



~A Sacred Place to Seek God in the Heart of all Life~

Dear Friends of Five Oaks,

A wonderful milestone in Five Oaks' life is approaching and we would like to invite you to be a part of it! **In the fall of 2012 Five Oaks Education and Retreat Centre will be celebrating its 60th anniversary, commemorating 60 years since the very first program was held on this site.** Five Oaks' staff and Board of Directors are planning to recognize this significant date in our history with the publication of a very special book. You may remember our 50th anniversary publication "A Story of Five Oaks," by Jocelyn Bell, which tells our historical story. Our dream for the 60th anniversary is a compilation of YOUR "stories" about the centre; your own original creative contributions— art, poetry, liturgy, prayers, music, essays, stories, and reflections – born out of your relationship with Five Oaks. We imagine a book that is both intergenerational and diverse in its collection of Five Oaks memories. We envision the final publication to be in the format of an attractive gift book.

We are inviting submissions from the many members of our far-reaching community of friends, program participants and leaders, current and past staff and Board members and all others whose lives have been touched by this sacred place. If this opportunity touches your heart and if you have something you would like us to consider for this book, we would love to hear of your interest as soon as possible!

The DEADLINE for submissions is December 2010. Yes, we know that the date seems far away, but we wanted to give you lots of time and opportunity to begin thinking and creating. Or you may already have something ready to share. Just send an email info@fiveoaks.on.ca (include "anniversary book" in the subject line) or call 519-442-3212 and let us know what you are thinking of submitting.

If you are considering submitting, you will find the following details helpful:

We would prefer electronic submissions where possible, but hard copies are welcome if that is your preferred mode of sharing. For electronic submissions, please submit text (poetry, liturgy, letters, etc.) as Microsoft Word documents. We are suggesting an approximate limit of 500 words for text submissions. If it is a graphic image (photographs, artwork, musical compositions) you wish to submit, please submit as jpeg, tiff, gif, or bmp files.

Finally, let us introduce ourselves. We are Adam Mason and Debra Kigar and we are very pleased and excited to be co-editors for this wonderful book. Adam has been connected with Five Oaks since 2002 and has been a significant part of the children, youth and family programs at the Centre. Debra has been involved since 1995 in many different capacities, including Chair of the Five Oaks Board.

We hope that you are as excited about this project as everyone at Five Oaks is and we are looking forward to hearing from you.

With joy and anticipation,

Debra Kigar & Adam Mason