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*A higher standard.
A higher purpose.*



Marble Retreat™

The mission of Marble Retreat is to help bring healing, hope and restoration to those in vocational Christian ministry and the church at large through Christ-centered brief intensive counseling.

December 2022

Renovation Complete!

Thank you to all who made this possible

"Hospitality is not to change people, but to offer them space where change can happen."

Henri Nouwen

Our lodge renovation is complete – on time and on budget! Because of a generous gift from a Christian foundation, Marble Retreat was able to complete the renovation of our kitchen, living and dining room, and replace many of the windows in the lodge. Our always faithful work crew from Longmont, Colorado took on updating our recreation room – donating significant time, talent and gifts in-kind, so that all main public areas in the lodge would get a facelift.

There are so many to thank for all the work that made this possible. Bob and Lisa Rue, our host couple, led the charge with planning and guiding the whole project, putting in countless hours. Paul Wheaton (Quixotic Home) of Longmont, Colorado devoted two months of his time, sweat and general contractor expertise to ensure a smooth demolition and rebuilding. 3G (Give God the Glory) Construction of Rifle, Colorado was hired to do the construction work and did a great job. Several members from Marble Community Church donated their labor including painting the living room and inserting shelf paper in the kitchen. The Longmont work crew prepped, cleaned, painted and did everything else that was needed to transform the recreation room. They also helped with many other pieces of the renovation including packing up the main floor and moving furniture and appliances back into the lodge.

We, the Staff and Board of Marble Retreat, are overjoyed with how it all turned out. Most importantly, our guests love it! The goal was to have a place that spoke "we value you" and "we want you to enjoy this time in Marble, Colorado even with the burdens you carry here."

Thank you to everyone who made this possible! We thank God for placing the desire in the hearts of those who gave, the abilities in the hands of those who worked, and the vision in the eyes of those who saw what these spaces could become.



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A Pastor Alive!

Pastor Roth came to Marble on a familiar path to how many ministry leaders find us. He was tired, frustrated, and hurt from ministry and even from some of those he serves. Getting hurt in ministry is going to happen, people make mistakes, and pastors make mistakes. But there was more going on with Roth. He was experiencing what he thought meant that he was just not a good fit for ministry, maybe he was not called after all. Most of what he was doing now in ministry just didn't match his gifting, his passions, and he found it quite exhausting and stressful. Yet, he would tell himself that ministry was happening and as many pastors do, he put the blame on himself for his negative experience. "I should have a better attitude," "I should just be grateful," and "I need to just accept that this is the way ministry is."

One of our counselors met with Pastor Roth and let him work through his pain from the hits he had been taking, and let him share his nearly forgotten passion for ministry and his original sense of calling and how it was in opposition to what he found himself doing now. Our counselor encouraged him to prayerfully consider whether the problem wasn't that Roth was not called to ministry, but that this wasn't the right ministry for him. Of course, this is a big decision with so many ramifications that it is daunting for most pastors to consider. But Roth considered it fully and as he did, he began to have hope. He began to hope that ministry life could be life-giving. He began to hope that he could experience connection between his service and his gifts and passion. He began to hope that maybe he had not made a mistake in hearing God's call.

In the year that followed his time at Marble Retreat Pastor Roth did decide to leave the ministry he was at. He gave the church ample lead time and helped ensure a good transition. Then he began the search for another ministry. This time around Pastor Roth knew better what to look for and what he had to offer. He also had hope and confidence God would lead him into a ministry he was called to.

Two years after his time at Marble, Pastor Roth reached out to let us know that he had just celebrated his first year at his new church and it was going well. Yes, there were still the frustrations that come with ministry but those seemed small as his heart drew from the deep well of being in a ministry for which he was made.



Pastor Roth is a fictional character and not the real name or real photo of a pastor. His story includes elements common to many of the pastors we see.

Quote from Recent Alum

Thanks to the love and support of my close friends and church, I left to Marble, Colorado for a counseling retreat. I needed to grieve in a safe place. One designed to help me navigate the sea of emotions that rose as the one-year anniversary of my mother's passing approached. My entire being was having trouble assimilating this reality....August 2nd would mark an entire year without her.

The retreat would be two weeks of intense therapy. No cell service, no access to computers, no distractions – only Jesus, mountains, rivers, books, and therapy. I was apprehensive about sharing this publicly. It's so personal, and the stigma surrounding therapy remains very real.

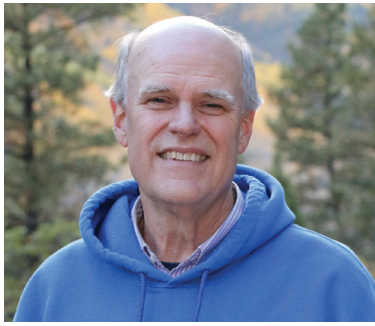
But this experience changed my life.

