

Conference will be held at

The Cenacle Retreat and Conference Center,
A ministry of the Cenacle Sisters
513 W. Fullerton Parkway
Chicago, Illinois 60614
Tel: 773-528-6300

The Cenacle Retreat Center is located on Fullerton Parkway, just west of Clark Street in Chicago's beautiful Lincoln Park neighborhood.

Go Airport Express Transportation provides shuttle busses departing from O'Hare and Midway airports approximately every fifteen minutes. Ask to be brought to the Cenacle Retreat and Conference Center at the above address. The charge is \$27 for one person to/from O'Hare one way and \$49 round trip; \$22 to/from Midway one way and \$37 round trip. You may make a reservation by calling Go Airport Express at 773-247-1200.



"This workshop was a great experience. It was a self-esteem booster like no other.

I also felt great about the reception and acceptance we received from the audience."

— HOLLY

Many thanks to Mission Press for making this brochure possible!

Comments from *Persephone Project* participants:

"In doing Still Point, I learned that I can express myself and others will see, hear, listen and enjoy all I've learned." — ALMA



"I learned that I need not be ashamed of my thoughts and feelings." — RITA

"I need you, you need me. We're all a part of God's body. Stand with me ... I need you to survive."

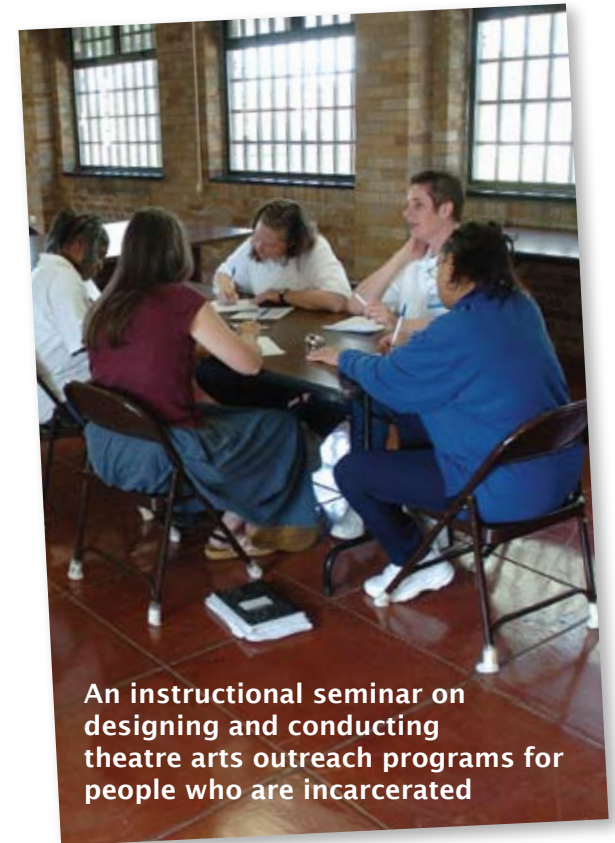
*Alma, a 37-year-old woman with compassionate eyes and smooth skin, stood on the chapel stage of the Dwight Correctional Center in central Illinois singing these words, written by composer Hezekiah Walker. It was the second performance of an original play called **Phenomenal Women: Our Past Does Not Reflect Our Future**, created by nine incarcerated women. Alma sang to her fellow inmates sitting in the audience on wooden pews, looking at them with deep love, offering the gift of herself. She seemed full of confidence and radiance. Having directed the play, I sat in the front row, feeling gratitude and wonder wash through my spirit...*

Months later, I sat with Alma in the solarium of the correctional center. The room was full of windows letting in midday light. We spoke about her childhood of sexual abuse, her life of prostitution, and her past addiction. But we also spoke about that second performance, when she sang with such joy. "I'll never forget how beautiful you were," I said. She smiled and said, "You know, you say that but I never felt that way in my life. But that day I did feel beautiful. I felt like I was on top of the world."

—Lisa Wagner-Carollo, *Sojourners Magazine*

Still Point Theatre Collective presents

ACTS OF STRENGTH:



An instructional seminar on designing and conducting theatre arts outreach programs for people who are incarcerated

August 8-11, 2008 at the
Cenacle Retreat and Conference Center
Chicago, Illinois

STILL POINT THEATRE COLLECTIVE is a Chicago-based community of artists dedicated to creating performances, workshops, retreats, and community events that celebrate spirituality and raise consciousness on issues of peace and justice.



LISA WAGNER-CAROLLO founded Still Point Theatre Collective in 1993, motivated by a strong desire to combine ministry and theatre, and is still the company's director today. For over sixteen years, she has toured the country and overseas with *Haunted by God: The Life of Dorothy Day*. Among other productions, Wagner has also performed in and produced the internationally toured *Points of Arrival: A Jean Donovan Journey*, a play that explores the life and commitment of one of the four North American church women killed in El Salvador in 1980. In addition to *Haunted by God*, she is also currently touring around the United States and overseas with *Deep Listening*, Still Point Theatre Collective's new production on death and dying. Lisa has made outreach programming an integral part of Still Point's ministry, as evidenced by the *Persephone Project's* work with incarcerated women in three Illinois institutions, and by the dynamic *Imagination Workshop*, a theatre company for adults with developmental disabilities based at Esperanza Community Services. Wagner's education includes a B.S.E. degree from Emporia State University.

**ACTS OF STRENGTH:
an instructional seminar**

In 1998, Still Point Theatre Collective began a new venture which grew into the *Persephone Project*, a theatre arts outreach program which works with women in three different correctional facilities, and which currently includes a new theatre group comprised of formerly incarcerated women, called *Sisters Rising*.

In this training seminar, Still Point founder Lisa Wagner and other experienced facilitators will share what they have learned about conducting successful arts outreach programming within the prison environment. Facilitators will describe and demonstrate Still Point's highly effective creative process, which supports personal expression by encouraging participants to write and perform their own productions. The seminar will also cover practical aspects such as working with prison personnel in setting up and running the workshops, and how to incorporate simple sets and costumes in order to enhance the productions.

There will be time for interfaith prayer and reflection, as well as the opportunity to hear formerly incarcerated women speak about how the *Persephone Project* has impacted their lives. The last day of the seminar will include a field experience in which participants will visit one of the prison sites, and experience a Still Point workshop first hand. This is an excellent opportunity for those who feel called to reach out to individuals in prison!

The cost of the four day seminar is \$700 for a double room, and \$760 for a single room (shared bath); fee includes all activities, room, and meals at the Cenacle Retreat Center.

For further information, please call Lisa Wagner at 773-271-2740. You may also visit the Still Point website at www.stillpointtheatrecollective.com, or email Lisa at stillpoint@aol.com.

Workshop is limited to ten participants so please sign up early!

Must be 21 years old for prison visit.

REGISTRATION FORM

ACTS OF STRENGTH: an instructional seminar · August 8-11, 2008

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY, STATE, ZIP

HOME PHONE

E-MAIL

WORK PHONE

CELL PHONE

PAYMENT ENCLOSED*
 \$760 full fee, single room

\$380 deposit remainder due by 7/8

\$700 full fee, double room

\$350 deposit remainder due by 7/8

Make check payable to Still Point Theatre Collective, and mail to:

Lisa Wagner, Still Point Theatre Collective · 4625 N. Paulina · Chicago, IL 60640

*After we receive your registration form, a Still Point representative will contact you to obtain your date of birth and social security number for the penitentiary visit on the last day of the seminar.