

PAGEANT WAGON PUBLISHING PRESENTS

GOOD NEWS CHRISTIAN WRITERS RETREAT WORKSHOP 2024:
Pioneers with Pens: Journey with Excellence
AT RESTORATION FAMILY FARM

"We have become His poetry, a re-created 'Pioneer' People that will fulfill the destiny He has given each of us." Ephesians 2:10 TPT

WORKSHOP SESSIONS

Workshop Sessions kick off each morning after devotions and each afternoon following our wagon trail luncheon. They are held in the main room for all attendees. A total of four Workshop Sessions will address this year's 2024 writing focus for *Pioneers with Pens* to *JOURNEY WITH EXCELLENCE!*

FridayAM Session 1: *Pioneers with Pens—Scaling Mountains: The Pioneer's Call to Excellence*

Instructor: Kathryn Ross

The initial Friday morning session lays a critical foundation for our 2-day retreat/workshop. Miss Kathy explores the pioneer spirit of a writer to commit their writing life vision to a journey with excellence. Introductions of our faculty staff and breakout group workshop details lead into a Bible study on God's call to pursuing excellence and how HE equips us to do all we do to His glory IN excellence as we submit ourselves to Him. How this translates into the day to day work of writing and editing manuscripts with vision and purpose will be addressed.

FridayPM Session 2: *Marketing as Ministry*

Instructors: Stacy Lee Flury

Stacy Lee Flury is our marketing go-getter with a never ending supply of energy and initiative to find ways to fearlessly market her message through a variety of avenues. Starting with a ministry mindset, she dispels many myths about how to market your message and lays a trail that starts the marketing journey from a biblical standpoint that progresses to the nitty-gritty must-haves along the way.

SaturdayAM Session 3: *The Storyline: Mapping His Story in Your History*

Instructor: Kathryn Ross

Every day of your life is written in a book by God's hand. He called you and equipped you for His Kingdom purposes on this earth for such a time as this. Even so the enemy lays minefields of twists and turns in our life story. Our Lord meets us there to navigate through to our God destination. What the enemy means for evil, God turns to our good and therein—our testimony. But sometimes, when we try to tell our story, we struggle with HOW to do so and end up glorifying the work of the enemy in our history, rather than leading with God's victory. Let's learn how to map His Story first, then see how your story flows onto the page with power and persuasion.

Good News Christian Writers Retreat and Workshop 2024: Pioneers with Pens—Journey with Excellence
WORKSHOP & BREAKOUT SESSIONS www.pageantwagonpublishing.com/good-news-workshops

SaturdayPM Session 4: *Activate Your Influential Kingdom Story Assignment*

Instructor: Linda Slomin

As we seek to build His Kingdom with the ideas He's given us, we go through a maturity process where we change the focus from self to Christ. Our motive in writing, creating forms of art, or public speaking shifts from showing the world what we can do to thriving on showing the world more of Jesus. This is the way to true life! We're talking Kingdom mission here, and we need to be able to define and declare it with excellence and assurance.

SaturdayPM Closing: *Show & Tell Mission Statement and Commitment*

Instructor: Kathryn Ross and the Good News Christian Writers Retreat Staff

Closing out the day on Saturday, our *Pioneers with Pens* gather in the main room. You may volunteer to share your Mission Statement and Vision Board in the Show & Tell Testimony finale before Miss Kathy wraps things up with a word of commissioning. Prayer ministry follows as you are launched into your calling to pursue a new level of excellence in your assignment and stay connected and accountable on your writing journey for the words God has entrusted you to write. Please don't forget to drop off your Evaluation Form of the retreat and Restoration Family Farm.

GOOD NEWS CHRISTIAN WRITERS RETREAT WORKSHOPS MISSION STATEMENT:

Under the umbrella of Pageant Wagon Publishing, Christian writers in Southern New Jersey gather in a retreat atmosphere to secure vision, hone skills, and critique manuscripts for publication.

Learn to tell His Story through your story and bring Good News to the mountains of social and cultural influence.

Kathryn Ross, Director

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BREAKOUT GROUPS

Breakout Groups meet after each morning and afternoon instructional session. Participate in one or more groups each time they meet OR choose to enjoy some of the retreat features of Restoration Family Farm such as a visit with the animals, a few moments alone to pray and process your thoughts, or a stroll of the grounds in reflection. Each group is overseen by a Group Mentor who will teach or guide discussion according to the group topic. The groups meet in varied spots according to the MAP in your WELCOME FOLDER.

Breakout Group 1: *Manuscript Critique and Discussion*

Group Mentor: Kathryn Ross—Main Room Head Table

Author, editor, and independent publisher Kathryn Ross will be available for manuscript critiques in a single or small group setting. You'll gain clearer direction for how to polish your work or redraft with confidence and inspiration. Bring a minimum of 5 short manuscript copies to share with the group (as needed) and experience the sharpening power of manuscript critique and discussion.

Breakout Group 2: *Vision Board Crafting Center*

Group Mentor: Lillian Baker—Main Room/back of room Workstation

Lillian Baker's many years of experience teaching vision board creation makes her a prime mentor to help you pull together your vision board ideas using a variety of materials: magazines, canvases, decorative craft paper, glue sticks, scissors, art pens, and more. If you have any special Scriptures or pictures from home that you want to add, bring them with you or add them to your board after the retreat. Vision Boards do not have to be completed by the end of the retreat, but you can get a good start. Consider being a volunteer in the closing session to share what you have started on your Vision Board with everyone.

Breakout Group 3: *Say It CLEAR—Show, Don't Tell*

Group Mentor: Trish Weldon—Mid-Room Side A

Author Trish Weldon has a plethora of workshop material for interactive participation to illustrate the craft of SHOWING your story in a "you are there" fashion—instead of just TELLING it. This is a critical skill to master to produce compelling, readable, relatable, and sticky stories. Learn how to craft a scene and use strong verbs to make your writing pop! You'll have an opportunity to brainstorm an on-the-spot edit of a paragraph and transform it from one that just *tells* a story into a memorable *show* of a story.

Breakout Group 4: *Imagination Calisthenics*

Group Mentor: Linda Slomin--Playroom

Linda's first picture book for children started out as an imaginative, performance puppet show. When she joined our critique group to help turn her puppet show into a picture book, she was forced to reimagine the story for the printed page in order to captivate young readers. Stretching our imaginations—whether you are writing for children or adults, fiction or non-fiction, is vital to developing the most excellent story and glory for God. After all, He gave you an imagination. How can you exercise creative thinking and outside the box solutions to your storytelling? Linda has the interactive calisthenics plan for you!

Breakout Group 5: *Devotional Writing—Know Your Calling*

Group Mentor: Christine Strittmatter—Conference Room

Christine's background in biblical counseling and Bible study is the firm foundation upon which she has built her *Real Life Mom* devotional book series with two volumes already published. Christine can help you take your devotional thoughts and the fruit of your study time in the Lord and make them ministry tools to touch hearts. Information about varied publishing venues other than book publication will be available as well.

Breakout Group 6: *Prophetic Art Workshop*

Group Mentors: Stacy Lee Flury and Nichole DeJesus

God speaks through our creativity. As writers, we paint pictures in people's minds and hearts with words. But what happens when we see an image in our spirit before the words come? Stacy and Nichole are talented writers, but truly gifted in painting pictures and creating artistic images without words. Tapping into Holy Spirit prophetic inspiration and willing to take creative risks with brush, crayon, or mixed media, they minister the Word of the Lord in images that speak a thousand words. Take some time to learn how to prophesy through the visual arts on canvas and allow the Lord to surprise you with fresh insight for your personal life—and the words you write.

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