight – plan on the later arrival & count your blessings if vacation starts early!
Room Assignments	Room assignments aren't known ahead of time. With no elevator to the 2 nd floor, Mercy needs to ensure that everyone needing ground floor access is covered first. Room-mates aren't an issue because everyone has single-occupancy.
Quilting Seating Arrangements	We know many people bring a buddy (or a tribe) and work hard to seat people in the same table grouping IF WE KNOW ABOUT IT. Please let us know, instead of making your own side arrangements so we know how to arrange the furniture (literally).
Email	Your hostesses have day jobs & email is our favorite way of communicating (we can do that at 11pm or 4am without disturbing anyone). If you're not electronic, just let us know so we can get copies to you.