



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 17, 2016

Retreat with L'Arche: A Day-Long Community Retreat on Belonging for People with and without Intellectual Disabilities

Portland, OR, –[L'Arche Portland](http://www.larche-portland.org) invites you to join us for “Retreat with L'Arche: Discovering the Treasures of Belonging” for people with and without intellectual disabilities on **June 4, 2016**. This day-long retreat will help us examine the impact and gifts of belonging – to self, to others, and to all of creation.

"The longer we journey on the road to inner healing and wholeness the more the sense of belonging deepens. The sense is not one just of belonging to others and to community. It is a sense of belonging to the universe, to the earth, to the air, to the water, to everything that lives, to all humanity." -- Jean Vanier, founder of L'Arche

Facilitated by Stacy Cates-Carney, this retreat offers people with and without intellectual disabilities the opportunity to take time and space to reflect and be nourished in the company of others. Ms. Cates-Carney has been affiliated with L'Arche since 1986, serving most recently as Community Leader and Executive Director of L'Arche Tahoma Hope from 2003 to 2015. She is an experienced retreat facilitator and spiritual director and makes her home in Tacoma where she tends to her garden, takes daily walks in neighborhood parks and seeks to contribute to the communities to which she belongs. She and her husband Joseph have two young adult children.

Registration is open through June 1 at <http://www.larche-portland.org/retreat-with-larche.html> or by calling 503-251-6901. A small fee of \$20.00 will help cover event costs, including food. Scholarships are available by request.

Event Details:

Retreat with L'Arche: Discovering the Treasures of Belonging
Saturday, June 4, 9:00-4:30
St Michael and All Angels Parish Hall
1704 NE 43rd Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97213

RSVP at <http://www.larche-portland.org/retreat-with-larche.html>
or call 503-251-6901 by June 1, 2016.



Facilitator Stacy Cates-Carney

This event is supported in part by a community grant from the [Oregon Health & Science University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities](http://www.ohsu.edu) (UCEDD) and its Community Partners Council.

People With and Without Intellectual Disabilities Sharing Life Together

435 SE 85th Ave • Portland, OR 97216 • (503) 251-6901 • info@larche-portland.org • www.larche-portland.org

About L'Arche Portland:

L'Arche Portland transforms the lives of people with and without intellectual disabilities by working together to create home, build community, and share life. Those with intellectual disabilities form the heart of our shared life and invite others into mutual relationships. We welcome each person's unique gifts and challenges, and offer opportunities for personal transformation. We trust in God and live as a sign that love, respect and Inter-dependence are the path to a peaceful and just world. Our model of sharing daily life creates a culture of equality, founded on a belief in our need for one another and the importance of belonging. The L'Arche Portland community is part of an international L'Arche federation, with 149 communities and 20 projects in 35 countries.

"Being in L'Arche has shown me that relationships are not formulaic, and we should just accept people as they are. I had to learn that we are not here to teach core members to "be normal" or make them more like us. It is to accept them as they are and open ourselves to them." -- Aaron Flores, former assistant

"L'Arche (Portland) is a place where they want you." -- Marilyn Pettruzelli, core member

For more information about L'Arche Portland and the retreat on belonging, please visit www.larche-portland.org. Get involved with L'Arche Portland today! Attend or sponsor an event; invite us to present to your community group, church or school; volunteer; or become an assistant.

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Members of the L'Arche Portland community

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