There wasn't an immediate payoff. I wasn't suddenly or miraculously healed and restored – it came slowly and practically, through soul-searching and vulnerable conversations, but it came just the same. I was given grace and mercy, and tangible resources that will help me on this journey. It was profound in a way I did not expect.

I went to this retreat to deal with the loss of my mother, but I ended up confronting a lot of hurt, trauma, shame, guilt and pain as well. With the help of experienced profesionales filled with God's love and truth, I dealt with it head on. And I felt God's presence through it all; through the sleepless nights, and the mile-long walks in the wilderness. He was with me, encouraging me to extend myself the grace and forgiveness he gives freely.

It's never too late to deal with your mess, and it's never too late to allow yourself to heal. Colorado, here I raise my Ebenezer.

Welcome New Board Members: Tim & Kina



Tim Haugen

Tim Haugen joined the board in March of 2021. Pastor Tim is currently serving as the Lead Pastor of Grace Church in Gladstone, Michigan. Previously, he has served as a youth pastor, a teaching pastor, an intentional interim pastor, and a lead pastor in churches over a span of nearly forty years. He has served on short-term mission trips in ten countries outside of the U.S. It was through a broken world

experience of his own over two decades ago that Tim and his wife, Ann, became more sensitive to the unique pressures and needs of ministry couples, and humbled/awed by the power of the LORD to recalibrate and restore limping and hurting ministry workers.

Pastor Tim went to high school in Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin (go Clippers!), located in beautiful Door County, Wisconsin. He and Ann graduated from Bethel University in Arden Hills, MN. Three weeks after graduation, they were married. Tim and Ann have three adult daughters who are each married, and they have nine grandchildren. Tim graduated with an M-Div degree from Denver Seminary, and he did doctoral work at Gordon-Conwell Seminary in South Hamilton, MA. Both Tim and Ann are committed to the work of Marble Retreat, and consider it a great privilege to be partners in a work that aims to bring encouragement and help to those in ministry who are aching.



Kina Mallard

Kina Mallard is the Executive Director of the North American Association of Methodist Schools, Colleges, and Universities and Founder and President of Leading Higher Ed, a leadership development company focusing on developing strong leaders who lead strong institutions. As a dynamic speaker, engaging workshop facilitator, skilled coach and consultant, Dr. Mallard has

developed and led national workshops on various aspects of leadership, launched faculty, leadership, and women's leadership development programs, and has coached leaders at all levels. Her leadership career has spanned over 30 years at five institutions, most recently serving as President of Reinhardt University, a Methodist-affiliated university in Georgia.

Kina is a certified facilitator in DISC, Leadership Effectiveness, and Motivators and Values as well as an experienced workshop facilitator in Building Effective Teams and Emotional Intelligence. She coaches Presidents, CEOs, and Vice Presidents leveraging their strengths to create effective and dynamic leadership, and engaged, future-focused teams.

Dr. Mallard earned a Bachelor of Arts from Middle Tennessee State University, and a Master of Arts and Doctor of Philosophy from the University of Tennessee. Kina is energized by serving on various boards and traveling internationally. She is married to Steve Dietz, VP for Business Development at Food Donation Connection. Kina and Steve are blessed to work from home where they have more time to enjoy their five children and eight grandchildren and serve their two dogs, Bentley and Barney. They are members of Ooltewah Methodist Church in Ooltewah, TN.

2023 SESSION DATES

JAN 17 – 26
JAN 31 – FEB 9
FEB 14 – 23
MAR 7 – 16
MAR 21 – 30
APR 18 – 27
MAY 2 – 11
MAY 16 – 25
JUN 6 – 15
JUN 20 – 29
JUL 11 – 20
JUL 25 – AUG 3
AUG 8 – 17
AUG 22 – 31
SEP 19 – 28
OCT 10 – 19
OCT 31 – NOV 9
NOV 28 – DEC 7

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Pastor Care Therapist

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Ooltewah, Tennessee



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Merry Christmas from Marble Retreat!

“For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given” Isaiah 9:6

Christmas truly is a wonderful time of year. It is a time when we Christians pause to worship and celebrate the greatest gift ever given – Jesus, God’s only Son. Oh, the miracle of the incarnation. How eternity and omnipotence and omnipresence came in the tiny, fragile package of a baby. And the purpose of this incredible gift! To save mankind from their sins and bring us back into fellowship with God! We are so blessed! God loves us so much that He gave us the best gift ever, for forever.

And in light of this gift, we praise and celebrate and gather together as family and friends and brothers and sisters in Christ.



We, the Board and Staff of Marble Retreat, want to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! And we once again want to thank you for your support of and belief in this ministry. It means so much to us.