

Press Release

Carol Berry: Key Note Speaker at Nouwen Conference

May 21, 2006

Carol Berry, Art Director at the Long Trail School in Dorset, will be a key note speaker at the "Turning the Wheel: Henri Nouwen and Our Search for God" international conference hosted by the University of St. Michael's College, Toronto on May 20th. Carol will address Nouwen's interest in the spirituality of Vincent Van Gogh at the gathering of scholars, ministers, university students, and spiritual seekers in what promises to be an extraordinary three day event.

Henri Nouwen was a renowned Christian counselor, professor, priest, and writer whose influence has been felt across denominational lines. Among other topics, Nouwen is respected for his writings on contemplative prayer and Christian service. The timing of the conference coincides with the tenth anniversary of his passing and will explore themes and ideas of importance to Nouwen and for today such as peace, contemplation, servant-leadership, hospitality, and pastoral ministry.

According to the conference's web site, "Berry met Henri Nouwen at Yale University where she attended Henri's only class on the Compassion of Vincent Van Gogh. For the last ten years she has been refining her understanding of Vincent Van Gogh's work, its impact upon Henri Nouwen's life and how the compassionate way of Henri and Vincent Van Gogh can reach us today."

See <http://www.utoronto.ca/stmikes/nouwen/conference/> for additional information about this event and Carol Berry's presentation.

Here is a link to the "Turning the Wheel: Henri Nouwen and Our Search for God" conference where Carol will be speaking.

http://www.henrinouwen.org/home/whats_new/

Event to Honour 10th Anniversary of Nouwen's Death

'I have always been fascinated by these wagon wheels with their wide rims, strong wooden spokes, and big hubs. These wheels help me understand the importance of a life lived from the centre. When I move along the rim, I can reach one spoke after the other, but when I stay at the hub, I am in touch with all the spokes at once.'

--Henri Nouwen, *Here and Now* (1994).

SAVE THE DATE!

On 18-20 May 2006, the University of Saint Michael's College, Regis College, L'Arche Daybreak and the Henri Nouwen Societies of Canada and the United States will host "Turning the Wheel: Henri Nouwen and Our Search for God" to honour the tenth anniversary of Nouwen's death. This event will include a one-day gathering at L'Arche Daybreak in Richmond Hill and a two-day symposium on the campuses of Regis College, Saint Michael's College, and the University of Toronto.

For more information about this event please see: www.utoronto.ca/stmikes/nouwen/conference/

Please consider joining us as we honour the life and legacy of one of the great spiritual masters of the 20th century.