

Possible bursary/grant funding towards The Five-Day Community for Spiritual Formation

We recognise that the cost of attending the “Five-Day Community for Spiritual Formation” (£495/£675 depending on venue) is high; this is inevitable when a retreat involves 5 days of full board in a comfortable retreat centre and with input from internationally-known speakers. Due to the nature of the retreat – with the importance of times of silence – we endeavour to provide everyone with a single room, which also adds to the cost.

However, we hope very much that no-one would be prevented from attending the Community because of costs, so we do encourage you to seek possible grant funding or bursaries towards the cost.

- **District Training and Church Funds.** If you are a Methodist, do speak to your District Chair or Training Officer as there is often money in district training funds which could be made available to part-fund the costs. Also very often if the district gives a grant, the local circuit or church might be willing to match-fund, or to give a donation regardless of the district’s position. Methodist Women in Britain may also have funds locally or connexionally if you are involved in some way.
- **Other Churches:** Other denominations may have similar channels to which you could apply e.g. if you are in leadership within a church in some way (e.g. in youth work or women’s groups,).

The Society of Retreat Conductors has specifically said that it will consider applications for a part-bursary towards the Five-Day Community. You can find out more about the process and how to apply at <http://thesrc.org.uk/index.php/grants/>

In any such application you may find the following wording from the Community flier helpful with regard to the aims of the Community:

Through a programme of teaching, silence, worship and reflection based on a Benedictine monastic pattern

The Five-Day Community for Spiritual Formation aims to:

- root spirituality in Christian faith and tradition
- provide opportunity for participation in community life
- form people for life in a changing world

Paying by instalments:

Another way of spreading the cost of the Community would be to pay in instalments. For information about this please contact the Community treasurer via fivedaycsf@btinternet.com