

# Meeting in the Field:

## An Invitation to the Space Between Science and Spirit

***Out beyond ideas of wrong-doing and right-doing,  
there is a field. I'll meet you there.***

---Rumi



**A CyberCircle of Trust® Retreat**  
**In the Kirkridge Zoom Room**  
**Facilitated by Caroline Fairless and Vicki Metzgar**  
**Sept 15 and 16, Sept 29, and Oct 15**

*I had been fooling myself that I was the only teacher. The land is the real teacher. All we need as students is mindfulness. Paying attention is a form of reciprocity with the living world, receiving the gifts with open eyes and open heart.*

-- Robin Wall Kimmerer, Plant ecologist and botanist



Photo by Matt Lavin

We come into the world as whole human beings, connected to everything and everyone around us. The distinctions between real and imagined, mind and body, science and spirit have yet to be named and fostered. Over the course of our lifetime, we are taught to separate ourselves from the natural world, forgetting that we ARE the natural world. We arrive hardwired to connect, but such interdependence is most often diminished, dampened, distorted, or ignored.

*Nothing is more important about the quantum principle than this, that it destroys the concept of the world as “sitting out there,” with the observer safely separated from it.*

-- John Wheeler, Physicist

It is deeply ironic that our culture's great institutions, rather than fostering the deep knowing within each of us, tend instead to stifle it for the sake of uniformity of thought, of instruction, and belief. We are encouraged to ignore the wealth of information that comes from our teachers within and our teachers without – the flora, fauna, and fungi of our planet - the very knowing that fosters the essential nature of diversity.

National Circle of Trust® facilitators and Kirkridge Courage Faculty, Caroline Fairless and Vicki Metzgar ,invite you into a four-day online and on-land retreat over the course of a month, to explore the space between Science and Spirit.

In this online and on the land retreat, Caroline and Vicki invite you into opportunities for intimacy and vulnerability in ways different from but no less powerful than place-based retreats. They offer a quiet, focused, and disciplined space—a Circle of Trust—in which the noise within us and around us can subside, so that we can begin to hear the integrative work of our own inner voices as they resonate with the songs of the universe.

*...true belonging depends upon our reciprocity with the environment in which we are embedded, and unto which we are indebted.*

*Toko-Pa Turner*

We ask that you commit to attending ALL sessions. When the retreat begins, no one will be allowed to enter who has not registered. Sessions are all listed in the Kirkridge Time Zone (Eastern Daylight Time). Please adjust times to your own time zone.

- **Tuesday, September 15, Noon-2:30 pm and 3-5 pm EDT**
- **Wednesday, September 16 Noon-2:30pm and 3-5 pm EDT (Includes time on the land)**
- **Tuesday, September 29, Noon-2:30 pm EDT**
- **Thursday, October 15, Noon-2:30 EDT**

*The contradiction so puzzling to the ordinary way of thinking comes from the fact that we have to use language to communicate our inner experience which in its very nature transcends linguistics.*

*--D.T. Suzuki. Japanese author*

\*\*\*\*\*

*Both the physicist and the mystic want to communicate their knowledge, and when they do so with words, their statements are paradoxical and full of logical contradictions. These paradoxes are characteristic of all mysticism, and, since the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, characteristic of physics.*

*--Fritjof Capra, American-Austrian physicist*

You are invited to this retreat as part of our gigantic Summer-into-Fall experiment at Kirkridge Retreat and Study Center. We are living into and out of a Spirit of Generosity. We realize you can't put a price on retreat, on community, on connectedness in a time of increasing isolation and aloneness. So we aren't going to try. To register, please email Sally Z. Hare, [couragetoteach@sc.rr.com](mailto:couragetoteach@sc.rr.com), with your snail mail and email for the roster – and your intention to attend all sessions.